

ECHOES



The
Escambia
County
Historical
Society,
Founded
1971

**The April Meeting Scheduled for
Tuesday, April 28, 2020
Has Been Canceled.**

**The May Meeting Scheduled for
Tuesday, May 26, 2020,
Is Under Review .**

**The McMillan Museum and Alabama Room
Are Closed until Further Notice.**

Coronavirus in Escambia County, AL

Escambia County's first case of Coronavirus was reported by the Alabama Department of Public Health on Friday, March 27, 2020.

As of Wednesday, April 22, 2020 (when this newsletter will be printed), Escambia County has 17 confirmed cases and 1 death.

In March 2020 all schools in Alabama were closed, at first for two to three weeks but eventually for the remainder of the school year. The schools made plans to reach students through alternative methods such as learning packets, emails, text messaging, phone calls, and scheduled video conferencing.

There was a plan to continue to serve meals at some schools, called "Grab and Go" for curb side distribution of the meals. However, the Grab & Go

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Department of Archives and
History

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**As of Wednesday,
April 22, 2020, Alabama
has 5,356 confirmed
cases, 191
reported deaths,
178 deaths from C19
illness, and
48,387 total people tested.**



**A Marengo
County native,
sculptor
Geneva
Mercer (1889
– 1984) is con-
sidered among
Alabama's
most
Acclaimed
artists.**



**Lawson Owen Home
in Damascus, AL**

**Volume 47 No. 4
April 2020**

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Coronavirus in Escambia County, AL

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program (distributed at W. S. Neal High School, Flomaton Elementary School, and Escambia County Middle School), was suspended on April 4 when the Governor's "Stay at Home" order went into effect. Some 13, 000 meals were distributed locally before the program was suspended.

Various civic groups and businesses have made contributions for coping with the virus and its effect.



Shown above, president Steve Claytor and other members of the Brewton Lions Club present a \$6,000 check to Lee Shaughnessy, director of integrated facilities management at D. W. McMillan Memorial Hospital. The picture, courtesy of the Tri-City Ledger, shows the participants wearing masks and practicing social distancing, staying six feet apart.

The money will be used to help create two UV light rooms that will sanitize hospital equipment like masks and gowns. The Lions donation pays for one and a half of the two rooms.



In the picture above from the Brewton Standard, pharmacist Danny Cottrell, owner of the Brewton Medical Center Pharmacy, is shown with employee Lois Crenshaw. Cottrell has given a \$200 gift to each of his employees using \$2 bills, so the money

can be traced as it flows through the community.

An article in the Brewton Standard relates that Cottrell said the \$200 gift to his employees is meant to help them through a tough time, but to also help out other businesses in the community.

"We know there are guys out there that need our support," Cottrell said. "I've asked my guys to spend the money with local restaurants and other businesses to let those folks know that we're behind them."



In the picture above from the Atmore Advance, Alabama State Rep. Harry Shiver and Brian McFeely, Administrator of the William F. Green Veterans Home, are shown April 2 with 10 gallons of hand sanitizer that were provided to the home by Perdido Vineyards. Perdido Vineyards Owner Jim Eddins is a veteran.



The picture above from the WKRG web page shows protective gowns being manufactured by Muskogee Technology, a business owned by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Producing personal protective equipment (PPE) to help in the fight against COVID-19, the company recently delivered their first batch of protective gowns to Baptist Health Care.

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Coronavirus in Escambia County, AL

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Sarju Patel is shown above holding a tray with samples of the gifts she gives to customers at her Brewton Package Store. The \$5 gifts are for customers to use at local restaurants and grocery stores. .

Since the package store, owned by Sarju and her husband, Wade Winstead, has remained open during the COVID-19 crises, they feel fortunate and wish to share their good fortune by giving back to the Community. Picture courtesy of WKRG website.

Following the announcement of the new health order concerning social distancing and limiting gatherings, many local restaurants and businesses have made service changes.

An article in the Brewton Standard noted these changes.

Camp 31 BBQ has gone to a simple menu that is easy and fast to make. The restaurant has cut hours and staff and serves "to go" orders only.

David's Catfish has changed its services to "drive through" and "curb side" only.

Walmart of Brewton has also adjusted hours to 7 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. Other businesses have closed. .



Although churches were closed for Easter because of social distancing, churches celebrated with drive-up services, auto services, video services and held to tradition with displays of Easter Sunday.

The picture to the left, courtesy of the Tri-City Ledger, shows a flower covered cross from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church of Brewton.

Online Resources and Virtual Opportunities at the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH)

Explore Alabama History @Home



From ADAH, this invitation: With schools, offices, museums, and archives closed and social distancing recommended, we've gathered links to Alabama resources on this site so you can explore our state's history from the comfort of your couch. We'll be adding new content and virtual opportunities often, so be sure to check the site regularly. We hope this resource will make staying home and doing your part to protect your community a little easier.

This material can be found at [https://www.alabamahistoryhome.org/about-history-](https://www.alabamahistoryhome.org/about-history-at-home)

[at-home](https://www.alabamahistoryhome.org/about-history-at-home)>.

ADAH is also offering the following source of online material at <<https://www.youtube.com/AlabamaArchives/playlists>>.

Looking for new ways to occupy your mind while you stay at home ([#stayhome](https://www.youtube.com/AlabamaArchives/playlists))? Check out our NEW YouTube playlists featuring hundreds of hours of recorded past programs! Playlist topics include Notable Alabamians; Alabama Politics; the World Wars; Slavery, Emancipation, and Reconstruction; Medicine in Alabama; the Civil War; Native Americans; Alabama Women; and more. You can also watch every season of our Food for Thought ([#FoodForThought](https://www.youtube.com/AlabamaArchives/playlists)) lunchtime lecture series from the last decade.

ECHOES
THE NEWSLETTER FOR
THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Books Available by Contribution

	Regular	Mailed
Headstones and Heritage	\$20.00	\$25.00
Escambia Historical Society Cookbook	\$10.00	\$15.00
Wildflowers of The Conecuh/Escambia River Basin CD	\$10.00	\$15.00
History of Brewton and E. Brewton (sc)	\$35.00	\$40.00
Flomaton Centennial Scrapbook	\$30.00	\$25.00
Addendum to Headstones and Heritage	\$20.00	\$25.00
Headstones & Addendum Together	\$40.00	\$50.00

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Dues are to be paid at the beginning of the year

Many members give a membership as a gift!

**Business members get a large scale
advertisement 11 months of the year.**

ECHOES, The newsletter for the Escambia County Historical Society, a 501 (c) (3) corporation, is published monthly except November. Comments are welcome. You may email the Society at escambiahistoricalociety@gmail.com or call 251-809-1528.

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