

# Winnsboro History Days Downtown Walking Tour Set for May 25

*Celebrating Texas & National Historic Preservation Month in May*

[Winnsboro, TX – April 10, 2019, released update April 29, 2019] - Bill Jones, city of Winnsboro official town Historian, Randy Lindsey, Chana Gail Willis and the Autumn Trails A's Model A Ford Club will host "Winnsboro History Days" on Saturday, May 25, 2019.

**The FREE event is geared for featuring and preserving Winnsboro's unique history and heritage, and in celebrating Texas Historic Preservation Month in May.**

The FREE Walking Tour begins at 10 a.m. at the Old Train Depot at the Southeast Corner of Main and 100 E. Broadway (Also known as Hwy. 37 and Hwy. 11). The three block walking tour of downtown Winnsboro will go along Main Street, Elm and Market Street, with Mr. Jones narrating some interesting points of history, assisted by narrator Randy Lindsey of KWNS 104.7 Radio Station.

There is plenty of public parking at the Depot and around Downtown Winnsboro, Texas. There will be about 12 points of interest stopping points along three downtown blocks. The tour's hosts will be assisted by living historic actors in recreating a few scenes from famous points of history of the Crossroads town built at the headwaters of Indian Creek.

A few sidewalk acting scenes from criminals Bonnie and Clyde's Last Ride (peaceful) before they were gunned down in Louisiana, along with a few ghost stories, architectural building features, history and restoration award winning buildings. The "Outlaws" will re-enact the famous last 1907 Shootout killing the town Marshal and 3 others at Elm & the Bowery (Market Street).

Along the way, the walking tour will also stop for a short time at Vic Clark's Culture Club Art Gallery to view historic pictures of Winnsboro and the nice collection of art by many artists in the gallery. The walking tour continues outdoors during Winnsboro's renowned weekly Farmer's Market on Market (managed by Stacy Finley), and viewings of antique games, maybe some live blacksmithing, horse shoeing, and other activities of yesteryear.

Around noonish, the walking tour ends with a free light hors d'oeuvres **Reception at the Winnsboro Center for the Arts** at the Bowery at the corner of Market and Broadway (Hwy.11). Folks are encouraged to shop downtown and in Winnsboro after the walking tour and dine in the area. A downtown map and list of restaurants are available at **WINNSBOROTEXAS.ORG**. [Continued, next page]

## ABOUT THE EVENT.

The free event is hosted by the Autumn Trails A's Model A Ford Club of east Texas, Bill Jones, Randy Lindsey and Chana Gail Willis, with the help and support of many entities, including the KWNS 104.7 Radio, the Autumn Trails A's Model A Ford Club, the Culture Club Art Gallery (Vic Clark), the Winnsboro Center for the Arts, the Winnsboro Area Chamber of Commerce, Winnsboro Farmer's Market, First National Bank Winnsboro, Bob Williams of In Focus Photography Club, and the Willis's WinnsboroTexas.org. Additional sponsors and supporters are welcomed.

## About Preserving Winnsboro, TX History Project.

Proceeds from sponsorships will assist in advertising the event and funding the **Bill Jones Winnsboro History Preservation Project**. The project will be filming Mr. Jones many tales of enriched history in the area. QR Codes will be manufactured and small signs placed at existing historic signs in Winnsboro. When scanning the code on a smart phone, it will lead the tourist / reader to select an audio or video of Mr. Jones talking about that particular location point of interest, and show pictures of what the site may have looked like in years gone by. There will also be online maps with the Living History Location Videos for viewing for out of town travelers and tourists. Filming of the living history project will take about twelve to eighteen months. To donate to this project in any amount (very much appreciated) donors will receive a charity receipt, please make donations payable to the **Winnsboro Communities Foundation** and please mark in the memo "**Bill Jones / Winnsboro History Project**" so the foundation will apply the funds to the correct designated charity, and mail to in care of C.G. Willis, P.O. Box 752, Winnsboro, TX 75494. Expenses include lighting and backdrops for filming interviews, terabyte drives for preservation of the filming for donation to the public libraries, printed posters and material for advertising.

## TEXAS CELEBRATES THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH IN MAY.

At this time, Winnsboro, TX may be the first city in the state to add the component of living history through technology to static historic signs and place markers, and tourist locations in a specific geographic region. In Texas, historic preservation and cultural art is big business for travel tourism and business development, "for the use, education, enjoyment and economic benefit of present and future generations." (*Texas Historic Commission, www.thc.texas.gov AND https://www.thc.texas.gov/preservation-month-ideas*). Telling our stories, of real places and real people.

### POINT OF CONTACT

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<http://www.winnsborotexas.org/history-of-winnsboro.html>

