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Front Matter

Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society

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Dear Reader!

The biggest year in History is upon us!

To be clear, that's capital-H History, as in the subject, not lowercase-h history, the thing itself. There have certainly been bigger years in history, like 1066 and 1492 and 1776. And, to be honest, there may have been bigger years in History, the study of the things that happened in years like those.

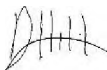
But point being, locally at least, 2019 is going to be a big year for the celebration of History, and 2019 is now upon us! The gradually escalating three-year celebration of Alabama's Bicentennial reaches its crescendo in 2019 with the celebration of the 200th anniversary of statehood. And, for those of us in Huntsville and Madison County, the noise surrounding that anniversary will be joined by the celebration of another anniversary's – July's 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, the first moon landing, powered by Huntsville's might Saturn V rocket. The 40th Anniversary of Alabama A&M being established as a University.

It's a great time to be a fan of local history, but it's also going to be a great time for those who don't know yet that they're fans of local history – ambient history will be unavoidable over the next year.

The Society is proud to be part of several recent efforts that are helping push history into the mainstream, from a partnership with the local Conventional and Visitor's Bureau that saw Mayor Tommy Battle declaring this past October the first-ever Huntsville History Month to the refurbishment of the sunken sidewalk on the Courthouse Square downtown to the new Marker Trail Challenge, including our work to share that engaging activity with local teachers through our HOPE project.

2018 has been big, but 2019 will be even bigger! I encourage you to enjoy it, but also to share it with others.

Let's make History together!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Hitt
President
HMCHS

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Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society
Preserving the Past to Enrich the Future; Join us!

