



## Discover a Revolution at the Hattiesburg Zoo!

Celebrating 64 years of Zoo fun

Hattiesburg's favorite outdoor attraction is geared up to celebrate 64 years this year with exciting announcements and events for the whole family.

"Discover a Revolution" on May 24, as the Hattiesburg Zoo celebrates its annual Birthday Bash from 10 am to 4 pm. Opening its doors to the public for the first time, the Asbury

Discovery Center will be the center of the day's curiously-themed events and activities.

Taking cues from the science fiction era which celebrates the early 20th century age of discovery and innovation in a futuristic whimsical style, the Asbury Discovery Center is guaranteed to offer Zoo guests an experience unlike any existing education or outdoor attraction in the area.

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"The Asbury Discovery Center will bring a new level of interactive learning to the children of Hattiesburg and the Zoo's visitors of all ages," said Rick Taylor, Executive Director of the Hattiesburg Convention Commission. "The Hattiesburg Zoo is a source of pride in our community and the Discovery Center will be a living classroom that promotes learning through fun."

In July 2013, the Hattiesburg Convention Commission announced that the Zoo would receive a \$277,000 grant from the Asbury Foundation for use toward this new education facility. The unique interior of the 2,200 square-foot facility is a collaboration between the Hattiesburg Zoo and California design firm, "Because We Can." The steampunk-inspired building will offer a one-of-a-kind educational experience for guests of the Zoo, featuring viewable housing for many of the Zoo's never-before-displayed education animals, a new home for the Zoo's Galapagos Tortoises, viewable offices and laboratories for zookeepers and a venue for zoo classes, camps, special events and even corporate meetings.

This year's Birthday Bash will provide fun and excitement for the whole family. Starting at 10 am, Animal Encounters will be held near the Eagle Habitat and in front of the Asbury Discovery Center. The first

public unveiling of the much-anticipated Asbury Discovery Center will occur at 11 am and guests will be invited to take guided tours of the new facility throughout the remainder of the day.

The headline birthday celebration will take place at noon when guests will celebrate 64 years of Zoo fun by singing "Happy Birthday" and enjoying complimentary cupcakes. The headline celebration will also feature an Explorer-Themed Animal Show. The curiously-good fun will continue throughout the day with mini-celebrations every hour on the hour, rotating among the Zoo's four continents which include South America, Africa, Asia and North America's Mississippi Habitat. For a full schedule of events, visit [HattiesburgZoo.com](http://HattiesburgZoo.com).

Admission to the Birthday Bash is \$10 per person and includes hourly celebrations, Animal Encounters, Wildlife Shows, unlimited train and carousel rides, birthday treats and so much more.

The Asbury Discovery Center is not the only new addition to the Hattiesburg Zoo. The Zoo kicked off 2014 with the welcoming of many new animals to the Zoo family, including a second golden eagle, Talon, and two Sumatran tiger brothers, Cinta and Kuasa. Visit all of our new additions and enjoy a truly new adventure at the Hattiesburg Zoo!

The Hattiesburg Zoo is now open from 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Sunday. For information on tickets, Annual Passes and Zoo programs, call 601.545.4576, or visit [HattiesburgZoo.com](http://HattiesburgZoo.com).



# Your Service

is the official newsletter of the Hattiesburg Convention Commission.

To update your contact information or to share comments, please contact us at:

One Convention Center Plaza  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
601.268.3220

[HattiesburgConventionCommission.com](http://HattiesburgConventionCommission.com)

[ Historic 6<sup>th</sup> Street USO ]

## African American Military History Museum Returns to Service

### Museum reopened its doors in February 2014

Through the violent wind and torrential rain of the F-4 Tornado that blew through the Pine Belt on February 10, 2013, an iconic landmark and pillar of history in the heart of Downtown Hattiesburg stood strong. The beloved African American Military History Museum in Downtown Hattiesburg suffered significant damage as a result of the tornado, but hope was not lost and history was not erased. Now, a full year later, the African American Military History Museum has reopened its doors as a stronger-than-ever tribute to the endurance of its heritage – the history and legacy of the African American soldier.

On February 6, 2014, the African American Military History Museum celebrated its reopening in conjunction with the Museum's Black History Month Kick-off program. The event drew guests from all over the Pine Belt as living World War II veterans were honored with certificates of appreciation for their military service. Also during the ceremony,

the Museum unveiled a series of never-before-seen photographs of the USO Club building, courtesy of the Mississippi Armed Forces Museum at Camp Shelby.

Black History Month continued with the opening of a special exhibit from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History entitled, *This is Home: Medgar Evers, Mississippi and the Movement*, detailing Evers' passionate life and continued fight for justice. Medgar Evers, a native of Decatur, Miss. was drafted into the U.S. Army during WWII. Upon his return from combat, he was catapulted into the Civil Rights Movement, and on June 12, 1963, was assassinated in front of his home in Jackson.

The Museum also hosted a "Meet and Greet" with PFC James Jones. Jones, a native of Laurel, spoke to guests about the trials he faced while serving in the 761st "Black Panthers" Tank Battalion. As a result of the Battalion's heroism, then-President Jimmy Carter awarded the Battalion with the Presidential Unit Citation for Extraordinary Heroism. During PFC Jones' presentation, the African American Military

History Museum presented 761st, a documentary on the infamous unit.

To conclude the Museum's Black History Month activities, an Open Forum titled, "Remember Medgar Evers and Clyde Kennard" was held on Saturday, February 22. Led and moderated by those who knew the men personally, including Sgt. Major Ralph Lindsey and Lt. Col. Raylawni Branch, a rich discussion on their lives and legacies honored their mission for peace and justice.

On May 23 at 2 pm, the African American Military History Museum will celebrate Memorial Day, as well as its fifth anniversary. The event will honor the sons of the Museum's Gold Star Mothers with a special tribute and an exhibit focusing on the three soldiers. The newest artifact to the Museum, a WWII switchboard, will also be unveiled.

The African American Military History Museum is now open with free admission each Wednesday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm and Saturday from 12 noon to 4 pm. To schedule a tour or to learn more about the Museum, visit [HattiesburgUSO.com](http://HattiesburgUSO.com) or call 601.450.1942.

The African American Military History Museum is located at 305 E. 6th Street. For more information, call 601.450.1942 or visit [HattiesburgUSO.com](http://HattiesburgUSO.com).



**RETURNING TO SERVICE**

[ Historic Saenger Theater ]

# Fancy Nancy Comes to Life on the Saenger Stage

Beloved Fancy Nancy comes to Hattiesburg

Beloved storybook character Fancy Nancy will be bringing her one-of-a-kind flair to the Historic Saenger Stage with *Fancy Nancy the Musical* on Saturday, April 19.

Fancy Nancy and her friends, Bree, Wanda, Rhonda and Lionel are going to be performing in their very first show, "Deep Sea Dances." Nancy is positive (that's fancy for 100% sure) that she and Bree will be named mermaids in the show. However, when another girl gets picked for

the coveted role, Nancy is stuck playing a dreary, dull tree. A hilarious and exciting plot unfolds as Nancy tries to find the "fancy" in this unfortunate situation.

"The Saenger Theater is so excited to present *Fancy Nancy*," said Daniel Taylor, Saenger Theater Manager. "This upbeat and crowd-pleasing production will help create unforgettable memories for families."

With two showtimes at 11 am and 3 pm, *Fancy Nancy the Musical*, is sure to entertain audiences of all ages! Tickets are \$17 to \$35 (plus applicable fees) and may be purchased by calling the Saenger Box Office at 601.584.4888 or visiting [HattiesburgSaenger.com](http://HattiesburgSaenger.com).

For more information on this event or for a complete listing of events, visit [HattiesburgSaenger.com](http://HattiesburgSaenger.com) or call the Box Office at 601.584.4888.

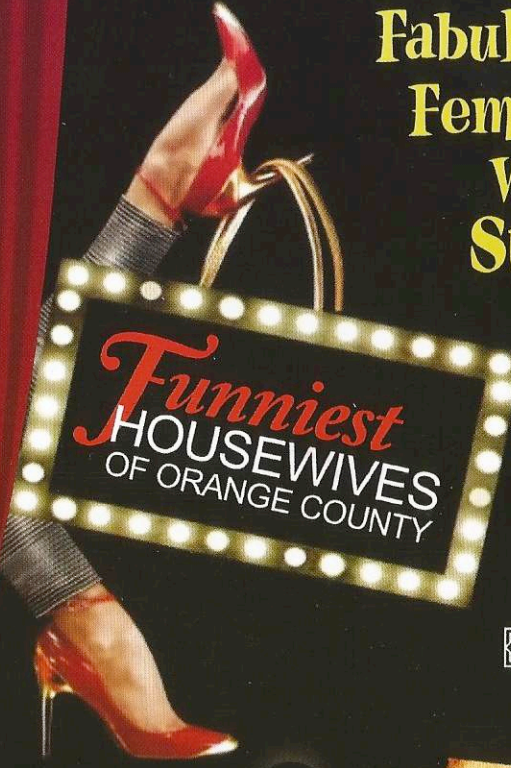


# Fancy Nancy

## The Musical

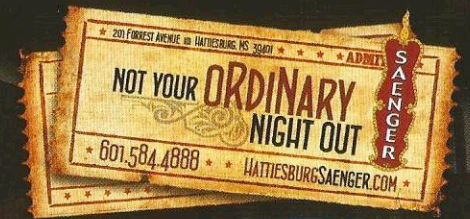
SAENGER THEATER & *Spirit of Women* PRESENT

Fabulously Funny  
Femme Fatales  
Who Do It  
Standing Up!



# MAY 15

SHOWTIME :: 7 PM  
TICKETS :: \$25-\$35



FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF  
UPCOMING SHOWS VISIT  
[HATTIESBURGSAENGER.COM](http://HATTIESBURGSAENGER.COM)

\*ALL TICKET PRICES SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE FEES

First-Class 5 Facility Management

[ Lake Terrace ]

# New Wedding Packages @ LTCC

## Expert planning for your wedding

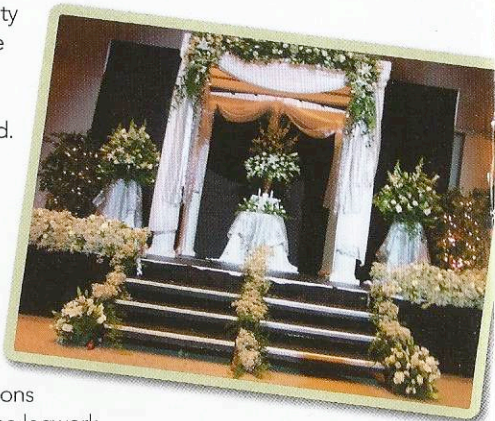
A wedding is a celebration you will always want to remember, even long after the last toast is given and the final bubble is blown. From the ceremony to the reception, Lake Terrace Convention Center can help create lasting memories for a couple and their guests.

Our new wedding packages make planning your big day easy and fun. Whether small or large, formal or informal, day or night, the seasoned staff at Lake Terrace can make your event unforgettable.

equipment, specialty décor and a unique menu created by Executive Chef, Carmen Hardy-Ford. Bringing together all of its tried-and-true methods, the Convention Center is excited to offer these new comprehensive packages that feature its best options while taking all of the legwork off of you.

Whether you're looking for an elegant sit-down dinner or a reception that will have your guests dancing the night away, Lake Terrace has you covered. The most popular reception room opens up to a 41,000 square-foot lake-front terrace and private courtyard. Our menu options offer something for every taste and budget, including sit-down dinners, food stations and champagne toasts. Enhancements and beverage services can be added to packages for a little extra personalization.

The intimate atmosphere of our go-to ceremony room is perfect for large and small weddings. Packages include chandeliers, staging, specialty lighting, drapery and simple



audio setup. Our event professionals will work closely with the bride and groom to create and execute every detail to perfection.

Make your dream wedding a reality at Lake Terrace Convention Center by contacting our sales office at 601.268.3220. Leave the worries to us so you can focus on celebrating this special time with family and friends.



For more information on the Lake Terrace Convention Center, call 601.268.3220 or visit [LakeTerrace.com](http://LakeTerrace.com).

[ Event Calendar ]

- APRIL**  
 11 USM presents Showbiz Showstoppers! at Lake Terrace  
 14 Passions of the Palate at Lake Terrace  
 17 Spirit of Women Spring Luncheon at Lake Terrace
- MAY**  
 1 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast at Lake Terrace  
 18 TNA Wrestling at Lake Terrace  
 24 Birthday Bash at Hattiesburg Zoo

This is a sample of events. For more information on events at any of the Hattiesburg Convention Commission facilities, call 601.268.3220.

# Upcoming Ticketed Events



- APRIL**  
 11-12 Stagestruck Performance Studio presents *Seussical Jr.*  
 19 *Fancy Nancy*, *The Musical*
- MAY**  
 8-11 HCLC presents *Les Misérables*  
 15 Forrest General Hospital Spirit of Women presents *Funniest Housewives of Orange County*  
 30 Rick & Bubba 20th Anniversary Tour

This is a sample of events. For a current and complete list of events at the Saenger, log onto [HattiesburgSaenger.com](http://HattiesburgSaenger.com) or call 601.584.4888.

