

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
P.O. Box 300100
624 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Sherrie Hamil
334-353-4726

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ARCHITREATS: FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION
RACE RELATIONS IN ALABAMA, 1965-1968:
A PHOTOJOURNALIST'S PERSPECTIVE BY JIM PEPPLER
AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

ArchiTreats: Food for Thought continues another year of informative talks on Alabama History at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Join us at **noon on Thursday, August 18, 2011** as **Jim Pepler** presents ***Race Relations in Alabama, 1965-1968: A Photojournalist's Perspective***. This presentation is in conjunction with the statewide *Becoming Alabama* initiative.

Working for the newspaper *The Southern Courier*, Jim Pepler took over 11,000 photographs documenting the civil rights movement, social conditions and everyday life in central Alabama, and the funeral of Martin Luther King, Jr. Pepler donated these photographs to the Alabama Department of Archives and History in 2009. In this program he will share the lessons he has drawn from his many and varied experiences while in Alabama as an idealistic journalist who spent three years trying to accurately represent the civil rights movement, as well as the culture of black southerners in photographs.

James H. "Jim" Pepler, a native of Philadelphia, was a staff photographer for the weekly paper, *The Southern Courier*, from May 1965 to mid-1968. Founded by staff members of *The Harvard Crimson*, the *Courier* recruited a biracial staff of both students and professional journalists from many parts of the country, with the goal of providing objective reporting on civil rights and social issues. Based in Montgomery, the *Courier* staff published 175 issues from July 1965 to December 1968. After leaving the *Southern Courier*, Mr. Pepler went on to enjoy a thirty-eight-year career as staff photographer at *Newsday* (N.Y.) and is currently teaching photojournalism at Adelphi University.

This commemoration event is one in a series of programs affiliated with *Becoming Alabama*, a statewide partnership of state agencies, historical groups, and cultural organizations to commemorate the coinciding anniversaries of the Creek War and War of 1812, the Civil War, and major events in the civil rights movement. For more information on *Becoming Alabama*, visit <http://www.archives.alabama.gov/BA/>.

This ArchiTreats presentation is made possible by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and a grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The public is invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a bit of Alabama history. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives. For more information, call (334) 353-4726.

www.archives.alabama.gov

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