

Dockery Day event seeks to preserve history



Mountain Press file photo

The Isaac Dockery Day dinner is an ongoing fundraiser to preserve the New Salem Baptist Church built by Isaac Dockery, his family, and the community in 1886. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the East Tennessee's Endangered Heritage List.

Submitted article
SEVIERVILLE — The 5th Annual Isaac Dockery Day Dinner and Silent Auction is coming to the Sevierville Civic Center, 200 Gary Wade Blvd., Sevierville today at 3 p.m.

Family and friends will celebrate the legacy of Isaac Dockery.

In the mid and late 1800s Isaac was instrumental in establishing the brick masonry tradition throughout Sevier, Cocke, Jefferson, and Hamblen counties of East Tennessee.

This event is an ongoing fundraiser to preserve the New Salem Baptist Church built by Isaac Dockery, his family and the community in 1886.

The building is listed on the National Register of History Places and the East Tennessee's Endangered Heritage List.

Attendees will give "thanks" with a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, prepared and served by Isaac Dockery's descendants.

The keynote speaker for the evening will be Segun Idowu. Idowu is a 2012 Phi Beta Kappa and Cum Laude graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in History.

He serves as visitor services manager for the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate. He simultaneously serves

as the co-chairman for the Housing Committee of the Boston Chapter of the NAACP, as well as the co-organizer of the Boston Police Camera Action Team (BPCAT). He is the great-great-great-grandson of Isaac Dockery.

The Isaac Dockery descendants will provide the entertainment for the event.

Tickets for the Isaac Dockery Day Dinner are \$25.

May 19 was proclaimed Isaac Dockery Day by the Tennessee Legislature in 2012.

For more information call Alverrene Bridgeforth at 865-919-6557 or Shedenna Dockery at 423-248-8916.