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THE SOUTHERN AGENDA

a rare collection of bourbon bottles, o... dive deep into the history behind some of the state's most storied homes, the **Filson Historical Society** in Louisville is your one-stop research shop. The society has been archiving Bluegrass State history since 1884, so it's understandable that by 2014, the group's home—the Beaux-Arts-style Ferguson Mansion—was quite literally filled to the rafters. Two years and \$12.4 million later, Kentucky's oldest privately

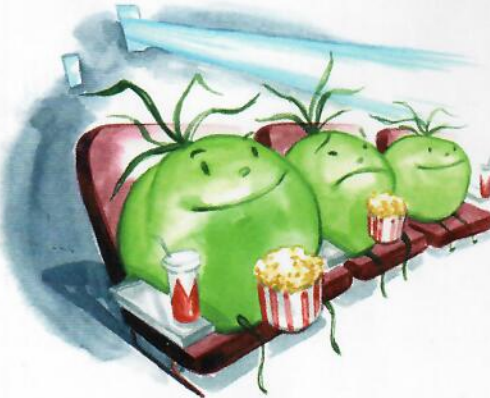
funded historical society has some much-needed elbow room. Completely gutted and expanded, the 111-year-old building and its carriage house reopened this fall with an enlarged footprint that includes a conservation lab, exhibition space, and lots of room for guests to pore over the records. Expect some things to stay the same, though, such as the society's annual holiday reading of Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory" (December 12). Don't be surprised if you

ORDER A PLATE OF...

After filming wrapped in Juliette, Georgia, locals saw a business opportunity and turned the Whistle Stop Café set into a working eatery. You can order fried green tomatoes on a salad or a sandwich, or as an appetizer with house-made radish sauce. Just please honor the restaurant's typed request: Don't steal the menu as a souvenir.

THEN ORDER ANOTHER

When Fannie Flagg was growing up, her great-aunt Bess Fortenberry ran the tiny Iron-dale Café just outside Birmingham, Alabama. The author used it as inspiration for her fictional restaurant. Today, the cooks at the First Avenue storefront estimate they fry between



GOING GREEN

THE FILM THAT BROUGHT TO LIFE FANNIE FLAGG'S BELOVED NOVEL *FRIED GREEN TOMATOES* AT *THE WHISTLE STOP CAFÉ* TURNS TWENTY-FIVE IN DECEMBER. HERE ARE FIVE WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE MILESTONE

six hundred and eight hundred slices of green tomatoes each day.

VISIT SENOIA, GEORGIA

Golden camera plaques stud the sidewalks of this little community south of Atlanta

to commemorate the TV shows and movies filmed here—most recently the *Walking Dead* series. Drive along Bridge Street to spot the Travis-McDaniel House, which appeared in *Fried Green Tomatoes* as

the exterior of the Threadgoode family home. Just across the road, you'll recognize the bridge and railroad, too.

SPOT THE TRAIN

The locomotive that powered the Crescent passenger line featured in the film is now undergoing restoration at the Southeastern Railway Museum in Duluth, Georgia. There's also a new historic marker in downtown Auburn, Alabama, on the route the famous train traveled for forty-five years.

HOST A SCREENING

Get the popcorn ready. This fall, Universal Studios Home Entertainment rereleased a DVD of the film with deleted scenes and outtakes, so you can relive "Towanda!" again and again.