



PRESS RELEASE
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COALFIELD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CORBIN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Event will take place Saturday December 3, 2016 at Heritage Station, Huntington WV

Huntington, WV- **December 3, 2016, Coalfield Development Corporation is hosting Corbin Oral History Project Open House** to interview former employees of the Corbin Ltd. garment factory in Westmoreland, Huntington. The Open House will take place at the Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau at Heritage Station from 2 p.m.- 4 p.m.

Oral historian Cat Pleska and Marshall University graduate student Ashley Dennison, who is studying humanities, planned the open house for former employees that had worked at the Corbin factory for an oral history project this weekend. The collection of recorded memories they hope to gather from participants in the project will be archived and showcased in a proposed museum, which will be housed in the former Corbin factory, anticipated to open in Fall 2017.

The former Corbin Ltd. garment factory at 1040 Vernon St. in Westmoreland was purchased in 2014 by Coalfield Development Corp. from the Wayne Economic Development Authority. Coalfield Development is a non-profit entity which operates the West Edge Factory, providing training in several trade skills.

"For this project, we are attempting to determine how working at the Corbin factory affected people's lives," Pleska said. "The beauty of oral history is the ability to learn first-hand from asking questions as you sit with people and ask them about their work at the factory, the relationships they had and learn from their individual experiences," she said.

The project aims at honoring those who worked at Corbin and celebrating its history in Huntington.

Huntington, WV
December 3, 2016
2pm- 4pm
Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau
Heritage Station, 210 11th Street