



*The Land Continues to Speak to Us*

## Culture Vulture Film Festival Highlights Rich Heritage

On Friday, October 30, The Center for Cultural Preservation will present the Culture Vulture Film Festival. Three films will highlight mountain heritage, Jewish heritage, and African-American heritage, which have all had a tremendous impact on Western North Carolina and on the South.

“We live in very polarized times, yet it’s our connection to our cultural legacies that’s sustained us through good times and bad,” says David Weintraub, executive director for the Center for Cultural Preservation, as well as the director/producer of the featured films. “The Culture Vulture Film Festival’s goal is to reconnect people to some of the cultural legacies of our region that demonstrate the vibrancy of cultural communities of years past and what lessons they have for us today.”

Featured films include award-winning documentary *Where Neon Goes to Die*, which chronicles the story of Yiddish culture in the South; award-winning short film, *Golden Side of the Tracks* that takes a look at the

Overtown neighborhood in Miami, which rose from conditions of extreme poverty, exploitation, and racist attacks to become known as the “Harlem of the South;” and the world premiere of *The Land Still Speaks to Us* that demonstrates the resiliency of early mountaineers as told through the voices of elders from Western North Carolina.



*Golden Side of the Tracks* (Archival photo courtesy of Miami-Dade Public Library)

The evening begins at 6 P.M. with music by singer/songwriter Tom Fisch and a barbecue dinner. The film screenings begin at 7 P.M. Each film will be followed by a brief panel discussion with the filmmaker as well as some of the people involved in each film.

This event—part of the nonprofit organization’s *Keeping the Fires Burning* public program series—will raise funds for the

Center’s upcoming work in cataloging mountain heritage throughout Western North Carolina.

*Blue Ridge Community College* is located at 180 West Campus Drive in Flat Rock. Tickets to view all three films are \$20. Tickets for the films, dinner, and concert are \$25. For more information, including tickets, visit [saveculture.org](http://saveculture.org) or call 828.692.8062.