

Thursday, February 14, 2019

warrencount

# Library hosts the story of

By Kate Miller  
Record Managing Editor

Historians from Audrain County will be in Warrenton to talk about the original "horse whisperer," Tom Bass, who perfected his practice in Mexico, Mo.

Bass is remembered as an influential Missourian. He was born in 1859 to a slave and a slave owner and became world famous for his horsemanship skills. He showed horses, rode and trained them. He displayed his equestrian skills before presidents.

He represented Missouri at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. He was the first African-American to ride in the American Royal Horse Show.

Bass died in 1934.

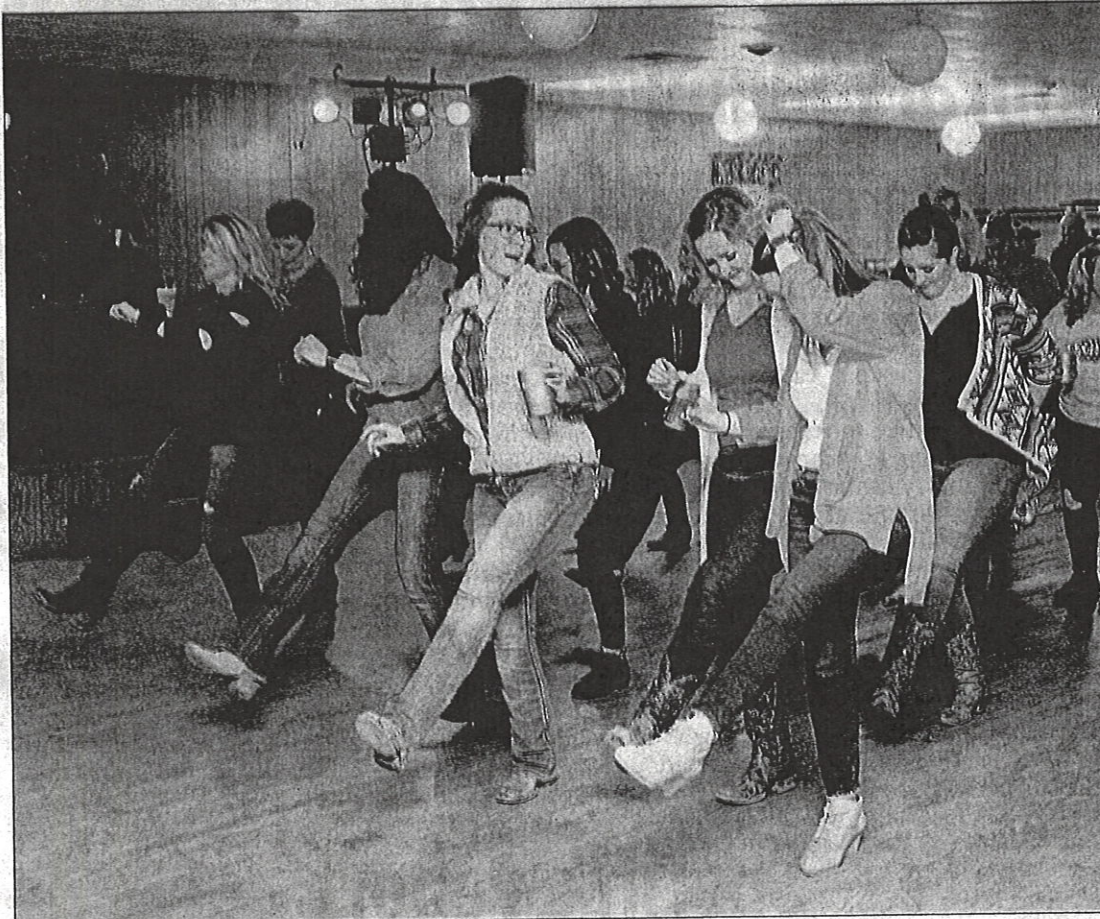
Audrain County Historical Society members Lori Pratt and Tom Usnick 6 p.m. will give a presentation about Bass, Tuesday, Feb. 26, at Scenic Regional Library, 912 S. Highway 47, Warrenton. People can register online, in person at the library or call 636-456-3321.

Pratt said Bass lived dur-

ing a time when American transportation was by horse. Horses were part of the American lifestyle and economy.

Horses and horsemanship skills were praised in society. Bass trained his show horses to dance and curtsy, and his horses set standards in judging. He had to pull at least one horse completely out of competitions because people stopped entering their horses in the shows where that horse was competing.

"He really was the horse whisperer," Pratt said.



## COUNTRY DANCE

Partygoers stomp and kick together for a song at the annual 3D Dance hosted by Warren County Fair City Lions Club. Record photo/Adam Rollins.

# Warrenton police start outreach