FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

"Hats Off!" to Living Heritage Museum's Toddler Time

ATHENS, Tenn. (June 2, 2010)—Local children recently learned about the history of hats—and how to make and decorate their own unique headgear—at the Living Heritage Museum's "Vintage Hats"-themed Toddler Time class. Toddler Time enables children to learn about the Museum's most current exhibits in a fun, hands-on way. This month's event highlighted the Vintage Hats collection on display until June 25.

Executive Director Diane Hutsell shared a diverse array of hats, including a safari hat, a cowboy hat, and a two-horned Viking-style battle helmet. Children took turns trying on each one before making and decorating their own paper hat.

"The children really enjoyed seeing all the hats we have on display," said Hutsell, "and they had a great time making their own hats as well. They were so creative with the stickers and crayons!"

Toddler Time classes are available for children aged two to five on Wednesday, June 9, and Thursday, June 10, at 10 a.m. A class for children aged 10 and up will be held June 17 at 10 a.m. Children and their parents or caregivers will enjoy a hands-on, outdoor archeology experience, complete with dirt and "artifacts." Call 745-0329 to register today.

Funding for the upcoming archeology class was donated by Crescent, Inc., which produces high quality socks in Niota, Tenn., in the oldest operating hosiery mill in the United States.

Founded in 1982, the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum is a private, nonprofit organization housing more than 7,000 artifacts in 30 permanent exhibits that represent the culture

and history of Southeast Tennessee from the 1700s to 1940s. The Museum also offers several changing exhibits as well as numerous special events and programs throughout the year and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to make a donation, visit www.livingheritagemuseum.com.

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