

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Diane Hutsell, Executive Director  
McMinn County Living Heritage Museum  
423-745-0329  
www.livingheritagemuseum.com  
dhutsell@birch.net

**Museum Presents Toddler Time:  
First Responders Month**

**February 11, 2010-Athens-** While the Museum honors our First Responders during the month of February, the kids will get a chance to see what the fire and police department do first hand. Join us February 17<sup>th</sup> as the Athens Fire Department and February 18<sup>th</sup> when the Athens Police Department join us at the Living Heritage Museum to show kids what they do.

With our new Toddler Time the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum is working to offer quality experiences that welcome families and entertain, educate and amuse at low or no cost. Toddler Time programs vary throughout the year but always relate back to art or history and may include a story, art project, craft, or tour of a part of the Museum. These hour long programs are for toddlers and a parent, grandparent or friend to play and explore at the Living Heritage Museum using the Museum's artifacts and a craft project to stimulate their natural curiosity, imagination and creativity.

Each hands-on Toddler Time program gives children the opportunity to develop positive childhood experiences that have been shown to have an enduring effect on a child's future learning ability in school and throughout life. Researchers have found children who participate in high-quality early childhood programs gain skills normally associated with greater brain development, such as problem solving and language, math, and literacy skills. Museum experiences also help parents and caregivers become informed about their child's development and actively engaged in their child's learning.

Call 423-745-0329 for more information or sign up your child today!

###