

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Living Heritage Museum shares free educational resources

ATHENS, Tenn. (August 5, 2010)—Comprehensive lesson plans, cross-curriculum activities, and stimulating events are available free of charge to area educators at the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum.

“The Museum offers innumerable educational resources at no cost to teachers of all subjects,” said Diane Hutsell, executive director. “While sharing history is certainly a foundational component of the Museum’s mission, we also provide academic support to language, math, art, and even science teachers.”

Educators can access free lesson plans and activities on the Museum’s website, www.livingheritagemuseum.com. While useful information is contained throughout the site, a special link on the site’s homepage also directs teachers to education-specific resources tailored to their unique needs.

“When planning new exhibits, we always consider the way that area students—from elementary schoolchildren through college-aged learners—can be included in the discovery and learning process,” said Lisa Chastain, curator of exhibits.

In time for the new school year, upcoming exhibits include the grand opening of the renovated General Store, where students will learn about how children of yesteryear shopped; the national heritage quilt show, “Once Upon a Time,” which will showcase the historical and artistic value of quilts from across the country; and a special program incorporating reenactors of famous Tennesseans among the Museum’s existing exhibits.

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“We also regularly work with educators to create custom programs to address the specific interests and ability level of their students,” added Chastain. “And there is no charge for this collaborative service.”

For more information about free educational resources, please call 423-746-9239.

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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