C A L E N D A R

June-August
Tuesdays & Thursdays
Colonial Crafts & Games at David Caldwell Historic Park
Call 373-3681 for details

Friday, July 3
Museum Closed Friday, July 3

Saturday, July 4
Crafts and Music Stage
Museum Open 10-5

1976 Revisited: How Did We Celebrate America’s 200th Birthday in Guilford County?
Exhibition at David Caldwell Historic Park
July 27-31
Blitz From the Past Day Camp
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Call 272-5003 for details

August 27-29
Smithsonian Affiliate Music Series
Sponsored by the Carolina Foundation
Featuring the Carolina Chocolate Drops and more
Watch the media for details

Sunday, August 30
5 by O. Henry Singers at Center City Park
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

TASK: Things are Mounting Up
Securing Objects
Creating test exhibition cases sets final placement and graphic elements, reveals challenges and determines what type of artifact mounts are required. Crafting proper mounts involves the patient efforts of the team to create the secure support system needed for the physical integrity of each object. Making props can involve sewing, bending, soldering, carving and cutting materials that will not harm the object. The largest mount will be a platform, one shored up under the building, to hold a railroad baggage cart and Cone Mills loom. The tiniest armatures will support the smallest objects including a Revolutionary War button and buckle and Native American points.

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Voice exhibit, but at will be displayed in the ways exhibit, but at 72x34 inches it will not fit on a scanner. So, the original was photographed in four sections with a high-resolution Nikon camera. The images were then brought together as a panorama using Photoshop software, with additional work to align the sections and remove the creases found in the original.

TASK: Technical, Talent, Treasure

by Exhibit Project Manager Susan Webster

TREASURE: Rankin’s Legacy
The Journey of a Cap
In June 1862 William S. Rankin (1834-1899) enlisted with the 21st North Carolina Infantry, Company M, a unit known as the Dixie Boys. He served with distinction, earning steady promotions to the 21st’s Field and Staff command. Injured at Gettysburg, he was captured and sent to Johnson’s Island, Ohio until a prisoner exchange in 1865. Rankin’s hand-made forage cap is made of wood with a simple leather brim and metallic beaded trim. The term forage cap comes from its shape—tall like a sack, it could hold food or supplies gathered at camp or taken during a raid. Handcut tin numbers and letters make it unique. Rankin may have worn the cap during the war or perhaps at veteran events. In 2010 it will help tell the story of local Civil War soldiers.

Paula of Palma Engineers has been in the museum attic and basement to create a new wiring and electrical plan. Award-winning lighting designer Scott Richardson of Light Defines Form has created a master plan for fixtures and lighting techniques to meet conservation standards and provide an amazing experience for visitors. Each of these experts play a critical role in making sure the 2010 exhibition makes visitors say Wow!

by Shop Manager Michele Hale
The Museum Shop is preparing for an upcoming renovation! As the Shop Manager, it is my pleasure to share some exciting news with you. In preparation for the temporary closure we are reducing our inventory, which means great savings to our customers!

Receive 20% off all-priced merchandise, including pottery and books, and browse the sale section for items up to 50% off!

(a) Delicious cookies, jams, jellies and preserves are BUY TWO, GET ONE FREE
With every purchase over $50 receive a complimentary copy of the award-winning Out of Our League cookbook by the Junior League of Greensboro.

We are hopeful to have a small sales area available for your shopping convenience during the renovation and construction. We are anticipating closing in late June, but stop in, or call for more information as the date gets closer. In the meantime; be sure to visit us and take advantage of the super savings every Tuesday-Friday 11-4, Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 2-5.
The desire and need for fun runs strong in all of us. Leisure activities can bond families and communities together, and also lift one’s spirits. Visitors to our upcoming Voices of a City exhibition will have their own spirits raised when they come face-to-face with objects and images all in the name of fun.

Greensboro sponsored its first Very Special Arts Festival project for individuals with disabilities in 1986. It now takes place each May at Gateway Education Center. Photo credit: United Arts Council

‘We’d go out in the fields after harvest time and hit for hours,’ Wes Ferrell recalled of his Guilford County boyhood. The major league careers of Hall of Famer Rick (left) and Wes Ferrell, shown here with their father Lonnie, stand as ones to envy.

Today we bring the world into our homes through television and computers. Many years ago that could happen with a magic lantern, which projected images onto a screen or wall. Popular slide sets featured natural wonders, tourist attractions, famous people, and comedic stories.

Joseph Smith recalled that ‘once in a while a fellow would come along and walk the rope … A rope would be stretched across Court square from the top of the buildings, and with the assistance of a long pole for balance, he would walk, from one side to the other. He always took up a collection before walking, for if he didn’t, before he would get down to the ground, the crowd would walk off and leave him.’

Last summer I attended one of the best neighborhood reunions you could imagine. Hundreds gathered for fellowship and reminiscences of the southwest neighborhood known as Terra Cotta. A huge wall of photos grabbed my attention and I left that day having learned so much. A few months later Gail Williams, Dennis Waddell, James Pressley, Wilhelmina Waddell, and Thomas Waddell came to the museum to share photos and memories.

One of Greensboro’s largest refugee communities traces its origins to the highlands of Viet Nam. Nicknamed Montagnard, they do not consider themselves Vietnamese. During the Vietnam War many Montagnard men aided American forces and afterwards they suffered persecution. Rev. Y’Hin Nie and Colonel Thomas Eban, who spent years in the jungle and later in refugee camps, moved to North Carolina. Later Me Eban brought his wife Hju Nie and their two surviving children. These remarkable people have shared their newcomer experiences and donated objects to share their culture so it can be appreciated and flourish in their new hometown of Greensboro.

Partnering with UNCG public history professor Benjamin Filene and his students’ mill village research project has brought new oral histories for the exhibition. Pat Costner Smith lived in the Proximity village from 1928-1948. ‘My parents worked in the mill,’ she told us. ‘My dad was a loom fixer and my mother worked in the cloth room, picking the kinky filling out of the cloth.’ She vividly recalls a fire at an empty school building. ‘The window panes on our house got so hot we could feel the heat inside. It was daylight outside. We had to leave for fear of our house burning.’
Art, Leisure and Sports

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“I love researching and sharing Greensboro’s history. It’s as simple as that. Some of the most rewarding times in developing our 2010 exhibition have been talking with people who have fascinating life stories. The following are just a few examples:"

“With the help of Bangladesh’s garment factories, many of which are located in and around the Mill Village, Townsend has been able to bring these stories to life through his work.”

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