

YEAR OF THE MUSEUM COME TO UPPER CUMBERLAND
Herald-Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN, Sunday, 15 October 2006
By Liz Engel

COOKEVILLE – It is “the Year of the Museum,” and several local museums, from Cookeville to Livingston to Smith County, are celebrating the American Association of Museums (AAM) holiday with special exhibits and features next Saturday.

The AAM has chosen 2006 to be the year The Year of the Museum, which is meant to celebrate of the ways museums enrich our lives and communities. The Year of the Museum also launches a sustained effort to encourage Americans to experience and support local museums.

“2006 is AAM’s centennial year and a time to celebrate America’s museums and the enduring value of these institutions to communities, the nation and the world,” said Edward H. Able, Jr. president and CEO of AAM. “During the Year of the Museum, we want to encourage everyone to experience, cherish and support museums.”

On October 28 six area museums from all over the Upper Cumberland area - - consisting of Cookeville Depot Museum in Cookeville, the Granville Museum in Granville, the Jackson County Archives and Veterans Hall in Gainesboro, the Jackson County Historical Society Museum in Gainesboro, the Overton County Heritage Museum in Livingston and the Smith County Heritage Museum in Carthage - - will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with special features at each museum. Some special features include:

The Cookeville Depot Museum features a new model train exhibit.

The Granville Museum will feature new Civil War and Steamboat exhibits.

The Jackson County Archives and Veterans hall will feature 22 showcases of military exhibits.

The Jackson County Historical Society Museum will feature the new Fort Blount.

The Overton County Museum will feature the wall of fame portraits.

The Smith County Heritage Museum will feature its new Century Farm and Civil War exhibits.



Representatives from several local museums in the Upper Cumberland recently met to plan “The Year of the Museum” celebration on October 28. From left, John Richard Fox and John Wilmore of the Jackson County Historical Society Museum, Glenn Jones of Jackson County Archives and Veterans Hall, Judy Duke of Cookeville Depot Museum, Paula Stover with Overton County Heritage Museum and Randall Clemons of Granville Museum. All local museums will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate the occasion.

COOKEVILLE HISTORY MUSEUM

Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN

The Cookeville History Museum located at 40 E. Broad St., across from city hall, is a collection of the history of Cookeville, Putnam County and the surrounding area. It also offers a photographic archives of the area which is available for viewing and research purposes.

The museum offers both permanent and visiting exhibits. The visiting exhibits change approximately every three months. The museum is open year-round, Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It also offers an assortment of Cookeville souvenirs, including handmade mugs and batter bowls, Putnam County throws and books by local writers. For more information, call (931) 520-5455.

Herald-Citizen Photo/Camille Fliss



Eunetta Jenkins, seated, receives a Volunteer Service Award from the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association for her work with the Cookeville History Museum. She served as president of the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum for two years and now volunteers at the museum on a regular basis.

From left are Judy Duke, Administrator of Museums for the City of Cookeville, and Alice Kilgrew, incoming President of the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum.

Herald Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, Jan 06, 2008



The old Cookeville History Museum used to be at 144 South Lowe Ave, across from the Putnam County Justice Center.



The new Cookeville History Museum located at 40 E. Broad St., across from city hall.

A NEW PLACE TO DISCOVER HISTORY

Cookeville Museum Taking Shape

By Lindsay McReynolds, Herald Citizen Staff

Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 24 August 2006

It's been nearly nine months since the Cookeville History Museum shut down on Lowe Avenue and city workers began renovating another building on Broad Street to hold the museum's collections.

Cookeville Depot and History Museum Director Judy Duke said plenty of people have asked about the history museum's new location at 40 E. Broad St., wondering when it will be open.

"We had to do more remodeling than what we anticipated," Duke said of the old Respiratory Home Car building purchased by the city last year.

"the building had to be gutted down to the cinder block, to get it appropriate for a museum," she said.

Also, a new roof has been put on the building to replace the flat roof that previously covered the building.

"Now they've begun to put up dry wall, and a new floor will be put in," she said.

City employees have performed all the work on the building, with the exterior renovation designed by Peter Metts, and the interior renovation designed by museum staff.

"The city's been good to us," Duke said. "City maintenance has done a fabulous job."

Once the work on the building is complete, the museum will have an area for temporary exhibits, an area for permanent exhibits, a work room, an office area, storage area and parking. Duke said the building on Broad Street is about twice the size of the building that previously housed the museum at 144 S. Lowe Ave.

Someone expressed an interest in purchasing that building last year, and the city opened bids for the property, with the intention of relocating the museum to the new location on Broad Street, across from city hall.

That Lowe Avenue property was purchased for \$132,978 by a Cookeville businessman in December.

Museum staff began moving out of the building before the property sale and placing its collections in storage to prepare for the renovation of the Broad Street location.

Because of the amount of work involved in renovating the Broad Street building for the museum, Duke said the museum may not be ready to reopen until the first of next year.

But she believes the wait will be worth it.

"I think it will be something Putnam County will be proud of," she said.

Duke said the museum's more visible location on Broad Street has already prompted calls from Putnam Citizens wanting to donate artifacts.

"There was a lady in Baxter who had a burial dress," she said. "It used to be customary for women to make their own burial dresses."

However, it is unusual for people to still have such items since they were made for people to be buried in. But Duke said in this particular case, the maker of the dress moved away from Putnam County, leaving the dress behind.

Duke said another woman called to tell her about a trunk that belonged to “The Killers,” a football team from the old Cookeville City School back in the 1930s and 1940.

Duke said she hopes people continue to call her with items of historical interest.

“We’re always looking for anything Cookeville related,” said.

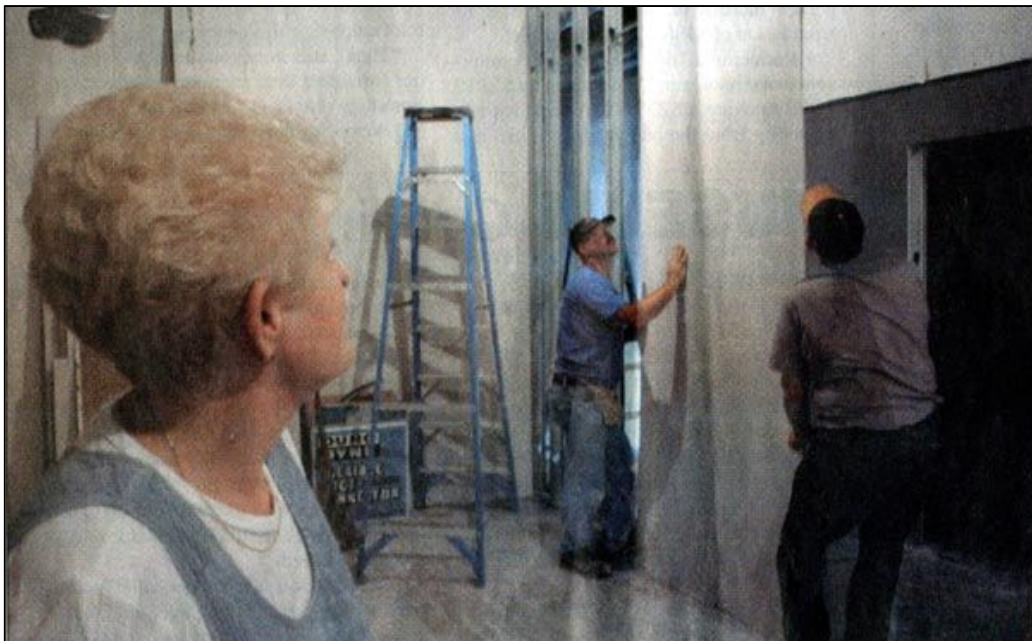
“Museums are all about people,” she said. “We’re interested in items that have a human interest.

“Our goal is to tell the story of people in our community, how we got here,” she said.

Duke said the museum will continue to accept items from the public that fall into that category, provided they have room for them.

Also, once the new museum is complete, a grand opening will be held for the Cookeville History Museum’s new location.

For more information about the Cookeville History Museum or to donate an historical item, call Duke at (931) 528-8570.



Cookeville Depot Museum and History Museum Director Judy Duke, left, watches as Cookeville Leisure Services maintenance workers Frank McCowan and David Adams hang dry wall in the museum’s new location on Broad Street across from city hall.

Moving History



Herald-Citizen Photo/Camille Fless

Board members of the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum, from left, Bobby Davis, vice-president, and Earl Jaquess and Cathy Lamb, board members, stand among the many artifacts that will soon be on display in the new home of the Cookeville History Museum. Located at the newly remodeled building at 40 E. Broad Street, adjacent to Dogwood Park, the museum is set to open in early 2007. An announcement regarding the exact opening date will be made as it gets nearer. The Cookeville Leisure Services Department, along with Judy Duke, administrator of museums, her staff and the Cookeville Maintenance Department, have worked the past year on plans and designs to set in motion the re-opening of the museum.

Herald-Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Tuesday, 21 November 2006, front page.



THE PAST'S FUTURE:

Cookeville History Museum to reopen on April 10.

COOKEVILLE – It's been over a year since the Cookeville History Museum closed its doors on Lowe Avenue and several more months since city officials promised a new and improved museum at a different location on Broad Street across from city hall.

Judy Duke, who is director of the Cookeville History and Depot museums, said that work to get the new museum open is taking longer than planned, but she has set a grand opening date for April 10 at 4 p.m.

"It's a major undertaking to get this open," Duke said. "We're working on it diligently."

City employees in the department of leisure services and the public facilities maintenance crew have performed extensive renovations to the building, which was

purchased by the city in 2005 and was previously the home of Respiratory Home Care.

Duke said the renovations were completed by last fall, and since then, museum workers have been working on the layout design of exhibits at the new museum and putting those together.

“Because we have a brand new museum, every exhibit has to be redone,” Duke said.

And that work has been performed with a limited staff and budget.

Duke is the only full-time employee with the museum, and she is also responsible for the Cookeville Depot Museum just down the street from the history museum. Two part-time employees, Pam Philpot and Billy Copeland, also have been helping get the history museum ready, in addition to their duties at the depot.

Duke said that volunteers and businesses have also pulled together to help the museum financially.

“Many businesses and citizens have purchased display cases in memory of or in honor of someone,” she said. “And we’re still accepting artifacts. We’ve really tied to include the community.”

Right now, exhibits planned for the museum include a brief history of Putnam County, beginning with early settlements in the 1850’s illustrated by a log cabin replica.

Another exhibit will show the Civil War’s effect on the Cookeville area as well as exhibits on World War I, World War II and exhibits on the social, cultural and economic growth of Putnam County.

Another exhibit will include artifacts from Dixie College and Tennessee Tech University.

Duke said they’re also considering a small exhibit on Cookeville life today and the future. And a timeline will include some of the major events in Cookeville and Putnam County history.

The museum also features a small reception area in the front with space for visiting collections, with the first one already planned for this fall.

“Hoofbeats in the Heartland: The Civil War Cavalry in Tennessee” will be presented by the Tennessee State Museum and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area.

As Duke talked about the museum in the midst of partially completed exhibits on Wednesday, she said she would be “thrilled to death” when everything is complete.

“It’s been a challenge,” she said. “I think Cookeville will find it every entertaining and important. I think it will be something they can be proud of.”

Those interesting in helping with the development of the Cookeville History Museum can call (931) 520-5455 to become a member of the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum.

Herald-Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 15 February 2007, front page.



Guest speaker: Judy Duke, administrator of the new Cookeville History Museum, was the guest speaker at a recent Cookeville Evening Lions Club meeting and provided members with information about the museum, which recently had its grand opening. From left are Duke and Rhonda Wright, President of the Cookeville Evening Lions Club.

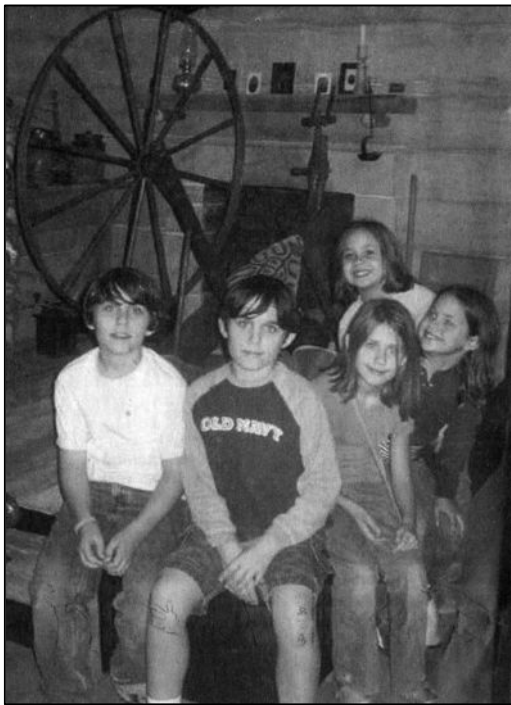
Herald-Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Friday, 4 May 2007, pg. A-13, Living.



LOCAL HISTORY

Names officers for 2008 of the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum this week, from left, front, Alice Kilgrow, president; Earl Jaquess, vice-president; Eunetta Jenkins, secretary; Bill Shipley, treasurer and Martha Willis, board member. Carolyn Morrison center, was named to the board, as were Mike Birdwell, left, rear, and Calvin Dickinson, rear, right. Also elected to the board in the annual meeting was Bobby Greenwood. The Cookeville History Museum is located at 40 West Broad Street across from Cookeville City Hall and is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Herald-Citizen Photo/Camille Fliss.

Herald-Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, January 17, 2008, pg. A-3.



VISIT TO THE COOKEVILLE HISTORY MUSEUM

Members of the Abigail Adams Society of the Children of the American Revolution gathered recently for a guided tour of the Cookeville History Museum. They voted as a group to visit historical sites and museums in order to learn more about their heritage. CAR is an organization for children through age 18 who are direct descendants of soldiers in the American Revolution. From left are Josh, Jeremy and Rebekah Craig and Rachel and Bailey Huseman. For information about the local society, contact Kaye Craig at (931) 537-3714.

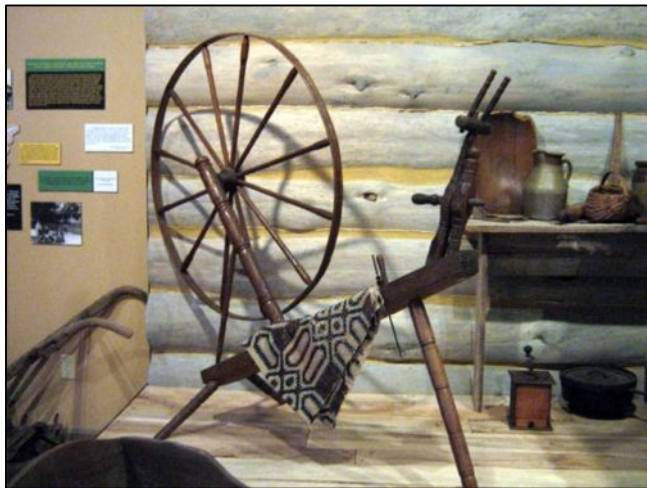


Miss Ellie, a late 1800's school teacher played by Judy Duke, teaches children about the history of the area in front of the Cookeville History Museum on Broad Street in Cookeville.



Cookeville History Museum director Judy Duke, left, holds a burial gown donated by Laura Jackson, right, and her sister Sheila Wakefield to the Cookeville History Museum. The gown was probably made in the 1800s by a relative of Jackson and Wakefield. Photo by: Ty Kernea.

Herald - Citizen: Sunday 27 August 2006, pg. C-5.



Burial Dress: Prior to the 1880's young women made their own dress for their burial. The dress usually included a camisole, a slip, and a over dress. The life expectancy for a women was not very long compared to today. Around the 1880's women stopped making their burial dresses. Shrouds became popular and were purchased at funeral parlors.

This burial dress was made by Betty McDonald great aunt of Laura Hall Jackson and Sheila Hall Wakefield. Miss McDonald never married but lived between Tennessee and Montana with the married sisters. She died in Montana many miles away from the dress she made, and of course did not use the dress for its intended purpose.



22 QUESTIONS WITH... JUDY DUKE

Sunday, Mar 02, 2008: Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN



Judy Duke in her office at the Cookeville History Museum.

Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea

Name: Judy (Brown) Duke

Hometown: Cookeville

Now living in: Cookeville

Family: My husband Dwight, my daughter Shellie Warren and her son Jacob, and my son

Joshua and wife Tabitha and his children, Haley, Casey, Griffin and Bianca.

First job: My first job was wrapping Christmas presents at the Terry Bros. Department Store on the square in Cookeville.

Current job (and since when): Since 1999, I have been the museums manager for the City of the Cookeville, which includes the Cookeville History Museum and the Cookeville Depot.

What I love about my job: I love getting to meet different people and listening to them tell their personal histories and share in their memories.

Part of my job I could do without: I do not like to tell people that we can not use some artifact that they might bring into one or the other museums. And like most other folks, I am not crazy about paper work.

What drew me to this occupation was: Well, for 15 years I was a school teacher -- first in Crossville, then at the Putnam County Senior High School (what is now Cookeville High School), and then at Tennessee Tech. As a child, my parents instilled an interest in history, and then, as an adult, I became certified to teach English, history and speech. At the time this position opened up, I was not teaching and it sounded like something I might enjoy, so I went for it.

Dream Job: Retirement.

When I am not working I'm: Playing golf, reading, walking, going to see my grandchildren, or experimenting with recipes in my kitchen.

I'm most proud of: My husband (Dwight was born with a severe hearing disability), who graduated from college despite his disability and who owns his own business; my daughter Shellie; my son Joshua; and, of course, my grandchildren.

Something most people don't know about me: I once played the clarinet and saxophone, and every now and then I still sit down at the piano and play "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (my Daddy's favorite hymn).

Favorite movie: I have a number of "favorite" movies -- to name a few, "Gone with the Wind," "Steel Magnolias" and the "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood." I also like historical movies.

Favorite food: Frozen yogurt and homemade yeast breads.

My hero: I would have to say my **parents, Clarence and Frances Brown**, are my heroes. They raised me

in a loving Christian home that I have wonderful memories of. There are very few days I live that I don't wish I could see them, talk to them and introduce them to their great-grandchildren. I would also have to mention my dear friend, Betty Morrison, who for many years now has been my example of how to truly live the Christian life -- she is also my heroine.

As a child, I thought I'd grow up to be: A great Broadway actress.

What I watch on TV: I don't have time to watch much television, but when I can I like "CSI," "Law and Order," the History Channel, the Discovery Channel, the National Geographic Channel, Food Network, PBS (WCTE) and Fox News -- not in that order, necessarily.

Favorite childhood memory: Directing and performing in neighborhood plays and variety shows. A neighborhood friend and I used to produce, direct AND perform our original productions and charge the neighborhood kids a nickel, sometimes a dime, to see our basement (his grandmother had an empty basement with bedspread curtain and all) extravaganzas.

If I could do it all over again I'd: Change very little.

I'd love to meet (living or dead): Jesus; David (in the Bible); my great-great-great-grandfather, Major Richard Fielding Cooke; Lucille Ball; and Carol Burnett.

Advice I'd pass on to future generations: Always be yourself, "do unto others as you would have them do unto you," find yourself a passion for something and invest yourself in it, and be sure and tell all those who are important to you how much they mean to you and how much you love having them as a part of your journey in life.

***Clarence T. Brown**, b. 16 January 1915 – d. 3 January 1976

***Frances Gibson Brown**, b. 14 September 1915 – d. 13 March 1999

Buried: Cookeville City Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN

Major Richard Fielding Cooke

b. 8 January 1787, Culpepper Co., VA

d. 15 October 1870, Putnam Co., TN

Wife: **Margaret Cox**

Buried: Cooke Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN

Frances (Gibson) Brown Obt.

COOKEVILLE -- Funeral services for **Frances Gibson Brown** of Cookeville will be held Monday, March 15, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Dyer Funeral Home with Dr. Randy Adkisson and Brother Charlie Hutchinson officiating. Burial will be in Cookeville City Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Brown, a homemaker, died Saturday, March 13, 1999, in NHC Health Care.

A native of Putnam County, she was the daughter of the late Phy and Lillie Lindsey Gibson.

She was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church, a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and a member of the Home Demonstration Club.

Her husband, Clarence T. Brown, and four brothers, Howard, Kermit, Hubert, and Belton Gibson, and a sister, Bonnie Caruthers, preceded her in death.

Her family includes her daughter and son-in-law, **Judy and Dwight Duke** of Cookeville; her grandchildren, Shellie Warren of Knoxville and Joshua Duke of Cookeville; and two sisters, Opal Mangrum of Nashville and Reva Pike of Atlanta.

Pallbearers will be Joshua Duke, Randy Warren, Bill Gibson, Randal Gibson, Bill Branch, Earl Maddux, and Harold Williams.

Dyer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Published March 13, 1999 9:17 PM CST: Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN

<http://www.ajlambert.com>



CUTLASS EXHIBIT OPENS AT HISTORY MUSEUM: Herald-Citizen: Sunday 21 August 2005, pg. C-5: *This exhibit was at the old Putnam County History Museum when it was located at 144 South Lowe Ave, across from the Putnam County Justice Center.*

"I thought cutlasses were ships..no, cutlasses are cars." These were two of the comments made at the opening of the Cookeville History Museum's latest exhibit, "The Shape Edge of the Sailing Navy." According to museum administrator Judy Duke, neither statement is exactly correct. The cutlasses in this exhibit are swords, part of a collection amassed by Dr. Sam Barnes ranging in origin from the 1700s to 1941.

Barnes' interest in sharp edges began early in his life. His first sword, from Japan, was given to him by a family friend after WWII.

From that gift, Barnes developed his interest in sharp objects, which also extended to fencing in college and a career as an orthopedic surgeon.

The museum features many items of historical interest in addition to the cutlass exhibit.

NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT PULLS INTO PORT HERE

[Lindsay McReynolds](#)

Herald-Citizen Staff

Monday, Jun 23, 2008: Herald – Citizen, Cookeville, TN.



Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea
Nathan Twitty, left, and Chris Vick, right, were two young crew members aboard a ship called the Pogoria that traveled from Poland to Argentina for an educational trip back in 1988. Their story as well as a display of model ships constructed by the late Dr. James Wattenbarger will be on display at the Cookeville History Museum beginning June 28.

COOKEVILLE -- A new exhibit coming to the Cookeville History Museum will highlight a handmade

model ship collection by a prominent former Cookeville citizen as well as an educational ship trip made by several young Cookeville boys 20 years ago.

The Wattenbarger Ships exhibit will open Saturday, June 28, with a reception from 1 to 3 p.m., and the exhibit will remain open during museum hours throughout the summer.

Dr. James Wattenbarger, who died last year, was the founding music director of the Tech Community Symphony Orchestra, which preceded the Bryan Symphony Orchestra at Tennessee Tech. Wattenbarger was the chairman of TTU's music department for nearly 20 years, and he is credited with helping develop Tech's music program into what it is today.

Wattenbarger retired from the Tech faculty in 1988, but apparently he had a fascination with constructing models of historical ships.

Cookeville History Museum Director Judy Duke said that Wattenbarger constructed sailing vessels that were replicas of actual ships that sailed in the 1600s and 1700s.

"He made these ships, lots of them by hand," Duke said. "They're very historically accurate from what we can tell. We feel like it's an interesting collection from a former member of the community."

Cookeville History Museum staff decided to combine an exhibit of Wattenbarger's model ship collection with the 20-year anniversary of an adventure some Cookeville boys actually took aboard a ship back in 1988 from Poland to Argentina.

Cookeville residents Chris Vick and Nathan Twitty were two of eight Cookeville boys who were crew members aboard a ship called Pogoria back in 1988.

A Cookeville businessman, L.B. Baranowski, set up the trip as an educational experience for 15- and 16-year-old boys to sail to international ports, learn sailing techniques and attend academic classes. The program was called the International Class Afloat.

Duke said the exhibit will feature artifacts from that trip including a flag signed by the boys.

Both exhibits were assembled by history museum exhibit designer Pam Philpot.

The Cookeville History Museum on Broad Street is open Wednesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MUSEUM BENEFITING FROM HISTORICAL BOOK

[Liz Engel](#)

Herald-Citizen Staff
Sunday, Aug 03, 2008



A new book outlining some of the early history of Cookeville and Putnam County has been recently put together by the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum, and the book will be available at the museum starting Wednesday. With a copy of "Cookeville and Putnam County," from left, Judy Duke, museum director; Cathy Lamb, social chair; Eunetta Jenkins, past board president; and Alice Kilgorw, current board president. Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea

COOKEVILLE -- If the pictures published in the most recent book detailing the history of Cookeville and Putnam County are worth a thousand words, there's certainly many stories to be told.

"Cookeville and Putnam County," put together through the efforts of the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum and published by Arcadia, the largest local history publisher in the country, is a photographic journey of the people, landmarks and culture that made up the Cookeville and surrounding communities.

Close to 200 photos, aged from the late 1800s to the mid-1950s, are included in the 128-page book.

"There have been other books about our local history, and they have been good books, but this is the first attempt to go through a publisher like this that guided the process," said Cookeville History Museum Director Judy Duke. "There are photos in here that people have seen before, but there are a lot that people haven't."

The book is one in a series Arcadia is promoting called "Images in America," and its photographs were pulled largely from Cookeville History Museum as well as private collections, archives at Tennessee Tech and the Putnam County Library -- thousands were considered -- and it took nearly three-years of off-and-on work for the Friends of the Cookeville History Museum board to complete.

"This is strictly a fundraiser for the museum," Duke said. "And although everyone on the (friends) board helped with this, there are four folks that took the 'bull by the horns.' Those four spent many hours going through thousands of photos, and it was not an easy task to decide which photos to use."

To recognize and feature that group -- Eunetta Jenkins, Cathy Lamb, Jim Bussell and Randy Williams -- the museum will hold a book signing from 1-3 p.m. Saturday.

"Cookeville and Putnam County" will cost \$19.99 to purchase, will be available for purchase starting Wednesday at the history museum, during the book signing Saturday and also during regular museum business hours. The book is also expected to be available at several local antique shops, coffee houses and other businesses.

The Cookeville History Museum, located on Broad Street, is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

For more information, contact the museum at 520-5455.



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Judy Duke (left), Cookeville History Museum director, and Alice Kilgrow, current president of the Friends of the Cookeville Museum recently received from the Tennessee Historical Commission. The certificate, one of only 13 awarded throughout the state, recognizes the museum for historic preservation projects and the study of history. The Cookeville History Museum opened in April 2001 and includes exhibits that trace the history of the region back to Native American times.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, 3 August 2008, pg. C-8.

DONATION TO THE MUSEUM

The Iris Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America recently made a donation of two dozen archivally safe padded coat hangers to the Cookeville History Museum. They will be used to help preserve the vintage uniforms and other clothing in the museum's collection. From left are Joanne Wilhite, museum collection manager; Judy Duke, museums manager; Merry Charron, EGA vice president; and Judy Abbott, EGA president. This project was one of the many community service projects of the guild, including stitching samplers for new Habitat for Humanity homes, stitching soldier kissing pillows for deployed soldiers, decorating the 1st Tennessee Bank Christmas tree, donating embroidered towels to the WCTE auction and teaching and displaying embroidery in various venues around Cookeville. Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea

Friday, Aug 22, 2008: Herald-Citizen Staff



COUNTY MEDICAL HISTORY TO BE ON DISPLAY

By Liz Engel: Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN Sunday, 26 October 2008, front page

COOKEVILLE – A steel saw is not often considered modern day medical equipment, but it was once one of the tools of the trade for doctors and physicians in Putnam County.

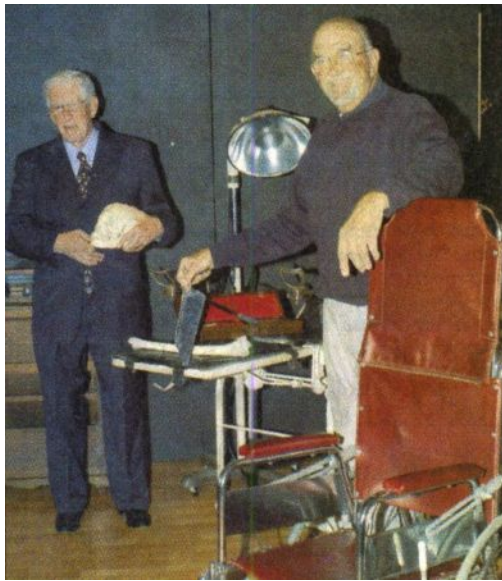


A new exhibit starting Nov. 1 at the Cookeville History Museum will have several such dated medial artifacts on display, and they will certainly send shivers down your spine. “Staying Alive: A look into the medical field in Putnam County,” will include displays dating from before the Civil War to the 1950s.

“It certainly made an impact on me,” said Museum Director Judy Duke. “It’s almost disconcerting to see how some of the early medical instruments were used.

Personally, I’m sure glad I live now instead of back then.”

Some of the items on display include an early ledger from Dr. Zeb Shipley, one of Putnam County’s earliest physicians, a diary from a Civil War doctor who wrote of his examinations of soldiers and slaves, a birthing table that dates back to the 1800s and an examination table for the 1930s-40s. On loan from Tennessee Tech archives, the museum will display some of the artifacts from the Roberts-Mooneyham UCMS Collection – which includes medical equipment, reference books and records relating to the Upper Cumberland Medical Society – and Duke said the museum will also have on display a case of pre-Civil War surgical instruments, considered a rare item.



“There are very few surgical instruments made in the U.S. at that time, and they were made in New York,” she said. “It’s a really a beautiful set.”

The museum will also be presenting some of the history of the Howard Hospital, which was the first for Putnam and surrounding counties.

(Pictures: A compartment of medicines is among the items on display at the Cookeville History Museum’s

“Staying Alive” exhibit. Dr. Billy Shipley (left) and Dr. Sam Barnes donated numerous items of historic medical equipment to the Cookeville History Museum’s “Staying Alive” exhibit).

“Cookeville also had a pest house, and we’ll be sharing some of the history on that,” Duke said. “if you had a contagious or communicable disease, you likely would have wound up there.”

The exhibit will open to the public from 1 to 3 p.m. Nov. 1, and 1:15 p.m. Civil War reenactor Thomas Wood will be presented as the guest speaker. Refreshments will also be served.

And on Veteran’s Day, Nov. 11, Doug Bates, a medic in the Vietnam War, will discuss his book “Circles in the Sun,” and Duke said more speakers are expected to be scheduled in relation to the exhibit in December. “Staying Alive” will be on display through January.

The Cookeville History Museum is located at 40 E. Broad St., across from Cookeville city hall. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. For more information, call 520-5455.

*See also Cookeville Regional Medical Center: Putnam Co., History at: <http://www.ajalmbert.com>



FLAG DONATION

In support of the local National Guard soldiers, Dr. Max Atnip purchased a framed, matted guidon at an auction supported by the Family Readiness Group (FRG) to raise funds to benefit the families of the 278th prior to its deployment to Iraq. The specially made flag was signed by all the soldiers of Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron and recently donated to the Cookeville History Museum for permanent display. Presenting the flag to the museum were the members of the 278th and, from left of the flag, Dr. Max Atnip, Patty Atnip, Major Ray Gipe, and to the right of the flag, 1st Sgt. Glenn D. Smith, Judy Duke (museums manager) and Rick Woods. When viewing this historical piece, visitors to the museum will have the opportunity to reflect upon the services rendered and sacrifices made by our local military men and women. Before its donation, the flag had been on display at Atnip Chiropractic.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, 4 June 2006, pg. C-4 – Photo by Camille Fliss.

MUSEUM LOOKS AT PUTNAM WOMEN

[Liz Engel](#)

Herald-Citizen Staff, Cookeville, TN

Friday, Mar 13, 2009



Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea Pat B. Malone, member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), sits in front of a new display at the Cookeville History Museum promoting eight unique women who contributed to the history of Putnam County. AAUW collaborated with the museum to present "The Soft Voices of Putnam County: Exploring the Lives of Women," which will open Saturday and run through May 1.

COOKEVILLE -- An exhibit nearly two years in the making focusing on women in Putnam County will make its debut Saturday at the Cookeville History Museum.

"The Soft Voices of Putnam County: Exploring the Lives of Women" will feature eight patrons in particular, all who have contributed in some way to the storied history of the area.

The concept came together a couple years ago when American Association of University Women member Pat Malone made her first visit to the museum, and the exhibit has been a collaboration between the two. The group decided to debut the display in March because of its correlation with National Women's History Month. AAUW itself is a nationwide organization that helps advance equity for women through education, advocacy and research.

"We were talking as a group about all the different things we could do, and when I came to the museum I saw we needed to feature women who helped make this town," Malone said. "One of the reasons to do this is to show how women lived in those times and were able to do all the things they did to help their community."

The eight in particular -- Eleanor Drake Mitchell, Clara Cox Epperson, Joan Derryberry, Graeme McGregor Smith, Emma Newman Hensley, Fanalou Whitson Carlen, "Miss Dollie" Smith Williams and Myrtle Hurst Barnes -- were all women who had a some sort of connection with AAUW members. Malone helped research several of their stories, along with other AAUW members and museum staff.

"When Pat came to me, I gave her a lengthy list of the women the museum already had information on," said Judy Duke, museum administrator. "There are so many, and we wanted to include more than eight, but because of a lack of space we can't do them all. But there are a lot of personal belongings, not only from these women, but from women in general from different eras in history."

In addition to unique tales, the exhibit features photos, artifacts and clothing from the past, items mostly donated by family members. The exhibit is set to run until May 1.

"Women today have so many advantages," Malone said. "Women need to realize they still need to make some sort of contribution to community. These women are examples of that."

Saturday's exhibit opening will run from 1 to 4 p.m., the reception is free and open to the public and refreshments will also be served. AAUW will privately preview the display tonight.

The Cookeville History Museum is located at 40 E. Broad St., next to the Putnam County Library and across the street from Cookeville City Hall. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. For more information, call 520-5455.



A case at the Cookeville History Museum displays the personal belongings of four of the eight women to be featured in a new exhibit set to debut Saturday, “The Soft Voices of Putnam County: Exploring the Lives of Women.”

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From left, Judy Duke, administrator of museums for the city of Cookeville, accepts a donation for the Cookeville History Museum of a military banner from Tommy Harris, owner of Cookeville Funeral Home. The funeral home purchased the banner for the museum, which is the first in a series of military banners designed and produced by Patra Minocha of Brave Hill Productions for America's military. Herald-Citizen Photo/Camille Fliss-Mayberry, Cookeville, TN.

Women's History Exhibit Held Over At Museum

Because of the great interest shown by visitors, the Cookeville History Museum's latest exhibit, “The Soft Voices of Putnam County: Exploring the Lives of Women,” will be held over until June 30. The exhibit focuses on eight women whose lives impacted our community. Included are a mother, Graeme Smith, and daughter, Dollie Smith William, both of whom lived interesting and inspiring lives in this area. Bring your mother, wife, daughter, sister or friend to the museum around Mother's Day to learn about the “soft voices” that were heard. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitor Lori Henry stands with a child's dress in front of the exhibit.

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EXHIBIT LOOKS AT CIVIL WAR-ERA BIBLES

[Liz Engel](#)

Herald-Citizen Staff

Saturday, Apr 17, 2010



Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea Looking over Civil War-era Bibles to be displayed in the Cookeville History Museum's newest upcoming exhibit are, from left, Amy Vickers, historical arts assistant; Nancy Bassett, exhibit coordinator for the Biblical Resource Center and Museum in Collierville; and Pam Philpot, exhibit designer for the Cookeville History Museum.

COOKEVILLE -- A new exhibit is set to debut at the Cookeville History Museum this week. A

traveling exhibit, "The Soldier's Bible," features a collection of Bibles from the Civil War era -- most of the books are on loan from the Biblical Resource Center and Museum in Collierville. Bibles from the Carter House in Franklin and others that are privately-owned will be shown as well. "The director of the Biblical Resource Center is a personal friend and colleague of mine, and when she called and asked me if I would like to have this display, I thought it would be interesting. The age of the Bibles really makes them special," said Judy Duke, museum administrator. "A lot of the Bibles show a lot of use, and they were carried. In our research, we found that some soldiers' lives were actually saved because their Bibles were in the pockets of their shirts or coats (when they were shot).

"Especially in the South, Bibles were very scarce," Duke continued. "All the publishing houses that printed Bibles were located in the North. But during the war years, the American Bible Society distributed 800,000 Bibles in all -- 100,000 going to Confederate soldiers." In addition, the Cookeville History Museum will also add its own flare to the display, with a look inside religion in the area during that same time period. An opening reception planned for 7 p.m. Thursday at the museum will include a talk by Dr. Larry Whiteaker, who will address "Religion in the Upper Cumberland: The Civil War Years." Dr. Kent Dollar will also speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 29, about "Religion in the Ranks: Christianity, the Common Soldier and the Ordeal of War." And at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 22, Myers Brown, a curator of extension services with the Tennessee State Museum, will present a living history performance, acting out the role of a Civil War chaplain. "The Upper Cumberland is really the belt buckle of the Bible Belt, which is also why we're going to have our own information about churches in the area," she said.

The exhibit is also timely, Duke said, since the Civil War sesquicentennial, or 150th anniversary celebration, is quickly approaching. She is especially encouraging teachers, students and church groups in particular to come view this display. "This exhibit is designed to give the visitors insight into the spiritual life of the common soldier, both Union and Confederate, who served on the field of battle," Duke said. "This is something well worth seeing," she said. For more information about the exhibit or the Cookeville History Museum, call 520-5455.

CIVIL WAR CHAPLAINS COME TO LIFE AT COOKEVILLE HISTORY MUSEUM

by Liz Engel



Myers Brown, a curator of history and extension services with the Tennessee State Museum, will present a living history performance Saturday at the Cookeville History Museum. Herald-Citizen Photo/Daniel Flatt

COOKEVILLE -- There were many roles in the life of a Civil War chaplain. Their stories will come to forefront -- quite literally -- during a living history

performance scheduled for Saturday, May 22, at the Cookeville History Museum.

Myers Brown, a curator of history and extension services at the Tennessee State Museum, will present a living history performance at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the museum. The event is being held in conjunction with an exhibit titled "The Soldier's Bible." Several bibles from the Civil War era are now on display.

Brown will take bits and pieces from the lives of several different Confederate chaplains and combine them into one, he said, giving a look inside their life and the role they played during the war.

"Chaplains were in somewhat of an odd position, because they really had no official rank in the military system," Brown said. "But they were really there to serve the men, the enlisted soldiers for the most part. You don't read a lot about them really ministering on a one-on-one basis, like you hear a lot of chaplains doing now. But they certainly tried to keep the men on a higher moral ground.

"I don't think any chaplain changed the outcome of the war, but for the men in the ranks who were dealing with -- quite literally -- hell on earth, they played an important role in providing spiritual guidance," Brown said.

Brown said chaplains held a variety of positions during the war -- from serving the men, to taking care of the wounded in the hospitals during battle, even delivering packages and letters to those at home. There were chaplains from just about every Christian denomination -- Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians and even Catholics. Their stories were depicted in their own letters home and in the journals of their fellow comrades.

"When the opportunity presented itself, they would preach on Sundays," Brown said. "There were also these huge revivals that swept through both the Union and Confederate armies in the spring of 1864, and many soldiers talk about these camp meetings in their dairies and reminisces. I think it's quite a testament to the role the chaplains had taken on, and you see a significant number of men dedicating their lives to Christ during that time. Coincidentally, these were held right before the last major campaigns of the war began. I think the chaplains understood what was about to happen, and I think the men knew it would be a bloody, nasty spring and summer."

Chaplains today, he said, have a much more challenging role -- but ultimately, they still aim to serve the men and women in the ranks.

"The interesting thing about chaplains today is that they have to be proficient in all faiths," he said. "They could be a Baptist by upbringing and in faith themselves, but they actually may be providing spiritual guidance to an Islamic soldier in the American army. In many ways, I think their jobs are quite a bit tougher than what the Civil War chaplains faced."

The living history performance will be followed by a question and answer session. The event is free and open to the public.

The Cookeville History Museum is located at 40 E. Broad St. For more information, call 520-5455.

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STEPPING BACK IN TIME

Myers Brown, a curator of history and extension services at the Tennessee State Museum, presented a



living history performance at the Cookeville History Museum on Saturday. Myers told the story of several Civil War chaplains, an activity held in conjunction with the exhibit titled, “A Soldier’s Bible,” which features Bibles carried during the War Between the States. Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea

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<http://www.ajlambert.com>

COOKEVILLE HISTORY MUSEUM NOW PREPARED FOR DISASTERS

by Amy Davis

Judy Duke, administrator of Cookeville museums, looks over some of the priceless artifacts and photos at the Cookeville History Museum. Recently, Duke and museum volunteers completed a disaster plan to help protect these valuable historic pieces for future generations to enjoy. The project was completed through a Standards and Excellence Program for History Organization (StEPs), in which the museum earned bronze certifications in the categories of management and audience. Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen

COOKEVILLE — Being the keeper of a town’s history is a big responsibility.



Just ask Judy Duke.

As administrator of Cookeville museums, she oversees the day-to-day operations of the Cookeville History Museum — and part of that responsibility is knowing what to do to protect priceless artifacts in the event of a disaster — which could be anything from a tornado to fire to the bursting of water pipes.

Recently, Duke and her crew of museum volunteers were

able to accomplish such a plan, thanks to their participation in a voluntary assessment project known as StEPs, which stands for Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations.

In the process, the Cookeville History Museum earned two bronze certifications in the categories of management and audience.

“It’s a self-assessment program for museums and history organizations to improve themselves,” Duke said of StEPs. “It encourages awareness and achievement for small to mid-sized museums.”

The whole thing started in early 2012, when the Cookeville History Museum was one of five Middle Tennessee history organizations nominated by the Tennessee State Museum to participate in the program, which was created by the American Association of State and Local History.

Since that time, Duke and several history museum volunteers have kept busy thumbing through a 320-page manual with check points for achieving standards of excellence.

“You have basic standards, or indicators, you have to meet,” Duke explained. “You can get a basic certificate, a good one or a better one. Everybody has to get the basic certificates first, and we ended up with two of them — we got bronze certificates in the audience and management sections.”

The certifications have required a “phenomenal amount of work,” Duke said, but it’s been worth it.

“When I learned about the program, I thought, ‘Oh, wow!’” she said. “I felt like it was an honor to participate. Plus, it can help us with grants on the national level.”

The Cookeville History Museum was awarded a grant to work on the project from The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

But the project isn’t over — in fact, it’s only begun.

“Once you get a bronze certificate, you can work on getting your silver certificate,” Duke said. “Then comes the gold certificate, which is the highest standard.”

The project has no deadline, she added.

Duke looks forward to the Cookeville History Museum meeting even higher standards under the StEPs program.

As for the bronze certifications in management and audience, she said the museum was already meeting many of the basic standards.

“For the audience section, we already collect basic numeric information about visitors and attendance and review feedback,” she said.

She said museum volunteers Joanne White and Linda Henderson, president and secretary of Friends of the Cookeville History Museum, were instrumental in working with Duke toward the audience certification.

To earn the bronze management certification, the museum had to complete a special project — that’s how the disaster plan came into the picture.

“I knew we needed a plan because who’s to say a tornado wouldn’t come through and level this building?” Duke said. “Or, what if the pipes burst or a fire broke out? What are the steps we would need to take? As a city-owned facility, there are already certain things in place for disasters, but they’re not designated for a museum.”

Now, thanks to StEPs guidelines and assistance from Tennessee Tech University student and museum intern Nathan Kapoor, Duke says the Cookeville History Museum is prepared for such disasters.

“The museum now has two huge bins of things we would need in case of a disaster,” Duke said. “We have everything from rubber knee boots to first-aid kits to battery-operated lights.”

She added, “We are the keepers of our town’s history. People have donated their artifacts to us, and we want to keep those for future Cookevillians to see.”