



WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM

845 North Jefferson Avenue Port Allen, Louisiana 70767

March 11, 2008

Media Announcement

Contact: Laurie Roché

Visitor Services Coordinator

845 N. Jefferson Avenue

Port Allen, LA 70767

Telephone: 225-336-2422 ext. 16

www.westbatonrougemuseum.com

Living History Day Program

Port Allen, LA- The West Baton Rouge Museum is hosting a *Living History Day* for fifth grade students to learn about 19th century West Baton Rouge Parish cultural heritage. Students Port Allen Middle School and Holy Family School will engage in tours of the museum's exhibits and historic houses. Five interactive stations will be set up on the grounds. Students will try their hand at a modified archeological dig, open hearth cooking, calligraphy, and other crafts. The event is scheduled for *Thursday, April 10, 2008*. This event is a community service project for the Westside Women's Club. *Living History Day* is more than just a museum tour!

Plans include a presentation by a Southern University theater student who will perform as Solomon Northup, an historic free man of color who was kidnapped and forced into slavery in south Louisiana. Activities scheduled for the day will be led by trained home school students, museum staff, and Westside Women's Club volunteers. They will be dressed in period costume discussing the processes and significance of our local cuisine with students. The students will take part in a portion of the food preparation and sampling. Students will shell and grind corn, and then use husks to make corn-husk dolls. Students will be assisted in writing their name using quill pens and ink followed by using a small flame to melt wax to seal their documents. Other exciting activities include a tour of the c.1830 Aillet House and an archaeological mini-dig activity. To round up the activities the students will spend time spinning, weaving, and carding cotton or wool. Students will remove seeds from cotton, hand spin cotton, and participate in a weaving activity.

The West Baton Rouge Museum is located at 845 N. Jefferson Avenue in Port Allen, just minutes from downtown Baton Rouge. For more information contact Laurie Roche' at 225-336-2422 ext 16.

End

