



Exchange Place

4812 Orebank Road
Kingsport, Tennessee 37664
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kingsport, TN – The beauty of the autumn season is celebrated when **Exchange Place Living History Farm** hosts its annual **Fall Folk Arts Festival** on **Saturday, September 28, from 10 am until 5 pm**, and **Sunday, September 29, from noon until 5 pm**. **Admission is \$5 for ages 12 and over, with those under the age of 12 admitted free.** As always, all proceeds go towards the care of the farm's animals, and the continuing restoration and preservation of the site, located at **4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, Tennessee** and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

For the **52nd year**, the historic valley farmstead will be bustling, as the harvest-time activities of an 1850s farm will be on full display. Traditional arts and crafts, native and heirloom produce and plants, natural greenery, homemade foods and baked goods will be featured, along with the typical fall activities normally found on a mid-nineteenth century Northeast Tennessee farm. Artistic endeavors of all kinds – including the use of paint, the written word, and handmade notecards – will be a highlight of the festival, along with many homemade crocheted items, or wooden creations, or unique soaps and candles.

In the time-honored Exchange Place tradition, there will be more to do than just shop. Visitors will be able to see demonstrations of spinning and weaving from the **Overmountain Weavers Guild**; observe the artistry and iron skills of the blacksmith (who may offer a quick lesson, right at the forge!); and watch **Ms. Maggie T. Mule**, as well as some of Exchange Place's human volunteers, extract juice from cane so it can be cooked into sorghum. (Please note this will only take place on Saturday, though Maggie will also be around for part of Sunday.) Pure sorghum syrup, made fresh this year by the Guenther family of Muddy Pond, TN, will be on sale for as long as supplies last. In addition, Chapter 162 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors will return with a host of antique clocks and advice on how to restore old timepieces. And, thanks to the generosity of Rod Groenewold of Kingsport, an antique **1865 Seth Thomas O-Gee** shelf clock will be available for bid in a Silent Auction.

The **Eden's Ridge Hearth Cookery Society**, along with the **Exchange Place Junior Apprentices**, will be celebrating Tennessee's antebellum nickname: "The Hog and Hominy State." Guests can help shell corn and learn about the nixtamalization process, which turns plain corn, or *maize*, into hominy. Hoecakes, hominy bread, and pork dishes will be prepared on the open-hearth. The JAs will also be demonstrating gourd crafting and helping in the forge, woodshed, and garden.

Our Featured Heritage Artist this year will be **Sallie Swor**. A resident of Giles County (about 75 miles south of Nashville and 50 miles north of the Alabama state line), Ms. Swor taught herself to make dried apple dolls some thirty years ago, and has been creating them ever since, primarily using Gala or Golden Delicious apples for the heads and fabric scraps or bottles for the bodies. Ms. Swor has stated "I can carve the head as carefully as I am able but I cannot control what it finally looks like. Mother Nature does that. It is as if they tell me what they want to be... If they are really ugly I make ghosts and witches of them." Ms. Swor will be located on the Main House porch, surrounded by the apple heads she has carved, dried and dressed.

Children's "chores and play" will be scattered around the farmstead, allowing the young (along with those youthful in mind and spirit!) a chance to experience what it was like to be a child in the 19th century. Thanks

to volunteers and community groups, a wide range of children's hands-on activities will be available, including making their own baskets in the **Tri-State Basketry Guild's** workshop held in the Schoolhouse and making a rope with the Boy Scouts. In addition to the chance to meet our resident animals, the Sullivan County 4H will be bringing other "critters," and providing related interactive educational activities for all. The traditional Fall Scarecrow Challenge continues, with people being able to bring their original scarecrows to Exchange Place on Friday from 10 am to 6 pm, or on Saturday from 7-10 am. A variety of foods and drinks will be available throughout the weekend for snacks and lunch to eat on site, as well as food items to take home. And as always, a full lineup of popular regional musicians will be providing an Americana soundtrack throughout the weekend. (A tentative schedule of performances, always subject to last-minute changes, is listed at the bottom of this release.)

Weekend workshops will highlight two different crafts. **Jennifer Hanlon** has scheduled a new needle felting class for Sunday, September 29, which will guide participants in creating a Cotswold sheep, using wool taken from Exchange Place's flock of sheep. The workshop will begin at noon in our Roseland building, and will continue for much of the afternoon. The cost of this workshop will vary (\$30 to \$60), depending on how many supplies you would like Ms. Hanlon to furnish, but admission to the Fall Folk Arts Festival is included. More information, including registration, can be found at www.hanlonscreativecorner.com.

Doug Lowman will be offering a two-day workshop (Saturday from 10 am until 4 pm and Sunday from 1 pm until 4 pm), teaching people to weave their own stool using 5-mm cane. Doug will provide the stools, the cane, and all necessary tools, participants just need to bring their desire and "moderate" hand strength (with no recent shoulder, arm or hand injuries). The fee is \$120, which includes free admission to the Fall Folk Arts Festival and a donation to Exchange Place. Anyone intrigued ought to write to epfestivals.gf@gmail.com and check on availability. Checks can be made out to Exchange Place, and mailed to us in care of Exchange Place/Fall Festival Stool Workshop/4812 Orebank Road/Kingsport, TN 37664.

A very special exhibit will be on display in the Burow Museum, featuring a wide variety of vintage clothing that belonged to the Preston family in the 19th century. Stored for years at Exchange Place, this priceless attire – featuring a christening gown, a mourning dress, a child's vest, and a cap wreath worn at James and Catherine Preston's 1847 wedding, among so many others – gives the modern viewer an up-close glimpse of what our ancestors wore, and what life was like, in a day and time far removed from our own. There is no extra charge to see these rare pieces of apparel, which have been up in our attic for decades.

The official countdown to **Witches Wynd** begins each year with the Fall Folk Arts Festival. Exchange Place's unique storytelling adventure will be offered live again this year, and tickets will first be made available during the Festival. The 31st Witches Wynd is **Friday, October 18, and Saturday, October 19**, and tickets **must** be purchased in advance. Historically, this unique blend of macabre tales and ballads sells out quickly since only a limited number of spaces are available, so we encourage people to purchase them during the Fall Festival. Tickets are **\$10** apiece and will be found at the **Museum Shop**.

For more information, or to volunteer at the festival, please call **423-288-6071**, visit our website at exchangeplaceln.org, or write to epfestivals.gf@gmail.com.

Exchange Place is a living history farm whose mission is to preserve and interpret the heritage of mid-nineteenth century farm life in Northeast Tennessee. Exchange Place is a non-profit organization, maintained and operated entirely by volunteers and supported solely by donations, fundraisers, memberships and grants.

MUSIC SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

10 - 11 am	KINGSPORT COMMUNITY BAND
11 am – noon	STRING BREAK
noon – 1 pm	CHARLEY AND THE HONEYCUTTS
1 – 2 pm	RENAISSANCE STRINGS
2 – 3 pm	TIMELESS STRING BAND
3 – 4 pm	STRAWBERRY JAM
4 – 5 pm	JUNIOR APPRENTICES OLD-TIME BAND

MUSIC SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

noon – 1 pm	CHRIS LONG
1 – 2 pm	JIM ANN COUNTRY
2 – 3 pm	STATE STREET STRING BAND
3 – 4 pm	RED AND GREY
4 – 5 pm	JUNIOR APPRENTICES OLD-TIME BAND