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HUNTERDON 300TH COMMITTEE

Formerly Known as the
Hunterdon Tricentennial Committee

A Not for Profit Organization

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For Immediate Release

Thirteen participating museums will welcome visitors on **July 19 and 26** from 1pm to 5pm for Hunterdon Museum Days, a county-wide event that began last year in celebration of the Hunterdon Tricentennial. This is a great opportunity for museums to showcase their unique collections and share the history of the area with visitors, said Gayle Maher, an organizer of this year's event.

A directory *Museums of Hunterdon County* will be available at each participating museum. The directory is also available on hunterdon300th.org; visitors are encouraged to consult the directory for street addresses and contact information.

Among the participating museums is the Township of Lebanon Museum on Musconetcong River Rd. in the New Hampton Historic District. The first thing that strikes you about your visit is the rich array of architecture in the village of New Hampton, which is actually older than neighboring Hampton, said Ms Maher. The museum is housed in an 1825 one-room schoolhouse which was enlarged to its present size with the second story in 1870. It's a really interesting place with an eclectic collection that would interest visitors of all ages, according to Ms. Maher.

Also on the tour is the Prevost House on Milford-Frenchtown Rd. in Alexandria Township. The earliest section of Prevost was built in 1840 on land purchased by Swiss-born Paul Henri Mallet-Prevost, who along with other French speaking settlers in the area, prompted the name of Frenchtown. Prevost House is a shared endeavor between Milford, Frenchtown and Alexandria and Holland Townships and will feature artifacts from each historical society. A collection of Lenape artifacts will also be displayed along with book signings by local history authors.

This is a special year at The Black River Railroad Museum which is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Black River and Western Railroad. The museum, built in retired Central Railroad of New Jersey baggage car # 420, contains many artifacts dating to the 1860's. It's a must-see for railroad buffs and children of all ages who share a fascination with the railroads, said Ms. Maher.

Participating museums are: The Hunterdon Art Museum and Red Mill Museum Village, Clinton; Doric House, the Choir School and the Case-Dvoor Farm all in Flemington; Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead, Lambertville; Readington Twp. Museums, Stanton; Black River and Western Railroad, Ringoes; Tewksbury Historical Society, Oldwick; Solitude Heritage Museum-Joseph Turner House, Union Twp; Township of Lebanon Museum, Hampton, Prallsville Mills in Stockton and the Prevost House in Alexandria Twp.