

## Matt Gardner Homestead Museum Receives Conservation Bookshelf Grant

Treasured objects and artifacts held by the Matt Gardner Homestead Foundation will be preserved for future generations with help from the *IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, a core set of conservation books, DVDs, and online resources donated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal funding of the nation's museums and libraries. IMLS and its cooperator, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), will award a total of 3,000 free sets of the IMLS Bookshelf by the end of 2009. The IMLS began the initiative in response to a 2005 study by Heritage Preservation documenting the dire state of the nation's collections. The multi-faceted, multi-year initiative shines a nationwide spotlight on the needs of America's collections, especially those held by smaller institutions, which often lack the human and financial resources necessary to adequately care for their collections. *"The IMLS Bookshelf could not have come at a better time as we will be evaluating and organizing the museums collection in the spring of 2009. We would like to thank the AASLH for this opportunity in receiving this valuable resource. It will be very beneficial in the care of our late 1800 through early 1900 collection of tin photos, toys, trunks, books, furniture, and farm equipment and many other treasured items,"* said Carla Jones President of the Matt Gardner Homestead. For more information on the conservation initiative, please go to [www.ims.gov/collections](http://www.ims.gov/collections).



An article from the collection to be preserved is this handmade quilt by Henritta Jenkins Gardner. The quilt is circa 1920 and currently is an unidentifiable southern quilt pattern. It is made of feed sack and various fabrics, colors and patterns, the pattern blocks give the appearance of being raised or three dimensional, hand stitched and the textile is unique to Southern Tennessee and Northern Alabama. *Photo Courtesy Carla Jones*



## Two New Local Partnerships

Over the past years the museum has created partnerships within the local community including the local citizens of Elkton, the City of Elkton municipal government, Elkton Elementary School, Elkton Historical Society, Giles County Chamber of Commerce, Giles County Tourism, the Citizen/Press newspaper of Pulaski, Your Community Shopper newspaper of Ardmore, the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU, and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. We are delighted to add two new partnerships to our museum family. Welcome to our local Wal-Mart and Home Depot stores in Pulaski. Thank you all so much for supporting the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum.

*"...it is important for us to have a relationship with the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum and we look forward to working with them."*  
John Rollins, Home Depot, Pulaski

To make a tax deductible donation...visit [www.mattgardnerhomestead.com](http://www.mattgardnerhomestead.com)

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### Matt Gardner Homestead Museum

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[www.mattgardnerhomestead.com](http://www.mattgardnerhomestead.com)

For More Information

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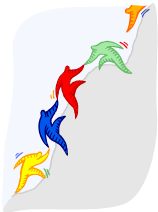
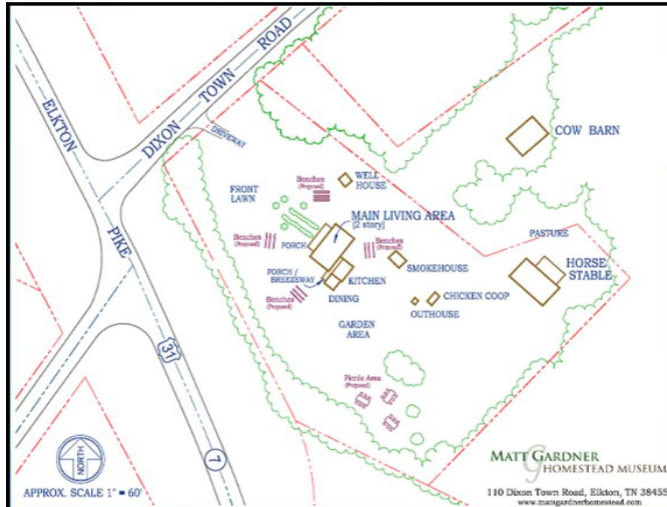
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## MGHM News!

The MGHM is in the process of creating media packets to reach new financial partnerships. Some of the items in the media packets will be a preliminary site plan, photos, grand opening information, contact information, a brief history, grants received, letters of support, non profit and incorporation information, press release information and what the site will have to offer in the area of education, agricultural history, and cultural tourism.



**Note of Thanks:** We would like to thank Humanities Tennessee, Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and consultant David Currey for their continued support in the areas of professional assistance and direction in our efforts to continue institutional sustainability and growth.

## Elkton Christmas Tour!



*Merry Christmas* from the MGHM - Get a peek inside the Matt Gardner house on the Elkton Historical Society's annual Christmas Home Tour on December 14th. We are pleased to partner with the historical society for this great fundraiser for them. We also look forward to sharing the Matt Gardner Museum story with the hundreds of tour goers expected. For more information on this tour go to [www.elktonhistory.net](http://www.elktonhistory.net) and click on Christmas Tour.

*Photo courtesy Carla Jones*



**In Memorial** - We were deeply saddened by the death of historical consultant David Currey's daughter Caitlin, who was killed in a car accident on Sunday night, July 20th. She was 18 and his youngest daughter. David has been a very important counselor in the development of the MGHM. Please keep him and his family uplifted in prayer during the difficult months ahead.

## Welcome to Our New MGHM Board of Directors

The current Board of Directors of the Matt Gardner Homestead has unanimously voted in these new board members: Melinda Maes, Historical Interpreter, Belle Meade Plantation, Nashville; Gary D. Gardner, Owner/Operator Gardner's Lawn & Cleaning Service, Elkton; Diana Steelman, Former Tourism Coordinator, Giles County Tourism Foundation, Pulaski; Eddie Woodard, Pastor Sunshine Chapel, Elkton / Supervisor Holley's Printing, Pulaski; and Agustin Gonzales, Manager, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Pulaski.

We would like to welcome all of you to the Board of Directors of the Matt Gardner Homestead Foundation and look forward to working with you and utilizing your expertise in service to the museum.

## Welcome to Our Newest Members

Tanya Gardner, Cleveland, OH  
Joanne McPherson, Massillon, OH  
John Vasser, San Diego, CA  
Shirley Wimbley, Detroit, MI

*Membership renewals start in November.  
Members will get a reminder letter soon.  
Please consider joining today.*

Join online at [www.mattgardnerhomestead.com](http://www.mattgardnerhomestead.com)  
or Contact:  
Carla Jones at 1-317-547-9386