



MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAY DAY OPEN HOUSE AT BRICK STORE MUSEUM

KENNEBUNK, Maine – In conjunction with downtown Kennebunk's 11th Annual May Day Festival on Saturday, May 2, The Brick Store Museum at 117 Main Street will be offering a series of family-friendly, rain-or-shine activities from 10AM to 1PM:

- **Historical May baskets display, plus how Lafayette Park got its name**
See the Museum's collection of historical May baskets made by Sarah Owen, a Kennebunk Park Street resident known as the "May Basket Lady," who created hundreds of May baskets each year from 1932 to 1987. Also, learn the fascinating history behind Kennebunk's Lafayette Park, site of additional May Day festivities. The display is the Museum's newest History Showcase, made possible by the museum's proud business partners: Jeffrey A. Bonney, CFP®; Captain Jefferds Inn; Captain Lord Mansion; Cole Harrison Insurance; and Ocean Bank.
- **Make-your-own May basket activity station**
Especially for children, carry on the May Day tradition of Sarah Owen by decorating and filling May baskets with trinkets and goodies.
- **Walking tours of the Historic District**
Take a short guided stroll through the upper square of Kennebunk's Historic District, the first in Maine! Hear about all the things the Brick Store's buildings were before becoming a museum in 1936, and learn fascinating tidbits about other Main Street properties.
- **Tours of the Museum's collections vaults**
Witness first-hand the stunning results of the museum's recent structural renovations by going behind-the-scenes to see where and how some of the Museum's 70,000 artifacts are preserved. In the galleries, view the Hands-on History projects made by local elementary school students through the "Stretch Beyond" program. Finally, catch "Renovations Revealed," a new exhibition presenting the nearly 200-year history of the museum's buildings and exploring their renovations through artifacts, more than 40 construction photos, materials...and the very buildings themselves! Out of the basements, through the walls and into the attics, discover what powderpost beetles can do, how nails are made, and why there are now three steel beams in the buildings. Finally, in a section on "basement archaeology," see a number of items—from an early light bulb to an unique patent medicine bottle—uncovered by the construction crews.

The Brick Store Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Kennebunk's historic district and for more than seventy years has been dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the region's cultural heritage. Its galleries and research archives are open to the public year-round: Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 – 4:30 and Saturdays, 10 – 1. Admission to the Museum is by donation, suggested \$5 per person. Visit www.brickstoremuseum.org or call 207.985.4802 for further information.

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