Nurturing the Future at Strawberry Banke

BABY ANIMALS: Heritage Breeds at the Banke
SATURDAY APRIL 20 – SUNDAY APRIL 28

STRAWBERRY BANKE welcomes visitors to Baby Animals: Heritage Breeds at the Banke from 10 am to 5 pm daily, April 20 through 28. Tickets are $10 for adults; $5 for children 5-17; and free to children under 5 and active duty military and their families. Members HALF-PRICE.

Member Preview & Breakfast
Saturday April 20, 8:30–9:30 am
Enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast and early admission to the exhibit on Opening Day. Please RSVP to Megan McNutt, mmcnutt@sbmuseum.org
**President’s Letter**

As the museum moves forward into the Spring, with planning for many exciting projects and events underway, it’s nice to pause for a moment to share a compliment. On a recent visit to Strawbery Banke, a generous supporter of the museum commented on how vibrant the campus seemed. On a winter day when the garden beds were blanketed in snow and the Goodwin house itself slumbered in its off-season guise, the trustee said “The museum looks really good!”

It helped that the parking lot was full of cars and the café was bright and warm, as skaters twirled on the ice. But the houses, many with new coats of paint and roofs, did seem to be showing their best.

In just a few weeks, Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond will be gone and the tent for Baby Animals: Heritage Breeds on the Banke will have appeared at the far end of Puddle Dock, with a fenced area for sheepherding demonstrations. Both the ice rink and the animals are now hallmarks of Strawbery Banke; yet neither one existed a few years ago.

Also ahead is the opening of the new Horticulture Learning Center in May. On June 1, we collaborate with the Gundalow Company on a new event. And opening June 7 is a new exhibit of decorative arts objects associated with the Wendell Family.

We’re approaching the end of the fiscal year and ask that you consider a gift to the Annual Fund. May the March Match challenge by the Decatur Foundation meet its goal and help realize the vision of your Strawbery Banke — shining through even in the depths of winter.

Lawrence J. Yerdon  
President & CEO

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**ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH**

“Unseen Treasures of the Northern Cloud Forest of Peru”

Wednesday April 3, 5:30 p.m.

In Cajamarca, Peru in November of 1532, Francisco Pizarro and his force of 164 Spanish soldiers managed to capture Atahualpa, the last ruler of the Tawantinsuyu. Pizarro’s local allies were counted in the thousands. Among them was a group of warriors who stood out for their fierce and bellicose battle strategies: the Chachapoya. Before they were subjugated by the Inca and then the Spanish, these warriors had a thriving culture. They hid their mummified ancestors in painted coffins and mausoleums in the steepest cliffs among the forest. They wove precious textiles, built spectacular rock citadels and carved stones with elaborate designs. Only in the last 50 years, has a small group of archaeologists and professional explorers begun to reveal the stunning treasures of the Chachapoya. Daniel Fernandez-Davila, Peruvian archaeologist, brings alive these warriors of the northern cloud forest of Peru in an Archaeology Month program on Wednesday, April 3rd at Strawbery Banke at 5:30 pm in the museum’s TYCO Visitors Center lecture hall. Light refreshments. Admission is free.

**COMING SOON!**

Baby Animals: Heritage Breeds Coloring Book

Just in time for the Baby Animals event, Strawbery Banke is publishing a new coloring book featuring the heritage breeds. Wickie Rowland, creator of the signature image for the event, has created illustrations of each of the moms and babies with descriptions of the featured animals. Piscataqua Savings Bank has provided sponsorship for the coloring book that will be available for sale in the TYCO Visitors Center and in the Baby Animals tent.
The Mary and Storer Goodwin Decatur Foundation leads the March Match Challenge!

IT’S MARCH; and that means the Strawbery Banke Fiscal Year is nearing a close (on March 31st). That also means that the Annual Fund March Match is now underway. Now is the perfect time to make a gift to the museum because all Annual Fund donations are matched, dollar for dollar up to $25,000 by the Mary and Storer Goodwin Decatur Foundation.

Yes, that Goodwin and that Decatur. The third daughter of Sarah and Ichabod Goodwin, Sarah Goodwin married Samuel Storer. Their daughter Mabel, born in 1862, married Navy Lieutenant Stephen Decatur in Portsmouth in 1884. He was the son of Commodore Stephen Decatur, a hero of Tripoli. Storer Goodwin Decatur and his wife Mary are further branches of the Goodwin family.

Since the museum’s inception, Mary and Storer Goodwin Decatur and the Foundation Mary created have helped Strawbery Banke in multiple, generous ways. In addition to gifts for the upkeep of the house and gardens, as well as donating Goodwin-associated items to the Collections, the Foundation helped fund the Dennis Robinson history of Strawbery Banke, elements of the Heritage House Program, contributed to the new Horticulture Learning Center and helped purchase the replacement truck for the Properties Department. Mary donated a mirror that George Washington gave to Mrs. Lear (his secretary’s mother) to Strawbery Banke.

So whatever wish an Annual Fund gift might achieve, its match by the Mary and Storer Goodwin Decatur Foundation goes far in value and legacy. Please join them in supporting Strawbery Banke by making an Annual Fund March Match donation using the enclosed envelope, or on the secure website, StrawberyBanke.org/Donate.cfm

Archaeology Field School Examines Sherburne House

This year’s Archaeology Field School offers students in the fields of archaeology, anthropology, history, or related fields, hands-on training in field and lab methodology. Research focuses on recovering archaeological resources at the c. 1695 Sherburne House, in advance of the house’s reinterpretation as part of the Portsmouth 400 celebration in 2023. Field trips, museum tours, and required readings on Historical and Public Archaeology introduce students to various areas of specialization. The two-week Field School is Jun 3-14 and the Lab Session is Jun 17-28; Mon-Fri 9 am to 4 pm. Students may choose either or both (the field session is not a pre-requisite for the lab session). During the Field Session, students are trained in archaeological field techniques and learn to identify historic artifacts. Students interact with museum visitors daily, and are expected to offer interpretation of the site and the excavation activity. Member cost $370 ($420 for non-members).
Enfield Shaker Experience, May 4

Pontine Theatre, the Enfield Shaker Singers and Chef James (Buddy) Haller offer a Shaker Day program on Saturday, May 4th at 7 pm. To start, Mary Ann Haagan, Enfield Shaker Singers, introduces Jane Blanchard, Enfield Shaker — A Sketch of her Experience (c. 1868). The 30 minute performance features a Pontine Theatre toy theater narrative, accompanied by traditional Shaker songs performed by the Enfield Shaker Singers. Then Chef Haller presents a selection of traditional Shaker dessert items from The Shaker Table, the restaurant he operated at Canterbury Shaker Village. Pontine Co-Director Greg Gathers offers his book with original illustrations based on the Toy Theatre Figures and James Haller offers signed copies of his cookbook, Cooking in the Shaker Spirit for sale. Tickets $35. (Members $25).

Seeking Strawberry Banke Ambassadors!

Join the Development Department to help with museum-related activities! Strawberry Banke Ambassadors share their enthusiasm for Strawberry Banke at the many events throughout the year by encouraging event visitors to return, enjoy other special events and become Members. As the name suggests, Ambassadors are the first to greet members and event guests and the person new members think of when they think of Strawberry Banke. The more enthusiastic and outgoing, the more passionate about Strawberry Banke, the better! Becoming an Ambassador is a great way to meet other volunteers, members and become more involved with the museum. Please contact Megan at mmcnutt@sbmuseum.org or call at 603-422-7508 for more information.

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APRIL 20–28