

PRESS RELEASE

January 28, 2015

The Mount Airy Museum of Regional History has been awarded a \$2,500 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation in support of the annual changing exhibits program.

Each year the museum develops and displays three changing exhibits on topics relevant to our areas history, art or culture. For 2015 the Museum will host "*Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America*," This exhibit is part of the Smithsonian Institution Museum on Main Street program that is designed to bring high quality traveling exhibits to smaller rural communities. It is a collaborative project between the Smithsonian Institution, the North Carolina Humanities Council and six museums around the state. Mount Airy will be the statewide launch site for the 2015 tour.

In addition to "Hometown Teams" the Museum also is planning for two changing exhibits, one for the spring and one for the fall of 2015. "The changing exhibit program is an important part of our mission to collect, preserve and interpret our shared history" says the museum's Executive Director Matt Edwards. "These exhibits give us a chance to delve into parts of our collection that aren't normally on display and to work with local collectors to tell unique and interesting stories from the past" he adds.

Duke Energy is a long-time supporter of the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History with capital, program and operating support dating back to the museum's establishment in 1993. "Duke Energy is proud to be a supporter of the Mt Airy Museum for Regional History and to help enable new exhibits. It's important to understand the history of our region. The museum is an important part of the community, providing an educational experience for both young and old," said Jimmy Flythe Director - West Region, Government and Community Relations of Duke Energy Carolinas.

The Duke Energy Foundation actively works to improve the quality of life in its communities, lending expertise in the form of leadership and philanthropic support to charitable organizations.

Duke Energy has long been committed to building and supporting the communities in which its customers and employees live and work.

For more information about the museum's upcoming exhibit and programs visit the website at www.northcarolinamuseum.org



