



ELIZABETH CITY AREA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

400 South Water Street, Suite 101 • PO Box 573 • Elizabeth City, NC 27907
Toll-Free: 866-ECITY-4U (866-324-8948) • Phone: 252-335-5330
www.DiscoverElizabethCity.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Elizabeth Evans
Public Relations Consultant
Cahoon & Cross Marketing Consultants
Phone: (757) 625-7068 direct line
E-mail: evanspr@cox.net

Museum of the Albemarle to Open New “Our Story” Exhibit, May 10 in Elizabeth City

*-- More than 750 artifacts tell the story of Northeastern North Carolina’s
Albemarle region --*

(Elizabeth City, N.C., April 21, 2008) – Visitors to Elizabeth City will soon have the chance to see a cannon fired by the pirate Blackbeard and step inside a Colonial-era farmhouse, when the Museum of the Albemarle opens a new regional exhibit, “Our Story,” in its Madrin Gallery, Saturday, May 10. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled that day at 9:15 am.

The 6,200 square-foot exhibit will showcase more than 750 artifacts that depict the story of the Albemarle region’s watermen, farmers, lifesavers and soldiers. The history and culture of these people will unfold as visitors experience the maritime, canal, railroad, automobile and tourism eras in the Albemarle.

Featured among the artifacts are such finds as the cannon recovered the ship purported to be Blackbeard’s *Queen Anne’s Revenge*; a Charles Wilson Peale miniature portrait brooch of Joseph Hewes, a North Carolina signer of the “Declaration of Independence”; a miniature replica of the James Adams Floating Theatre, the inspiration for author Edna Ferber’s popular novel, “Show Boat”; and a horse-drawn “steam pumper” fire engine that was used in Elizabeth City through the 1920s.

Visitors will also enjoy learning how early farming families lived by exploring the Jackson House, a 1755 farmhouse that spanned both the Colonial and Federal time periods. The farmhouse and nearby 1840 smokehouse are original structures from the area.

“Our Story” was made possible through the Museum of the Albemarle’s capital campaign that raised more than \$1.5 million in private funds.

The Museum of the Albemarle (www.museumofthealbemarle.com) is located at 501 South Water Street in Elizabeth City, N.C. The northeastern regional branch of the North Carolina Museum of History, the museum interprets the history of 13 counties in northeastern North Carolina, considered by many to be the birthplace of English America. Admission is free. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. For information, call (252) 335-1453.

About Elizabeth City

Elizabeth City is located in northeastern North Carolina on the Pasquotank River, halfway between Norfolk, Va., and the Outer Banks. Elizabeth City has six National Register Historic Districts and is home to the Museum of the Albemarle, Arts of the Albemarle, Elizabeth City State University Planetarium and Port Discover Hands-on Science Center. Nature-based travelers are drawn to the area’s proximity to the Dismal Swamp and the abundance of outdoor recreational offerings. For travel information and suggested itineraries, call the Elizabeth City Area Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-866-ECity-4U (1-866-324-8948) or (252) 335-5330 or go to www.DiscoverElizabethCity.com

Media Preview: Thursday, May 8 at 10 a.m.

The press is invited to attend a preview tour of “Our Story,” Thursday, May 8 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Museum of the Albemarle.

If you can attend, please contact:

Elizabeth Evans, Cahoon & Cross
(757) 625-7068 direct line; evanspr@cox.net

Thomas Spagnol, Museum of the Albemarle
(757) 335-1453, Thomas.spagnol@ncmail.net