



News Release

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Shearing Sheep and Making Yarn Highlight Spring Program at Horne Creek Living Historical Farm

PINNACLE (April 28, 2006)—It's no longer sweater weather and you've probably packed away your winter wear but some farm animals will soon be shedding their winter coats to help keep you toasty next winter. To learn about the magical transformation of wool from a sheep's coat to a warm sweater, come to Horne Creek Living Historical Farm in Pinnacle, Saturday, May 6, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. for a behind-the-scenes look at how the wool fleece of Gulf Coast Native sheep is shorn, cleaned, made into yarn, and ultimately becomes beautiful knitted or crocheted items. In the event of rain, this program will be rescheduled.

Thomas Hauser, who owned and worked Horne Creek Farm in the late 19th to early 20th century, raised Gulf Coast Native sheep brought to America by the Spanish who began to settle Florida in the 1500s. Gulf Coast Native sheep are characterized by a non-wooly face, small body, either white or brown color, and refined bone structure. This breed was a favorite of southern farmers because it had a natural resistance to internal parasites.

Horne Creek Farm lets visitors experience farm life circa-1900. Visitors can participate in daily activities and special events of bygone farm life, as well as see, smell, touch and hear things once common in rural North Carolina. Through educational programs ranging from learning how to cook on a woodstove to the annual cornshucking frolic, Horne Creek Living Historical Farm provides a unique opportunity to learn about North Carolina's rural past. Its facilities include the Hauser farmhouse (1880), which is restored and furnished to the circa 1900-1910 era, a combination well and wash house, smokehouse, double-crib log feed barn, tobacco curing barn, corncrib, the reconstructed dry house, a temporary visitor center featuring exhibits and a gift shop, along with trails, monuments and outdoor exhibits. The site is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday.

To reach Horne Creek Farm from Interstate 74/US 52, take the Pinnacle exit (129). Follow the brown and white historic site signs on Perch Road approximately three and one-half miles to Hauser Road. Turn right and go approximately two and one-half miles. Turn left onto Hauser Rd and go approximately ¼ mile. The farm is on the left.

For more information on this program, call Horne Creek Living Historical Farm at (336) 325-2298, e-mail hornecreek@ncmail.net or check out <http://www.nchistoricssites/horne/cornshuckingfestival.htm>. Horne Creek is managed by the Division of State Historic Sites, which is part of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, a state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history, and culture. For more information, visit www.ncculture.com.

