Meadowcroft to Host Frontier Heritage Weekend

-Visitors can throw a tomahawk and enjoy living history demonstrations as they learn about life on the 18th-century frontier-

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 13, 2018 – Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, part of the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center museum system, will host Frontier Heritage Weekend on Saturday, Sept. 22 and Sunday, Sept. 23, with special extended hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

During Frontier Heritage Weekend, visitors can get a first-hand look at the everyday lives of 18th-century frontier tradesmen and discover the skills necessary to survive in the Western Pennsylvania wilderness.

Costumed reenactors will share how American Indians and European settlers borrowed ideas from each other to build a better life on the dangerous frontier. Demonstrations will include black powder firearms and musket volleys, 18th-century carpentry, open-hearth cooking and domestic skills, land surveying techniques, hunting and trapping techniques, hide tanning, and more.

Visitors can also test their skills at a tomahawk-throwing station, an important tool and weapon used on the 18th-century frontier.

Throughout the day, Meadowcroft visitors can step inside a wigwam in a recreated 16th-century Monongahela Indian Village, watch a blacksmith forge red-hot iron in the 19th-century Meadowcroft Village, and tour the Meadowcroft Rockshelter, a National Historic Landmark and the oldest site of human habitation in North America.

Admission is $15 for adults, $14 for senior citizens, and $7 for students and children ages 6-17. Children ages 5 and under and History Center members get in free.

Meadowcroft thanks Alex E. Paris Contracting for its generous support of Frontier Heritage Weekend.

For more information, visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft or call 724-587-3412.
Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village operates in association with the Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian and Pennsylvania’s largest history museum. Meadowcroft, a National Historic Landmark, is the oldest site of human habitation in North America and features a massive rock overhang used by the region’s earliest inhabitants for shelter more than 16,000 years ago. The 16th century Monongahela Indian Village includes wigwams, recreated prehistoric artifacts, and hands-on activities related to agriculture. Two 18th century structures help to spotlight the similarities and differences between the everyday lives of European settlers and American Indians in the Upper Ohio Valley. Meadowcroft’s 19th century village features a covered bridge, one-room schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, and church that create a charming country village setting. Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village is located in Avella, Pa., Washington County, within an hour’s drive of Pittsburgh. For more, visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft.

Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village in Avella, Pa., will host Frontier Heritage Weekend on Sept. 22-23, with special extended hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

During Frontier Heritage Weekend at Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, visitors can experience life on the 18th-century frontier.

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