Dig It: Meadowcroft to Host Archaeology Day
-Meadowcroft will partner with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology on this day-long event to kick off Pennsylvania Archaeology Month-

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 19, 2019 – As part of Pennsylvania Archaeology Month, Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village will host its annual Archaeology Day in partnership with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Meadowcroft, part of the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center museum system, is home to the Meadowcroft Rockshelter archaeological site, a National Historic Landmark recognized as the oldest site of human habitation in North America.

During Archaeology Day, experts from across the state will share in-depth presentations on the importance of understanding perishable technologies, such as basketry and textiles, in the study of prehistoric people.

Visitors can also see demonstrations of weaving, basketry, and flint knapping, a technique for making stone tools.

In addition, visitors can bring their own American Indian artifacts for identification and analysis by experts with more than 50 years of combined experience with archaeological artifacts.

Throughout the day, 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.

All Archaeology Day activities are included with regular admission: $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.

For more information, visit 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 19,000 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 special presentations and activities during Archaeology Day on Oct. 5 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

During Archaeology Day at Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village on Oct. 5, visitors can bring their American Indian artifacts for identification and analysis by experts.

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