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MARCH 2012

2012 - THE YEAR OF TITANIC

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ON PAGE 5



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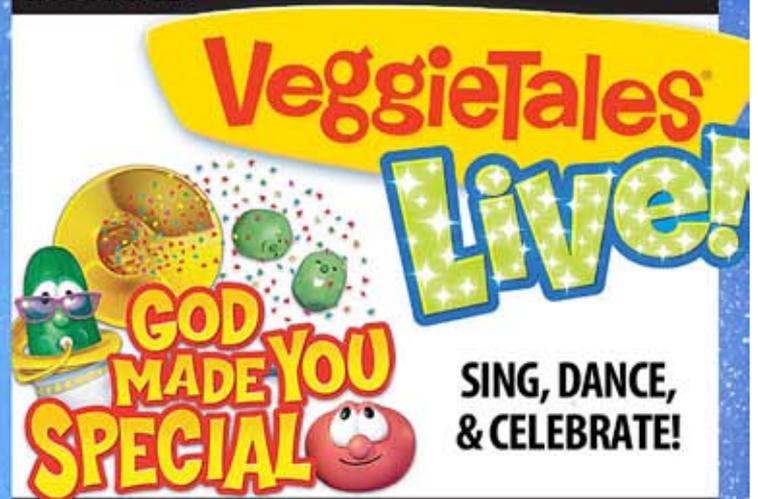


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TO SEE AN EXTENDED VERSION OF OUR UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.FUNTHINGSTODOINTHEMOUNTAINS.NET

2012 *The Year of Titanic*

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DAY TRIP

By Susan Toole

DAY TRIPS WITH YOUR CHILDREN

One of my favorite experiences as a parent is sharing new adventures with my four-year-old daughter. I love seeing the curiosity and wonderment in her eyes. Day trips, for us, are a great bonding experience. It gets us out of our comfort zones and lets us try something new together.

If you are planning a day trip with your child(ren), here are a few tips.

- 1) Take into account your child's interests. If they like trains, go to the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad or the train museum in Spencer, NC. My daughter is an avid animal lover, so we have been to every zoo, nature center, and farm within a 100 mile radius at some point in the past two years. One of our favorites is the WNC Nature Center. We also love going to the Greenville SC Zoo and Rainforest Adventures in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.
- 2) Try to weave education and fun together. For example, each spring we make a trip to see the baby goats at the goat farm at the Carl Sandburg home site. We have taught our daughter about the pregnant and baby goats and that the goats' milk is made into cheese. She also learned how to pet and be gentle with the baby goats.
- 3) Pack multiple snacks and drinks, and maybe even a picnic lunch. Children always get hungry or thirsty at inopportune times, and it's better to be prepared than pay the high tourist prices.
- 4) Layer clothes. Especially in the mountains, the temperature can vary widely depending on elevation, shade, wind, and time of day.
- 5) Make sure all aspects of the trip are interesting for the child. If it is a long car ride or there will be a long wait, pack some age appropriate books or toys for them. Better yet, talk about where you are going and what you have seen so far. If they are very young, encouraging them to take a nap might give them the rest they need to enjoy the experience once you get there.
- 6) Encourage them to try new things. My daughter was a bit nervous on our first camping trip and when she rode a pony for the first time, but now she is more confident.
- 7) When it is over, talk about what you have learned and what everyone liked the most on the trip.
- 8) Plan all aspects of your trip, including itinerary, driving route, and where you will eat your meals. However, expect that nothing will go as planned and you will have more fun being spontaneous.

Susan lives in Asheville with her husband Greg, four-year old daughter Laney, and her dogs Barkley and Sophie. She can be contacted at sjtoole01@yahoo.com.



Susan

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The Great Smoky Mountains Railroad is pleased to announce our Peanuts™ Easter Beagle Express on Friday, April 6th, and Saturday, April 7th, 2012. Trains will depart the historic Bryson City depot at 10:30am. The train will travel along the Tuckasegee River into the quaint town of Dillsboro North Carolina for the 1 1/2 hour layover.

Passengers will join Snoopy, Lucy, Charlie Brown and our Easter Bunnies for old fashioned Easter fun! Festivities include an ongoing Easter egg hunt, crafts, coloring sheets, temporary tattoos, and snacks with Snoopy and more. There will also be plenty of opportunities for pictures, so do not forget your camera!

Advance tickets are required, as seating is limited. Adult tickets are \$49 and children two and up are \$29. *All fares are subject to a 6% Historic Preservation Fee.

Admission to the Smoky Mountain Trains Museum is included with ticket purchase. Without tickets, admission to the museum is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children.

For more information and reservations please call 800-872-4681 or WWW.GSMR.COM.

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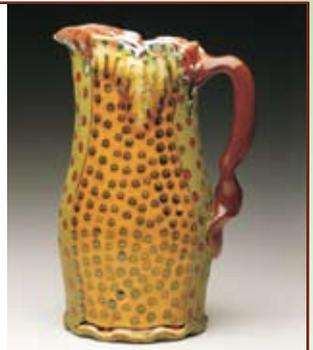


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OUR MOUNTAINS ARE BEAUTIFUL

BOOK SIGNING FOR THREE MOUNTAIN WOMEN MARCH 31ST, 2PM • CITY LIGHTS BOOKSTORE • SYLVA, NC

On Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 2pm City Lights Bookstore in Sylva, NC will be hosting a book signing for Barbara Woodall's book "It's Not My Mountain Anymore," and Amy Ammons Garza's newest book "Said the Leaf," with artwork by Doreyl Ammons Cain. The three women will share how they came to write/illustrate these books, and how they are connected. They will read excerpts, have discussion time and sign books. Refreshments will be served.

Barbara Taylor Woodall is a 1973 graduate of the Rabun Gap school in Dillard, Georgia. As a young teenager in the late 1960s, she was sitting in the classroom when her teacher, Eliot Wigginton, came into the room and told the students he wanted to start a magazine. Wigginton's desire to spark a passion for learning among his students led to the creation of the now famous Foxfire Magazine. The magazine shared mountain culture, traditions and slices of life with the general public.

Woodall refers to Wigginton's idea to create a magazine telling the stories of life in the Appalachian Mountains and sharing their traditions and customs as a "miracle in education."

"That miracle touched my life about six years after its original founding. I had a straying teenage mind and had plans to quit school when I turned 16 and get a job like some of the mountain people did," Woodall says.

"The passing of my beloved Granny Lou keened my interest in what this young school teacher was talking about when he arose from a student desk where he sat among us and pointed out to the mountain ranges framed by the big windows of the Nacoochee (school) building and said, 'Our classroom isn't in here, it's out there.'

"He said, 'Your grandparents are dying off and taking a way of life with them that will be lost forever, unless we do our part to record it.' After that, it was instilled in me and other students the importance of our heritage.

"That ignited a very needful and addicting flame inside me and the other students to prowl these mountains with tape recorders. Many students became the lantern inside the Foxfire. Crawling through whatever we had to, to show our heritage to the world."

Shortly after its creation, the magazine's popularity spread like wildfire. The publication's articles went on to become compiled into a 12-volume Foxfire Book series.

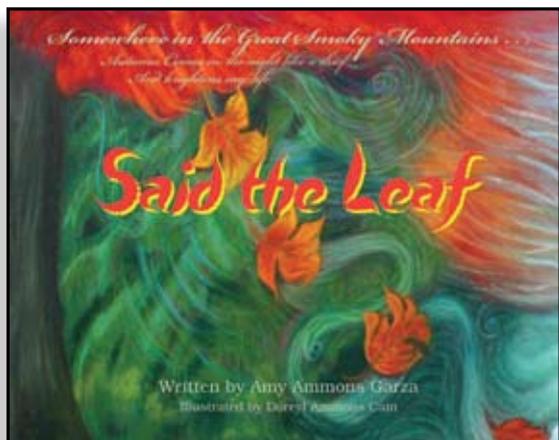
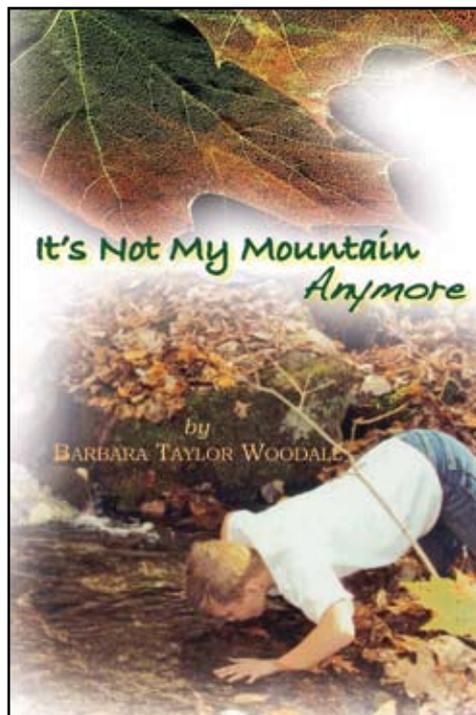
At the book signing, Woodall will tell the rest of her story, and why she came to write "It's Not My Mountain Anymore."

Amy Ammons Garza is a local storyteller, partnering with her sister, Doreyl Ammons Cain, as cofounders of Catch the Spirit of Appalachia, publisher of the two books, a nonprofit organization dedicated to planting seeds of heritage through the arts. "Said the Leaf" is Amy's seventh book; but it actually began over 60 years ago in 1951, when the author was just a child riding the school bus each morning, looking at the beauty of the seasons of the mountains, and filled with emotion within it's grandeur.

"I suppose my love for the mountains came from my sister and brother and I being isolated as children in a little mountain cove in Tuckasegee," says Amy. "where the whole world was surrounded by beautiful seasons...for the leaves of the trees would bud in spring, grow lush in summer, turn dramatic in a color filled autumn, and die in winter leaving a brown carpet on which to slide down the mountain with wind in your hair! I always wondered what the leaf would say...and so I wrote the book 'Said the Leaf.' With my sister illustrating the book, it is a perfect example of the history of our partnership in storytelling for the past 25 years.

"For us, everything always seems to come back to our roots...Barbara's love of the mountains and family shines through in her book; my sister's love is evident in the drama of colorful strokes as she brings my words alive! How many blessings we have!"

Come out and join these three women as they share their love of the mountains at City Lights Bookstore at 3 Jackson Street in Sylva, NC, on March 31, 2012, at 2pm.



Amy



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JERI BUEK & HER DANCING NEEDLE

PUNCH NEEDLE EMBROIDERY AND PENNY RUGS DOGWOOD CRAFTERS • DILLSBORO, NC

By Amy Ammons Garza



When Jeri Buek witnessed the demonstration of punch needle embroidery, she was fascinated. After having her own home sewing business for 25 years, she had the background to understand the intricacies of the work of the hand. Ending her business had left her free to explore, and one day in Tennessee, when she saw a punch needle demonstration, she knew she had to learn how to do it herself, and set out to do her research on the art form.

Punch needle embroidery is an old needle art that is worked through a fabric pattern stretched in an embroidery hoop, forming loops of threads on the side opposite the working surface to create a design. A special needle tool with a hollow core holds and feeds the thread as the needle is punched through the fabric, from back to front, to the same depth to create loops of even height. Depending on the needle selected, a single strand of thread, or as many as six strands, can pass through the needle at one time. Typically, miniature needle punch embroidery uses one or two strands of thread and the finished work is quite fine and small. The finished results can resemble miniature hooked rugs but the pieces created are generally quite small in comparison, usually measuring less than 6 inches and oftentimes as small as an inch or two. The work is such that the crafter must stay focused to produce the pattern she desires.

"I learned early on how to stay focused on my work," Jeri says. "My mother couldn't sew a stitch. I actually learned crafts from one grandmother and cooking from the other. Then, when I first married, I wanted to find some kind of work I could do at home, and sewing was the answer. So until our kids were in junior high school, I made clothing, wedding dresses, home decor, and so much more by working with my hands."

When Jeri's husband retired, they moved from Houston, Texas, to Hendersonville, NC. There, Jeri took a part-time job in the Material Things Quilt Shop, and began to create shop samples to display in the store--not only punch need embroidery, but wool appliqué, and quilting. She soon formed a sewing group called the "Baa Baa Sisterhood" (about 14-25 women) and taught classes on the art forms she had learned herself. The group also worked on "penny rugs."

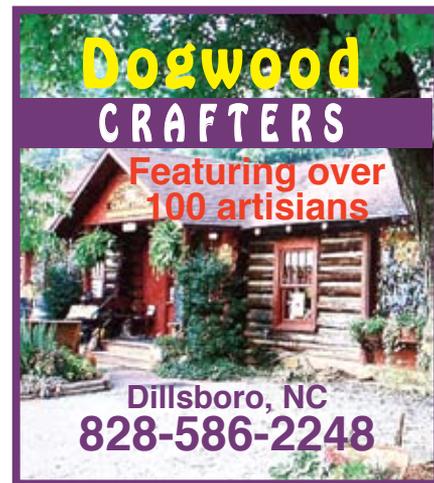
"Penny rugs are not actual rugs for the floor," says Jeri, "but decorative coverings for beds, tables and mantles. They are even used as wall hangings. They seemed to have started around the time of the civil war in the United States. They are made out of felted wool scraps that are appliquéd with a blanket stitch to a wool background. Some designs feature circles (or pennies). Coins such as pennies were used as templates for the circle appliqué, thus the name penny rug."

It was a friend who recommended Dogwood Crafters in Dillsboro to Jeri. She came over to the quaint little town and brought her handiwork to be juried for placement within the shop. She passed with flying colors, and is now one of the almost 100 crafters represented at Dogwood Crafters.



Jeri will be taking her turn at the front desk to demonstrate and assist with sales, so you may just catch her there when you visit this exquisite shop in Dillsboro where all items are handmade.

Dogwood Crafters Cooperative is open seven days a week from 10am until 6pm. Come on by and share in the love of buying "American Made" products. The craft shop is located at 90 Webster Street in the historic town of Dillsboro, NC. Phone: 828-586-2248.



An English Cream Tea Event

Book now for the popular English Cream Tea hosted by Dogwood Crafters, scheduled for the day before Easter, April 7, at the Jarrett House, with seatings at 1 and 3 pm, by reservation only. Call 828-586-2248 to reserve your seat. Last year, these events sold out well in advance, so don't hesitate to call. This first Tea will take place simultaneously along with the popular Dillsboro's Easter Hat Parade.



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The Vienna Boys Choir has been a phenomenon of excellence and cultural presence for about 500 years. The group has garnered world attention by sending touring groups everywhere to inspire and share their musical heritage. The 24 member boys program will feature prayers, pop music and polkas in sweet treble voices and will also include songs from across continents and centuries.

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There's no more gratifying sound than that of children singing. And there's no more polished ensemble of children's voices than the Vienna Boys Choir performing at the John W. Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center on the campus at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 AT 7:30 PM.

The Vienna Boys Choir has been a phenomenon of excellence and cultural presence for about 500 years. Historians agree on 1498 as the inception, but until 1918, the secret gem performed exclusively for the imperial court, Mass and private functions. That would include famous composers — Haydn, Mozart, Bruckner and Schubert — who participated in this wonderful choir.

Now, the group has garnered world attention by sending touring groups everywhere to inspire and share their musical heritage. The 24 member boys program will feature prayers, pop music and polkas in sweet treble voices and will also include songs from across continents and centuries.

The boy's choirs give around 300 concerts and performances each year in front of almost half a million people. Each group spends nine to eleven weeks of the school year on tour. They visit virtually all European countries, and they are frequent guests in Asia, Australia and the Americas.

The Vienna Boys Choir is sponsored by MedWest Carolinas HealthCare System.

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If you wish more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please contact Paul Lormand, Director at (828) 227-2505 or email Paul at lormand@wcu.edu



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SPOTLIGHT

By Amy Ammons Garza

THE PAINTED CAT SALE AND ART AUCTION

FOR CATMAN2 SANCTUARY IN CULLOWHEE, NC

Hidden away in a cove in the mountains near Cullowhee, North Carolina visitors can find The Catman2—for cat's only, shelter, adoption center, and sanctuary. Owned and operated by Dr. Harold Sims, a retired Junior College Professor and his wife Kay, the unique facility houses an average of 70 felines who live in a shelter without cages. The shelter was designed and built after the Sims' visited the aquarium in Gatlinburg, TN. There fish swam in large tanks. Like the fish, Harold's cats roam freely in large rooms with a view and in turn can be viewed by visitors through large windows. Each room has things for cats to climb upon, places to hide and a large screened porch where a cat can enjoy fresh air, sunshine, and a view of the nearby mountains. The few cats that are caged are only kept there long enough to be checked out by a vet, proclaimed healthy and vaccinated. Then they meet new friends in this spacious 3600 square foot building.

Sponsors and Artists Needed

"My desire is to find good homes for all our cats," says Sims. "And in the meantime, rescue even more cats from homelessness and kill-shelters. To do this, we are constantly looking for ways to support our

sanctuary for cats. In the past, we have had a yearly auction to help in this endeavor; however this year, we are hoping to achieve even more with a Painted Cat Sale and Art Auction.

"Most of you have seen brightly painted animals on the streets of local towns. Cherokee, NC has bears. In another town there are painted pigs. We want to introduce a painted cat. To purchase each unpainted cat, we need a business or an interested person to sponsor each cat. If we can find enough sponsors the cost could be less than \$100. Once we get the cats we need talented artists to paint them in such a way that people will want to own them. The painted cats will be on display in shop windows all over western North Carolina, advertising the sponsor's name; and all our future news releases will include the names of our sponsors. This is to be a region-wide project. In the fall we will have an auction and sell the beautifully painted cats, and other items of fine art, to the highest bidder. All proceeds will go to support the cats (no salaries paid) and their sanctuary."

Contact Information

Each painted cat is destined to be a treasure for life and a visual memory that will live on to inspire others to support "The Catman2 mission" of a home for every cat. If you are interested in being a sponsor, an artist, a donor of fine art to auction, an auctioneer, or can help in any way, contact Sims by e-mail: hsims@catman2.org; by USPS Mail: Catman2, PO Box 2344, Cullowhee, NC 28723 or by phone: 828-293-0892. For more information, go to the website: www.catman2.org.



North Carolina
Wholesale Gem & Jewelry Trade Shows

<i>Asheville</i> October 23-24, 2012 January 8-9, 2013 Asheville Civic Center 87 Haywood St.	<i>Franklin</i> May 11-12-13, 2012 July 26-27-28-29, 2012 Watauga Festival Center 426 Watauga Rd.
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Spruce Pine
August 2-3-4-5, 2012
Pinebridge Executive Inn, 207 Pinebridge Ave.

Retail License Required

Dates Subject to change

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A PASSION FOR THE MID-ATLANTIC GARDENING FAIRE

When gardeners' thoughts turn longingly to the arrival of spring, the passionate Washington County Master Gardeners are hard at work preparing for spring and the 15th Mid-Atlantic Garden Faire. The Faire will bring together everything passionate gardeners desire to rejuvenate their gardens and tease beautiful flowers and food from the earth.

On April 20th, 21st, and 22nd, join the Washington County Master Gardeners at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center located in historic Abingdon, Virginia minutes from I-81 off Exit 14. Drive down One Partnership Circle to unearth a wealth of gardening delights. Occasional or serious gardeners will discover anything their hearts desire to create the beautiful romantic garden.

The theme "A Passion for Gardening" rekindles gardeners' desires to lure beautiful creations from the earth. The Garden Marketplace will be overflowing with everything under the sun for the passionate gardener. Vendors from across the Southeast will display exotic and unusual flowers and native and heirloom plants, shrubs, and trees. Unique tools, outdoor furniture, ornamental iron, floral and potting supplies, and much more will be entice the gardener at the alluring marketplace. "We are excited about the large selection of unique cast iron planters, fountains, arbors, bonsai trees and unique flowers and plants that we have chosen just for the Garden Faire. The large whimsical animal pots will delight any gardener," states Nikki Taylor from Good Hope Gardens.

The Mid-Atlantic Garden Faire provides educational opportunities for gardeners to learn about all areas of the garden and landscape. More than 35 hours of garden-related programs is included with the price of

admission. For the daily admission of \$5 or the three-day run-of-show pass \$10, entertaining, educational opportunities abound.

The Faire is a must for all visitors who want to visit the rain gardens in Abingdon. On Friday at 3:30 PM, the Upper Tennessee River Roundtable will begin a tour that is sure to delight both seasoned gardeners and novices. The rain garden combines the beauty of native vegetation with the added benefit of soaking up rainwater to reduce runoff from roofs and driveways. Transportation is provided, and the tour is free to Faire goers. Space is limited, so arrive early!

The Plant Clinic is just the place to rekindle friendships and solve those problems that plagued the garden last year. Visitors can pose queries to the trained Master Gardener there ready to help. After solving your garden problems, relax at the Garden Café where enticing treats will satisfy any hunger and thirst.

Discover creative table setting ideas for entertaining at the Table Top Competition. Be inspired by casual and formal decorative table settings. The innovative table setting designs are accentuated with exquisite floral arrangements created by local garden club members and enthusiasts. Cash prizes are awarded for the best designs. The competition is open to the

public. If interested, contact the Extension Office at (276) 676-6309.

Before leaving the garden, don't miss Frank Renault's spectacular collection of floral photographs.

At the Garden Faire in Abingdon, VA, you will find everything thing you desire to make your landscape the envy on the neighborhood.



- Friday 10 am to 6 pm
- Daily Admission \$5
- Saturday 10 am to 6 pm
- Run-of-Show Passes \$10
- Sunday 11 am to 5 pm
- Children 12 and under Free

Tickets available at the Abingdon Visitors Center, Washington County Extension and at the door.

With Generous Sponsorship by
Kroger's of Abingdon
STRONGWELL
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A
Passion
for
Gardening

The 15th Annual
Mid-Atlantic

Garden Faire

April 20-22, 2012

Abingdon, Virginia

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Interstate 81, Exit 14
One Partnership Circle



Website: www.gardenfaire.net

Photo credit: Frank Renault

PIGEON FORGE GOES HOLLYWOOD:

THE WORLD'S FIRST EXHIBIT DEDICATED TO TITANIC THE MOVIE

by Jaynee, Titanic First Class Maid

Get ready for your close-up—a glamorous behind-the-scenes look at the 1997 blockbuster that won a record-tying 11 Oscars, and how it was made. Of course, I'm talking about TITANIC. You may know the 3D re-release of this award-winning classic premieres April 2012 to honor the centennial of RMS Titanic's maiden voyage. But here's something you may not know: The Titanic Museum Attraction in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, has opened the world's first exhibit devoted to this fantastic motion picture.

See the very same props, set pieces and costumes that provided authentic and romantic depth to many of TITANIC's most memorable scenes. Remember the pink "sinking dress and coat" Rose wore while rescuing Jack? And how about Jack's attire in Third Class? You'll find both on display, along with other recognizable costumes, at Titanic Pigeon Forge. You'll even see director James Cameron's personal shooting script, signed by all the film's major players. But the pièce de résistance is a spectacular \$250,000 replica of the heart-shaped sapphire and diamond necklace that proved pivotal to the plot.

Titanic Museum Attraction owner John Joslyn, who co-led the first private expedition dive to explore Titanic's wreck site, put it this way: "As part of our year-long tribute commemorating Titanic's 100th anniversary, we're proud and excited to bring this magnificent TITANIC Movie Exhibit to Pigeon Forge. We feel the movie has earned its own special place in film history and will stand forever as a tribute to RMS Titanic, her builders and the passengers and crew who sailed her maiden voyage." Amen to that.

So, all you TITANIC fans, here's your chance to get in on the act and experience history, both real and cinematic. Once on board you'll time-travel back to April 10, 1912, the day Titanic set sail across the North Atlantic for America. By the time you disembark, you'll know what it was like to have sailed Titanic's maiden voyage, as a passenger or crew member.

One final suggestion: After you see TITANIC's new 3D version, come to Titanic Pigeon Forge and join us for a dramatic run-through of a movie that, like RMS Titanic, will live forever.

And remember, I'll be right there to greet you.



ANTIQUING IN CLINTON, TN

Over the last ten years, The Antique Market has showcased quality antiques and collectibles in its shop in Clinton's downtown historical district. 2012 is their anniversary year and the owners have decided to celebrate by offering a sale and an opportunity for their customers and friends to win a gift certificate. All purchases from March 24th through March 31st will enter your name and E-mail into a drawing for a \$110 gift certificate to use anytime during the month of April. Throughout the week long sale you will see 10 to 50% savings on most everything at The Market.

The festivities will begin with an Open House at 5 pm Friday, March 23rd, when there will be complimentary wine and cheese served until 8 pm. The evening will also allow you to meet and visit with in-house dealers and artists. Joanne Palumbo designer of The Kept Relic dolls and birds, Jack and Joyce Tapscott owners of Sporting Treasures Jewelry and Antiques, Art Miller of Art's Antiques and Glen Galen designer of The Antique Market's unique Reimagined Lamps along with owner, Angela Galen, will all be on hand to meet customers and friends.

In 2002, Angela opened The Antique Market to allow her to offer fine antique furnishings and vintage wares at affordable prices. She and her husband Glen have been avid antiques collectors for more than 25 years and Clinton was a natural place to open their store because of the historic downtown area that boasts a collection of early 1900s buildings on Main and Market Street. This area already had a few other antiques stores and is located just 6 miles off of I-75.

In the past 10 years the downtown Clinton area has grown into one of East Tennessee's largest and most favorite antiquing districts with nearly 20 antique shops, some local eateries and a park with a charming gazebo, all within less than a 1/4 mile walking distance. This setting is antiquing at its best in a small town atmosphere. TennesseeAntiqueTrail.com calls Clinton "The town with the most antique shops in the South."

One of the founding members of The Antique Merchants Guild of Clinton, Angela and dealers from The Antique Market have been instrumental in organizing the Guild to help promote and advertise the antiques trade in the downtown historical district of Clinton.

The Antique Market has helped support and organize the two annual Antique Shows that are held each May and October that bring nearly 10,000 visitors to this lovely small town.

The Antique Market is a proud local supporter of PBS's East Tennessee Public Television, WUOT's National Public Radio, American Public Media, and Public Radio International. On March 23rd and the week to follow, join the owners and dealers of The Antique Market in celebrating 10 exceptional years in the antiques business. Cheers to many more!



Open House*
10th Anniversary March 24th - 31st
The Antique Market In Historic Clinton, TN

Fine Furnishings,
Antiques &
Vintage Wares



11pm - 5pm, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri ♦ 11am - 5:30 pm Sat
Closed Wednesdays ♦ Open Sundays by chance

305 Market St, Clinton, TN ♦ 865-463-8699
www.TheAntiqueMarket.com

*with each purchase made during the open house, enter your name and email for a \$110 gift certificate to be used in April 2012.