MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

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Furling the Flag: The Soldiers Come Home

Port Allen: The West Baton Rouge Museum hosts Furling the Flag: The Soldiers Come Home, an event featuring a short lecture and demonstration of the historical process the soldiers went through to be reintegrated into civilian life. The free event on August 1, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. will be led by historian Richard Holloway, who specializes in researching Louisiana during the U.S. Civil War. Participants can watch and partake in a reenactment of end of the war exercises. Mr. Holloway will also discuss end of the war activities unique to West Baton Rouge Parish.

Confederate soldiers had to fully surrender to the Union for proper readjustment after the war. Soldiers performed the Stacking of Arms, where they propped their guns against each other, rolled up their flag, and laid the flag down over the arms. The soldiers then signed for parole and took a historical oath of allegiance to the United States. They signed to promise never to take up arms against the U.S. and to live again as one united people.

Mr. Holloway has worked at the Louisiana State Archives and has served as an archivist in the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral in Liverpool, England. He has worked as a Records Manager at the George Washington University in Washington, D. C. where he wrote and published “How to Manage Your Records”. During this time, Mr. Holloway served as a co-editor for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference’s newsletter. Upon his return to Louisiana, Mr. Holloway’s passion for Louisiana history was reignited as an employee of the Louisiana Office of State Parks and he is a member of the Lieutenant Governor’s Civil War and Reconstruction Task Force.

The Civil War was a dramatic and devastating time in the history of the United States. The event is in conjunction with the Museum’s current exhibit, When the Cannons Fell Silent, which commemoartes the sesquicentennial anniversary of the end of the Civil War. It features battlefield artifacts unique to Louisiana and the West Baton Rouge area. The exhibit will be closing on August 16, 2015.

For more information call (225) 336-2422 x 15 or visit www.westbatonrougemuseum.com. The West Baton Rouge Museum is located at 845 N. Jefferson Avenue in Port Allen.

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