

# HALE FARM & VILLAGE

a museum of WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 17, 2012

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## ESCAPE ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD AT HALE FARM & VILLAGE

*February 21-24, 28, 29; March 1, 2, 5-9, 12-15, 27-31; & April 3-7, 10-14*

*Hale Farm & Village  
2686 Oak Hill Road, Bath, OH*

BATH, OHIO — The 13<sup>th</sup> annual *A Fugitive's Path - Escape on the Underground Railroad* returns to Hale Farm & Village on select dates from February through April 2012. This interactive, role-playing program involves visitors in the story of the Underground Railroad. The program begins on the auction block with slaves sold to a harsh overseer. A twist of fate allows them to escape, traveling under cover of darkness on a perilous 90-minute journey in search of freedom.

The Underground Railroad impacted the lives of those who lived and traveled through the Western Reserve of Ohio in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Pockets of abolitionism flourished in almost every Western Reserve community, leading historians to often label the Western Reserve a “hotbed” of abolitionism and anti-southern hostility. Fulfilling the Western Reserve Historical Society mission to “inspire people to discover the American experience” the thought-provoking “**A Fugitive's Path**” program allows participants to learn about and experience a part of our social and cultural history that continues to reflect upon modern society.

Past participants have described the experience as powerful and emotional. One visitor commented, “Phenomenal acting. Everything seemed so real at the time it was going on. The reverend was excellent, as were the other actors. This is an amazing service to the community.” Another said, “When the slave catcher came, your adrenaline really started and you had a taste of fear.”

Evening tours for the general public are March 30, 31; April 6, 7, 13, 14 beginning at 6pm. Tours depart every 20 minutes. Tickets are \$20 non-members; \$15 WRHS/HFV members and groups of 15 people or more; \$12/student for school groups.

This year Hale Farm & Village has partnered with the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad to offer exclusive use of the train for groups. Dates are March 31, April 7, and April 14. Guests will depart from the Rockside Station and experience a background of the Underground Railroad in Northeast Ohio before arriving at Hale Farm & Village for the program.

Daytime tours are available for school teachers and their classrooms.

To purchase individual, group, or school tour tickets call 330.666.3711 or email [halereservations@wrhs.org](mailto:halereservations@wrhs.org).

Every effort is made to present *A Fugitive's Path* as described, however the tours are subject to change without prior notice. Underground Railroad Tours are an indoor/outdoor activity. Visitors are asked to dress for the weather. Guests should allow two hours for their visit.

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*Hale Farm & Village, a museum of the Western Reserve Historical Society, is Northeast Ohio's premier outdoor living history museum depicting daily life for mid-19<sup>th</sup> century residents of the Western Reserve. Located in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Hale Farm & Village features dozens of historic structures, farm animals, heritage gardens and demonstrations such as glassblowing, pottery, candle making, blacksmithing, and hearth cooking bringing history to life for visitors of all ages.*

*Founded in 1867, Western Reserve Historical Society is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit regional historical societies in the nation. WRHS inspires people to discover the American experience by exploring the tangible history of Northeast Ohio.*

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