This spring, Caneta, Stacey, and Ashleigh presented information about the Teaching with Primary Sources across Tennessee program to teachers, museum educators and curators, and MTSU graduate students and faculty. Thanks to everyone who attended to learn more about the program!

Our Spring schedule was packed, starting with a February presentation for Anderson County teachers in Clinton, which was a joint workshop with the East Tennessee Historical Society. March began with a presentation at the Tennessee Council for Social Studies conference in Knoxville, followed by a presentation at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, social studies teacher workshop. These two events brought in a diverse audience from many schools in east and middle Tennessee, and provided us with wonderful feedback on what teachers are interested in seeing on the Library of Congress Web site, as well as on our TPS-TN Web site. Ashleigh, our graduate assistant, represented us well at the Tennessee Association of Museums conference March 18-19 in Chattanooga. This was a great opportunity to reach out to educators at museums and historic sites and show them how they can use Library of Congress resources for exhibits and educational programming. [cont. on page 2]

**Upcoming Events:**
- May 1 – May Day
- May 5 – Cinco de Mayo
- May 25 – Memorial Day

**“Awesome” Source of the Month:**

Alexander Graham Bell’s design sketch of the telephone, ca. 1876.

How can you tell that this is a telephone? What parts of today’s telephones look like the parts in this sketch?

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**News:**
- Visit us on Facebook! You can also follow the Library of Congress on both Facebook and Twitter. We post new updates, cool things we find at the Library of Congress, and what our upcoming projects and presentations are. The Library of Congress is now on YouTube also!
- **GET PAID TO SHARE YOUR LESSON UNITS WITH US!** We are seeking high-quality, inquiry-driven lesson units, in all subjects, that are based on primary sources from the Library of Congress Web site. Selected submissions will be posted to our TPS-TN Web site, in exchange for a stipend. Please email us or call us at (615) 494-8783 or 898-2947 for more information.
- Let us know what you’d like to see on our Web site! Fill out our Two-Minute Questionnaire.
This issue celebrates summertime traditions and holidays through primary sources, just in time for summer vacation!

**Spring Presentations— Continued from Page 1**

At MTSU’s Baseball in Literature and Culture conference (Mar. 27), we showed a selection of the many baseball-themed primary sources from the Library of Congress (look for these in a future newsletter!). At the MTSU Instructional Technology Conference (Mar. 31), we teamed up with Michelle Fry, director of TPS at Loyola University Chicago, to showcase TPS as a tool for integrating digital technology in education. At the Tennessee History Day competition in Nashville on April 4, we held a two-hour workshop for a group of teachers from all over Tennessee, during which we were able to examine a selection of primary sources up close. Lastly, we held four workshops on how to navigate the Library of Congress Web site for faculty members and graduate students in MTSU’s Department of History.

Because of the issues and questions you had at these presentations, we have created introductory tips and “How To” links to help you find resources on the Library of Congress Web site. Look for those tips and “how to’s” on our Tools page.

**Lesson Ideas— May Holidays**

May has several holidays, but we will highlight two: Cinco de Mayo and Memorial Day. See the “Bringing in the May” webcast for information on May Day.

Cinco de Mayo celebrates the defense of the town of Puebla on May 5, 1862 from invading French forces. Now we celebrate Mexican culture in the United States on May 5. Check out the Hispanic Reading Room for more Mexican-American collections available from the Library of Congress.

Memorial Day, which falls on the last Monday in May, honors American casualties in wars or military actions. Prior to 1971, Memorial Day was on May 30. What is the difference between Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day? How did each become a holiday? What do we do to honor veterans on each of those days?

**Important Links:**
- Tennessee Local Legacies
- American Treasures: Memorials
- America’s Story: County and State Fairs
- Looking into Holidays Past: Summer (activity)
- Barbeque— A History (Webcast— 70 min.)
- Bringing in the May (Webcast– 17 min.)
- Jewish American Heritage Month
- Asian Pacific Heritage Month

**Tools**

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**May Day**

Summer and Magruder school, Maypole dance at Summer and Magruder School. [c. 1920-1950]

What are these children doing? What is the importance of a Maypole? See the Webcast here!
LESSON IDEAS– LOCAL LEGACIES

What better time than the summer to learn about traditions in Tennessee? This is the time of year for the Dogwood Arts Festival in East Tennessee, GreeneSpring in Greeneville, the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival in Humboldt, and many others. Are any near your hometown?

Explore Tennessee Local Legacies for more! For instance, do you know where Mule Day is held? Do you know how the Tennessee Iris Festival got its start? What event “educate[s] and entertain[s], … explain[s] the unexplainable, … honor[s] the past and its people, and … record[s] the simple, seemingly unimportant moments of human existence”?

These Local Legacies were last updated almost ten years ago! What local festivals did they miss in your community? Have your students write new entries for new or overlooked local events for a class newspaper or the local newspaper. Need ideas? Check out “What is Folklife?”

If you teach grades 6-12, you may also want to utilize “Exploring Community Through Local History: Oral Stories, Landmarks, and Traditions.” This in-depth lesson plan was created by two teachers who were a part of the American Memory Fellows program (which later grew into Teaching with Primary Sources) at the Library of Congress.

FEATURED FEATURE!

On summer road trips, billboards are one of the most common sights. Advertising and branding play a big role in American society. The Library of Congress’s Learning Page has collected primary sources about advertising. The interactive map of “The Branding of America” highlights the hometowns of well-known products through billboards.

The introduction includes examples on how to use this in your classroom. This is recommended for students of all ages, and can be adapted to meet state curriculum standards for social studies (2.0–Economics). You can also check out the related Community Center page for more lesson ideas.

What is a major brand that got its start in Tennessee?
**CAR CAMPING**

How did cars contribute to and transform the way Americans went on vacation in the early twentieth century? Do you see scenes like this today?

![Car Camping. Photo by Harry M. Rhoads (between 1910 and 1930). Courtesy of Denver Public Library](image)

**SUMMER REFRESHMENT**

Why would milk be advertised as a summer drink?

![Milk - for summer thirst. (1940)](image)

**BARBECUE**

Why are barbecues and picnics important for community building? When are we more likely to have barbecues and picnics? Watch the Webcast [here](#)!

![Making barbecue at the May Day pageant in Siloam, Greene County, Georgia. (1941)](image)

**ROLLER COASTERS**

Ever wondered why you don’t fall out when a roller coaster goes upside down? Find the answer [here](#)!

![Loop the loop, Luna Park, Coney Island (between 1903 and 1910)](image)