

They don't know what the topic will be but organizers say one thing is for sure: It will be fun for the entire family. The Mount Airy Museum of Regional History has set the second of three summer storytelling events for Saturday at 2 p.m., according to museum Director Matt Edwards. "This is a program we started last year to kind of break up the museum's History Talks program with something that may be more universal in appeal," Edwards said. "We hope that this event appeals to both local residents and out-of-town visitors."

Saturday's event features master storyteller Mike Lowe, he added. Edwards said he had no idea what sort of tales Lowe might tell. "That's the great thing about bringing in professional storytellers," he said, "that I have no idea what the story will be about." Lowe, Edwards promised, will simply "come in and weave a story for the audience." "He will begin telling a story and will work with the type of crowd on hand to make it fun and enjoyable for everyone," Edwards said. "(Lowe's) stories, based on my experience, tend to have a connection to his early life, but I don't know what he will be talking about. We give the storytellers free rein on these things."

Lowe is a professional storyteller who travels extensively promoting the art through storytelling workshops and programs. He most recently lent his talents to the July 4 reading of the Declaration of Independence as part of Mount Airy's Independence Day celebration. "He's also a skilled musician, artist and historic re-enactor," Edwards said. "I like to call him a renaissance man of the cultural arts." Edwards said any story told by Lowe is an experience to behold. "He tends to engage the audience in the story and thrive on audience interaction," he said. "So I feel sure there will be opportunities for people in the audience to be a part of the story."

The museum director said he could promise one thing. "I guarantee that it will be fun for everyone who comes out to hear the story," he said. "Mike has a long connection with our museum doing programs like this, and we're always happy to have him come back and spin his yarns. "It's an experience not to be missed." The event will be held in the courtyard of the museum, weather permitting. In the event of rain, it will be moved inside. "But the story will be told," Edwards promised. "Rain or shine."

The final storytelling event is scheduled for Aug. 9, featuring storyteller Terri Ingalls of Mount Airy.