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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Putnam County Museum Announces Native American Exhibit Opening

On September 1, 2010 the Putnam County Museum will open its *Indiana's Native Peoples: the First Inhabitants* exhibit. The exhibit is the county's first comprehensive and authentic presentation of Native American cultures that once flourished in Indiana territory and Putnam County in particular. Thanks to numerous contributions from county residents, the exhibit includes tools from 1300 B.C., artifacts, clothing, and original pottery that will enable visitors to immerse themselves in the experience and gain a better understanding of the cultures and lifestyle of Woodland Indians.

"The exhibit is the Museum's effort to foster interest and educate the community on the rich and fascinating past of people who once lived on and cultivated the land we live on now. We hope to engage kids and adults alike through interactive features, such as a life-size wigwam, a chance to learn and pronounce words in various dialects, and much more," explains Tanis Monday, the Museum's director.

In addition to a comprehensive display of objects used by Native Americans in their daily lives, the exhibit, which will stay open until mid-December, includes interesting facts and information on food, hunting techniques, and traditions of various local tribes as they evolved throughout the centuries.

"We have compiled vast research into a concise presentation for anyone to enjoy. So many people are interested in natural lifestyle, but don't have time to do research on their own - this exhibit is an excellent opportunity for them to learn," says Caroline Murphy, the exhibit's curator and a senior at DePauw University.

Truly a community effort, the Native American exhibit is a testimony of the importance of ancient cultures in our local history.

The Museum is located on 1105 North Jackson Street, and is free and open to public.

For more information or questions about any of these items, please contact the Director, Tanis Monday, at (765) 653-8419 or museum@co.putnam.in.us.