



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Jefferson Countian
With History Awards of Excellence**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 18, 2016 – The East Tennessee Historical Society's (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization's Annual Meeting on May 3, 2016 at the Foundry on the World's Fair Park in Knoxville. Since 1982, the Society has been annually recognizing individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion, programming and interpretation of the region's history. A Jefferson County initiative was among the 31 awards presented.

- **Lura 'Lu' Hinchey** received the ***Award of Distinction*** for her work with the Jefferson County Archives. Jefferson is an early county (1792) with remarkably intact records. Lu Hinchey saw the need for organization and preservation and recruited volunteers to clean. This led to the 1996 establishment of the Jefferson County Archives, of which Lu has served 20 years as unpaid director and volunteer staff. Lu fought for and was successful in obtaining the return of Davy Crockett's marriage license, then in private hands in Florida.

About the East Tennessee Historical Society:

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society has 2,000 members across the United States. Its active publications program includes the biannual genealogy magazine *Tennessee Ancestors*; the annual *Journal of East Tennessee History*; and *Newsline*, as well as other books pertaining to the region's history. The Society also sponsors the Museum of East Tennessee History, East Tennessee National History Day, and the family heritage programs "First Families of Tennessee" and "Civil War Families of Tennessee."

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