



NEWS RELEASE

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REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Special Information and Presentation for Veterans Included Museum After Hours Program Series

TOPEKA—As a part of the special exhibit, *Captured: The Extraordinary Adventures of Colonel Hughes*, the Kansas Museum of History presents Museum After Hours, a year-long program series. The programs are free. Admission to the Museum is half price on those evenings from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

This month's program is "J.R.R. Tolkien and the Battle of the Somme" by Jonathan R. Casey, archivist, and Edward Jones Research Center manager, The National World War I Museum and Memorial, at 6:30 p.m. Friday, November 18, 2016. This overview of Tolkien's war service focuses particularly on the Somme, July through October 1916, and how his war experience may have influenced his literary work, namely *The Hobbit* and the *Lord Of The Rings*. The presentation includes images from the World War I Museum's collections that match passages from the books.

In honor of veterans, the Kansas Enhanced Mobile Veteran Service van will be onsite at the Kansas Historical Society from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, November 18, 2016. This mobile office will provide no-cost information and assistance to veterans and family members to learn more about benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

In September Karen Taylor, owner of Yak 'n Yarn, a Topeka yarn store, donated balls of yarn for knitters and crocheters to make squares, then the store assembled those into lap robes. Denise Cunningham, a representative of the Veterans Administration, will accept the donation of 11 lap robes on behalf of the veterans just prior to the 6:30 p.m. program.

Support for Museum After Hours comes from Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area. The Kansas Museum of History is located at 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka. For more information, call 785-272-8681, ext. 415, or visit kshs.org/museum.

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