FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 16, 2012

Media Contact: Gina Hyams, Hancock Shaker Village PR Consultant 413.464.2851 ginahyams@gmail.com

Images available upon request.

Hancock Shaker Village Fun Free Day July 20

Pittsfield, Mass.— Hancock Shaker Village is pleased to partner with the Highland Street Foundation to offer free admission on July 20 from 10:00am to 5:00pm as part of the Free Fun Fridays Program. 50 cultural institutions throughout the Commonwealth are participating in this program, which invites Massachusetts residents and tourists to visit different designated cultural attractions every Friday this summer for free. No registration is required—just visit and enjoy.

Situated on a picturesque expanse of farm, field, and woodland, Hancock Shaker Village is an outdoor living history museum and center for the study of principled living in the 21st century. The fully restored Village includes 18 historic buildings, heirloom medicinal and vegetable gardens, 22,000 examples of Shaker furniture, crafts, tools, and clothes that depict daily life at the Shakers' City of Peace through its 220 years, as well as heritage breed farm animals and spectacular hiking trails.

There are daily tours, craft and cooking demonstrations, lectures and workshops, and a variety of activities for children and families, as well as a Museum Store and Shaker-inspired cuisine at the Village Harvest Café. The Discovery Room offers hands-on opportunities for kids of all ages to try their hand at chair seat weaving, working at a loom, trying on Shaker-style clothing, or milking a life-sized replica of a cow. An interactive audio tour (available for \$2) is available in English, French, Italian, and German.

For more information, call 800.817.1137 or go to www.hancockshakervillage.org.

Hancock Shaker Village is located on Route 20 in Pittsfield, Mass., just west of the junction of Routes 20 and 41. For GPS purposes, the Village is located at 34 Lebanon Mountain Rd., Hancock, Mass.

01237. Or, enter 1843 W. Housatonic St., Pittsfield, Mass. 01201 then proceed 1/2 mile further West on Rt. 20 to the parking lot.

###