



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Washington Countian
With History Award of Excellence**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 16, 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 Washington County initiative was among the 31 awards presented.

- **Dr. Penny G. McLaughlin** received the ***Ramsey Award for Lifetime Achievement*** for her work with the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site. Penny McLaughlin served as director of one of the state's most important historical sites, the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site in Johnson City, location of the 1788 "Battle of the State of Franklin." A partial listing of accomplishments during her 25 years includes the establishment of an archive, obtaining grants for programming and planning, raising funds to build a new visitor center with exhibit space, and the creation of an outdoor classroom. She initiated several adult and children's programs that made the site a vital part of the community.

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 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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