

## **Memorial Birdbath Sculpture**

*Read by Michael Cable*

This handsome artwork was added to the grounds of the May Museum & Park in 2015. It serves as the centerpiece to the Susan Howard Wyre Cable Memorial Gardens. Susan Cable was an active board member of the May Museum and was also responsible for many of the historic artifacts within the museum.

The May Museum & Park was named in honor of Major Benjamin May, who came from Scotland to settle in North Carolina in the early 1700's. Among his many accomplishments, Major May served with the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War and was a representative of the North Carolina House of Commons. Many of his descendants still inhabit Farmville today.

The May Museum features a 19<sup>th</sup> century kitchen, which is fully equipped with period pieces. The remainder of the house is equally well appointed. The museum has the largest known collection of North Carolina handmade quilts crafted by one family. These quilts are dated from 1835-1935, most are signed, and there are five pre-Civil War quilts to accent this fine collection. Inside of the museum, there is also a full collection of French artist Louis Orr's engravings of historic North Carolina landmarks.

The May Museum & Park regularly serves as the site for several, large-scale annual events that bring the Farmville community together.