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Contact person: Meghan Vickers 720-497-7650 mvickers@jeffco.us

“We Can Do It: Jefferson County in World War II” Exhibit Opens May 8 at Hiwan Homestead Museum

A new exhibit opening May 8 at Hiwan Homestead Museum tells the story of Jefferson County’s role in World War II and will include 10th Mountain Division equipment, an authentic Japanese flag that flew over a prison camp and paraphernalia from the Denver Ordnance Plant.

The exhibit, “We Can Do It: Jefferson County in World War II,” covers both the home front and the valiant men and women who served overseas in the fight against the Axis powers. It will run from May 8 to November 15 at Hiwan Homestead Museum, 4208 Timbervale Drive in Evergreen.

Highlights of the exhibit include an original pair of skis and a rucksack full of its original contents from a veteran of the 10th Mountain Division; a giant Japanese flag that flew over the Ofuna prison camp, which was recently featured in the movie *Unbroken*; uniforms and other items from a Filipino guerrilla unit; and posters and photos from the Denver Ordnance Plant, which produced millions of rounds of ammunition during the war.

In addition, learn how Jefferson County was transformed in the 1940s as thousands of war workers flocked to the area. Today’s suburbs owe their development to these workers, many of whom stayed in the county and raised families after the war.

The exhibit will kick off Friday, May 8 with a Victory in Europe (VE) Day Commemoration featuring World War II collectors and reenactors. Admission is free. Hiwan Homestead Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. from September to May and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in June, July and August.

Hiwan Homestead Museum is a 26-room log mansion constructed in the Rustic style of architecture. It is located in Evergreen at 4208 South Timbervale Drive. Hiwan Homestead Museum is a Jefferson County Open Space facility operated in partnership with the Jefferson County Historical Society. The Museum was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.