



GENERAL STORE *All Things Soybean*

Soybeans are much more than soy sauce and tofu, and a new exhibit at this year's Tennessee Soybean Festival might hold some surprises for visitors.

"All Things Soybean" is the theme for an old-fashioned general store opening in downtown Martin just for the festival.

Housed in a specially-designed building provided by a Martin native, the store will sit on the parking lot at the corner of University and Lindell, behind the police station.

"The concept is to let people know of everything made of soybeans that they use every day and don't know about," says Lynn Harper, who came up with the idea. He partnered with Joel Griffith, the



Paul Smalley, Joel Griffith and Lynn Harper team up to bring the Soybean Festival's General Store to life.

owner of the The Barnyard in Clarksville, to come up with a building that harkens back to olden days, complete with a front porch on which to relax.

The General Store will

house displays of items made from soybeans, ranging from M&M candies to hand lotions and candles.

"Come to the store to see more," Harper advises. Soybean products can be

found in plywood, crayons, ink, margarine, carpet and hydraulic fluid.

Local artist Rachel Melton will display her original art and her historical book, "Est 1873: An Illustrated History of Martin, Tenn." The purpose of the project is to preserve local history through creating visual pieces centered on landmarks, businesses and events.

Plans are to offer souvenirs of the festival, as well as "a few other surprises," Harper predicts.

The store will also serve as an information center for anyone visiting the festival.

Barnyard buildings can be seen at Kerry Mosley's in Dresden.

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