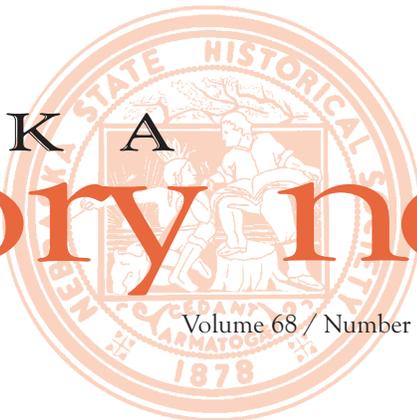


# NEBRASKA history news



Volume 68 / Number 3 / July/August/September 2015

## *Rodeo Nebraska: New Photo Book Explores Small-Town Rodeos*

This fall the NSHS will publish a book unlike anything we've done before: a large-format book of contemporary photography. And yet it's tied deeply to Nebraska history and culture.

Eight years ago Mark Harris set out on a mission: to portray Nebraska's contemporary rodeo culture more artistically and comprehensively in photographs than anyone ever has—and then write a book worthy of the photos. At eighty-two events in sixty-two separate locations he photographed the competition, the rural crowds, and all things connected with them. He visited ranches that breed broncs, bulls, and speed horses, and spoke to hundreds of competitors. *National Geographic* photographer Joel Sartore calls the

book "a captivating tribute to rodeo like no other."

Harris, a native of McCook, Nebraska, is associate director of the University of Nebraska State Museum at Morrill Hall in Lincoln. His photography has been featured in *NEBRASKAland* magazine and in the Nebraska History Museum's *Nebraska Cowboys* exhibit.

Harris's book isn't about big-time rodeo. In its pages you won't find professional circuit events or national rodeo stars. The people of *Rodeo Nebraska* work all week on ranches and farms and compete on weekends. For them, rodeo isn't a way to make a living. It's simply part of living.

The photos are driven by questions. What brings people to the sport? What is it like to

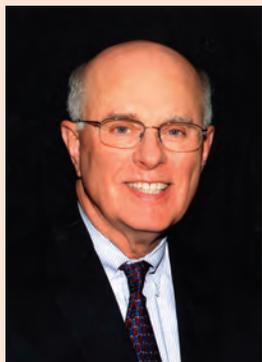
*Continued on p. 2*



*The Nebraska State Historical Society collects, preserves, and opens to all, the histories we share.*

*Rodeo Nebraska* by Mark Harris, foreword by Candy Moulton. \$34.95 (\$31.45 for NSHS members), hardcover, 12" x 9.5", 240 pages. Available October 1, 2015. Pre-order yours from the NSHS Landmark Stores, 402-471-2062.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



*The NHM will become more than just the state's history museum.*

### The Opportunity Ahead

Over the past two years I have shared news regarding the renovation of your Nebraska History Museum in Lincoln. I've reported on the physical shortcomings that were rendering the building unfit for continued museum use, on (successful) efforts to obtain funding for the work through a combination of legislative appropriations and support from the Nebraska Taskforce on Building Renewal, on the letting of bids, on the closing of the museum on September 1, 2014, and on the beginning of the work itself.

Now I can report that the contractors have gutted the building's interior, placed new chillers and related equipment on the roof, commenced exterior cleaning and masonry repair, and continue to replace the elevators and the electrical and plumbing systems. Six months into the work, the \$8 million project remains on schedule and under budget. We are sufficiently confident that the renovation will be complete by the end of 2015 that we have set a tentative reopening date of February 27, 2016.

Meanwhile we are making plans to take advantage of the renovated building's new opportunities for education, collections care and management, and public services. The NSHS staff is creating temporary exhibitions drawn from our own collections and other sources to be ready when the building reopens. We also have in the planning stages a new History Learning Center, an exciting "Welcome to Nebraska and the Nebraska History Museum" exhibit for the new entrance lobby, and more. An updated Landmark Store will open, and school classes will return to explore their own histories.

But there is more. A key long-term goal is to engage the public in the facility. The NHM will expand its role as a gathering space and public venue for meetings and get-togethers. This will involve historical organizations across Nebraska, at every level, making the NHM a place for the historically-committed citizens to come together to build acquaintances, share ideas, and create a common understanding of the value and the practical uses of our histories. The NHM, in other words, will become more than just the state's history museum. It will be both a focal point and energy-facilitator that ensures that the stories of our past are found, preserved, and used in every corner of Nebraska.

This is a great opportunity for everyone. We look for your ideas, energy, and support so that together we will make this happen. Thanks for your support.

  
Michael J. Smith, Director/CEO



Gordon

*Continued from p. 1*

compete in rodeo? How do the winners get so good? Harris gives us action shots, to be sure—bone-crushing falls and majestic rides. But he also turns his camera on the people: the communities that host rodeos and those who participate.

His photographs reveal the odd love-hate relationship between competitors and the animals that challenge them. These are men and women with an intimate knowledge of livestock. Riders who wrestle steers and calves sit a horse well, often convincing the viewer that they are but one creature. No surprise there—these are people who grew up with rodeo. You see that, too, in the photographs, children donning well-worn hats and big buckles as naturally as the old timers. One suspects that these kids had baby shoes with pointed toes.

Harris also gets up close and personal with his subjects, at times dangerously so. The safety of a strong wooden fence also insulates one from the essence of the ritual. And ritual it is, always the hero's test, the outcome never certain.

But Harris's work is not a love song. Rodeo is hard and sometimes cruel. You see that in the images, too. These characteristics are intrinsic to the event.

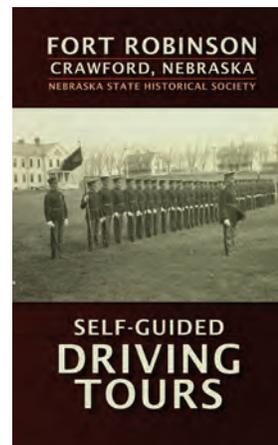
Rodeo is more than a sport. It is entertaining, but that is not its core purpose. As historian Candy Moulton explains in the book's foreword, rodeo is a living tradition with deep roots here. In words and pictures, Mark Harris does it justice. Order your copy for fall delivery. 📖



Kearney

## New Fort Robinson Driving Tour Book

When visiting Fort Robinson State Park, there's nothing like expert guidance when trying to unravel all the layers of the site's rich history. To that end the NSHS has published a revised and expanded edition of *Fort Robinson, Crawford, Nebraska: Self-Guided Driving Tours*. The forty-eight-page book was written by the fort's premier historian, our late colleague Tom Buecker, and contains maps and twenty-eight photos showing the fort as it grew and changed over the years. The book is available for \$4.95 from the Fort Robinson History Center and Museum and from the NSHS Landmark Stores in Lincoln. Also available is a new brochure about the Red Cloud Agency site near Fort Robinson. 📖



## What the Omaha Community Playhouse Taught Henry Fonda

In 1938 Henry Fonda (1905-1982) found himself headed out of Omaha once again to continue his long career as a major Hollywood and Broadway star. Grand Island-born Fonda started his acting career with the Omaha Community Playhouse. From there he went east to live the life of starving artist until he made his first appearance in a motion picture in 1935. Three years later his appearance in Omaha was notable. He went on to win Academy,



Photograph by Al Bates.  
NSHS RG4006-4-6

Grammy, Tony, and Golden Globe awards, and is recognized in the top echelons of American acting. During the 1930s, agents at railroad depots and the municipal airport would alert the staff of the consolidated radio stations KFOR, KFAB, and KOIL when celebrities arrived in Omaha. Because Omaha was a major rail hub and a logical stopping point

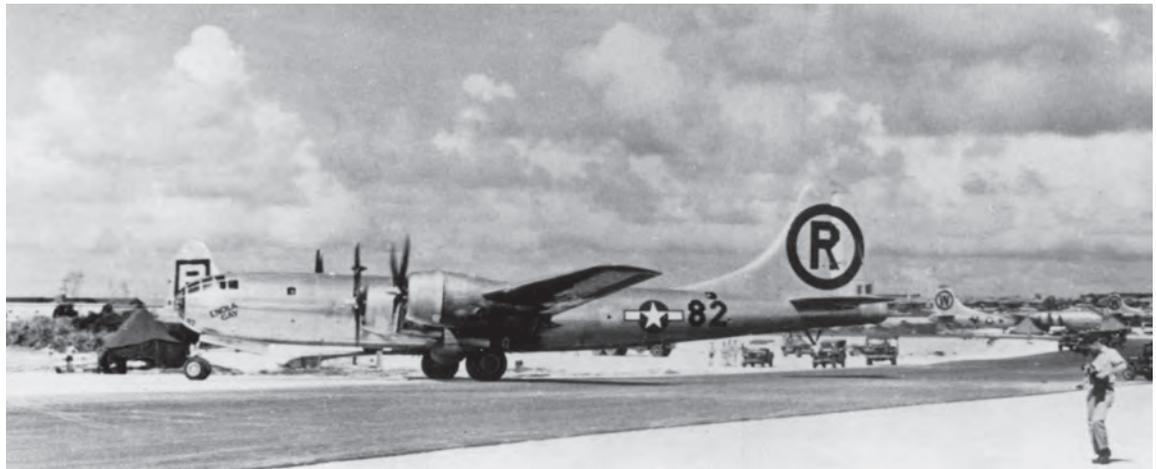
between Chicago and St. Louis and Denver and the West Coast, their beat was a busy one. Here radio journalist Bob Cunningham buttonholed Fonda for an interview. In his interview, Cunningham asked Fonda what the Omaha Community Playhouse did for him. Referring to his decade spent as a starving artist he joshed, "They made a bum out of me." 📖

## NSHS Trustee Petition Candidate Deadline August 18

While the June 19 deadline to seek nomination for the NSHS Board of Trustees has passed, prospective candidates may still submit a petition form before

5 p.m., August 18, 2015, to be placed on the ballot. Three seats are up for election in 2015, one in each congressional district. More information at [nebraskahistory.org/admin/board](http://nebraskahistory.org/admin/board). 📖

Enola Gay moments after landing at North Field, Tinian, on August 6, 1945.  
NSHS RG3715-2-17



### Enola Gay: A Nebraska-built Bomber Opens the Atomic Age

Seventy years ago on August 6, 1945, a B-29 Superfortress assembled at the Martin Bomber Plant near Bellevue, Nebraska, dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Col. Paul W. Tibbets, the plane's pilot, had selected that B-29, Serial # 44-86292, from the Martin plant's assembly line on May 5, 1945, and it was delivered to the Army Air Forces on May 18. The day before Tibbets took off from Tinian in the Marianas Islands on the August 6 atomic mission, he had his mother's maiden name, *Enola Gay*, painted on the B-29's fuselage below the cockpit.

*Enola Gay* was one of fifteen B-29s assigned to Tibbets's 509th Composite Group, which would deliver the atomic bombs. Each of the bombers' forward bomb bays and shackles had been modified to carry either of two types of atomic weapons, the Little Boy Uranium bomb dropped on Hiroshima and the Fat Man Plutonium bomb used at Nagasaki

on August 9, 1945. *Enola Gay* flew as a weather-reporting plane on the Nagasaki mission.

*Enola Gay* was dropped from the U.S. Air Force inventory in August 1946 and formally transferred to the Smithsonian Institution in 1949. After years in storage at various locations, restoration began in 1984. The cockpit and forward fuselage was displayed at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., from June 1995 to May 1998. On December 15, 2003, the fully assembled and restored *Enola Gay* went on exhibit at the Smithsonian's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center at Dulles International Airport.

More details about *Enola Gay* and its history-making role can be found in Norman Polmar, *The Enola Gay: The B-29 That Dropped the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum/Brassey's, Inc., 2004). 📖

—James E. Potter, Senior Research Historian

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### Neihardt State Historic Site Names New Director

Ammy Corrin Kucera has been named executive director of the John G. Neihardt State Historic Site in Bancroft, assuming her new duties on June 1. The site is owned by the NSHS and managed by the John G. Neihardt Foundation.

A northeast Nebraska native from Verdigre, Kucera was formerly associate editor of *NEBRASKAland* magazine; she has also worked as a youth program coordinator for the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska and as assistant park superintendent at Ponca State Park. She has earned degrees from Northeast Community College in Norfolk and from Wayne

State College, plus a certificate to teach English as a second language to adults through Cambridge University in Prague, Czech Republic.

"I extend my sincere appreciation to all who have dedicated their efforts to maintain the Center as a unique location for vision and learning, as well as a place to explore and reflect on our shared heritage," Kucera said.

Kucera will continue part-time work as director of the Ponca Language Dictionary Project at the Indian Center in Lincoln until the dictionary is published by the University of Nebraska Press in 2016. 📖

## Neihardt State Historic Site Hosts NSHS Photo Exhibit

The John G. Neihardt State Historic Site in Bancroft is currently hosting an NSHS-curated photo exhibit. *Photographers and the Plains Indians* features images of Native Americans that raise issues about what it means to “capture” a people through the visual medium of photography. The exhibit, which will be at the site at least through this fall, explores the commercial demands of the nineteenth century Euro-American consumers, and how these expectations led to the exploitation of indigenous North Americans. [www.neihardtcenter.org](http://www.neihardtcenter.org), 888-777-4667. 📍

## Subscription-Only Price to Increase July 1

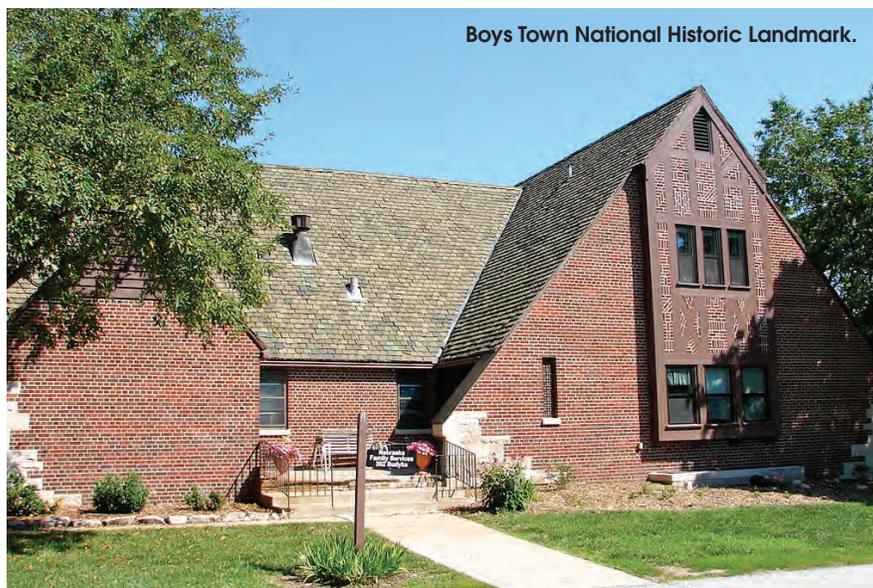
For several years the NSHS has offered a subscription-only membership for \$29 per year. Due to increased printing costs, this rate will increase to \$32 as of July 1. Full individual memberships will remain at \$40. Subscription-only members receive *Nebraska History* and *Nebraska History News*; full members also receive numerous benefits including discounts in the Landmark Stores, for kids' classes, and for selected Library/Archives services. See [nebraskahistory.org/admin/members](http://nebraskahistory.org/admin/members) for details. 📍

## Nebraska Historic Tax Credits Program Reaches Cap for 2015

The new Nebraska Historic Tax Credit (NHTC) program has been popular in its first year. The State Historic Preservation Office at the NSHS has allocated \$14,960,178 for 46 projects under the program. The statutory limit of credits available in one year is \$15 million. The office received 58 applications, requesting a total of \$17,508,708 in credits. Approved projects are located in Omaha, Boys Town, Columbus, Norfolk, and Red Cloud.

Legislation provides a 20 percent state income tax credit (up to a limit of \$1 million for a single project) for eligible expenditures made for rehabilitating qualified historic buildings. The office has suspended acceptance of new applications until the next funding round, which begins January 1, 2016.

Project locations and allocation requests are visible on our Nebraska Historic Tax Credits map, available online at the NHTC program website, [www.nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nhtc.htm](http://www.nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nhtc.htm). 📍



## Uncovering New History with NSHS Research Grants

New research is the lifeblood of our publications and exhibits. Historians look at old events in new ways or explore aspects of our past that no one has thought to examine before. Every year the NSHS awards \$1,000 grants to support the work of scholars researching some aspect of Nebraska history or archeology. Here are this year's recipients and their projects: Ben

Justman, Bellevue, “More than Digging for Victory: Extension in Nebraska during World War II”; Evan C. Rothera, “Thayer Will Not Yield’: Citizenship and the Contested 1890 Nebraska Gubernatorial Election.” Grant funding is provided by the Gladys Marie Lux Education Endowment and the Tom and Marilyn Allan Fund, both administered by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation. 📍



“Foods from Corn,” Lloyd Harrison, 1918. Library of Congress.

Elliott Elementary was located at 26th and O Streets in Lincoln, but the school’s Liberty Garden was planted on South 25th Street between L and M Streets. All classes had time off to work in the garden. NSHS RG2882-8-3

### “Food Will Win the War”: WWI Exhibit at State Fair

The NSHS is curating a new exhibit for the Nebraska State Fair, to be held in Grand Island August 28-September 7. Look for “*Food Will Win the War*”: *The American Home Front in World War I* in the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center.

When the United States declared war on April 6, 1917, the conflict on Europe’s Western Front, pitting Germany and its allies against Great Britain and France, had raged since August 1914. The Anglo-French coalition had suffered staggering battlefield losses, while famine stalked soldiers and civilians alike. Landscapes scarred by trenches and shellfire could not be cultivated, and manpower had been

drained into the armies. It would be up to the United States to sustain its faltering European allies with both fighting men and food.

The federal Food Control Act of August 10, 1917, set the course for unprecedented government management of the nation’s food supply. Herbert Hoover headed the U.S. Food Administration, with offices in every state, whose task was to

encourage conservation, increase production, and control prices of foodstuffs considered critical to the war effort, including wheat, meat, and sugar. These goals would be pursued by licensing food manufacturers and wholesalers, issuing a vast array of regulations and patriotic propaganda, calling public attention to alleged “slackers,” hoarders, and profiteers, and even threatening fines and prosecution.

Nebraskans—including farmers, housewives, restaurateurs, grain dealers, grocers, women’s organizations, and children—made many sacrifices to help provide enough food at home and for the allied armies and civilians in Europe.

Poor growing conditions cut the 1917 state wheat crop to 12.6 million bushels, down from 68.7 million in 1916. Governor Keith Neville proclaimed “meatless” Tuesdays and “wheatless” Wednesdays, while Nebraska families were urged to eat more potatoes, cornmeal, milk, and eggs as substitutes for wheat and meat. Thousands of women signed cards pledging to “join” the U.S. Food Administration and support its programs. Bakers replaced 25 percent of the wheat flour in bread with substitutes to create “Victory loaves.” Every person was expected to use no more than two pounds of sugar each month, and recipes featuring sugar substitutes were distributed widely. Vacant city lots became “Liberty Gardens,” and 150 communities established drying plants to preserve fruits and vegetables. Such measures helped lead to allied victory.

When the “Great War” ended with the armistice on November 11, 1918, even Nebraskans who never left home could be proud of the part they played in winning it. ☒



## Coming in Nebraska History

For many years Omaha crime boss Tom Dennison ruled an underworld empire that held sway over local electoral politics and law enforcement. In the early 1930s Nebraska Attorney General Christian A. Sorensen was determined to bring Dennison to justice. While Dennison escaped with a mistrial, Sorensen's crusade marked the downfall of Dennison's political machine. The story will be told in the Fall 2015 issue of *Nebraska History*.

The same issue examines the life of cattleman Thomas B. Hord, whose career began in the open range period and culminated with what was known as "the largest live stock feeding enterprise in the United States." A third article tells the story of Frank

Crane, a prominent Methodist minister in Omaha in the late nineteenth century whose savvy use of the press eventually led to a new career as a nationally syndicated columnist.

Look for this issue in your mailbox the second week of August. 📖



Nebraska Attorney General C. A. Sorensen. Nebraska Blue Book 1929-31

## September is Celebrate Nebraska Archaeology Month

This fall Celebrate Nebraska Archaeology Month in September, as Nebraskans and professional archaeologists engage in activities showing the archaeological richness of our state. The goals are to encourage a new generation of archaeologists and to provide everyone with a greater appreciation of archaeological site stewardship.

More than thirty events were organized in seventeen different towns in the inaugural year of archaeology month activities. An estimated two to three thousand people participated. This year exhibits,



lectures, demonstrations, tours, and other activities are being planned across the state at museums, historic sites, state parks, and libraries. To learn more and receive updates as events are planned, visit [nebraskaarchaeology.org](http://nebraskaarchaeology.org) and be sure to "like" Nebraska Archaeology Month on Facebook! 📖



Gary Keshner of Cathedral Stone Products leads a session on patching stone masonry at the NSHS's *Preservation: Plain and Simple* conference, held in Lincoln on May 1. In addition to session speakers, the conference also included breakout sessions featuring experts in the hands-on, nitty gritty work of preserving old buildings.

## Treasures from the Nebraska History Museum: The Helen Sagl Collection



The WAAC/WAC insignia was the Greek goddess Pallas Athene. Officers wore U.S. insignia on their upper lapels, and the Pallas Athene on their lower lapels. NSHS 9168-4-C

The Nebraska History Museum's collection includes thousands of objects from World War II. Many were displayed from 1991 to 2014 in the exhibit, *What Did You Do in the War? Nebraskans in World War II*. Museum staff dismantled this exhibit last spring in preparation for the museum's renovation and photographed or scanned artifacts before they were placed in storage. Many images are now available at [nebraskahistory.pastperfect-online.com](http://nebraskahistory.pastperfect-online.com).

Our WWII treasures include uniforms worn by Helen Sagl while serving in the WAAC/WAC. Sagl was born in Wilber, Nebraska, in 1906, and graduated from high school in Adams. She attended the University of Nebraska, receiving a bachelor's degree in education in 1930, and a M.A. in educational psychology in 1935. Prior to the war she taught school in Broken Bow, and taught college-level courses in Indiana and Wisconsin. She was living in Lincoln when she enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in 1942.

Congress approved the creation of a Women's Army Auxiliary Corps on May 14, 1942, allowing the army to enroll women for noncombatant service. Sagl was one of the first two Nebraskan women inducted into the WAAC on July 8, 1942. On July 20 she and 439 other women entered the first



Major Helen Sagl

WAACs were issued a seersucker exercise dress and matching bloomers. NSHS 9168-24



Helen Sagl's Hobby hat. The hats were named after the first WAAC/WAC director, Oveta Culp Hobby. The standard U.S. Army eagle insignia was used on Hobby Hats after July 1, 1943. NSHS 9168-7



Helen Sagl's WAC uniform (left) with Hobby hat and leather handbag. NSHS 9168-4



Helen Sagl in Dallas, Texas, 1943. A handbag with a shoulder strap was issued to WAACs/WACs to help carry necessities.



WAAC Fourth Company. Helen Sagl is in the front row, third from the right. The WAACs here are wearing an early version of the khaki uniform, which underwent many modifications. The belt, for example, was eliminated from the jacket by October 1942, because it wore out the material beneath it.

WAAC officers' training class in Des Moines, Iowa, graduating on August 29.

Sagl served in the WAAC Fourth Company, First Regiment, and was a WAAC battalion commander. Because the WAAC was an "auxiliary," its members initially had no army status. On July 1, 1943, Congress passed a bill transforming the WAAC into the Women's Army Corps (WAC). WACs were

given regular army status, including army benefits and privileges.

Major Sagl attained that rank before leaving active duty on April 15, 1946. She earned a PhD in education in 1954 and then served on the Indiana University School of Education faculty until her retirement in 1973. She died in 1994 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at age eighty-seven. ❄️

### Honors for NSHS Staff, Board President

While the winners of this year's NSHS awards are yet to be announced, two staff members were honored recently as part of our employee recognition. Lana Hatcher, staff assistant and membership coordinator, was named Employee of the Year. Rob Bozell, associate director for archeology, was named Manager of the Year.

One of our former trustee board presidents, Sheryl Schmeckpeper, was recently honored with the Nebraska Press Association's annual Leadership Nebraska award. Schmeckpeper is on the editorial staff of the *Norfolk Daily News* and has long been involved in leadership with both the NSHS and the Elkhorn Valley Historical Society. ❄️

### Share Your "Site Snaps"

Show off your photograph skills and share your "Site Snaps"! NSHS invites all Nebraskans to celebrate the summer season and all of the great historic sites around our state. Simply take your shot at any of Nebraska's photogenic historic sites and feel free to include people you know. Share your images with us via Facebook. It's easy: just "like" our Facebook page and then tag Nebraska State Historical Society in the caption. Or share via Twitter and Instagram: just mention @NebraskaHistory and use the hashtag #NSHS.

We'll be picking some of our favorite images each week to feature on our Facebook page!

So, tell your family and friends... we can't wait to see everyone's "Site Snaps!" ❄️



Chimney Rock.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to the public.



NSHS exhibits at the Nebraska State Fair, 1963. The NSHS will have an exhibit at this year's state fair in Grand Island, August 28-September 7. RG14-87-1

**July 7 • 10-11 a.m.**

***A Pioneer Farm Girl, The Diary of Sarah Gillespie, 1877-1878***

**Hour at the Museum**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St, Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**July 14 • 10-11 a.m.**

***The Gift of the Sacred Dog by Paul Goble***  
**Lecture in conjunction with *Homefront & Battlefield* exhibit**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St, Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**July 16 • 12 noon**

James E. Potter

***"Spotted Tail: The Government's Favorite Indian"***

**Brown Bag Lecture Series**

5 City-TV studio, City/County Building  
555 S. 10th St., Lincoln  
402-471-3272 • lana.hatcher@nebraska.gov

**July 21 • 10-11 a.m.**

***The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush by Tomie DePaola***

**Hour at the Museum**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St., Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**July 28 • 10-11 a.m.**

***Kindle Me a Riddle: A Pioneer Story by Roberta Karim***

**Hour at the Museum**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St., Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**August 4 • 10-11 a.m.**

***Sacagawea 1788-1812 by Rosemary Wallner***

**Hour at the Museum**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St., Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**August 11 • 10-11 a.m.**

***Jennie and the Tornado by Jennie Elaine McDaniels***

**Hour at the Museum**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St., Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**August 20 • 12 noon**

Mike Babcock

**Husker History**

**Brown Bag Lecture Series**

5 City-TV studio, City/County Building  
555 S. 10th St., Lincoln  
402-471-3272 • lana.hatcher@nebraska.gov

**September 17 • 12 noon**

Rob Bozell

***Nebraska's Oddest Archeological Discoveries & Artifacts***

**Brown Bag Lecture Series**

5 City-TV studio, City/County Building  
555 S. 10th St., Lincoln  
402-471-3272 • lana.hatcher@nebraska.gov

**September 26 • 2-4 p.m.**

***Nebraska Archeology***

**Free Family Fun Day**

NSHS HQ, 1500 R St., Lincoln  
402-471-4757 • judy.keettle@nebraska.gov

**For updated events, see the NSHS Facebook page, linked from [www.nebraskahistory.org](http://www.nebraskahistory.org)**

## SAVE THE DATE:

**NSHS Annual Meeting**

**October 16**

The NSHS will hold its annual meeting and awards banquet in Lincoln on Friday, October 16, 2015. More information to come in the next issue.

## UNL Archeological Field School Helps Restore Engineer Cantonment Site

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Archeological Field School is assisting the NSHS Archeology Division this spring in repairing flood damage to an important site. Located along the Missouri River north of Omaha, Engineer Cantonment is the 1819-20 winter quarters of the Major Stephen Long scientific expedition from the East Coast to the Rocky Mountains and back.

The exact location of this famous site was unknown for many years, but in 2003-05, NSHS archeologists discovered and completed partial excavation of the site. The excavation blocks were left

open and covered with a large portable building to facilitate future excavations. Unfortunately the Missouri River flood of 2011 inundated the site and caused significant damage.

This spring, Field School students assisted NSHS archeologists in cleaning out the flood silt and debris and re-exposing the original excavation of the floor, wall lines, and fireplaces of one of the original Long party log cabins erected at the site in 1819. In doing so, the crews have uncovered new important information about the architecture and daily lives of the Long Expedition. ☒



L to R: Emilie Turek, Rob Bozell (NSHS), Candace Orton, Mack Koufal, Jennifer Hammond, Rob Jellison, Ben Carey, Amos Sobtka



Emilie Turek, Jennifer Hammond, and Rob Jellison repair the original excavation.

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## Summer Classes for Kids from the NSHS

The NSHS is hosting classes for students in grades K-12 this summer on a variety of topics. All classes held at the NSHS headquarters building, 1500 R Street in Lincoln, unless otherwise noted. Each class has a fee, but NSHS members receive a discounted price. July and August classes are:

### What Did Nebraskans Do in World War II?

Wed., July 8 · 1:30-4:00 · Grades 4-12

Fee \$10/\$8 for NSHS members

### Nebraska History Heroes and Heroines

Thu. & Fri., July 9 & 10 · 9:30-12:00 ·

Grades 3-12 · \$20/\$16

### Where Does History Begin? Genealogy for Kids

Tue. & Wed., July 14 & 15 · 1:30-4:00 ·

Grades 5-12 · \$20/\$16

### Etiquette for a Proper Victorian Lady

Fri., July 24 · 9:30-12:00 · Grades K-3 · \$10/\$8

Fri., July 24 · 1:30-4:00 · Grades 4-12 · \$10/\$8

Held at the Kennard House, 1627 "H" Street

### Archeology

Thu., July 30 · 9:30-12:00 · Grades 4-12 · \$10/\$8

### A Day in the Life of a Pioneer Child

Thu., Aug. 6 · 9:30-4:00 · Grades K-12 · \$30/\$24

Registration is required (unlike Hour at the Museum or Free Family Fun Day events), and all registrations are on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, go to [nebraskahistory.org](http://nebraskahistory.org) and click "For Kids" to see class descriptions and registration form. Contact [judy.keetle@nebraska.gov](mailto:judy.keetle@nebraska.gov) or 402-471-4757. ☒



"A Day in the Life of a Pioneer Child" kids' class.



The "Etiquette for a Proper Victorian Lady" kids' class.



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**Nebraska**

**History Museum**

15th & P Streets, Lincoln  
Closed for renovation.

**Landmark Store**

State Capitol  
Room 1417 (ground floor)  
402-471-2062

Monday-Friday, 9:30-4:30  
Saturday, 1:00-4:00

**Library/Archives**

1500 R Street, Lincoln  
402-471-4751

Tuesday-Friday, 10-4  
Saturday, 8-5

See Facebook link at



nebraskahistory.org

**State Historic Site hours:**  
www.nebraskahistory.org

NEBRASKA

# history news



Nebraska State Historical Society

**From the Collection. . .**

**Free School Advocate, 1860, and Beaded Sneaker, 1990**

Nebraska History Museum curators are selecting 150 objects for an exhibit to kickstart the museum's reopening in 2016 and Nebraska's sesquicentennial in 2017. Soon we'll ask you to share online what you think are important, symbolic, or just-plain-cool Nebraska items.

A couple of examples from our collections: the *Free School Advocate* and a beaded sneaker. The handwritten *Advocate* was started by Omaha High School students in December 1859. The detail shown here celebrates a revolutionary idea that was still rare on the frontier: free public education

About 130 years later, Native American beadworkers applied traditional techniques to contemporary footwear. And Nebraska's diverse cultural life continues to thrive. 

