



### Volume 41, Number 4 - Winter 2010 North Dakota Heritage Center **Construction Begins on \$52 Million Expansion Project**



Due to the winter weather, a symbolic groundbreaking for the \$52 million expansion project was held inside the North Dakota Heritage Center. Turning the soil are (I to r) former Governors Ed Schafer and Allen Olson, SHSND Director Merl Paaverud, SHSND Foundation Executive **Director Virginia Nelsen, SHSND Foundation Development Director Marlo Sveen (without** shovel), SHSND Foundation President Jon McMillan, Governor John Hoeven, former Governor William Guy, former First Lady Grace Link, and State Historical Board President Chester E. Nelson, Jr. (below) Among the visitors to the event were these students from Turtle Mountain Community College in Belcourt. With the group are their



instructor Gene LaFromboise (back row), Governor Hoeven, former Governor Guy, and SHSND **Director Merl** Paaverud. For more, see page 23.

### **By Rick Collin**

Nonstruction is now underway on the \$52 million North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project following groundbreaking ceremonies November 23 in the Heritage Center's Russell Reid Auditorium.

The 97,000-square-foot addition, which nearly doubles the size of the Heritage Center, will include new exhibit galleries, interactive exhibits, a 60-seat theater, a café and outdoor patio, a new glass entrance on the building's east side, and additional parking, as well as renovating existing portions of the facility.

The 2009 Legislative Assembly authorized \$51.7 million for the expansion of the exhibits and collections spaces of the North Dakota Heritage Center. Of this, \$39.7 million in state funds was appropriated. The remaining funds are being raised by the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation from other sources.

Merl Paaverud, director of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) said the expansion should be completed by 2014, in time for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of North Dakota statehood.

For images and information about the expansion project, visit the State Historical Society's website at www.history. nd.gov.

# In North Dakota **State Historical Society Revi**talizing National History Day

### **By Kathleen Davison**

ar too often, students are taught history as something that is handed to them, a series of facts to be memorized and repeated, rather than a detective story in which they must seek out and evaluate the evidence, determining

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY in North Dakota

for themselves what happened.

For more than 25 years the National History Day program has sought to show students a different approach to history and learning. National History Day teaches students to conduct their

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### National History Day

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own research through sources such as archives, museums, libraries, historic sites, and personal interviews; analyze and interpret these sources; and draw their own conclusions. After learning the skills of a history detective, students go on to become writers, filmmakers, Web designers, playwrights, and artists as they present their projects to others.

Each year nationwide more than onehalf-million students in grades six through 12 participate in this yearlong educational program. National History Day is a competition in which students, either individually or in groups, study historical events or people and create projects that relate them to a common theme chosen for the year. The theme for 2011 is Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences.

The research projects can be presented as websites, documentary videos, exhibits, live dramatic performances, or written papers. The projects are evaluated at regional, state, and national competitions. Contestants are inter-

viewed by a panel of judges, and must explain and defend their research and conclusions. State winners participate in a national contest every June at the University of Maryland, near Washington, D.C.

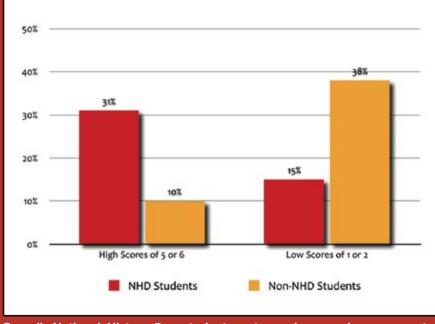
In North Dakota thousands of students and their teachers have participated in National History Day since its launch in 1994 with sixth-grade students at Fort Lincoln Elementary School in Mandan. The State Historical Society of North Dakota was the catalyst in creating a statewide History Day program by working with teachers and others to create regional competitions throughout the state. By 2004 more



Exhibits at the 2010 North Dakota National History Day competition included presentations on the history of the camera and the accomplishments of inventor/entrepreneur Steve Jobs. The topic for 2010 was *Innovation in History: Impact and Change*.

# NHD students had more exemplary writing scores and fewer low scores

nal Report, National History Day Evaluation Findings,



Overall, National History Day students outscored comparison-group students on both pre-and post-writing asssessments, receiving more exemplary scores (5's or 6's) on a 6-point scale, and fewer low scores (1's and 2's).

than 500 students in grades six to 12 competed statewide.

The State Historical Society has recently assumed responsibility for administering and expanding the National History Day in North Dakota program. The state's history agency is dedicating time, office supplies/equipment, and staff support to revitalize this program of regional competitions and encourage teacher and student awareness of the many opportunities it provides. Leading these efforts is Erik Holland, the State Historical Society's curator of education. Holland has been involved in museum education and lifelong learning for more than 35 years.

"A recent study compared National History Day participants with similar students who did not participate in the program," said Holland. "The results indicate that NHD students outperform their non-NHD peers on standardized tests in all topic areas, including reading, science, and mathematics, as well as social studies. History Day teaches critical thinking, writing, and research skills, inspires students to do more than they ever thought they could, and prepares them for college, career, and citizenship. Can you think of a better way to support our youth's future?"

Holland has organized four areas of regional competition in the state, which will take place in early March. The northwest regional competition will take place at Minot State University March 1, the northeast at Lake Region State College in Devils Lake March 1, the southeast at Valley City State University March 5, and the southwest at Dickinson State University on a date still to be confirmed. The winners of these regional competitions will then move onto the state competition Friday, April 8, 2011 at the North Dakota Heritage Center.

Holland's efforts also include implementing an online registration system. The system will be in place and required for all participants in the state competition this year. Next year the system will extend to all regional competitions as well.

The National History Day program is a natural fit for the State Historical Society, which has many of the resources students and teachers need to create exciting History Day projects. Students are required to find and use not just research that has been done by others – secondary sources – but to search out sources of information that were created at the time they are studying – primary sources. For instance, if students want to research life in North Dakota at frontier military posts, they may start by reading books about the subject, but must also go on to research primary sources, such as newspapers, letters, or diaries written during that time. They may look for photographs taken during those years, study the clothes worn by people at that time, or visit the military posts where people lived. All these sources give the student a deeper understanding of the time being researched, and all these primary sources are available through the archives, collections, museums, and sites maintained by the State Historical Society, which is headquartered at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck.

State Historical Society staff are experienced in interpreting history to the public and are available to advise teachers and students in how to research and interpret history to others. Examples of all forms of presentation can be studied in the sources at the Society, whether a student wants to create an exhibit, website, or video, write a paper, or interpret a character through live performance. The addition of the National History Day program to the responsibilities of the Society enhances both the History Day program and the Society's mission to preserve and interpret the state's history to its citizens.

For more information about National History Day in North Dakota, visit the program website at *http://nd.nhd. org.* Those interested in participating in National History Day as students or volunteers should contact Erik Holland by calling 701.328.2792 or email at <u>eholland@nd.gov</u>.



### By Deborah K. Hellman

A classic children's book, *Father Christmas Stories* has been republished by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). It is the ninth in a series of classic reproductions from the collections of the state's history agency. The reproductions have been funded by the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store.

The 1901 book was part of the popular Kris Kringle Series, by McLoughlin Brothers of New York. McLoughlin Brothers were the largest color printers in the United States in the 1870s.

# Ninth in Series of SHSND Reproductions Father Christmas Stories

This 1901 reproduction of *Father Christmas Stories* is now on display in the lobby of the North Dakota Heritage Center through January 7, 2011.

Illustrated books, board games, valentines, and toys were their forte. In 1920 the company was sold to Milton Bradley, current makers of toys and games.

The republished book is slightly larger than the original, which was donated by M. Victor Johnson of Grano, North Dakota. "One of our most important mandates as the state's history agency is to share our collections with the people of North Dakota, and this an excellent way of doing that," said Mark Halvorson, SHSND Curator of Collections Research.

Previous classic reproductions by the SHSND have included a 1946 version of *The Sleepy Time Picture Book* (2009), 1953 version of *The Big Book* of Mother Goose (2008), 1946 version of Cinderella (2007), a 1904 version of *The Night Before Christmas* (2006), an 1897 version of *Beauty and the Beast*  (2005), a 1942 Three Little Kittens book (2004), an 1888 version of Red Riding Hood (2003), and an 1896 edition of The Night Before Christmas (2002). The first two reprints, Red Riding Hood and an 1896 edition of The Night Before Christmas, are no longer available for sale. The other six reprints are still available for purchase.

Only \$9.95, this 64-page limited edition reproduction is available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store in Bismarck, the Pembina State Museum in Pembina, the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center in Medora, and the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center near Williston, as well as select bookstores statewide.

For more information or to order copies, call Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822 or email at <u>museumstore@nd.gov</u>. Add \$3.95 for shipping and handling, and North Dakota residents add 60 cents for state sales tax.

# Awards Honor History Achievements

### By Rick Collin

A wards honoring individual and group achievements in history were presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History October 29 in Bismarck. The conference was sponsored by the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

The 2010 recipients of the State Historical Society's Excellence in Local History Award are Leilani Baisch Meyhoff of Hazen and Steven Reidburn, now of Sidney, Montana, but who lived in Jamestown when nominated. This award is given to those whose activity in local and regional history serves as a role model of excellence to others.

Meyhoff has worked the last 10 years developing the local history collection at the Hazen Public Library, including eight volumes of information and photographs on veterans from Mercer County who have served in the nation's wars dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, as well as many other veterans from the surrounding area. She has also compiled volumes on Mercer County history, almost single-handedly filling the library's cabinets with treasures of yesterday that are being preserved for generations yet to come. Meyhoff is also a board member and officer of the Mercer County Historical Society.

**Reidburn** has been a frontier army reenactor since 1983, volunteering at Fort Seward near Jamestown until early this fall, when he began work October 1 as site supervisor at Fort Buford State Historic Site near Williston. He installed an interactive, touch-screen kiosk at Fort Seward's interpretive center. He also wrote a booklet entitled Facts and Figures of Fort Seward, with proceeds benefitting the fort. His role on the Fort Seward Reconstruction Committee included writing several grants to help fund construction of the state's tallest flagpole, which stands at the fort site. Reidburn was nominated for the award this summer while still employed as the vector control officer for Jamestown.

The 2010 recipients of the State Historical Society's Heritage Profile Honor Award are **Rebecca Heise** of Valley City and **Michael Miller** and **Tom Isern**, both of Fargo. This award is given to those who have made a significant contribution in preserving, interpreting, promoting, researching or otherwise extending the knowledge and understanding of the history of North Dakota.

Heise is the historian for the Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway and the region. Her work shows in the interpretive panels and map kiosks on the Valley City Historic Bridges Tour and panels in Medicine Wheel Park, all of which are along the National Byway. Her efforts resulted in the Sheyenne River Valley Scenic Byway being named one of the first three state-designated byways. Her work helped garner the byway national designation in 2002 (the first byway in North Dakota to be recognized), and a national award for interpretation in 2009. Other Shevenne River Valley projects benefitting from her research and restoration work include the Sheyenne Bank Building in Kathryn, North Dakota.

Miller has been a librarian and faculty member at North Dakota State University (NDSU) in Fargo since 1967 and is the founding director and bibliographer for the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection. He has, over the past 32 years, dedicated his career to the preservation of the German-Russian culture and heritage in North Dakota and the Northern Plains. Since its inception in 1978,

(left) Steven Reidburn and Leilani Meyhoff receive the Excellence in Local History Award from SHSND Director Merl Paaverud; (right) Rebecca Heise, Michael Miller, and Tom Isern receive the Heritage Profile Honor Award from State Historical Board President Chester E. Nelson, Jr.



this specialized archive has become one of the most comprehensive collections of German-Russian resources in the world. Miller conducts annual Journey to the Homeland heritage tours to Ukraine and Germany, which he began in 1996. His Dakota Memories initiative includes the Oral History Project, heritage tours, and an online course. He has also developed an extensive website, translated materials, published books, and partnered with Prairie Public Broadcasting on numerous video productions and a weekly Dakota Memories broadcast on North Dakota Public Radio. The website is *http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc*.

Isern is a professor of history at NDSU. He devotes his research to local and regional issues, teaches courses dealing with regional history and folklore, and volunteers for state and local organizations. He is the author or co-author of six books, including Dakota Circle: Excursions on the True Plains, published by the NDSU Institute for Regional Studies. Isern is the founding director of NDSU's Center for Heritage Renewal, an applied research and service center devoted to historic preservation and heritage tourism on the Northern Plains. His particular interest is the story of farming, ranching, and rural life on the Plains. He also writes about it in his column, "Plains Folk," published in North Dakota newspapers since 1983 and also heard weekly on North

Dakota Public Radio. The essays are available online, in print and audio, at *www.prairiepublic.org*.

Named as recipients of the Person of History Award are Milton Ruben Young (1897-1983) and Martin (Old Dog) Cross (1906-64). This award is given in recognition of individuals who have had a prominent role in the history of North Dakota. It honors those who have made a lasting or significant contribution to the growth, development and progress of the state, or the social well-being of its citizens; who have achieved acclaim or prominence in their chosen fields of endeavor and/or have had a profound effect upon the history of the state or the lives of its people. To be eligible, a nominee must have been deceased at least 10 years.

The 56-year political career of Milton R. Young, North Dakota's longest-serving U.S. Senator, spans the post-World War I era to the dawn of the Reagan Revolution. During his 36 years in the U.S. Senate, Young established himself as a Senator who took care of North Dakotans and their concerns, both in Washington and at home. As a farmer himself, he was instrumental in obtaining price supports for crops in order to reduce the financial risks farmers face every year. He was the architect of the target price concept for farmers in the 1973 Farm Bill, known today as the "counter-cyclical payment," which is

considered a milestone in the history of U.S. farm policy.

He was appointed to the U.S. Senate March 12, 1945 by Governor Fred Aandahl to fill the vacancy left by the death of Senator John Moses.

A lifelong conservative Republican, Young consistently opposed the Nonpartisan League faction of the party, supporting instead more moderate candidates. He was one of the founders of the Republican Organizing Committee in 1942, and for three decades he and William Langer campaigned against each other and the candidates they supported. In one of the ironies of North Dakota political history, Young and Langer served alongside each other in the U.S. Senate for 14 years.

In the closest U.S. Senate election in state history, Young prevailed in the 1974 race against former Governor William Guy by 186 votes out of nearly 240,000 cast.

Young was appointed to the Senate Agriculture Committee immediately upon taking office, and when he retired in 1981 was its longest-serving member. He looked out for the best interests of wheat farmers in the Upper Midwest, and formed a strong alliance with Southern Democrats on the Agriculture Committee to do so. Said U.S. Senate Historian Donald Ritchie: "Every other Senator knew that if you were talking about wheat and agriculture, you had to talk to



### Milton Young."

Because of his work, Senator Young became known as "Mr. Wheat," which is the title of a biography released in March 2010, written by Andrea Winkjer Collin of Bismarck. His many accomplishments are detailed in the book, including his instrumental role in the restoration of Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. Young partnered with Fargo, North Dakota native and well-known Washington, D.C., Democrat Melvin Hildreth, Jr., to promote the successful restoration of the theater where President Lincoln was assassinated in 1865. Although he had a lifelong speech impediment – stuttering – Young simply ignored it and learned how to listen more than talk. He said it helped keep him humble, and also kept his speeches short. At the time of his retirement in 1981, Young was the 14th longest serving member in the history of the U.S. Senate, and also the last member of Congress born in the 19th Century.

Martin (Old Dog) Cross was born on the Fort Berthold Reservation to Chief Old Dog and his wife Many Dances, and named Yellow Eagle at the time of his birth.

In 1944 he was elected chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes Council. He spent the rest of his life as an elected tribal officer, serving four terms as chairman until his death in 1964. One of his first duties as chairman was attending a meeting in Denver, Colorado in 1944. This gathering representing Indian people nationwide formed the National Congress of American Indians, which became the most powerful organization formed on behalf of American Indians and remains influential today.

**Congress established** the Indian Claims Commission in 1945 to resolve claims filed against the United States by Indian tribes. Cross served as the Hidatsa representative on the Indian Claims Commission. Fifteen claims were submitted to the commission for litigation. These claims were finally settled in the 1980s. The Governors' Interstate Council was established by governors from the western states to meet with Indian tribes and to resolve issues of mutual concern. Cross was the North Dakota Indian delegate to this council.

His most significant contribution was the leadership he provided during the Garrison Dam construction era of the late 1940s and early 1950s. As tribal chairman, Cross spent six years lobbying Congress to halt the project. The Garrison Dam was proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers as a way to control the floods of the lower Missouri River. An end result was the backing up of the Missouri River to the Montana border, putting nine Indian communities of the Fort Berthold Reservation, including Elbowoods, under hundreds of feet of water, forcing the removal of its residents to other land.

Martin Cross's role in North Dakota history is featured in two books about the Garrison Dam Project, both by author Paul VanDevelder – Coyote Warrior, published in 2004, and Savages and Scoundrels: The Untold Story of America's Road to Empire Through Indian Territory, published in 2009.

In a 2005 article he authored in Stanford Magazine, VanDevelder wrote this about Cross: "He was trapped between two eras," says Marilyn Hudson, who remembers banging out hundreds of her father's letters to Washington on an old Underwood typewriter. "I can still see him sitting on the back porch on summer evenings. He'd light a cigarette and play Hoagy Carmichael's Stardust on his saxophone. An hour later, he'd be singing us lullabies in Hidatsa. It must have been very lonely being Martin Cross."

**Cross became acquainted** with many of the nation's leaders, including Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, and Richard Nixon, and was also well acquainted with many of the state's leaders. An example of this was around 1951, when he provided long-time North Dakota Senator "Wild Bill" Langer with a "wild bronc" to ride at the Fourth of July Crows Breast Rodeo in Elbowoods. The "untamed one" was in reality a gentle old pinto

Fred Schneider receives the Editor's Award from SHSND Editor Kathy Davison; Peg O'Leary (left) accepts the Historic Preservation Award from SHSND Architectural Historian Lorna Meidinger for the WPA Stone Structures in Grand Forks.

(right) Secretary of State Al Jaeger, who is also a member of the State Historical Board, presents the Person of History Award for Milton R. Young to his granddaughter, Charmane Disrud, and daughter-in-law, Marcia Young; Marilyn Hudson accepts the Person of History Award for her father, Martin (Old Dog) Cross, from State Historical Board member Calvin Grinnell.



horse that all of Cross's children had used to learn how to ride, said Hudson.

During the awards presentations, Senator Young's daughter-in-law, Marcia Young of LaMoure, North Dakota, donated a woodburned etching of Milton Young that the Senator and his wife, Pat, displayed in their home for many years to the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Martin Cross's daughter, Marilyn Hudson of Parshall, gave a financial contribution in her father's name to the Early Peoples Gallery that will be built as part of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project. She also presented a blanket featuring art entitled Celebration of the Horse to Scott Schaffnit for his work with the Hudson family since 2001, when he began work as the State Historical Society of North Dakota's outreach programs coordinator.

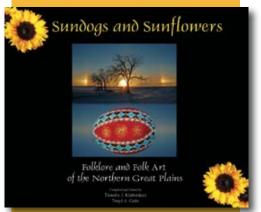
The National Register Award was presented to the owners of North Dakota properties listed between October 2009 and September 2010 in the National Register of Historic Places, which is the federal government's list of properties it considers worthy of recognition and preservation. Listing in the National Register offers such benefits as eligibility for restoration and stabilization funding, and historic rehabilitation tax credits for commercial buildings. The 2010 recipients were the Ingersoll School in McLean County; the Walla Theater in Walhalla; the Old Settlers Pavilion in Nelson County; the Denbigh Station and Experimental Forest National Historic District in McHenry County; the Works Progress Adminstration (WPA) Stone Structures in Memorial Park and Calvary Cemetery in Grand Forks; the Travelers Hotel in Noonan; the University of North Dakota Historic District; and the Bismarck Cathedral Area Historic District.

The winner of the 2010 Editor's Award for best article during the preceding year in North Dakota History, the State Historical Society's quarterly journal, is Fred Schneider, professor emeritus of anthropology at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, where he taught for 31 years. For nearly 30 years, Dr. Schneider has been collecting, growing, and experimenting with regional American Indian garden plants. He has made numerous presentations to school groups, museums, historical societies, gardening groups, and professional organizations on traditional American Indian gardening. Schneider was honored for his article in Volume 76.1 & 2, " 'Corn in the Crib is Like Money in the Bank': George F. Will and the Oscar H. Will & Company, 1917-1955."



### PLAINS TALK • WINTER 2010

# 30 Years in the Making



Tow available, Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains is a groundbreaking compilation 30 years in the making. Published by the North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA), it is compiled and edited by North Dakota State University Professor Emeritus Timothy J. Kloberdanz and NDCA folklorist Troyd A. Geist. Some of the images are from the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. This 352-page, coffee table-sized hardcover book features more than a thousand examples of folklore and folk art. It retails for \$34.95 and can be ordered by contacting the NDCA at 701.328.7590 or email comserv@nd.gov.

# May 2011 Major New Exhibits to Open at Fort Totten

### By Bonnie T. Johnson

Immerse yourself in history the next time you visit Fort Totten State Historic Site! Choose between following a soldier, a young Dakota (Sioux) student, a teacher, or a former student as you tour the fort grounds. These four self-guided itineraries will allow you to follow a single historical person throughout the fort, experiencing life at Fort Totten as that person might have lived it. All four characters are based on oral histories collected from Spirit Lake tribal members, as well as other 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century accounts.

Major new exhibits opening in May 2011 in the commissary storehouse building will introduce you to the fort during its time as a military post (1867-1890) and boarding school for American Indians (1891-1959). Also included in the new *Encountering Fort Totten* exhibits will be a section on the preservation of the fort during the last 50 years by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Fort Totten has long been considered one of the best-preserved frontier military posts west of the Mississippi River.

Created in consultation with the Spirit Lake Tribe and the Devils Lake community, *Encountering Fort Totten* will focus more on the many years of the Fort Totten Indian School than previous exhibits have. The old exhibits had not been updated for some 15 to 20 years, according to Genia Hesser, SHSND curator of exhibits. SHSND staff are also working on the museum store, which will be larger and more visitor-friendly when the site opens for



the visiting season May 16, 2011.

State Historical Society staff have been working with Taylor Studios, Inc., of Rantoul, Illinois, to design and fabricate the new exhibit, and to develop a 10-year master plan for site exhibits and interpretation. Historic Sites Manager Diane Rogness said nearly all the buildings are open to the public, but only have simple exhibits. The master plan will guide future exhibit development for these buildings in addition to the Commissary Storehouse. Other exhibits will be added to more buildings as funding becomes available. Some buildings are already in use by other groups, such as the Totten Trail Historic Inn, the Little Theatre, and the Pioneer Daughters Museum, located in the original officers' quarters, barracks, and hospital, respectively.

The old orientation exhibits in the commissary storehouse have been dismantled, the floors redone, and lighting and power will soon be finished, completely changing the look inside of the building. As with any historic building, the challenge with the new interpretation and exhibits has been to make sure no construction damages the building. For example, Hesser explained that the new exhibits direct people away from the fragile brick walls, which can easily erode without continuing maintenance.

The central element in the new orientation exhibit will discuss the history of the Dakota people in the region. Around the center section, four platforms will imitate the structure of the porches around the square of the fort.

> Each "porch" will focus on a different part of Fort Totten's history. One platform will be on the military, whose primary duties were to police the surrounding reservation, guard overland transportation routes, enforce peace, and aid the Dakota people in the area. Sixteen buildings from Totten's military period are still in existence, painted in gray with red trim. This part of the room will reflect those colors.

**Two of the exhibit areas** will feature the Fort Totten Indian Industrial School, and the exhibit's colors will change to white with

This artist's rendering shows the center of a major new exhibit gallery at Fort Totten that will feature the Dakota people in the Devils Lake area. Panels around a floor map in the exhibit's center will have text and images showing the movement of the Dakota people over time. green trim for this era. This regimented boarding school taught vocational and academic classes to Dakota and Chippewa children. Students learned such trades as sewing, farming, dairying, printing, baking, and leatherworking.

Between 1935 and 1940, the focus of the school changed. Fort Totten became a tuberculosis preventorium, where American Indian children were part of a program to determine if giving undernourished or tuberculosis-prone children proper nutrition, better sanitary conditions, and rest could prevent the spread of this horrible disease.

By 1940, medical breakthroughs lessened the need for the preventorium, and Fort Totten returned to its dayand boarding-school functions. By then the school was a little more relaxed. The academic program was the same as other schools throughout the state, and team sports and organizations became popular.

The final part of the orientation exhibit will begin

with Fort Totten becoming a state historic site in 1960 and describe the formidable task of maintaining the historic buildings. Built of low-quality local brick in the late 1860s and early 1870s, many of the buildings would have crumbled if not for continuing preservation. As early as the 1870s, officers at the fort realized that without painting every few years, the bricks would not hold up to the elements.

Today, Fort Totten requires constant maintenance. According to Site Supervisor Jack Mattson, the porous brick on each building requires painting at least every four years, with many touchups in between. "We did get a special paint from Germany to try on the outside of the Inn. The primer soaks in very well, allowing the paint to adhere better," he said. He hopes to use it again on interior spaces as well. Keeping this important site preserved in the best possible condition is a perpetual struggle. But Mattson and the staff at Fort Totten State Historic Site are winning the fight, one that will continue as long as the site exists.



One of the four platforms around the central exhibit details the later boarding school years at Fort Totten. Built in imitation of the porches seen throughout the fort, the conceptual design includes archival photographs, a large mural, a gym locker, and athletic uniform, and other related artifacts.

# Effective July 1, 2011 North Dakota Studies Project Merging with SHSND

Since its authorization and funding by the 2005 Legislative Assembly, the North Dakota Studies Project has experienced much progress and growth. Originally created for the purpose of developing North Dakota Studies materials for grades four and eight, the project has far exceeded its original goals, producing nine publications, accompanying teacher resources, and a website populated with a host of resources. These materials are designed for and used by not only fourth and eighth graders, but by elementary to high school students and even some college classes.

The North Dakota Studies Project has also expanded its role by coordinating its work with several state agencies, including the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, Indian Affairs Commission, the University of North Dakota Bureau of Governmental Affairs, and especially with the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Its work with the state's history agency has also allowed the project to publish the award-winning book, *North Dakota History: Readings about the Northern Plains State* and develop a host of archival materials at the North Dakota Studies Project website at www.NDStudies.org.

With success and growth comes change. Plans are underway to transfer the North Dakota Studies Project from the North Dakota Center for Distance Education to the SHSND effective July 1, 2011. The Center is a non-profit distance education high school headquartered in Fargo that has provided educational opportunities for students worldwide for more than 70 years. It is phasing out its print curriculum and looking to go exclusively online, offering its courses without need of a textbook or other printed material. The North Dakota Studies Project has a significant textbook and other curriculum inventory that it will continue to distribute.

Although the umbrella agency will change, the North Dakota Studies Project will continue to operate as before. All North Dakota Studies publications and services will be maintained.

**"The North Dakota Studies Project** is an excellent fit with the State Historical Society's mission to preserve, interpret and promote the heritage of the people of North Dakota," said SHSND Director Merl Paaverud. "It is our hope that it will assist teachers and help our students to learn about North Dakota's people and their history."

To continue the accomplishments of the North Dakota Studies Project, the State Historical Society's 2011-13 budget includes a request for \$125,000 to develop a new eighth grade curriculum, which is targeted to be available in 2014.

# Second Phase of Expansion Campaign — Promoting History's Heroes —

he State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) Foundation's History's Heroes program has taken center stage in the second phase of the North Dakota Heritage Center's Expansion Campaign.

A reception was held October 15 in Fargo to kick off the second phase of the campaign and to recognize donors

from eastern North Dakota. Special guests at the event were Fargo Mayor Dennis Walaker and former Governor George Sinner, who shared remarks about the importance of uplifting and preserving the heritage of the state.

The History's Heroes program is seeking \$10,000 donations from 10 families or communities in every North Dakota county. These donors will be recognized on the Hall of Honors in the newly expanded Heritage Center, and family or community histories will be preserved in an adjacent information kiosk. To date some 40 individuals and the communities of Stanley, Portal, Lignite, Powers Lake, and Casselton have made History's Heroes pledges.

North Dakota Lions Clubs are also participating in the History's Heroes effort, and Bruce Schwartz and Chuck and Janet Esser of Bismarck have stepped forward to help coordinate the statewide effort. They have been joined by Foundation volunteers and fellow Lions members Bill Schott, Mike Gustafson and Larry Mettler, who have visited clubs throughout the state. They also made presentations at the North Dakota Lions annual convention in Grand Forks the end of October.

For more information on the History's Heroes program, contact SHSND Foundation Executive Director Virginia Nelsen at 701.222.1966 or email <u>nelsenva@btinet.net</u>.



North Dakota's Lions Clubs are playing a major role in promoting the History's Heroes program statewide. SHSND Foundation volunteers and Lions members Larry Mettler (I) and Bill Schott are shown here.

# Foundation



of North Dakota Foundation



The governors posed before their November 2001 forum celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North Dakota Heritage Center. (I to r) William Guy, Arthur Link, Allen Olson, George Sinner, Edward Schafer and John Hoeven.



Virginia A. Nelsen, SHSND Foundation Executive Director



Bill Schott, leader of the SHSND Foundation's Trustee membership development



Marlo Sveen, SHSND Foundation Director of Development

### "Our Children Need to Identify Themselves as North Dakotans"

"I believe the time has come for us to do a better job of preserving and protecting North Dakota's history and interpreting events in our state's past in order that young people of each new generation can understand and identify themselves as North Dakotans." *Governor William Guy, Farewell Report to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Assembly, 1973* 

The North Dakota Heritage Center is a "gift of priceless value ... This is the peoples' place." Former Governor Arthur Link

# Thank You Thank You

On November 23, the official groundbreaking ceremony was held for the expansion at the North Dakota Heritage Center, marking a very significant point in time. Bids have been let for the project and have come back acceptable. SHSND Foundation fundraising efforts had reached the trigger point to release \$39.7 million in state funds for the \$51.7 million expansion. The project is moving full steam ahead; there is no turning back now.

How did we get to this point? It has taken 10 years of strategic planning and actions to bring us to this day. Here are the key milestones:

- 2001 Six Governors' Forum Governors Guy, Link, Olson, Sinner, Schafer, and Hoeven initiated the expansion vision
- The SHSND Commission detailed the needs of the State Historical Society
- State Historical Society board and staff envisioned the plans for the expansion
- The Hammel, Green and Abrahamson, Inc. (HGA) and Lightowler Johnson architects created a plan for a "Smithsonian on the Plains" and regional destination
- SHSND Foundation board and staff worked to secure state and private funding
- The 2005, 2007 and 2009 Legislative Assemblies funded the design and expansion construction
- SHSND Foundation Trustees, donors, and friends have invested for success

One of the key factors in the success is creative and visionary people, including Governor William Guy and Governor Arthur Link, who both believed so strongly in the need for a heritage museum, to the subsequent governors, who continued to invest in tourism infrastructure all across the state. Using Society resources as

part of this plan, we come to today, where we have begun construction on a facility that will have regional, national, and international significance. The "Smithsonian on the Plains" will be one of North Dakota's most important tools for education, entertainment, research, and heritage tourism.

All the partners in this process, from the governors to everyday citizens, should be very proud of this accomplishment and be looking forward with great anticipation to its grand opening in November 2014, North Dakota's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of statehood.

"We want to build something that is a destination for the world that makes people sit up and say, "Wow, look what they've built here in North Dakota."" Jim Fuglie, former State Tourism Director, SHSND Foundation Trustee

Check it out! The SHSND Foundation's Expansion Campaign Website www.statehistoricalfoundation.com

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DECEMBER

### December 24

Christmas Eve. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center open.

### December 25

Christmas Day. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

### December 31

New Year's Eve. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center open.

### JANUARY

### January 1

New Year's Day. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

### January 2-31

*Faces Along the Missouri*, an exhibit by Sharon Cox, professor of art at Jamestown College. The exhibit features four terra-cotta sculptures and one painting of faces that explorers/settlers might have encountered in their move westward up the Missouri at the confluence with the Yellowstone River. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### January 7-8

### Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site open, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B.

701.328.9528.

### January 9

Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m., Greg Hager, country western singer, raised southwest of Valley City, will perform an enjoyable mix of original music and stories. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792. See story on page 22.

### January 13

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

### January 15

**Confluence Quilters,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### January 15

Winter Fun Day, 1 to 4 p.m. (MT), the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. Everyone is encouraged to bring their sleds, skis, snowshoes, and more and enjoy various snow activities. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. There will also be a fire pit bonfire on the patio. All activities are free, including admission to the Chateau de Mores site and its interpretive center, 701.623.4355.

### January 16

**Concert at the Confluence,** 3 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful winter Concert at the Confluence while overlooking one of North Dakota's most beautiful natural sights. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### January 29

**Frontier Military Winter Encampment,** Fort Buford Sixth Infantry Regiment Association, Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

### FEBRUARY

### February 1-28 Black History Month.

### February 10

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

### February 11

**Program on Abraham Lincoln and the Dakota War of 1862,** 10 a.m. at the Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

### February 11-12

Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site open, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B. 701.328.9528.

### February 12

### Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure.

Presented by Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Geological Survey. Fee is \$60, which includes two meals, use of snowshoes and all materials. For more, see page 22. Pre-registration required, contact SHSND Expansion and New Initiatives Coordinator Claudia Berg at 701.328.2724 or email cberg@nd.gov.

### February 12

### Celebrating Black History Month,

Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. For more, call 701.572.9034.

### February 13

### Fifth Annual Governor Arthur A. Link

**Fiddle Festival** at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck. Sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion and the SHSND. For more, call 701.328.9528.

### February 13

Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m. Featuring Cowboy singer/storyteller T.J. Casey of Montana. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

### February 19

**Confluence Quilters,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### February 19

### Program and book signing by Margaret

**Barnhart,** author of *Under the Twisted Cross* and English lecturer at Dickinson State University, based on recollections of her father's experiences in World War II, 2 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center, 701.623.4355.

### February 20

**Concert at the Confluence**, 2 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful winter Concert at the Confluence while overlooking one of North Dakota's most beautiful natural sights. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

# MARCH

March 1-31 National Women's History Month.

### March 1-May 15

### New visiting hours for Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site,

Thursdays-Saturdays and Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. For more about the site, visit *www.history.nd.gov* or call 701.797.3691.

### March 10

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

### March 11-12

### Former Governors' Mansion State

Historic Site open, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B, 701.328.9528.

### March 12

**Quilt 'til You Drop!** Quilting activities in honor of National Quilting Day. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2099.

### March 13

Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring Fred Schneider, professor emeritos of anthropology at UND, will discuss traditional gardening, the anticipation felt by gardeners through the years as spring approaches, and Oscar and George Will's contributions to gardening. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

### March 19

**Confluence Quilters,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### March 19

Monthly Lecture Series, 2 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center, 701.623.4355.

### March 20

**Concert at the Confluence,** 3 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful Concert at the Confluence while overlooking one of North Dakota's most beautiful natural sights. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### April

### April 8

National History Day in North Dakota

competition at the North Dakota Heritage Center. The theme is *Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences.* For more, call SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792 or visit *nd.nhd.org.* See story on page 1.

### April 8

State Historical Board meeting, 9 a.m., SHSND Foundation Board meeting, 1:30 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center.

### April 8-9

Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site open, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B, 701.328.9528.

### April 10

Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring Mark Varien, research and education chair, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colorado. His topic will be "The Origins of Pueblo Society and Development of the Mesa Verde World," North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

### April 14

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7:30 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

### April 16

**Confluence Quilters**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### April 16

### Easter Egg Hunt at the Confluence,

11 a.m. at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### April 16

**Easter Egg Hunt,** 2 to 4 p.m. Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

### April 17

**Concert at the Confluence**, 3 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful Concert at the Confluence while overlooking one of North Dakota's most beautiful natural sights. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### April 18-20

2011 North Dakota Tourism Conference, Holiday Inn, Fargo. The theme is *Teaming with Possibilities*, 701.328.2525.

### April 24

*Easter Egg Hunt,* 11 a.m. (MT) at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, 701.623.4355.

### April 24

Easter Sunday. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

### MAY

### May 1-31 National Historic Preservation Month.

### May 6-7

Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site open, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B, 701.328.9528.

### May 7

**Paddlefishing the Confluence,** 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Only two days after the opening of paddlefish season at the Confluence, learn more about the mysterious paddlefish and the waters where they live, 701.572.9034.

### May 8

Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m., Mother's Day, featuring area American Indian women discussing gender roles in traditional cultures – how they have changed and adapted. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

### May 12

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7:30 p.m., Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

### May 15

*Flag Raising at Fort Buford*, 2 p.m., Fort Buford State Historic Site. Celebrate the first weekend of the summer season at Fort Buford with an official flagraising by the Sixth Infantry Regiment Association and a visit by Theodore Roosevelt, as portrayed by Arch Ellwein, 701.572.9034.

### May 16

North Dakota State Historic Sites open for the season, through September 15.

### May 16

Pembina State Museum begins summer hours through September 15, Mondays-Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 6 p.m. Central Time. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site begins summer hours through September 15, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily, with last tickets sold at 5:50 p.m. Mountain Time. The Chateau Interpretive Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center begins summer hours through September 15, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Central Time. The Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site begins summer hours through September 15, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Central Time.

### May 18

**Free admission to all State Historic Sites** to celebrate International Museum Day.

### May 18

Free observation tower admission in celebration of **International Museum Day,** Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

### May 21

**Confluence Quilters,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence. ence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

### May 30

**Memorial Day Observances at Pembina State Museum,** 10:30 a.m., in conjunction with the Kern-Thompson American Legion Post 77, 701.825.6840.

### May 30

Memorial Day Observances at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

### North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck

### Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur Museum Entrance

One of the rarest types of dinosaur fossils was found near Marmarth, North Dakota in 1999 – a mummified duck-billed dinosaur known as a hadrosaur. Portions of this "dinomummy" are on exhibit, revealing 67-million-year-old secrets about how dinosaurs looked and behaved. "Dakota" will remain at the Heritage Center at least until July 2015.

> How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota James E. Sperry Gallery Through November 6, 2011

Short growing seasons and cold winters have always challenged North Dakota gardeners. From native Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara gardeners to the modern North Dakota State University extension offices, people have worked to produce fruit and vegetable varieties that are cold-hardy, fast-growing, and drought-resistant. This exhibit follows a garden's progress from planting, to harvest, and finally preservation. Historic garden implements and original seed catalogs are featured.

### **Creating Sakakawea**

Auditorium Gallery Through May 31, 2011

More than 100 years ago, the North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs decided to recognize Sakakawea by erecting a statue in her honor on the North Dakota Capitol grounds. In 2003 a replica of this statue was placed in National Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol, in Washington D.C. as part of state's commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. For over 200 years Sakakawea has fascinated the American public, becoming a symbol variously for women's suffrage, manifest destiny, and most recently American Indian cultural inclusivity. She is a blend of legend and mythology balanced on a narrow foundation of historical fact. This exhibit explores both the statue's history and what Sakakawea has meant to different people at different times in history. See story on page 18.

## Corridor of Time

Main Gallery

Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit depicts what life was like in North Dakota millions of years ago. One area explores the Late Cretaceous (about 65 million years ago) and early Paleocene (about 60 million years ago) periods – a time when the region's climate and environment resembled that of the Florida Everglades. An expanded section, which opened in December 2008, depicts life and geology of the Paleozoic Era (250 to 540 million years ago), through the Paleocene and Oligocene Eras (24 to 34 million years ago). Developed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Geological Survey.

### The USS North Dakota and Nautical North Dakota

Hall of Honors Permanent Exhibit

Featuring historic photographs and objects associated with the USS North Dakota battleship, this exhibit also includes objects and photo-

graphs of other vessels with North Dakota ties, such as the *Gurke*, named after Medal of Honor recipient Henry F. Gurke of Neche, North Dakota, the *Devils Lake*, the *George A. Custer*, the *Arikara*, and the recently commissioned supply ship, the *Sacagawea*.

**Recent Acquisitions** Museum Entrance No Closing Date

A mini-exhibit featuring a selection of recently donated objects to the SHSND's collections. As an annual project done by the agency's interns, the *Recent Acquisitions* exhibit is changed each summer.

### Pembina State Museum, Pembina

### Pembina Today

Permanent Exhibit

An updated display in the museum's permanent gallery, *Pembina To-day* highlights current trends in industry, agriculture, and recreation in northeast North Dakota.

### Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota

Through February 2012

Abraham Lincoln's connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many. This exhibit, which opened on the 201<sup>st</sup> anniversary of his birth, examines Lincoln's legacy in the 39<sup>th</sup> state, as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16<sup>th</sup> President.

### Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora

### Rails, Ranching and Riches: The Marquis de Mores in Dakota Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit at the site's interpretive center tells the story of the Marquis de Mores (1858-96), a French nobleman and entrepreneur who, from 1883 to 1886, ran a cutting-edge meatpacking plant and other businesses in the town he named after his wife, Medora (1856-1921). His family's 26-room summer home includes thousands of original artifacts. Featured is a smaller-scale refrigerator car, along with the *Deadwood*, an original stagecoach from the Marquis's Deadwood and Medora Stage and Forwarding Company.

# North Dakota Remembers World War II

Through October 2012

Presenting stories of North Dakotans from all branches of the armed forces and their experiences worldwide, *North Dakota Remembers World War II* features some of the more than 1,200 interviews collected through the North Dakota Veterans History Project coordinated by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The exhibit also features World War II-era uniforms, medals, photographs, and other artifacts related to personal experiences in the war.

### Great Photographs of World War II

Through October 2012

A display of photographs taken by combat photographers from the Office of War Information and all branches of the U.S. military, this

exhibit documents some of the experiences of veterans of World War II. They were compiled by the Folmer Graflex Corporation in Rochester, New York, manufacturer of the Graflex camera equipment used by combat photographers and in military aircraft.

Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown

### America's 'Ace in the Hole': North Dakota and the Cold War Permanent Exhibit

The Cold War lasted nearly 50 years, and North Dakota's landscape is marked with its legacy. North Dakota's newest State Historic Site introduces visitors to the state's role in international relations and the significance of missile installations on North Dakota's history and culture. This recently opened exhibit features historic photographs, archival images, and an award-winning video. The site also received the 2010 Governor's Travel and Tourism award as the state's outstanding attraction of the year.

### Fort Buford State Historic Site/ Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, near Williston

### Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans Through April 2012

This exhibit investigates what it meant to be German in North Dakota before and after both world wars. Artifacts, photographs, and documents tell the story of who they are, how and why they emigrated, and how their culture and traditions still thrive in North Dakota.

### Trails, Tracks, Rivers and Roads Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center features the resources of the confluence and the transportation systems that brought people to those resources.

### Life By the Bugle

Permanent Exhibit

This permanent exhibit in the Field Officer's Quarters explores the life of a frontier military officer at Fort Buford, as well as examines the role of women at an army post. Several objects original to Fort Buford's days as a military post from 1866 to 1895 are displayed.

### Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck

### From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil Permanent Exhibit

Located in the site's carriage house, this exhibit illustrates the transition from horse and buggy to the automobile.

## TIES (Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service)

### Bridges of North Dakota

Richland County Historical Society, Wahpeton, North Dakota April 15 through May 31, 2011

### **SHSND** Exhibits

For information about the SHSND's many exhibits, contact Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser at 701.328.2102. For a complete listing and availability of the popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) Program, contact Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit at 701.328.2794. Additional information is available at the Society's wabsite at usual bittom ad gou

website at www.history.nd.gov

# Upcoming Conferences

The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Valley History Conference will be held March 3-5, 2011 in Omaha, Nebraska. information, For more contact Professor Charles King, Program Chair, Department of History, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182-0213, or email cwking@mail.unomaha.edu.

The 43rd Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology will be held April 29-30, 2011 at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The theme, presented by the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College, is "The Civil War and the Northern Plains: A Sesquicentennial Observance." For more information, contact Outreach and Communication Director Tim Hoheisel, Center for Western Studies, 2001 S. Summit Avenue, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197, call 605.274.4007 or email tim.hoheisel@ augie.edu.

# **Transitions**

**David Schlecht** began work December 4 as a security officer at the North Dakota Heritage Center. His previous employment includes working as a deputy sheriff for the Burleigh County Sheriff's Department and security officer for the North Dakota Highway Patrol. He also served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a military policeman from 2002 to 2006, and again from 2008-09, when he was recalled for deployment to Iraq. A Bismarck native, Schlecht attended Bismarck State College and the University of Mary, with a concentration of courses in criminal justice and management.

**Paul Baumgartner** began work November 14 as electronics technician. A native of Strasburg, North Dakota, his previous employment includes working as an assistant manager and master technician at Team Torque, Inc., in Bismarck, and as an electronics technician for Killdeer Mountain Manufacturing in Killdeer, North Dakota. Since 2008 he has also been president and co-owner of GoodWoodMods, Inc., a manufacturing company in Bismarck. Baumgartner earned an associate's degree in electronic technology from Bismarck State College.

**Steven Reidburn** began work October 1 as site supervisor at Fort Buford State Historic Site, which includes the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center near Williston. A frontier army reenactor since 1983, he was director of the Fort Seward Interpretive Center near Jamestown, and was an extra in the 1993 movie, *Gettysburg*. He was employed as Jamestown's vector control officer from 2000 until beginning his new position at Fort Buford. Reidburn earned a bachelor of arts degree in history and political science from Jamestown College.

Kerry Finsaas began work August 16 as assistant site supervisor at Fort Buford State Historic Site. She began working at the site as a part-time interpreter in 2007. A native of Fairview, Montana, she was an elementary school teacher at a one-room schoolhouse in Spring Lake, Montana, and also taught at elementary schools in Fairview and Alexander, North Dakota. She also worked as a saleswoman for Thrifty White Drug Store in Sidney, Montana, and operates a quilting business out of her home. Finsaas earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

**Scott Rose** resigned effective November 9 as a security officer to attend law school in Michigan. He had been a security officer at the North Dakota Heritage Center since October 2007.

**Jean Turcotte** resigned effective July 18 as assistant site supervisor at Fort Buford State Historic Site because of health issues. She had worked in the position since November 2003.

**Mike Heyd** will retire effective December 31 as the SHSND's assistant security supervisor. He has worked at the State Historical Society since February 1978, and began work in his current position at the North Dakota Heritage Center in September 2004. Heyd was honored by his colleagues in 2007, when they selected him to receive the Staff Award for excellence as the agency's outstanding staff member.

**Duane Edwards** has been promoted to the position of assistant security supervisor, effective January 1. He began work in May 2007 as a security officer, working part-time in that position with the SHSND for three years prior to that. A native of Minot, he received a bachelor of arts degree in business administration from the College of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

# **Halloween Hauntings and Happenings!**

Several of the sites managed by the State **Historical Society of North Dakota hosted** Halloween happenings at the end of October.

The Former Governors' Mansion in Bismarck was the Halloween night site for the All-Hallows Eve Ball, which included a costume contest. Among the winners were, for overall best costumes, Mike and Brei Davis of Minot (right) as Robin Hood and Maid Marian; and for best movie/rock star, Alison Harries as Phyllis Diller (below).





Fort Buford near Williston hosted its popular Cemetery Walk October 23, as "ghostly" former fort residents led tours through the old fort cemetery. Shown here is Arch Ellwein (right). In the group, standing from left, are Arch Ellwein, Tim Soiseth, Brandon Delvo, David Finders and Dennis Borud. Seated, from left, are Brianna Lassey and Arleen Finders.

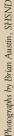




(above) At the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center in Medora October 29, schoolchildren from Billings County listen as Don Ehli tells ghost stories.



# **Creating Sakakawea Exhibit Opens**



The new Creating Sakakawea exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center explores what Sakakawea has meant to different people at different times and how this is reflected in the history of the Sakakawea statue. Speaking at the October 13 exhibit opening is State Historical Board member Calvin Grinnell, curator of the Three Affiliated Tribes Museum in New Town. Seated from left are SHSND Museum Division Director Chris Johnson and Avis Van Wechel and Marijo Shide, who served as fundraising campaign co-chairs of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of North Dakota. The organization partnered with the State Historical Society during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial to raise funds for a replica of the statue on the state capitol grounds in Bismarck. The replica was unveiled in 2003 ceremonies in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Also seated are SHSND Director Merl Paaverud, and State Historical Board president Chester E. Nelson, Jr. The opening took place exactly 100 years to the day after dedication ceremonies for the original statue.

Sakakawea's granddaughter, Hannah Levings, also known as Mink, was chosen as the model for the statue, and Leonard Crunelle (1872-1944), a renowned Chicago artist, was selected as its sculptor. The secretary of the State Historical Society, Orin G. Libby (1864-1952), accompanied Crunelle to the Fort Berthold Reservation to consult with Mandans and Hidatsa about the statue, and also traveled to Crunelle's Chicago studio with Mandan and Hidatsa representatives to inspect the statue to ensure its accuracy. Here, visitors view the dress, leggings, belt, and awl case worn by Levings when she modeled. They were sent for conservation to the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis for this exhibit, the first time in a half-century that these rare items have been displayed.

# **Changes to the National Register**

### By Lorna Meidinger

Orange cones and construction zones are a common site in North Dakota over the summer when repairs to the roads are made. There are some areas in Grand Forks, however, that have not seen those cones for a very long time. The R.S. Blome Granitoid pavement in the historic residential areas was chosen by the local residents in 1910 for its ability to meet the needs of horse and buggy vehicles as well as the increasing number of automobiles while having the potential to last a long time.

The original patent called for a base of six inches of gravel and a five-inch middle layer with a mix of crushed granite, crushed stone, sand, and Portland cement. It is topped by a two-inch layer of angular granite and Portland

cement. The sections were five feet wide to allow easy removal for utility installation and maintenance. The sections were sealed with an asphalt and rubber mix to help with expansion. The top layer was brushed to reduce slipperiness and scored to create a cut stone pattern.

When the granitoid was originally listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1991, Grand Forks was one of four cities in the nation with the Blome granitoid and the only one with a running-bond score pattern. Since that time, an increase in vehicle size and traffic, poor patching of utility cuts, and the flood of 1997 have caused considerable damage to a large portion of the pavement. A survey of the pavement's integrity and condition led to the removal of approximately two-thirds of the pavement from the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.



# **New to the Collections**

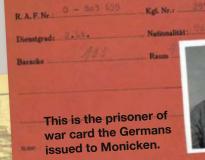
### By Shane Molander

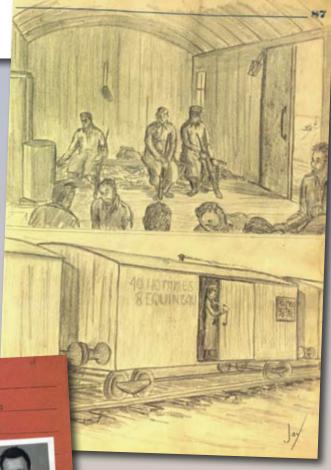
When researchers visit the state archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center in search of information about veterans and their experiences, they often turn to the North Dakota Veterans' Oral History Project files and its index, available on the State Historical Society's website at http://history.nd.gov/archives/whatvethist. html. This project, consisting of more than 1,600 interviews and growing, is an exemplary source of information about North Dakota veterans and their experiences. The state archives also hold much more material regarding veterans.

The following are a couple of recent acquisitions to its manuscript collection:

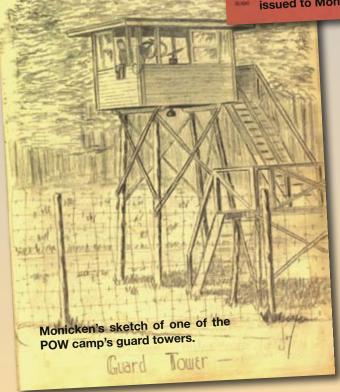
• The Jay Monicken World War II POW Diary

(MSS 11073) consists of a diary Monicken kept following his capture by the German Army after the fighter plane he piloted was shot down over Austria on February 24, 1944.





Monicken's sketch of the boxcar taking him to the POW camp near Barth, Germany. "In that half boxcar we rode for three days and four nights," he writes in his diary. "The floor was covered with wood shavings. Our shoes were taken from us to keep us from escaping ... I cannot think of a moment during the whole trip when I was not miserable."



The diary contains Monicken's sketches, writings, pictures, and miscellaneous items he entered while a German POW from the time of his capture until his release in May 1945. He was a POW at Stalag Luft I in Germany. A North Dakota native of Velva, Monicken died in Minot, North Dakota on April 1, 1995 at age 76.

The diary was donated by his daughters Angela Johnson of Ray, North Dakota, and Teresa Monicken, formerly of Bismarck, who recently moved to Bulgaria with her husband, Paul Johnson, former Bismarck Superintendent of Public Schools.

It provides an excellent account of what prison life was like in a German POW camp. In addition to illustrating and writing about events and daily life in the prison, Monicken wrote several poems, some humorous and others much more serious, describing the horrific ways of war.

After the war, he added this note to the beginning of the

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I unbuckled the oxygen mask and let it drop. Then I checked up on my stock of appendages and digits - they were all present and accounted for and except for some scratches on my hands and a bump on the head, I was OK -(no cracks)

The ground was coming up fast and I began to look around for a spot to land. Off to my left was an open field on the mountain side. I skillfully slipped my chute so that I could land in the field. In spile of the slipping, I landed in the field (I had slipped the wrong way) - (it seems like I've done that all my life). I lit flat on my back in snow up tomy - awfully deep snow. Grabbing for the shroud lines, I collapsed the chute which was trying to take off again. It was than that I became aware of a German fighter plane circling just above me. It looked like an ME 109 (it was an ME 109) and while I watched its course, two figures waded thru the snow toward me. I reviewed thru the snow toward me. I reviewed the situation - here I was in the middle of an open field at least 100 yds. from the meanest woods that encircled if. The snow was too deep to run in and I was unarmed. What would Errol Flynn do? mean in this situation. And what should I say to these persons approaching me? gomething snappy, I suppose, that will go down in annals of history - such as -

"Dr. Livingstone, I presume". Undeerded, I started to unfasten the chute harness across my chest. The advancing men immediately stopped and gne raised a rifle and fired. I dropped one naised a nifle and fired. I dropped down in the snow and made myself as inconspicuous as possible while more bullets buzzed over me. When one creased the snow next to my elbow. I decided it was time to move. I raised onehand experimentally and the firing stopped - I raised up my other hand then stood up (quite a trick - try it sensitive) the men advanced with the rifle sometime). The men advanced with the rifle leveled at me - it waint a very big rifle but the bore looked awfully large. They searched me for agun. Theyboth wore swastikas but Istill took the chance. "Swiss?", I asked hope-fully. "(We are Austrian - We are Hitlah's. "The one in uniform inquired - "Prestola?" - and I in my two years at college several years.

-and I in my two-years at college several-years. ago German made them understand that I was

civilian took my parachute and the civilian took my arm and we would thru the deep snow to a shorellad out path and unarmed. the deep snow to a shovellad out path and thence to a farm howse. The soldier quarder me while I asked for a drink of anything. An ald woman brot me a mug of raw milk, a thick slice of chesse and dark broad which was my introduction to that staff of life Kreigsbrot.

75 I made myself as inconspicuous as possible

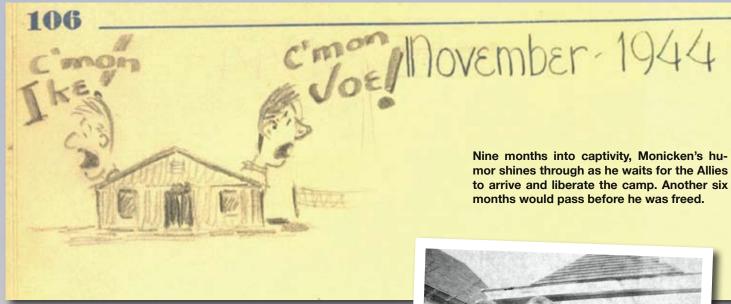
Second Lieutenant Jay Monicken illustrating and describing his capture by the Germans in World War II.

diary: "On March [blank], 1945, this book was confiscated by the Jerries during a search of our block. This log was returned April 12, 1945, having suffered deletions on pages 81, 82, 85, 86."

• The Charles Clinton Foster Papers (MSS 21084) consist of the transcription of a diary Foster wrote while in the Philippines, serving in the U.S. Army as a first lieutenant for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion 51<sup>st</sup> Division in World War II. Foster became a POW in April 1942 and was a survivor of the Bataan Death March. The diary provides some daily accounts of life as a POW. Other transcribed items are a biography, letters, newspaper articles, an autobiography, reminiscences from friends and family, and copies of photographs of Foster and his family. The transcription was completed and donated by Foster's daughter Lois Foster Vincent of Noblesville, Indiana. It was sent to the state archives on her behalf by Judge Robert Wefald of Bismarck, a high school classmate who talked to Lois about the diary at a reunion. The actual diary remains in the family.

Lois wrote this foreword for the transcribed diary: He had been in combat just four months from January 1, 1942 until his capture April 8, 1942. He was one of thousands to

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endure the Bataan Death March. No one was allowed to rest while on the Death March. Dad was exhausted and leaned over and fell asleep on a co-prisoner's shoulder. A Japanese guard hit him in the eye with the butt of his rifle, which ultimately resulted in the loss of his right eye.

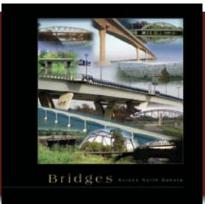
Following the Death March he was detained in Camp O'Donnell. June 1, 1942 he was transferred to a second prison camp, Cabanatuan. After his left eye went blind, he was put into a boxcar with 75 others and sent to Billibid in Manila and was released from Billibid on February 4, 1945. His being sent to Billibid was a blessing, as many of the POWs from Cabanatuan were rounded up and sent to Japan and forced into slave labor.

Foster weighed 190 pounds when he entered the service and was down to 115 pounds by the time he was sent to Billibid. After his rescue he returned to the U.S. and was treated in an Army hospital in Missouri for two years. He later worked in the insurance business in Minot until his retirement. Foster died at age 77 on Memorial Day, May 28, 1990 in Minot.

Thanks to donations such as these to the state archives, the sacrifices and hardships these men endured fighting for our country will never be forgotten.



Major Charles Clinton Foster with his family in Grand Forks, North Dakota, after the war. He holds daughter Lois, as wife Betty and son Dickie stand by.



# **Top Honors** -

Bridges Across North Dakota received top honors as a 2010 Notable Government Document at the North Dakota Library Association's 2010 recent annual conference. This coffee tablesized book captures how the history of bridge engineering, technology, styles, and materials have changed over time. It was developed by the North Dakota Department of Transportation in conjunction with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and other organizations. It is available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store, visit www.history.nd.gov/ museumstore, call 701.328.2822, or email museumstore@nd.gov.

# **Sensational Second Sundays Starts January 9**

### By Deborah K. Hellman

Music, storytelling, and traditional gardening are Some of the free programs planned for the popular Sensational Second Sundays program at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. Now in its eighth year, the Sunday afternoon program, offered this year on the second Sunday of each month from January to May, will feature entertainment and educational programs covering a wide variety of interests. The series is sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. All programs are free and open to the public, and will begin at 2 p.m., followed by refreshments.

January 9 will feature country western singer Greg Hager, performing an enjoyable mix of original music and stories. Hager was raised on a grain and dairy farm southwest of Valley City, North Dakota, where he still lives today. He draws inspiration for his music from both his own experiences as well as the experiences of others. Hager has recorded three all-original music albums in Nashville, Tennessee.

February 13 will feature cowboy singer/storyteller T. J. Casey, who spent his childhood in Montana's beautiful but harsh and remote Pryor Mountains. Casey has spent two-thirds of his life in a saddle, working with cattle and horses on ranches across the West, which gives his words and music an authenticity that is impossible to manufacture. He has spent the last three decades onstage nationwide, giving his words, music, and presentation a polish and presence truly "for the audience."

**On March 13 Fred Schneider**, professor emeritus of anthropology at the University of North Dakota will discuss traditional gardening, the anticipation felt by gardeners through the years as spring approaches, and Oscar and George Will's contributions to gardening. Fred Schneider is continuing his work on the history of the Will Seed Company and George Will. Schneider is interested in talking to people – or their descendents – associated with the company, George Will, and other Will family members. This could include neighbors, school mates, employees, business associates or seed growers who were the sources of the local and American Indian seeds promoted and sold by the Will Company. People interested in sharing memories of the Will business and family should contact Fred Schneider by email at <u>fs33141@cox.net</u>.

**April 10 will feature** Mark Varien, research and education chair, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colorado. The topic of his talk will be "The Origins of Pueblo Society and Development of the Mesa Verde World."

May 8 is Mother's Day. The program will feature area American Indian women discussing gender roles in traditional cultures – how they have changed and adapted.

For more information, contact Erik Holland, the SHSND's curator of education, at 701.328.2792, email <u>eholland@nd.gov</u>, or visit the SHSND's website at *www.history.nd.gov*.

# **Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure**

Spend Saturday, February 12 exploring the culture and history of the Hidatsas, Mandans, and Arikaras, along with the geology, archaeology, and natural history of the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton, North Dakota. Try your skill at a traditional craft and snowshoeing, then experience an evening around a roaring fire in the earthlodge, with a traditional buffalo dinner, storytelling, and flute music. Here, *Heritage Outbound* adventurers snowshoe at Knife River. *Heritage Outbound* is presented by Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, the State Historical Society of North Dakota, and the North Dakota Geological Survey. Registration is \$60 and includes two meals, the use of snowshoes, and all materials. Gift certificates for Valentine's Day giving are available. Pre-registration required. Call 701.328.2666 to book your adventure!



# Historic Day at the Heritage Center

History was made at the North Dakota Heritage Center November 23, when an indoor program and groundbreaking took place to launch construction of its \$52 million expansion project. Some snapshots:

Photograph by Garry Redman

Sixty shovels await groundbreaking action in the Russell Reid Auditorium.



Serving a hearty chuckwagon lunch of ribs, beans n' brats, and cornbread after the program was the North Star Lions Club of Bismarck.

Representatives of several of the major donors to the expansion campaign were recognized during the program. Standing, from left, are Mike Eggl, Basin Electric Power Cooperative; Russ Atkins, Continental Resources; Lyndon Anderson, Great River Energy Corporation; Cynthia Norland and Rita O'Neill, Montana-Dakota Utilities. Inc.; Carroll Dewing and Marc Schulz, North American Coal Corporation; Gary Orman, North Dakota Farmers Union; Dennis Hill, North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperatives; and Ron Ness, North Dakota Petroleum Council.



Among the program's speakers were nine-year-old Owen Piehl of Menoken and 93-year-old Enoch Thorsgard of Northwood. They were among the many supporters of all ages who testified on behalf of the expansion during the 2009 Legislative Assembly. Thorsgard, who served in the North Dakota House of Representatives from 1969 to 1981, championed the building of the Heritage Center as a member of the House Appropriations Committee. Piehl is a dinosaur lover delighted that the expansion means more room for dinosaur exhibits.





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# Society News

# JANUARY 2011 SPECIALI

**50% Off select publications from the State Historical Society of North Dakota** (offer valid from January 1-31, 2011 or while supplies last; we reserve the right to limit quantities)



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Sacred Beauty: Quillwork of Plains Women Reg. \$6.50, Sale \$3.25

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This offer is valid only for in-store purchases at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store or telephone or email orders. Use the discount code "PLAINS TALK" when ordering. North Dakota residents add state sales tax. Discover, Visa, or Master Card accepted. To place an order, call 701.328.2822 or e-mail <u>museumstore@nd.gov</u>.

**Plains Talk** is published quarterly by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), North Dakota Heritage Center, 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505. Telephone (701) 328-2666. Website *www.history.nd.gov* Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Director; Richard E. Collin, **Plains Talk** Editor; Deborah K. Hellman, **Plains Talk** Assistant Editor; Kathleen Davison, SHSND Editor; Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND Assistant Editor. **Plains Talk** is a benefit to members of the SHSND Foundation. Direct correspondence or requests for copies to the editor at the address listed above. This information is available in other formats. Please allow two weeks' lead time.

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