

Volume XI Issue 3

Winter 2007

Washington County
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Museum Changes Exhibits

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The Washington County Museum has undergone significant changes over the holidays. Several of our exhibits have either changed completely or been adjusted to exhibit new materials. Our hours for viewing the new exhibits remain Monday, Wednesday thru Friday from 9AM-4PM. We are also open on the weekends from 1PM-4PM.

The South Gallery has both new and re-vamped exhibits. Materials dealing with Native North America and Fort Atkinson have been altered and a case added to give the visitor more information. There has been a case added to house some of the museum's fossils, which now sit close to the "Archeology Center" where kids can come in and find a

variety of local fossils. We also have changed some of the Lewis and Clark information, and installed a display concerning the Fur Trade along the Missouri River in Washington County.

In the Bank, a medical display has been set up based on materials from the Haller Collection. The bank will also have many of its cases altered over the next month and a wall will be designated for businesses in Fort Calhoun.

The North Gallery has one of our larger projects which will likely be in progress over the next three to four months. A display on the Dust Bowl in Nebraska and Washington County will be assembled with details on how

this area compared with the rest of the region during the 1930's.

Finally, the small gallery next to the library will house a display on orchards in the county. This project is also quite large and extensive research is being conducted, but the display should be done by the beginning of June.

Once these initial changes are completed, other displays will be placed in the museum. Some of the possible future items are a display on the Danish heritage of Blair, a China display in the North Gallery, and a piece on the first college in Nebraska at Fontanelle. If you have suggestions or ideas, please contact us to talk about something you want to see!

Frahm House Open to Public

Beginning on Sunday, January 28th, the Frahm House will be open to the public from 1:00PM-4:00PM. The House will subsequently open on every second and fourth Sunday for the 2007 season. This is an excellent opportunity

for those interested to see the house and its artifacts and not have to wait for an event!

The Frahm House is still available for rental as well. If you have questions about rates and times, please call or e-mail

the museum and we will promptly respond.

The Museum will be closed when the Frahm House opens during the second and fourth Sunday's of the month. All other hours remain the same.

Thank You to those who Donated!

The Washington County Historical Association would like to thank all who renewed their membership for 2007, or became a new member. The following persons donated for basic membership to the museum:

- Dr. Charles and Carole Bagby
- Steven and Diane Biniewicz
- Mary Lou Chapek
- Amy Dempsey
- Paul Grimm
- Jerald and Sandra Grove
- Gilbert Hatter
- Alan and Margenne Hendricksen
- Jack and Brenda Holthaus
- Patricia Hunsche
- Daniel and Mary Beth Hunt
- Richard Hunt
- HunTel Inc.
- Leora C. Jackson
- Edwin T. Jipp
- Nathan Kramer & Amy Barlow
- Bob and Joan Krogh
- Phillip and Florence Larsen
- Carl and Lonnie Mackie
- Ray and Donna McTee
- Patricia Miller
- Wanda Miller
- Kathy and Jim Morley
- John and Dawn Nielsen
- John and Elizabeth Nielsen
- Eleanor Noble
- Michael and Susan Pinquoch
- Ken and Bev Pohlman
- Bill and Kathy Rhea
- Michael and Gail Robinson
- Lou and Kathi Rotella
- Mark Schulze
- Joanne and John Slader
- Steven Snider
- Stu Sprick
- Lester and Pearl Thunn
- Ron and Peggy Workman

Trailblazers

- Ernest and Marilyn Abariotes
- Martin Dunklau
- Diane and Jerry Eilers
- Robert Falk
- Diane and Larry Jensen
- Neale and Lara Shaner
- Dr. Fredrick and Charlott Ware

Busy End to 2006

The Washington County Historical Association held several successful events from October through December of 2006. The events were mostly well attended, and we were appreciative of all the help we received setting up and cleaning up afterward.

On the 1st of October, the Frahm House had its National Register of Historic Places plaque unveiled. The event was followed by our annual "Pie on the Porch" celebration. It was enjoyed by all who came and no one left hungry.

On October 25, Jeff Kappelar spoke at the Blair Public Library about Northern European Immigration to the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Mr. Kappelar was very interesting and his vast knowledge of the topic appealed to everyone from a

novice in the field, to an expert on immigration.

Carolyn Fiscus came to the Washington County Museum on November 3rd to help us begin Native American Heritage Month. Carolyn provided a much different perspective on how American Indian people felt about the world around them, and then demonstrated for all who came some of the traditional songs the Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) sing.

On November 10, Tony Pasley lectured at the Blair Public Library about his work on the "Pawnee War of 1859." The paper presentation was followed by questions and there was great discussion over this little known yet important event in Washington County history.

The finale of Native Ameri-

can Heritage Month took place at Too Far North on November 17. Patrons were invited to listen to Michael Murphy play Native American flute, and then speakers Cathi Warren and Dr. Beth Ritter presented papers on dispossession and identification among Native peoples.

On December 9th, Santa Claus visited children and the museum before his big trip from the North Pole. Several families came in to see St. Nick and hopefully everyone received what they asked for.

Finally on December 10, a Christmas Celebration was held at the Frahm House with hot apple cider and cookies. It was a relaxing way to finish off a 2006 season that saw our membership come out to support their museum. Next year will hopefully bring more of the same!

Museum Celebrates Nebraska Statehood

On March 1st, 1867, Nebraska officially joined the Union as the 37th state. This March the Washington County Historical Association will celebrate the 140th Anniversary of this important occasion with a pair of special events.

The first event will be two lectures held in the North Gallery at the Washington County Museum on Friday, March 16th, at 4:00PM. The first lecture will be on Senator George Norris and his impact

on national events during the 1930's and 40s'. The next lecture will focus on the collapse of Nebraska's agrarian economy at the beginning of the 1930's and how people struggled to live through the Great Depression.

On March 30th, the Museum will open a display on Important Politicians in Nebraska History. The display will be in the Bank

Gallery and will feature political pins from the Victorian Era, as well as biographical information on many of Nebraska's early and most influential

politicians. There will be crossword puzzles for children to learn more on the states history, and museum personnel

available to answer your questions.

March 16: Lecture Series at the Museum 4:00-5:00PM, In the North Gallery (Coffee)

March 30: 9AM-4PM Victorian Era Political Display in Bank Gallery of the Museum.

Our Wish List

Here are some of the items the museum needs to use in our new displays:

- 1) Doctor's Uniform
- 2) Store Mannequin (complete body)
- 3) Leather Boots (size 10 and up)
- 4) Medical Book(s)

- 5) Medical Charts, Graphs, etc...
- 6) A large, round, table cloth of any color.
- 7) Cloth Napkins

This month we will begin recording oral histories of people around the county. If you have a story to tell and are interested in

sharing your family's history, or just have questions, please contact us by phone or e-mail. The Association will use both audio and video equipment for these interviews, and we are very excited to begin the process!

Nebraska History in the Winter

On March 7, 1809, the St. Louis Missouri Fur Company was organized under Manuel Lisa. Lisa established a post near the Council Bluff as part of his operations, but was almost broken by the War of 1812. Operations resumed in full during the 1818 season, but Lisa died two years later.

The First Territorial Legislature assembled in Omaha on January 16, 1855.

The building in which they assembled was constructed by the Council Bluffs and Nebraska Ferry Company.

On March 1, 1867, Nebraska became the 37th state to be admitted to the Union.

On February 15, 1869, the State Legislature approved an act chartering the University of Nebraska.

At their annual meeting in January of 1889, the Nebraska Farmers Alliance began recruiting in rural communities.

On March 27, 1933, President Roosevelt consolidated all agricultural agencies into the Farm Credit Administration. This program ultimately provided \$185 million in relief to Nebraska farmers during the Great Depression.

WASHINGTON COUNTY MUSEUM QUARTERLY

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*All of our newsletters are
online at:*

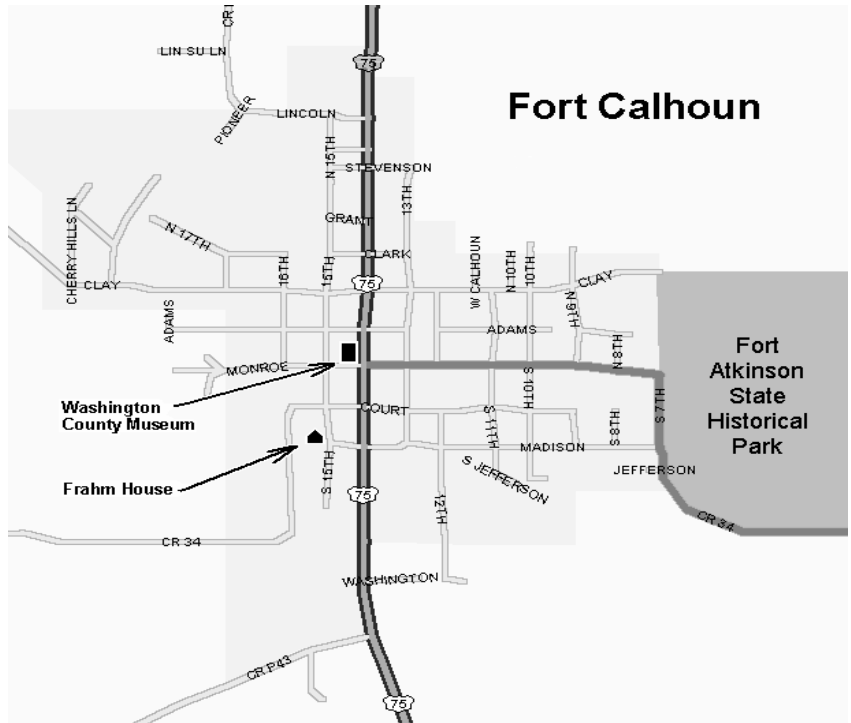


In order to preserve our natural resources for the future, we extend this service. If you wish to assist us, please contact the museum and we will place your name on our electronic e-mail list. Thank you!

**Washington County Historical
Association
P.O. Box 25
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023**

Return Service Requested

Here we are!!! Conveniently located on Highway 75 in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. Just nine miles south of Blair and 8 miles north of I-680, Fort Calhoun presents three of the many historic sites in Washington County. Please join us at the Museum or the Frahm House located just three blocks from the museum. We look forward to seeing you soon!



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
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Fort Calhoun, NE