**History Conference Initiative**

**Documenting North Dakota’s Schools Project Underway**

By Bonnie T. Johnson

Symbols of our rural and educational past, country schools once dotted the North Dakota landscape, but many of these school buildings are in danger of vanishing. The State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) is spearheading a volunteer-based project to document potentially historic school buildings, including photographing, measuring, and noting architectural features of each structure, as well as its relevant history. Volunteers are needed to help record these important symbols.

About 30 people attended a workshop led by SHSND Architectural Historian Lorna Meidinger September 25 to launch the project. The project is being done in conjunction with the SHSND’s annual Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History, which is featuring a two-year study of education. The 2009 theme was The 3 Rs in North Dakota: Education from 1870 to 1950. The 2010 theme will cover the years 1951 to the present.

Workshop participants visited two schools in Burleigh County. The Ingersoll School, about 10 miles north of Washburn, was built in 1885 and operated as a one-room school until 1910. It has been documented as part of the schoolhouse project spearheaded by the State Historical Society of North Dakota in conjunction with its annual history conference.

**$307,000 in Grants Awarded by State Historical Society**

By Amy Munson

Forty organizations throughout North Dakota are the recipients of $307,000 in cultural heritage grants from the State Historical Society. A total of 56 organizations statewide applied for the grants from the state’s history agency, requesting more than $439,000.

Under the guidelines, a maximum of $20,000 is available per grant, with a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. That match may be either in cash or in-kind services. Funding for these grants was approved by the 2009 Legislative Assembly.
North Dakota’s School Projects

continued from page 1

County. The first site visit demonstrated what to do if the volunteer did not have permission to be on the land, said Meidinger. At the second school, attendees talked with a former teacher who had also attended that school, while another former student who answered questions and gave a site tour. Meidinger and SHSND Research Archaeologist Amy Bleier, who are leading the documentation project, will present an update on the school documentation project at the next Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History, set for October 29-30, 2010 at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck.

Instructions for volunteers interested in helping with the schoolhouse project can be found on the SHSND’s website at www.history.nd.gov/hp/recordingbuildings.html. This website, which will be updated periodically, includes a list of schools already documented, an online example, forms, and the architectural manual with specific instructions on how to fill out the site forms needed for the project. The manual also explains how to describe a legal location, which is needed to fill out the site forms.

“These forms can be filled in online, but we need a hard copy mailed to us to complete the site documentation,” said Bleier.

“The focus of the current survey is the structures themselves, but if volunteers collect more information than needed for the architectural survey, there is a place on the form to note additional facts, including names and contact information for future reference,” said Meidinger. She noted that the completed surveys will be used for informational purposes only and have no effect on property rights.

Those interested in helping to document this vanishing part of North Dakota’s history or who have questions about the project should contact Meidinger at (701) 328-2089, email lbmeidinger@nd.gov or Bleier at 328-3088, email ableier@nd.gov.

North Dakota History on Your Phone

continued from page 1

program. Collaboration is not new for the two entities. The Society and the USDA Forest Service, along with the Tesoro Corporation, have also partnered to produce the popular Passport to North Dakota History, a handy pocket-sized guide to North Dakota’s historic sites and other places of interest.

“We are very proud to have partnered with the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation on the development of first The Passport to North Dakota History and now to expand it with History on Call,” said Dave Pieper, USDA Forest Service Dakota Prairie Grasslands Supervisor.

Created to give better access to sites throughout North Dakota, callers can get information at any time of the day or night on where a site is located, a brief description, visitation hours, and what can be found there. History on Call was also created to allow additional interpretation in museum gallery spaces. Standard land line or cell phone charges apply when calling the phone number.

The program is one more way that the State Historical Society and the North Dakota Heritage Center take on the role of the Hub of History, the central hub for the state, working with other organizations statewide to provide information on a variety of historic sites and other points of interest.

Plans are already underway to expand on the program by adding additional information and historic sites, along with streaming video, to the menu. “Streaming video is just video sent over the web,” said Michael Frohlich, project coordinator for the State Historical Society. “If you have a phone that has video capabilities, you will be able to watch the videos.”

Whether planning a day trip, already visiting a site, or just curious about North Dakota history, callers can find what they are looking for with one simple call: (701) 557-9190.
Grants Awarded by State Historical Society
continued from page 1

The following organizations were awarded grants:

- Barnes County Historical Society, Valley City – Sewer system gate installation - $1,000
- Bowman County Historical Society, Bowman – Bowman Pioneer Trails Museum heating system - $18,500
- Buffalo Historical Society, Inc., Buffalo – 1916 high school preservation - $7,700
- Buxton in Bloom – First State Bank of Buxton exhibits - $4,000
- City of Northwood – Northwood Museum - $10,000
- City of Tuttle – Works Progress Administration (WPA) Public Office Building rehabilitation - $10,000
- Dakota Buttes Visitors Council, Hettinger – The Last Great Buffalo Hunt Project - $4,400
- Dickey County Historical Society, Oakes – Dickey County Historical Society building rehabilitation - $5,000
- Divide County Historical Society, Crosby – Artifact labeling - $194
- Ellendale Historical Society, Ellendale – Coleman Memorial Museum records collections - $2,475
- The Enchanted Highway – Lamp Historic Homestead rehabilitation - $10,000
- Enderlin Historical Society and Museum, Enderlin – Electrical system and exit door updates, archival supplies purchase - $2,968
- Eddy County Museum, New Rockford – North Dakota Museum Assessment program - $10,000
- Flickertail Village and Museum, Stanley – Roof replacement of six Flickertail Village and Museum buildings - $10,750
- Glen Ullin Museum, Glen Ullin – Glen Ullin Museum building addition - $5,850
- Gorges Arts and Heritage Council, Walhalla – Walhalla Theater roof structural analysis and stabilization - $20,000
- Grand Forks County Historical Society, Grand Forks – Archival supplies purchase - $974
- Greater Grand Forks Symphony Association – Greater Grand Forks Symphony centennial book - $4,300
- Green School Community Center, Valley City – Green School protection and preservation - $9,085
- Hatton-Eielson Museum and Historical Society, Hatton – Exterior painting of Eielson Home - $20,000
- Hiddenwood Old Settlers Association, Ryder – Hiddenwood Old Settlers Chapel preservation - $2,124
- Hillsboro Community Partnership, Hillsboro – Union Block building rehabilitation - $20,000
- Lake County Historical Society, Kenmare – Foundation and roofing of Bintz House and Niobe Hall - $14,325
- LaMoure County Museum Board, Grand Rapids – LaMoure County Museum and School House rehabilitation - $8,000
- Larimore Community Museum and Historical Society, Larimore – Window repairs on the Larimore Community Museum - $20,000
- Makoti Threshers Association, Makoti – Spring Valley Lutheran Church preservation - $12,000
- Mandan Historical Society, Mandan – Photo archives - $1,500
- Manfred History and Preservation, Inc., Manfred – Melby Rogness House exhibit - $5,171
- McIntosh County Commission, Ashley – McIntosh County Historical Society Museum furnace replacement - $3,526
- Mercer County Historical Society, Beulah – Light fixture replacement and archival supplies purchase - $6,795
- Mott Gallery of History and Arts, Mott – Gutter, roof, and window weatherization - $3,472
- OPERA, Inc., Ellendale – Opera House kitchen/green room storage rehabilitation - $5,000
- Ox Cart Trails Historical Society, Drayton – Drayton Historical/Heritage Program - $6,000
- Pembina County Historical Society, Cavalier – Kemp building exhibits - $5,000
- Rural Vestige Alliance, Manfred – Manfred School and Rogne, Soderback, and Solheim House reroofing - $8,170
- Save Coghlan Castle, Inc., Rolla – Coghlan Castle exterior rehabilitation - $15,000
- Save the Hens Foundation, Sheldon – Sheldon Community Center façade rehabilitation - $8,000
- Stutsman County Memorial Museum, Jamestown – Photo preservation - $1,000
- Towner County Historical Society, Egeland – Egeland School painting - $3,750
- Wells County Historical Society, Fessenden – Photo archives and exhibit project - $1,000

This is the first of two grant rounds for the 2009-11 biennium. In the second round, about $130,000 will be available; the application announcement for that second round will be made in February 2010.

For more information, contact the State Historical Society of North Dakota’s Grants and Contracts Officer, Amy Munson, at (701) 328-3573 or email at amunson@nd.gov.
Awards Honor History Achievements

By Rick Collin

Awards honoring individual and group achievements in history were presented at the 21st Annual Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History September 25 in Bismarck.

The 2009 recipient of the State Historical Society’s Excellence in Local History Award was Jean Miller of Valley City.

Miller has served many years on the Barnes County Museum board of directors, and served on the Valley City Fine Arts Association as a promoter of the arts and art history. She has brought many local stories and artifacts to children in area schools. Miller, 91, was also a long-time trail rider, storyteller, quiltmaker, and historian on the Fort Seward Wagon Train, where she helped history come alive for people of all ages. She assembled several quilts documenting the experiences of trail riders on the Fort Seward Wagon Train, and her work can be seen by visiting www.covered-wagon-train.com. The annual event celebrated its 40th anniversary this year.

Receiving the 2009 Association for Excellence in Local History Award was the Northeast North Dakota Heritage Association of Icelandic State Park. The Association entered into a partnership with the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department and Icelandic State Park to build a park visitor center as a state centennial project in 1989. The Pioneer Heritage Center, completed in 1988, was fully funded by the Heritage Association. During its 24 years of operation, the Association has developed, in addition to the Center’s main exhibit gallery, 40 temporary exhibits on settlement, social life, schools, churches, and various other story elements, as well as secured 88 traveling exhibits and organized nearly 100 events.

The 2009 recipients of the State Historical Society’s Heritage Profile Honor Award were co-winners Marilyn Hudson of Parshall and Neil Howe of Fargo.

Hudson has had a distinguished career in public service since she retired from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1992. Following her retirement, she began working part-time at the Three Affiliated Tribes Museum in New Town, where she continues today. In addition to managing the administrative work of the facility, she designs exhibits, researches historical events, and serves as liaison between the museum and other organizations. She served for several years in the 1990s on the State Historical Society’s Local History Council, and on the State Historical Records Advisory Board from 2002 to 2008. She is currently a representative on the North Dakota Council on the Arts.

Hudson was one of seven women to serve as a curator on the Quillwork Advisory Committee for the SHSND exhibit Sacred Beauty: Quillwork of Plains Women. The exhibit received national attention when the American Association of State and Local History presented the State Historical Society with an Award of Merit in 1998. Her willingness to share her knowledge of Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara culture has made her presentations much appreciated at several of the State Historical Society’s annual Governor’s Conferences on North Dakota History, and at the Buffalo Bill History Center in Cody, Wyoming.

Since his retirement as director of the North Dakota Center for Distance Education, Howe has been responsible for creating the textbooks through which North Dakota’s students will learn the state’s history for the next generation. His efforts led in 2007 to new textbooks for the fourth and eighth grade North Dakota Studies course requirements. The previous materials for these classes varied from almost 20 to 50 years in age.

In 2008 Howe and the Center
for Distance Education worked in partnership with the State Historical Society in preparing a textbook on North Dakota history for high school students where none had existed before. Using articles from North Dakota History, the Society’s journal, North Dakota History: Readings about the Northern Plains State has been a major success, the recipient of national awards, and is used in most high schools in North Dakota, as well as state colleges and universities. It is also a valuable resource for many others interested in learning more about the state’s story. Howe also worked with the State Historical Society to create an innovative online series of lessons using some of the many valuable primary historical resources available in the Society’s collections. Howe has also worked with many other state agencies in producing books and online materials about North Dakota’s agricultural and natural history, the history of North Dakota’s American Indian nations, and about North Dakota state government.

The National Register Award was presented to the owners of North Dakota properties listed between October 2008 and September 2009 in the National Register of Historic Places. The 2009 recipients were the Gunlogson Farmstead Historic Site in Pembina County; the John Stern Homestead in Hettinger County; the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility (now known as the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site) in Griggs County; Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site in Richland County; the Grand Forks County Fairgrounds Works Progress Administration Structures in Grand Forks; the Custer Military Trail Historic Archaeological District in Billings and Golden Valley counties; 1019 Reeves Drive, Grand Forks Near Southside Historical District in Grand Forks; the Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site in Burleigh County; and the Evangelisch Lutheraner Dreieinigkeit Gemeinde (Trinity Lutheran Church) in Grant County.

The winner of the 2009 Editor’s Award for best article during the preceding year in North Dakota History, the State Historical Society’s quarterly journal, was Claudia M. Pratt, owner/operator of CMP Consulting, which assists small museums and non-profit organizations. Pratt was also the State Historical Society’s outreach programs coordinator from 1994 to 2000. Pratt was honored for her article in Volume 74.3 & 4, “Sculpting Lincoln: North Dakota’s Gift to the People of Norway.” She is the great-granddaughter of Dr. Herman Fjelde, a member of the Lincoln Statue Commission.

A November 9 fire destroyed the museum building at Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site near Kulm in south-central North Dakota.

SOCIETY NEWS
Gardening in North Dakota Exhibit Opens

(above) Barbara Handy Marchello discussed gardening history in remarks opening the new How Does Your Garden Grow? exhibit November 20 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. A University of North Dakota associate history professor emerita, she researched the exhibit’s content. (right) Visitors enter the exhibit area during opening day. The history of gardening in what is now North Dakota, going back about 900 years, is explored in the exhibit. In conjunction with the exhibit, a Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) exhibit is also available for display at such facilities as museums, libraries, and schools. The Seeds of Victory: Home Gardening Posters from the World Wars, features 37 full-color war garden posters, reproduced from the originals in the State Archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center. To schedule the exhibit, contact the State Historical Society of North Dakota’s Outreach Programs Coordinator, Scott Schaffnit, at (701) 328-2794 or email sschaffnit@nd.gov. For more information about the TIES program and the How Does Your Garden Grow? exhibit, visit the agency’s web site at www.history.nd.gov.

Halloween Happening!

The Former Governors’ Mansion State Historic Site in Bismarck was the scene of some Halloween fun October 31. Two Halloween Teas were held – a Spooktacular Tea in the afternoon, which featured a best Halloween costume contest. The winners are (l to r) first place, Zoe North of Bismarck as a witch; third place, Darian Coghlan of Mandan as a go-go girl; and second place, Sky Wald of Bismarck as a Renaissance princess. The Fun and Frights High Falutin’ Tea that evening brought these three witches of haunted history out as part of the colorful entertainment. Shown here in grand style (l to r) are Beth Campbell, Cathy Carlson, and Diane Rognness, all State Historical Society employees during their non-witching hours.
Minneapolis Fundraising Event – “For Those Who Call North Dakota Home”

You may live in Arizona, Colorado, or Minnesota, but your home, your heritage is North Dakota,” said former Governor Allen Olson in response to why anyone would attend a fundraising event for the North Dakota Heritage Center in Minneapolis.

Former Governors Olson and Ed Schafer co-hosted the first out-of-state fundraising event for the expansion Friday, October 9 at the home of the architectural firm of Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), Inc., which, along with Lightowler, Johnson and Associates of Fargo, are the architects for the expansion project. About 85 former North Dakotans and guests attended the friendly and enjoyable event. Former First Ladies Barbara Olson and Nancy Schafer also attended.

Lieutenant Governor Jack Dalrymple was a special guest, detailing the dramatic outcome of the full state funding for the new Heritage Center project. The state provided $39.7 million in funding, and private sources of $12 million are needed to complete the $51.7 million expansion financial package. Dalrymple said he watched the funding bill in the Legislature and was astonished as slowly but surely, proposals for the project funding got better and better. And then, he said, the strong House and Senate support capped the funding.

Governor Schafer talked about his Danish grandfather who risked everything to come to North Dakota, raising seven children on the prairies. Today he wears his grandfather’s gold wedding band as a close-at-hand reminder of his family heritage.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation sponsored the event. Governor John Hoeven, Lieutenant Governor Dalrymple, and former Governors Olson and Schafer each contributed to the guest list, laying the groundwork for a network of associations in our sister state. Former Governors Arthur Link and George Sinner sent greetings to the gathering. State Historical Society and Foundation board members and staff visited with guests sharing the details of this icon – the “Smithsonian of the Plains,” as we like to call the new building.

How can you help? As a Foundation member or friend of the Society, we welcome support from out-of-state folks who might enjoy contributing to this extraordinary project. Donors are being sought for gifts of every level, including $10,000 gifts as History’s Heroes, as well as gifts at and above $100,000 for naming opportunities. Contact our Foundation office for informational packets for friends and family. The contact information is the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation, P.O. Box 1976, Bismarck, ND 58502-1976, telephone (701) 222-1966, or email nelsenva@btinet.net.

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

December 4-5
Open house at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center in conjunction with Medora’s Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas. Bob Petermann, cowboy poet and singer, performs Friday, December 4 at 3 p.m. (MT) and Saturday at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Cookies and beverages as well. (701) 623-4355.

December 6
Holiday Open House, 1 to 5 p.m., Former Governors’ Mansion State Historic Site. Free admission. Sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors’ Mansion and the SHSND, (701) 328-9528.

December Christmas at the Confluence 2 p.m. Enjoy a concert by the Sunrise Brass Group of Sidney, Montana, make your own handcrafted ornaments, and savor special treats. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

December 7-January 2
Showcase of Trees, State Capitol Building and North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

December 9

December 12
Fort Abercrombie Quilters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

December 12 Holiday Open House, 2 to 4 p.m. Free tower admission, refreshments. Pembina State Museum, (701) 825-6840.

December 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.

December 25
Christmas Day. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

January

January 1
New Year’s Day. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

January 4-9
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.

January 9
Christmas Bird Count at the Confluence, 11 a.m. This activity for first-time birders and old pros assists the Audubon Society with its official annual bird census. Learn to identify birds and some of the tips and tricks that go with this fun activity. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

January 9
Fort Abercrombie Quilters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

January 10
Wintering at the Fort: The Soldiers’ Stories, 1 to 5 p.m. Join and learn about the winter life of the soldiers of the 6th Infantry as they huddle around the stoves in the Fort Buford Enlisted Men’s Barracks. Fort Buford State Historic Site, (701) 572-9034.

January 10
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring Gateway to Science, a hands-on science center at the Frances Leach High Prairie Arts and Science Complex in Bismarck, and a variety of interesting science demonstrations. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

January 13

January 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.

January 16
Winter Fun Day, beginning at 1 p.m., with sledding and other fun snow activities, weather permitting. If there is not enough snow, games and craft activities will be featured. Hot chocolate and cookies in the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

January 17
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring the Shade Tree Players, a theater group featuring Bismarck-Mandan area children, sponsored by Dakota Stage. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

January 22
SHSND Foundation Board meeting, 1 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, (701) 222-1966.

January 24
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring the Bismarck High School Swing Choir, led by director Michael Seil. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

January 24
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) 328-2792.

January 31
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring the Let’s Dance Studio of Bismarck, with dancers from preschool to teens performing a variety of musical numbers. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

February

February 3

February 7
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m. State Archives staff will give a presentation on items in its collections, including manuscripts, photographs, and state and local government records, and how to process information on the State Historical Society’s website. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2668.

February 10

February 12
Lincoln’s Legacy in North Dakota exhibit opening, 2 p.m. Pembina State Museum, Pembina, (701) 825-6840.

February 12-13
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 13
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 16. Pre-registration required, call (701) 328-2666.
## Calendar of Events

**February 13**
Lecture program, 3 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**February 13**
Fort Abercrombie Quilters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

**February 14**
Third Annual Governor Arthur A. Link Fiddling Competition at the Former Governors’ Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck. Sponsored by the Society for Preservation of the Former Governors’ Mansion and the SHSND. For more, call (701) 328-9528.

**February 14**
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.

**February 20**
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 21**

**March 1-31**
National Women’s History Month.

**March 7**
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring The Radio Stars from Fargo, North Dakota, a band that plays a variety of music, with a special treatment of both modern and traditional Western-style music. The band includes “Magic” Merrill Peipkorn, host of the popular North Dakota Public Radio program, Hear It Now. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

**March 10**

**March 12-13**
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 13**
Lecture program, 3 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**March 13**
Fort Abercrombie Quilters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

**March 14**
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 14**
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring Elvis Presley impersonator Bill Schott and Neil Diamond impersonator Tim Persell in separate performances, North Dakota Heritage Center. Performances are free, but a ticket is required for each. Tickets will be available beginning Monday, March 1. For more information, call Marilyn Snyder at (701) 328-2792 or email msnyder@nd.gov.

**March 20**
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 20**
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring Freeway, a gospel and bluegrass band from Bismarck. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

**March 27**
Easter Egg Hunt at the Confluence, 11 a.m. at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

**March 27**
Easter Egg Hunt, 2 to 4 p.m. Pembina State Museum, (701) 825-6840.

**March 27**
Lecture program, 3 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**March 28**
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring Chuck Suchy of Mandan, one of North Dakota’s most acclaimed singers/songwriters. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

### April

**April 4**
Easter Egg Hunt at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, 11 a.m. (MT), (701) 623-4355.

**April 4**
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.

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

**April 9-10**
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 11**
Sensational Sundays, 2 p.m., featuring the Missouri Valley Symphony Orchestra performing the Overture to the Barber of Seville, Aesop’s Fables Suite, The Sabre Dance, and Peter and the Wolf with the Northern Plains Ballet.

**April 14**

**April 17**
Confluence Quilters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided, (701) 572-9034.

**April 26-28**
2010 North Dakota Tourism Conference, Grand International Inn, Minot. The theme is Gengh Green, (701) 328-2525.

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**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. Central Time. For more about the new site, visit www.history.nd.gov or call (701) 797-3691.
**Corridor of Time**

Main Gallery  
Permanent Exhibit  
This exhibit depicts what life was like in North Dakota millions of years ago. One area, completed in December 2006, 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 photographs of other vessels with North Dakota ties, such as the Gurke, named after Medal of Honor recipient Henry F. Gurke of Neche, N.D., the Devils Lake, the George A. Custer, the Arikara, and the recently commissioned supply ship, the Saco-gawea.

**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.

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**North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck**

**Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur**

Museum Entrance  
After spending this summer in Chiba, Japan, as one of the featured attractions at an international fossil exhibition, “Dakota” returned to the North Dakota Heritage Center in October and will be reinstalled as an exhibit at the end of January 2010. See page 20. 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” will be on exhibit again in late January, revealing 67-million-year-old secrets about how dinosaurs looked and behaved. On loan from the North Dakota Geological Survey, “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.

**Lincoln’s Legacy in North Dakota**

Auditorium Gallery  
Through January 31, 2010  
Abraham Lincoln’s connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many, including appointing the Territory’s first two governors; signing the Homestead Act in 1862; the Morrill Land Grant College Act of 1862, which led to the establishment of what is now North Dakota State University; and the charter for the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1864. This exhibit examines Lincoln’s legacy in the 39th state, as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16th President.

**A Considered View: The Photographs of Wayne Gudmundson**

Auditorium Gallery  
Opening February 3, 2010 through October 10, 2010  
Wayne Gudmundson has been photographing the Upper Midwest for more than 35 years, and in that time has created a body of work chronicling life on the Plains. Gudmundson sees the land in ways that most others do not: vast, beautiful, terrifying, humorous, and sublime. This exhibit offers a glimpse of his perspective through 21 black-and-white photographs. Gudmundson’s work has been featured in museums worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. A Considered View is organized and circulated by the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota. This traveling exhibit and catalog are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies at North Dakota State University, the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the American Masterpieces Initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts.

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**Pembina State Museum, Pembina**

**Pembina Today**

Permanent Exhibit  
An updated display in the museum’s permanent gallery, Pembina Today highlights current trends in industry, agriculture, and recreation in northeast North Dakota.

**Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota’s Germans**

Through February 7, 2010  
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.

**Lincoln’s Legacy in North Dakota**

Opening February 12, 2010  
Abraham Lincoln’s connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many. This exhibit, which opens on the 201st anniversary of his birth, examines Lincoln’s legacy in the 39th state, as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16th 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. 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.

The Art of Einar Olstad
Through October 17, 2010
Inspired by the people, scenery, and ranch life of the Dakota Badlands, rancher and artist Einar Olstad (1878-1955) captured the essence of the American West in his whimsical and often humorous portrayals of the Dakota cowboy. In addition to a wide selection of his evocative paintings, objects relating to ranching life in the 1930s are on display.

Photographs of Frank Fiske
Through October 17, 2010
Born in Dakota Territory, Frank Bennett Fiske (1883-1952) spent most of his life in the Fort Yates area. At seventeen he took over the post photography studio. Although Fiske is best known for his portraits of American Indians, he left behind thousands of images that document life in central and southern North Dakota during the first half of the 20th Century. On display are a select portion of photographs, focusing on daily life at Fort Yates.

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

North Dakota Remembers World War II
Through April 18, 2010
Presenting stories of North Dakotans from all branches of the armed forces and their experiences worldwide, North Dakota Remembers World War II features a selection 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.

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)

Lincoln’s Legacy in North Dakota
The Historical Society of Clay County, Minnesota
December 31, 2009 through February 28, 2010

The Meadowlarks Arts Council, Crosby, North Dakota
April 1 through May 15, 2010

Photographs of Frank Fiske
Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora
through October 17, 2010

The Seeds of Victory: Home Gardening Posters from the World Wars
Barnes County Historical Society, Valley City
January 15 through March 30, 2010

Liberty Loan Posters
The Historical Society of Clay County, Minnesota
March 1 through May 31, 2010

World War II Posters
The Historical Society of Clay County, Minnesota
March 1 through May 31, 2010

Upcoming Conferences

The 53rd Annual Missouri Valley History Conference will be held March 4-6, 2010 in Omaha, Nebraska. For more information, contact Professor Charles King, Program Chair, Department of History, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182-0213, or email cwking@mail.unomaha.edu.

The 42nd Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology will be held April 23-24, 2010 at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The theme, presented by the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College, is “Western Highways: Journeys Through Space and Time.” For more information, contact Dr. Harry F. Thompson, conference director, Center for Western Studies, 2001 S. Summit Avenue, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197, call (605) 274-4007 or email harry.thompson@augie.edu.

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 website at www.history.nd.gov.
New to the Collections

Some of the latest additions to the collections in the state archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center include:

A manuscript collection, the C. Norman Brunsdale Papers, donated by his family. Brunsdale (1891-1978) was the 24th governor of North Dakota from 1951 to 1957. Included in the collection are photographs and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings compiled by his wife, Carrie, which provide a chronological view of Governor Brunsdale’s activities while in office. A number of the photographs have been scanned and are available for viewing at the website www.digitalhorizonsonline.org.

Also recently added to the state archives local government collections were more than 100 feet of historic records from McIntosh, Burke, and Divide counties.

The McIntosh County School Superintendent’s correspondence, 1920-1937 primarily deals with teacher training, certification, and hiring. It includes letters that underscore similarities and differences in education then and now.

Schools in desirable locations or that paid more than $75 per month had no difficulty in keeping teachers. Other school districts only kept school open five or six months to save on teacher salaries, despite state laws requiring seven months of school.

In 1921 some schools in this south-central North Dakota county had “insufficient funds to pay teachers’ salaries due to unpaid taxes” following successive crop failures.

The Department of Public Instruction waged a campaign against illiteracy after the 1920 census figures were released. However, the federal government’s definition of illiteracy was the inability to read and write in English. Out of 154 “illiterates” in McIntosh County in 1923, records show 63 were adults who could read or write in German or Russian, and some in both. One teacher was reprimanded for forbidding students from studying religious subjects at home in the German language.

Causes for student absences from school included diphtheria, scarlet fever, whooping cough, and lack of shoes, coats, or books. In 1931 “there are only two kinds of excuses that are legal and those are 1. Sickness in the family or 2. That the child is needed at

It was not uncommon for children to be kept out of school to help work the family farm. This 1943 application was submitted during a time when labor was short because of North Dakota’s participation in World War II.
Governor Norman Brunsdale (pointing) and President Dwight D. Eisenhower inspect a model of the Garrison Dam prior to closure ceremonies June 11, 1953. (l to r) Eisenhower; Brunsdale; Assistant Secretary of the Interior and Brunsdale's predecessor as governor, Fred Aandahl (grabbing hat); Secretary of the Army Robert Stevens; North Dakota Republican Party Chairman George Longmire; and Brigadier General W.E. Potter, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Omaha, Nebraska. This is one of many photographs from the Brunsdale Papers donated recently by his family to the state archives.

As the Depression deepened, schools ran out of money to pay teachers, some of whom went six months and more before being paid. In 1931 the Red Cross launched a drought relief campaign to collect clothing for children.

Voter Registration booklets were transferred from both Burke (1920) and Divide counties (1916-1930) and are a treasure for genealogists and historical researchers. Information for each registered voter includes age, occupation, nativity, residence, political party affiliation, and signature.

In the records of the Divide County Superintendent of Schools is the Report of the Condition of Public Schools (1910-1916), listing all 32 townships in the county and providing statistical information such as the number of teachers, students, days taught, books in the school, and even the number of trees growing on each school property. There is also a collection of maps of each school district with marked locations of each school. Most of these schoolhouses do not exist any longer, and the maps are an excellent source for locating the sites.

**Eighth in Series of SHSND Reproductions**

**The Sleepy Time Picture Book**

By Deborah K. Hellman

Parents worldwide use bedtime stories as a means of enticing youngsters to drift off to sleep. The *Sleepy Time Picture Book* was published in 1946 as an enjoyable aid to parents in completing this classic childhood bedtime ritual. The State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) has reprinted the book as the eighth in a series of reproductions of children’s books from the collections of the state’s history agency.

Beautiful, full-color illustrations, complete with the new moon and the sandman, fill the pages of this charming book of bedtime poems for children by Cathryn Taylor. The original book was printed by Whitman Publishing Company of Racine, Wisconsin.

Enjoyed by the two sons of Jack and Thelma Liessman Vantine of Bismarck, North Dakota, this book is part of a SHSND collection that contains items from three generations between 1900 and 2000, donated by the Charles and Viola Liessman families of Tuttle and Bismarck, North Dakota.


The reprints have been funded by the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store.

Bismarck, 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 mail orders, call Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at (701) 328-2822, email at museumstore@nd.gov or visit [www.history.nd.gov/museumstore](http://www.history.nd.gov/museumstore) (add $3.95 for shipping and handling, North Dakota residents add $1.01 state sales tax).
$238,000 in Preservation Grants Awarded

By Amy Munson

The SHSND’s State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) recently approved applications for the State Historic Preservation Program’s annual grants for Fiscal Year 2009. Grants were awarded for a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, an archaeological survey, Development Projects, and Certified Local Government programs.

In all, $238,000 in grant monies were awarded. When combined with matching funds, it will result in $485,000 worth of preservation work in North Dakota.

Each year the SHSND assists the public and private sector in nominating historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places. For 2009 the SHSND has provided Historic Preservation Fund grants for one nomination. Steve Martens, an architect in Fargo, was awarded a grant of $38,327 for the Multiple Property Documentation and National Register Nomination of Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota. The study will examine the significance of federal relief construction programs and associated buildings and structures throughout North Dakota. It will identify the role of federal relief construction in the development of the state, and provide guidelines on how to evaluate the National Register eligibility of these resources.

Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., of Bismarck was awarded a grant of $30,935 for the intensive level (Class III) survey of 1,200 acres in the vicinity of Apple Creek located in Burleigh County.

Development Projects grants are for improvements to properties listed in the National Register. These projects are developed and submitted by property owners. At least half of the total project cost must by raised by the owners. For this grant cycle, the SHPO received applications requesting more than $280,000. A total of $90,000 was awarded:
- Keith and Meridee Danks, owners of the home at 717 Reeves Drive in Grand Forks, were awarded $25,000 for the reshingling of the false thatched roof of their historic home.  
- The Hatton Museum and Historical Society was awarded $5,000 to repair and restore the dining room bay window.    
- The Grand Forks County Fair and Exposition was awarded $5,500 for electrical upgrades to the grandstand.
- Brian and Anne Hinderliter, owners of the home at 1222 South Ninth Street in Fargo, received a grant of $17,000 for masonry repairs and tuckpointing of their historic home.    
- Barbara McCormick and Glen Jorde, owners of the Devils Lake Masonic Temple, were awarded $12,410 for roof restoration.
- The City of Valley City and the Bridges Arts Council, owners of the Valley City Municipal Auditorium, were awarded $25,000 for window restoration.

Certified Local Government (CLG) grants are awarded to North Dakota counties and cities that have qualified to participate as preservation partners with the SHPO. Recipients must provide a minimum match of 40 percent of the total project cost. A total of $79,000 was awarded:
- The City of Buffalo CLG: $5,898 for administrative expenses, education opportunities, and installation of an ADA ramp at the Buffalo High School.
- The City of Devils Lake CLG: $4,725 for the development and publication of a walking tour brochure of historic downtown.
- The City of Dickinson CLG: $9,435 for administrative expenses and to write a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- The City of Fargo CLG: $10,815 for administrative expenses and to write a National Register District nomination.
- The City of Grand Forks CLG: $28,164 for administrative expenses and to write a National Register District nomination.
- Pembina County CLG: $12,292 for administrative expenses, education opportunities, and to purchase plaques for National Register properties.
- Walsh County CLG: $9,801 for administrative expenses, education opportunities, and to purchase plaques for National Register properties.

For more about these programs, contact the State Historical Society of North Dakota’s grants and contracts officer, Amy Munson, at (701) 328-3573 or email at amunson@nd.gov.
Properties in Grant County and Grand Forks are the most recent North Dakota sites to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, new information on a historic site already listed in Burleigh County has been accepted by the National Register.

Evangelisch Lutheraner Dreieinigkeit Gemeinde, also known as Trinity Heupel Church, or Heupel Church, is located nine miles north of New Leipzig and has been a local landmark since it was built in 1905. This German-Russian church has helped preserve the language and culture well past its 1960 decommissioning date with its ethnic decoration and annual cultural events.

The residence at 1019 Reeves Drive has been added to the Grand Forks Near Southside Historic District for its original 1922 design. Built shortly after the Second Dakota Boom, this house is an excellent example of how the residents of Grand Forks adapted architecture to match their local culture.

Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site underwent more archaeological investigations from 2001–04, and archaeologists discovered two more ditches in addition to the two for which the site is named. These new discoveries, along with other information the investigations revealed, have refined interpretations of the site, which is managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The listing was updated with a summary of these changes. The site is located eight miles north of Bismarck.
New Fort Totten Book

A second edition of *Fort Totten Military Post and Indian School, 1867-1959* will soon be available from the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Originally published by the agency in 1986, this edition includes new stories on the history of the Fort Totten Indian School and the experimental tuberculosis preventorium that was housed at the post during the early 1940s. The book will be available in mid-December. For ordering information, visit the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store online at www.nd.gov/hist/MuseumStore or contact Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at (701) 328-2822 or email museumstore@nd.gov.

Former U.S. Senator George McGovern of South Dakota discussed his new book on Abraham Lincoln in a program September 9 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. More than 300 people turned out to hear the Democratic Party’s nominee for U.S. President in 1972 talk about his book, *Abraham Lincoln*, and answer questions. Calling him “our greatest President,” he said Lincoln’s greatest act was preserving the Union. “Lincoln provided the strong hand and reasoned discourse that eventually won the war.” The 87-year-old McGovern also presented a book program September 8 at Dickinson State University in a discussion with humanities scholar Clay Jenkinson.

Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure

Spend Saturday, February 13 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 beading and snowshoeing, then experience an evening around a roaring fire in the earthlodge with a traditional buffalo dinner, storytelling, and flute music. Here, Bill Merrill of Minneapolis throws an atlatl at the February 2009 event. Atlatls were used for thousands of years before the bow and arrow to throw long, arrow-like darts. *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 Christmas or Valentine’s Day available. Preregistration required. Call (701) 328-2666 to book your adventure!
The Summer of 2009 was a busy time at the historic sites and museums managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota, as captured in these statewide snapshots:

The band *Blind Mice* entertains the crowd at the Family Fun Night September 10 at the Former Governors’ Mansion in Bismarck. A part-time rock-and-roll band that tears up stages during the summer months (and occasionally other times), *Blind Mice* touts itself as Bismarck’s only band featuring two professors, an attorney, and a student in elementary school.

A colorful tent city went up at Fort Totten State Historic Site August 4-5, pitched by bicyclists on the Cycling Around North Dakota in Sakakawea Country (CANDISC) ride, one of the largest cycling tours in the Midwest. Each year the route through the state changes – this year’s 426-mile ride was in eastern North Dakota.
Tibetan monks (seated) Karma Tensum and Ven Ngawang Chojar, and Lama Benjo of the Tibetan Children’s Education Foundation gather around a sand mandala that the monks created at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center near Williston during their visit August 26-30. The sand mandala is formed from a traditionally prescribed iconography that includes geometric shapes and a multitude of ancient spiritual symbols; it is used as a tool for reconsecrating Earth and its inhabitants. A sand mandala consists of millions of grains of colored sand painstakingly placed over a period of days or weeks.

Barbara Miller of Mandan, North Dakota portrays a frontier army laundress as she demonstrates the use of a sad iron to Hallie Johnson of Bismarck at the 17th Annual Living History Field Day September 14 at Fort Totten near Devils Lake. Each year, the event attracts more than 600 area seventh and eighth grade students, who learn about frontier military activities, boarding school trades, and American Indian culture.

This stagecoach near the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center was a popular draw in the summer. During the 30-minute ride, the driver told the story of the Medora-Deadwood Overland Stage Line, which ran from 1884 to 1886. This stagecoach was operated by Chip Turrittin from St. Peter, Minnesota.

Reenactor Brianna Lassey of Cartwright, North Dakota shares ghost stories with visitors at the Fort Buford Cemetery during the annual Fort Buford Sixth Infantry Encampment in August. Lassey is portraying the mother of the two children whose headstones are on either side of her. In 1896, a year after the fort was abandoned, all military personnel buried there were disinterred and moved to the national cemetery at the Little Bighorn Battlefield in Montana. Reconstructed wooden headboards at the fort cemetery mark the gravesites where they were once buried. As far as is known, the graves marked by civilian headstones still contain the bodies of those buried there.
A member of the Fort Buford Sixth Infantry Regiment, Tim Soiseth portrays an infantry soldier sitting near his bedside in the reconstructed Fort Buford barracks as a visitor looks on. The barracks were brought back to life during the 27th Annual Fort Buford Encampment August 15-16.

The opening of the State Historical Society's newest site in July has attracted international media attention. That includes these two Russian television crew members from Moscow, seen here August 22 visiting the November-33 Launch Facility, located about six miles from the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility. The two facilities comprise the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown, North Dakota. More than 4,000 people from all 50 states and 14 other nations toured the site in its first three months of operation.

In late June State Historical Society museum staff were at the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile site to record all its items for the agency’s collections records, also called accessioning. Here, SHSND Registrar Len Thorson accessions bedsheets in one of the military bedrooms at the Oscar-Zero facility. The sheets are originals that were used at the site and remain as part of the public display and interpretation. The site was an active U.S. Air Force missile alert facility from 1966 until its closing in 1997.
World-Famous Dinosaur Back in North Dakota

The extraordinary dinosaur nicknamed “Dakota” arrived back at the North Dakota Heritage Center October 14 after spending its summer in Chiba, Japan, a suburb of Tokyo, as part of an international fossil exhibition. Here, its nearly four-ton body block is moved toward the paleontology lab in the Heritage Center after its arrival. The 67-million-year-old fossil of a hadrosaur, with skin, bones, and tendons preserved in sandstone, is one of the most scientifically important dinosaurs discovered. Portions of it will be back on exhibit at the end of January 2010 and remain at the Heritage Center at least until July 2015.

A painting of “Dakota,” copyright Julius T. Csotonyi (www.csotonyi.com)

A set of three items includes:
• One postcard magnet (3.75” x 5.75”)
• One magnet (2” x 3”)
• One keychain (1.75” x 2.25”)

Choose one of the three vintage Will Seed Catalog covers (vegetables, pansies, or Sakakawa with flowers) for each item in the set.

The cost for a set is $6.15 plus 37¢ sales tax and $1.95 s/h.

Available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store, or by contacting Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at museumstore@nd.gov or (701) 328-2822.

Other items related to the Gardening in North Dakota exhibit are also available including books and t-shirts. Visit www.history.nd.gov/museumstore for ordering information.

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. Paavenu, 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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20