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## New Year, New Goals!

It's a new year and the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation is continuing to preserve and protect Nebraska History! In our 81st year we look forward to working on our amazing ongoing projects, like [Walk to the Rock](#), the [Pershing Mural](#), and the [Statewide Grants Program](#).

Our plans to make the Foundation more engaging than ever will be revealed in future newsletters. Stay tuned!

If you don't already, please follow us on social media to get updates on our projects, events, and interesting historical articles!



## Statewide Grants Program Highlight:

### Historic Florence Bank Museum- 2022 SGP Recipient

The Florence Bank Museum was the recipient of a 2022 Statewide Grant. Receiving \$500 for document sleeves and archival boxes, these items helped house a portion of their 4,000+ prints and negatives that were scanned and catalogued this year. Through the process of moving items from cabinets into proper storage containers, many photos and documents were rediscovered.

Copies of these photos and documents as well as displays of the new storage system were then used in the Florence Historical Foundation fundraiser in September. Dee Godkin and John Lemen of the Preservation Project Team noted, "...to say folks were impressed would be a gross understatement!"

The team mentioned they have many more documents to preserve and 3-dimensional items from the Civil War era and before which will all require larger preservation boxes. They intend to reapply for the 2023 Statewide Grants program.

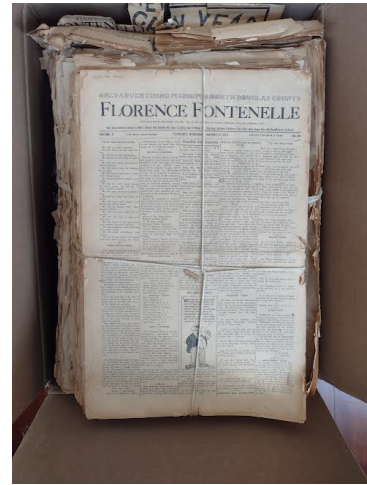


There are many local organizations throughout Nebraska like the Florence Museum all working toward a common goal; to preserve our shared history. These organizations need financial help for their projects. You can help museums and historically-focused organizations across Nebraska get the funding they need by donating to the 2023 grant cycle.

[Visit the Florence Historical Foundation Website](#)

Donate to the Statewide Grants Program

**STATEWIDE GRANTS**  
P R O G R A M  
*A Seedling Grant Program*



## Pete Peters

We lost a great friend and a darn good historian.

Friend and historian Pete Peters of Ogallala passed away on December 18. Pete was instrumental in the Foundation acquiring the Alkali Station property. He was a student of Nebraska history and always proved to be a terrific source of information on anything related to the great migration. Pete told the story of riding Alkali on his pony with his grandfather, about forty years before I-80 was completed in Nebraska. It's a miracle the site was not destroyed. Alkali Station runs parallel to I80 so it makes sense that the Oregon Trail as well as the California and the Mormon Trails all became our present-day interstates and highways.

While searching for Fort Alkali artifacts, Pete found many important pieces including the flag pole, what is presumed to be the lock from the fort's door, bitters bottles, and personal items such as a hair comb and even a bullet with teeth marks which were left behind along the Trails. He loved and was a student of history, preferring to talk about the "emigrants" and the Native American Wars.

In November of last year, Nebraska Public Media Senior Producer Kay Hall visited with



NSHSF Trustee Marvin Stumpf (right) with Pete Peters (left), 2019

Pete about his fascination with Nebraska history. Hopefully the NPM folks obtained enough material to produce a “Nebraska Stories” segment about Pete. We will keep you informed.

He was a great guy, soft spoken and humble. Pete Peters is irreplaceable.



Watch an interview with Pete Peters featuring his collection from Fort Alkali.

If you would like to send donations or other mail to the Foundation, please send them to:

Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation  
PO Box 5703  
Lincoln, NE 68505

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