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**“Commemorative Items and Why We Collect Them” at the
Cultural Heritage Center on March 16**

PIERRE, S.D. – Curators from the South Dakota State Historical Society Museum and Archives will present a special program, “Commemorative Items and Why We Collect Them,” at 2 p.m. CDT on Sunday, March 16, at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The program will feature artifacts that can be found in the Archives and Museum that relate to the commemoration or celebration of important historical events and special events in our own communities.

Curator of Collections Daniel Brosz and Manuscript Archivist Matthew Reitzel will join together to share stories about their work with these special items. Among the items the curators will discuss are items related to the Dakota Territorial Centennial Commission in 1961, the South Dakota Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, the South Dakota Centennial in 1989, town anniversary materials and materials about fairs, including World’s Fairs.

“The way we remember our history says a lot about who we are as a people, and the evolution of the physical manifestations of commemorative celebrations is fascinating,” commented Jay Smith, museum director. “Dan and Matthew will provide an entertaining and educational event for all visitors.”

There is no additional fee to attend the program. Standard admission fees will apply for entrance to the museum exhibit galleries. The museum is open 1-4:30 p.m. on the 16th.

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The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society’s world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.