

## Great Sioux Horse Effigy returns to Cultural Heritage Center



**Jay D. Vogt, director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, and Claudia Berg, director of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, pose by their horse effigies.**

Over the Native American Day weekend, the South Dakota State Historical Society celebrated the return of the Great Sioux Horse Effigy. After being “on the road” for two years, it sure is good to have her back on exhibition at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center. Joining the Great Sioux Horse Effigy are two other horse memorials, one from the Smithsonian Institution and the other from the State Historical Society of North Dakota. These two horse effigies are known to have been carved by Joseph No Two Horns from the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. Art critics believe that the Great Sioux Horse Effigy was also created by No Two Horns. I am not completely convinced. Nevertheless, for the first time, three of these horse memorials are exhibited together and provide an opportunity for historians to examine these pieces at the same time.

### From the SDSHS Director



*Jay D. Vogt*

Gaylord Torrence, senior curator of American Indian art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City and curator of “The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky,” and Kevin Gover, director of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., spoke at the Sunday banquet honoring the Great Sioux Horse Effigy and during the dedication program on Native American Day. Lt. Gov. Matt Michels served as master of ceremonies, and Secretary of the Department of Tribal Relations Steve Emery and State Historical Society Trustee Francis Whitebird joined Torrence and Gover for the Native American Day program. As part of the event, Lakota  
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### Field Reports

The Gold Camp Players volunteer community theater group at the Historic Homestake Opera House in Lead will be performing the adult comedy “Crimes of the Heart” on Nov. 6-8 and Nov. 13-15. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for HHOH members and \$5 for students. For more information call the HHOH office at (605) 584-2067 or visit Homestake-OperaHouse.org.

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Steve Shrader is the new treasurer of the Czech Heritage Preservation Society, Inc., in Tabor. Other current officers include: President — Al Novak, Vice-President — Lumir Ruman and Secretary — Margaret Kniffen. The group held a Halloween Party on Oct. 31 and plans a Christmas Party on Dec. 13 at the Legion Hall.

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The annual Christmas Festival of the Friends of the W. H. Over Museum in Vermillion is Sunday, Dec. 6. The event includes a bake sale, hospitality table and special entertainment. The group’s annual/traditional/fun celebration of fall with a session of pumpkin carving and games was held on Oct. 25; historian Art Rusch was the guest speaker. For more information call (605) 659-6151 or visit whover-museum.org.

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# Hot Springs third graders learn about local history

HOT SPRINGS – Late Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 14, at Hot Springs Elementary School, three classes of third graders under the watchful eyes of their teachers, Diane Schroeder, Rebecca Massa and Edith Hooper, were showing their history projects to the entire school and their parents.

Across four long tables in the gymnasium sat more than 40 projects, some replicas of various historic buildings across town, and behind each stood a proud third grader, ready and willing to talk about what they did to create their project.

The projects were the result of a month-long study of local history and architecture by the entire third grade, said Schroeder.

"We're trying to connect the community's past and present," she said.

This included a three-hour walking tour of the city to learn about its

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## Vogt

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spiritual leader Roy Stone performed a cleansing ceremony.

Over 580 people participated in the various activities, events and programs over the weekend, including hoop dancing in the Capitol rotunda led by Dallas Chief Eagle and demonstrations on the horse culture presented by Larry and Doris Belitz at the Capitol Visitor Center.

The Great Sioux Horse Effigy was the central artifact in *The Plains Indians: Artist of Earth and Sky*, and was exhibited in Paris, traveling to Kansas City, and ending in New York City. Over 500,000 people saw our horse effigy as part of this magnificent exhibition consisting of the paramount Plains American Indian art in the world.

I encourage you to visit the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center to see our new Great Sioux Horse Effigy exhibition. As the iconic symbol of the South Dakota State Historical Society, we are excited to have it back, learn more about this outstanding artifact, and make it available for the people of South Dakota to view. Thank you. jdv



**Robert Cunningham, Purity Weisz, Aidyn Johnson and Jack Carey show their history project creations at the school. (Photo and article courtesy John D. Taylor/Hot Springs Star)**

past and especially its architecture, as well as a discussion about the minnekahta (warm water) that gave Hot Springs its name, Kidney Springs and the Pioneer Museum. On this tour, for example, Schroeder said the students learned that the Golden West building was once a livery stable.

From their experiences on the tour and in the classroom, the students had to design a building of their choice with any three historic architectural features they had discussed. These included:

- The Lakota sandstone that graces so many downtown buildings.
- Roundels – The circular moldings or windows that are found in a number of local historic buildings.

- Gothic revival architecture – this architectural style was inspired by the gothic cathedrals of Europe and remained popular in the U.S. during Hot Springs early days. It features decorative patterns, finials, scalloping, lancet windows, hood mouldings and label stops.

- Battlements – These stone structures grace the top of many historic buildings in town. On a castle or fortress, battlements formed a parapet, a low wall with openings (crenels) to shoot from. On Hot Springs' historic buildings, they are decorative.

- "Diaper work" – A decorative treatment on a building's surface with a repeated pattern of squares, rectangles or lozenges.

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## More Field Reports

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Cheryl Palmlund, executive director of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society in De Smet, will tell some little-known realities of Laura Ingalls Wilder's life when she presents "A Family Affair: Laura Ingalls Wilder and the Little Town on the Prairie" to the Codington County Historical Society on

Nov. 5 in Watertown.

Wilder recently came back into the news when "Pioneer Girl: The Annotate Biography" was published by the South Dakota Historical Society Press and was on the New York Times Bestseller List for several weeks.

The society has a monthly History Club. The next meeting is Nov. 19 at the museum in Watertown.