



Summer Camps 2026

Registration opens March 16th

Pioneer Day Camp

Kids experience life as a frontier child in Dakota Territory. It's outdoor, educational, and an all around good time!

Beaver Creek Nature Area
Tues. June 2, 9, 16, 23 (one-day camp)
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ages 7-12 \$35
(605)367-4210

Learn about what it meant to be an American child growing up over a century ago. Make a craft, tour the historic home, and enjoy tea and treats!

Tea Time Mini Camp

Pettigrew Home & Museum
Wednesday, July 22nd
1 to 4 p.m. Ages 5-7 \$20
(605)367-7097

Victorian Girl Day Camp

Learn about Victorian tea parties, play games, make fun crafts, and learn what it was like to be a Victorian Girl!

Pettigrew Home & Museum
Thursday, July 23rd
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For Girls 8-14 \$30
(605)367-7097

www.siouxlandmuseums.com

Siouxland Heritage Museums
200 West Sixth Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

St. Patrick's Celebration of Traditional Irish Music

Featuring

Maggie in the Meantime

AND

Dakota District Pipes & Drums

Food and Drinks provided by A Taste of Country Catering & Wineries



Old Courthouse Museum

A Siouxland Heritage Museum
6th & Main Downtown Sioux Falls

www.siouxlandmuseums.com

5-7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 17th

Free Admission

Food & Drinks will be sold (Cash Only)

Old Courthouse Museum

PLACE STAMP HERE



VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER



January 2026

Collections Department

Over the last year several volunteers have begun working to sort, catalog, organize, and photograph several thousand phonograph records in the collection of the Siouxland Heritage Museums. Many of the records came from two well-known local radio personalities.



George B. German began his career with WNAX in Yankton, SD in 1928. He continued with WNAX for 40 years, and became a well-known cowboy balladeer, recording over 30 western songs. The George B. German Archives were donated to the museums in 1986, and in addition to hundreds of records, also include: books, posters, and other archival materials.

In 2002, several hundred records and audiocassettes used by Ray "Lofty" Loftesness were donated to the museums. Lofty, as he was known, was a radio and TV personality for KSOO and KELO for more than 50 years. He is best known for hosting "Party Line" with Sylvia Henkin, and for his long running Christmas Program, "Holiday Inn."

This project is far from complete, but we would like to thank all the volunteers that have helped to sort, organize, catalog, photograph, and rehouse this collection

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Volunteer Report

February 2026 Museum Stats

76 Volunteers

1,124 Volunteer Hours Given

2,199 February Visitation

4,811 Annual Visitation to Date

Volunteer Committee

Maggie Dow 605-367-4210
mdow@minnehahacounty.gov
Volunteer Coordinator

Kevin Gansz
Education Representative

Adam Nyhaug
Collections Representative

Ben Devlin
Exhibits Representative

At the top of this page...

Sioux Falls St. Patrick's Day parade participant button, 1985, from the museum collection

Education Department

On March 16th, registration for our summer camps opens to the public. Each summer, the museum provides three camps. Two of these take place at the Pettigrew Home and look at what it might have been like to grow up as a Victorian child. The Tea Time Mini Camp is for our youngest campers, both boys and girls, where participants spend the afternoon making hats, playing lawn games, hearing about life before 1900 and enjoying a tea party. Victorian Girl Day Camp is a whole day camp for young women as they learn about dress, social etiquette, advancements in their social life and acting as a host. Tea Time is July 22nd and Victorian Girl Day Camp is July 23rd.

In June, our longest running summer camp, Pioneer Day Camp returns. This program is run in conjunction with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks and takes place at the Beaver Creek Nature Area east of Brandon. This full day offers campers age 7-12 a glimpse at some of the more enjoyable aspects of pioneer life. Centered around the original Samuelson log cabin, participants learn about the family who homesteaded the land, play period games, dip their own candle, sew a quilt square and fish in the river. They also get a chance to assist the staff in the preparation of their period meals and snacks which are all cooked over an open fire. Pioneer Day Camp debuted in the early 1980s and has been a staple of our summer programming for over 40 years. The programs take place the first four Tuesdays in June.

Check out our website, www.siouxlandmuseums.com for more information and how to register any of your younger family members. We do have some volunteer opportunities associated with these programs as well, especially the Pioneer Day Camp.

Exhibits Department

The Exhibits Department has been busy preparing our latest exhibit, *It's About Time*. If you haven't heard, this exhibit looks at the history of timepieces, clocks, and watches, as well as some of the local stores that sold and repaired them. In February, we designed the information panels, wrote artifact labels, made artifact mounts, and made an interactive component to the exhibit. On March 9, we took down the *Now Hear This* exhibit on the second floor of the Old Courthouse Museum. For the next six weeks, we'll be constructing *It's About Time* and getting it ready for the April 16 opening.



Siouxland Heritage Museums Mission Statement

The Siouxland Heritage Museums is dedicated to enhancing the experience of learning in our community, its families and visitors through collections, preservation, and interpretation of history.

Museum Board

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John Turner

March 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
8. Fiber Fun 1-4 PM @OCM	9.	10.	11.	12. National History Day Regional Competition @OCM	13.	14.
15.	16. Summer Camp Registration opens!	17. St. Patrick's Day Celebration 5-7 PM @OCM	18.	19. Behind the Scenes Tour of MRC 2 PM @MRC	20.	21.
22.	23.	24.	25.	26. Ceili Dance 6:30 PM @OCM	27.	28.
29.	30.	31.				

