Heritage Area Featured on National Lifestyle Show

Travelers from all over the United States will soon get a chance to learn about Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area during a feature segment on the Art of Living with Marihu Henner. The five minute feature is scheduled to air later this fall on the Travel Channel, as well as regionally throughout the Midwest.

In the segment, Don Short, SSNHA President, details the history and national significance of the region. Through images and footage from various SSNHA Partner Sites, viewers will get to experience a day of traveling throughout the Heritage Area. From breakfast at Farm House Bed & Breakfast in Fredericksburg to an afternoon at Wapsipinicon Mill in Independence, the segment will offer viewers a small glimpse of the treasures found in the Heritage Area. To learn more about Marihu Henner and Art of Living, visit www.watchartofliving.com.

Evaluation of Heritage Area’s Progress Underway

Silos & Smokestacks is the second National Heritage Area of the nine federally designated in 1996 to go through the congressionally mandated evaluation under the direction of the National Park Service (NPS).

In July, the evaluation team, including NPS representatives, visited the Heritage Area to meet with SSNHA staff to share and develop the logic model and data collection process. Many experienced Northeast Iowa for the first time, traveling to a sampling of Partner Sites to see agriculture up-close.

The evaluators returned in late August to spend additional time talking with Partner Sites about their partnership relationship with

See Evaluation, Page 3
Teaching Teachers about Iowa’s Agricultural Heritage

Forty teachers spent a Saturday in June learning about farming practices in Iowa as they traveled to three SSNHA Partner Sites aboard an air-conditioned charter bus. The field day, organized by Silos & Smokestacks, was part of a Teacher Workshop Series offered through Effigy Mounds National Monument.

Through this unique partnership, teachers had the opportunity to learn about food production in the Upper Mississippi River Valley as they visited The Dairy Center (Calmar), Farm House Bed & Breakfast (Fredericksburg) and Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch (Fredericksburg).

Some highlights from the day included making ice-cream, tasting Iowa grown foods and spear-throwing with an atlatl. Thanks to all the teachers that participated in this day-long workshop, along with the volunteers and staff at each site that helped make the day a success.

Participants were also shown how to demonstrate to their students the four different stomachs of a cow while visiting The Dairy Center in Calmar. (Right)

Students from 36 Area Schools will Visit 20 Heritage Area Partners

Effigy Mounds National Monument
Janesville Elementary, Janesville
Fontana Interpretive Nature Center
Benton Community Schools, Norway
Fort Atkinson State Preserve
Kingoley Elementary, Waterloo
Kittrell Elementary, Waterloo
Lowell Elementary, Waterloo
Orange Elementary, Waterloo
Pocoy Elementary, Evansdale
Fossil & Prairie Park Preserve and Center
Nashua-Plainfield Community Schools, Nashua
St. Paul’s Lutheran School, Waverly
West Cedar Elementary, Waverly
Grouth Museum District
Northeast Hamilton, Grout
Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch
Nashua-Plainfield Community Schools, Nashua
Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch
Janesville Elementary, Janesville
Living History Farms
Iowa State Fair
Rolling Green Elementary, Urbandale
Laura Ingalls Wilder Park and Museum
East Elementary, Waukon
Waterville Elementary, Waterville
Living History Farms
Jensen Elementary, Urbandale
North Iowa Christian School, Mason City
Olmstead Elementary, Urbandale
Mines of Spain Recreation Area
Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School, Davenport
West Delaware County Community Schools, Manchester
National Mississippi River Museum
Carol Danielson Elementary, Maquoketa
State Historical Building
Ogden Middle School, Ogden
Summit Middle School, Johnston
Girls Ferry Historic Village
Taylor Elementary, Cedar Rapids
Vesterheim Norwegian–American Museum
Nashua-Plainfield Community Schools, Nashua
Wapsipinicon Mill Museum
Viola Gibson Elementary, Cedar Rapids

"We are deeply grateful to you and your organization, and we know this trip will serve to enhance our students’ understanding of Ft. Atkinson and Iowa in the mid 1800s."

— Carol Boyce of Orange Elementary School, Waterloo

Bus Grant Program Gives 2,400 Students Real Life Adventures

Silos & Smokestacks has awarded $10,200 to 36 Northeast Iowa school districts for the 2010-2011 bus grant funding cycle. Through the program, more than 2,400 students will have the opportunity to get out of the classroom and learn through hands-on visits to various farms, parks, museums and historic sites.

The Bus Grant Program is funded through the SSNHA Education Scholarship Fund, which works to connect students with their agricultural heritage through a number of different programs. To date, the Bus Grant Program has helped over 9,000 students. For information on the 2010-2011 Bus Grant Program or to donate, contact Angi Reid, Education & Interpretation Manager at areid@silosandsmokestacks.org or 319-234-4567.

Earlier this summer SSNHA staff and Trustee Marilyn Monson joined other Heritage Areas from throughout the world at the International Heritage Development Conference in Charleston, SC. The conference allowed professionals in heritage development to discuss current issues and best practices related to Heritage preservation and tourism.

During the session “Creating a Foundation for Sustainable Partnerships,” Candy Streed, Silos & Smokestacks Program & Partnership Director partnered with Natalie Gelb Solfanelli, Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, to compare and contrast differing partnership models. For those unable to attend, conference presentations are available for download at www.ihdc2010.com.

Marilyn Monson observes a local crafter weave a basket from sweetgrass.

SSNHA Represented at IHDC

Capture the Heart of America
PHOTO CONTEST
BEST of Show
November 1-7
silosandsmokestacks.org

Photo Entry Deadline: October 1, 2010

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area
**Silos & Smokestacks Partnership Profile**

**Fort Atkinson State Preserve**

In 1977, visitors began making a fall pilgrimage to Fort Atkinson State Preserve to relive what life was like at a military post during the mid 1800s. Held the last full weekend of September, this rendezvous soon became an annual tradition. During the two-day long event, thousands of visitors come to the preserve and neighboring town of Fort Atkinson, named for the fort.

During the rendezvous, the fort is brought back to life, as representative army troops carry out routine duties that would have taken place during the fort’s operation. Crafts people work to produce goods needed in everyday frontier life, while backskimmers provide lively trade from blacksmiths, leather goods, weaponry and “fooferaw” (beads, trinkets, etc.). Visitors also get to taste authentic frontier food cooked over open fires or watch various contests of skills.

While Saturday and Sunday are open to the public, the Friday before the event is reserved for students. Known as “school day,” the event lets youth experience a preview of the weekend’s events. During the 2009 “school day,” more than 1,260 Iowa students attended, with nearly 300 funded in part by SSNHA Bus Grant Program. For 2010, Silos & Smokestacks will be helping students from five schools attend the rendezvous.

While the annual rendezvous is a highlight of the fort, the Preserve welcomes visitors year-round. Through use of a downloadable audio tour, visitors can explore the reconstructed north barracks and partial log stockade wall. The foundations of the buildings within the stockade walls have also been remarked to let visitors envision the layout of the fort.

For more information on Fort Atkinson or the annual rendezvous festivities visit www.iowadnr.gov or call 563-425-4161.

---

**Iowa State Fair Celebrates the Family Farm**

To help celebrate the family farm, the Iowa State Fair Photography Salon named the “Iowa Family Farm” their special theme category for 2010. To show our support for this contribution to preserving America’s agricultural story, Silos & Smokestacks was the proud sponsor of this year’s theme category. Out of 4,802 photos submitted by 1,574 photographers, the photo named Best of Show also came from the “Iowa Family Farm” category. We would like to congratulate this year’s winners on their amazing photographs.

**Adult Division: Black & White**

- **First Place**: Hello, Little Sheep
  - Georgiann Fischer • Des Moines, Iowa
  - Second Place: James M. Moncrieff
  - Third Place: Robert Domnic

- **Second Place**: Spider Barn
  - Ethan Mitchell • Afton, Iowa
  - Second Place: Renae M. Beard
  - Third Place: Hannah Wallace

- **Third Place**: Three Generations
  - Megan Pitt • Ames, Iowa
  - Second Place: Julie Habel
  - Third Place: Larry Mendenhall

**Best of Show**

- All Ears
  - Traci Webb • Ankeny, Iowa

---

**Board Appointments & Additions**

During the annual SSNHA Board of Trustees meeting in May, the 2010–2011 slate of officers was approved. Sue Greiman will serve as chair with Troy Louwagie appointed as vice chair. Geoff Grimes will remain treasurer and Tom Husnik will continue as secretary.

In addition, Audrey Savage was newly appointed to the board during the August meeting. Savage currently serves as President of Citizen State Bank in Monticello. Her background also includes living on a working farmstead and teaching math in Cedar Rapids. She is very active in her community and the region, including serving on the Kirkwood Community College Foundation, Jones Regional Medical Center Foundation and Monticello Community School District Foundation.

**Evaluation (cont.)**

SSNHA and how it has evolved. They focused on the assistance Partner Sites have received from the Heritage Area and the outcomes of these activities.

This process will help evaluate the progress of Silos & Smokestacks, the management entity, while measuring the effects it has had in the Heritage Area. Results of this study will be used to identify critical components for sustainability and to determine recommendations for the future role of the NPS within National Heritage Areas. Final findings on this evaluation are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Organizations and individuals, who are or have been involved with Silos & Smokestacks, may be contacted for input. If you have questions about the process, you can reach Candy Streed at 319-234-4567.
The Newsletter is published by Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area.

604 Lafayette Street | Suite 202
Waterloo, Iowa 50704-2845

For more information call 319.234.4567 or visit www.silosandsmokestacks.org

The Newsletter is published by Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area. Please contact Aaron Steinmann, Editor, at (319) 234-4567 or email at asteinmann@silosandsmokestacks.org to submit story ideas.

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Workshop

Interpreting Your Story
The PAIR Model of Success

Every organization strives for successful interpretation; the ability to convey their story in a meaningful way. Used by the National Park Service (NPS), the PAIR Model effectively breaks down frontline interpretation into four components:

- Presentation Techniques & Styles
- Audience Characteristics
- Interpretive Methods
- Resource Information

This insightful model will be presented by Allyson Mathis of the NPS. Through interactive discussions and activities, participants will learn how to use the PAIR Model when delivering programs or informally talking with visitors.

Leadership Advisors

Terry Branstad
Former Iowa Governor

Rose Christensen
Christensen, Christensen & Freeman PC

Willard Jenkins
Former State House of Representatives

Susan Jutkins Justice
Interim President, Mills College

Ambassador Ken Quinn
President, World Food Prize Foundation

Robert Ray
Former Iowa Governor, Ray Enterprises

Gerry Schimpf
Executive Director, Keep Iowa Beautiful

Seal Smith
Former US Congressman, Attorney at Law

Weber Wijles
Attorney, Weber Wijles Law Office

Partnership Panel

Cheryl Schrader, Chair
Herbert Hoover Presidential Site, NPS, West Branch

Jerome Thompson, Vice Chair
Iowa Historical Society, Iowa, Des Moines

Kathy Reaume
Iowa Writers Union, Des Moines

Tim Engels
Clayton County Conservation, Elkader

Vera Fish
Black Hawk County Conservation, Cedar Falls

Laurie Haldy
Ames Heritage Society Museum, Anamosa

Randy Heitz
Iowa Farm Bureau, Charles City

Kurt Hoefl
Cedar Valley Bank, Charles City

Steve Johnson
Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum, Decorah

Dan McFarland
Hawkeye Buffaloes Ranch, Fredericksburg

Teresa McLachlin
Roman Gardens, Ames

Terry Pitts
Gold Medal Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids

Rose Rohr
Iowa County Historic Preservation Commission, Anamosa

Jean Stowell
Top of Iowa Welcome Center, Northwood

For more information call 319.234.4567 or visit www.silosandsmokestacks.org

Silo and Smokestacks

National Heritage Area (SSNHA) is a federally designated heritage area and is an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service.

Through the development of a network of sites, programs, and events in these 37 Iowa counties, SSNHA interprets farm life, agribusiness, and rural communities – past and present.