

JOHN A. GALE

Nebraska Secretary of State

P.O. Box 94608
State Capitol, Suite 2300
Lincoln, NE 68509-4608
Phone: (402) 471-2554
Fax: (402) 471-3237
www.sos.state.ne.us

News Release

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Contact: Sharon Hambek
(402) 471-6044, sharon.hambek@sos.ne.gov

Please see the schedule below for the party or parties in your coverage area.

Nebraska Statehood Day birthday parties scheduled

LINCOLN – Some 3,000 students are expected to attend nine Nebraska Statehood Day birthday parties throughout the state from Feb. 26 to March 2.

Secretary of State John Gale, the NEBRASKAland Foundation and the Nebraska Humanities Council sponsor the parties.

The parties will be held in Omaha, Boys Town, Nebraska City, Lincoln, Kearney, McCook, Scottsbluff, Chadron and Norfolk.

Participating students will enjoy musical entertainment, sing-a-longs and people in historical costumes.

The parties are part of a broad mission by Gale to provide civics education to the state's youth.

"Our goal is to provide fun in an educational setting," he said. "We want the students to develop state pride and become good citizens."

Gale is scheduled to attend all the parties. He will appear in costume as the character "Cactus Jack," and entertainers Chris Sayre and David Seay will portray "Sodbuster Sam" and "Deadwood Dave," respectively.

The Nebraska Army National Guard will provide color guards at most of the parties.

The parties are geared for fourth-grade students because they study Nebraska history during the school year. The parties are limited to classes that make reservations.

The parties will observe the 140th anniversary of Nebraska becoming a state on March 1, 1867.

Schedule of parties

Omaha: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 26, Durham Western Heritage Museum.

Boys Town: 1 p.m. Feb. 26, Palrang Field House.

Nebraska City: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 27, gymnasium, Nebraska City High School.

Lincoln: 1:30 p.m. Feb. 27, Champions Club, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Kearney: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 28, Fine Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Kearney.

McCook: 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28, True Hall Gymnasium, McCook Community College.

Scottsbluff: 9:30 a.m. (MST) March 1, Cougar Palace, Western Nebraska Community College.

Chadron: 1:30 p.m. (MST) March 1, Student Center, Chadron State College.

Norfolk: 1:30 p.m. March 2, Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College.

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