THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT KANSAS CITY

December 2010

Thomas Powers to discuss The Killing of Crazy Horse

The National Archives at Kansas City will host author **Thomas Powers** for a discussion and signing of his book *The Killing of Crazy Horse* on **Wednesday, December 1, at 6:30 p.m.** Powers will be available to sign copies of his book after the discussion. A **6:00 p.m. reception** will precede the event.

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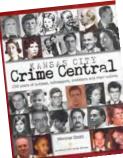
In The Killing of Crazy Horse, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Powers crafts a vivid narrative history that answers the lingering question: why was Crazy Horse killed? Powers draws on new and previously unused source material to recount the final months and days of Crazy Horse's life. Powers uses the event of Crazy Horse's death as a lens

through which to illuminate the suffering of the Sioux and other Plains tribes as they were confined to reservations. The testimony of mixed-blood interpreter Billy Garnett offers a unique, first-hand account of the relationship between the tribes and the army. The Killing of Crazy Horse also includes a substantial account of the Battle of Little Bighorn told almost entirely from the Indian perspective.

Copies of The Killing of Crazy Horse are available for purchase at The Kansas City Store at the National Archives. For more information or **to make a reservation for this free event**, call 816-268-8010 or email: <u>kansascity.educate@nara.gov</u>.

Two local authors discuss Kansas City history in Kansas City Crime Central and Paris of the Plains

The National Archives at Kansas City will host author **Monroe Dodd** for a discussion and signing of his book Kansas City Crime Central on **Thursday**, **December 2**, at 6:30 **p.m.** On **Tuesday**, **December 7**, at 6:30 p.m. the National Archives will host author



John Simonson for a discussion of Paris of the Plains: Kansas City from Doughboys to Expressways. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede both events.

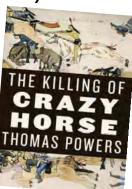
Kansas City Crime Central covers 150 years of history, past to present. From the bandits of the Wild West to the gangsters of the wide-open town, from whiskey-guzzling kidnappers to gunslinging evangelists, Kansas City has proved to be a hotbed for criminals and crimes. Dodd recounts a century and a half

of local wrongdoing.

From the end of the Great War to the final years of the 1950s, Kansas Citians lived in a manner worthy of a place called "Paris of the Plains." The title did more than nod to the perfumed ladies who shopped at Harzfeld's Parisian or the one-thousand-foot television antenna nicknamed the "Eye-full Tower." It spoke to the character of a town that worked for Boss Tom and danced for Count Basie but transcended both the Pendergast Era and the Jazz Age.

Copies of Kansas City Crime Central and Paris of the Plains are

available for purchase at The Kansas City Store at the National Archives. Following each program the author will sign copies of their book. For more information or **to make a reservation for these two free events,** call 816-268-8010 or email: <u>kansascity.educate@nara.gov</u>.



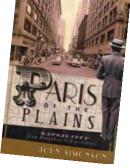
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Upcoming Events

All events are held at the National Archives 400 West Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- DECEMBER 1 6:00 P.M. AUTHOR EVENT: THOMAS POWERS, THE KILLING OF CRAZY HORSE
- DECEMBER 2 6:00 P.M. AUTHOR EVENT: MONROE DODD, KANSAS CITY CRIME CENTRAL
- December 4 Noon Author Signing: Amy Barickman, Vintage Notions
- DECEMBER 4 2:00 P.M. AUTHOR READING: CHARLES GUSEWELLE, HOLIDAY STORIES
- DECEMBER 4 2:00 P.M. RECEPTION: CONGRESSSMAN EMANUEL CLEAVER II AND CONSTITUTION DAY
- DECEMBER 7 6:00 P.M. AUTHOR EVENT: JOHN SIMONSON, PARIS OF THE PLAINS



Holiday Open House at The Kansas City Store - Saturday, December 4



The Kansas City Store at the National Archives will host a **Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 4, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Special activities include book signings, a \$200 Gift Basket drawing, and 15% off all books in the shop. Other activities include:

- Noon Amy Barickman, author and designer, will sign copies of her book Vintage Notions at The Kansas City Store.
 - 1:00 p.m. Gift basket drawing at The Kansas City Store, no purchase required!

• 2:00 p.m. - Charles Gusewelle, author and Kansas City Star columnist, will entertain with holiday readings and sign copies of his books.

• All day - Self-guided tours of Documented Rights and 1968 in America exhibitions. All activities are free of charge. Free parking is available for visitors at the National Archives, to the north and west of the National Archives building.

Educator Extras!

- Constitution Day Poster Contest Reception The National Archives at Kansas City will host Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, Saturday, December 4, at 2:00 p.m. as the keynote speaker at a special awards presentation honoring three local winners of the Fourth Annual GovDoc Kids Group Constitution Day Poster Contest. Local winners include: Macy Gardner, Grade 9, homeschooled, Eudora, Kansas; Jaedyn Roberts, Grade 2, Glenwood Ridge Elementary School, Basehor, Kansas; and Taylor Cornett, Grade 4, Sunny Pointe Elementary School, Blue Springs, Missouri. The public is invited to attend the reception. These students are among 13 winners and nine honorable mentions selected by three judges from among 9,399 entries from 46 states and Department of Defense schools in Japan, Italy, and South Korea. The three local winners in the Kansas City area receive, in addition, a certificate for art classes at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art valued at \$150. The Constitution Day Poster Contest is an annual contest celebrating Constitution Day, September 17, and is promoted through the Internet and via the 253 Defense Commissary Agency stores worldwide and Mannington Mills, Inc. For more information about the Constitution Day Poster Contest, visit the GovDoc Kids Group wiki: http://www.govdocs4children.pbwiki.com.
- Interactive Distance Learning Teachers across the nation have the opportunity to bring the National Archives at Kansas City into their own classroom. By using Interactive Distance Learning, educators can choose from one of five lessons taught by an archivist or education specialist from the National Archives at Kansas City. Journal entries, correspondence, artifacts, and other documents help personalize history to the students. The interactive and document-based lessons are suitable for a wide range of ages. For more information, visit: www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city/public/interactive-distance-learning.html or call Mickey Ebert, Education Specialist, at 816-268-8013.

1968 in America exhibition open through January 8, 2011

The National Archives at Kansas City recently opened **1968 in America**, a traveling exhibition that traces the tumultuous events of 1968 - a single year in history that rocked the foundations of American society. From the

assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert F. Kennedy to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago and the Vietnam War, the extraordinary events of 1968 produced profound stress on social and political systems and confirmed to citizens of all ages that fundamental change was both possible and necessary.

1968 in America is a traveling exhibition organized and toured by ExhibitsUSA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance with The Missouri Arts Council and The National Endowment for the Arts. 1968 in America will be available for viewing at the National Archives at Kansas City through January 8, 2011.



Hidden Treasures from the Stacks Scripting a History of the Harvey Girls

Found in the holdings of the National Archives at Kansas City is a court case related to the Fred Harvey Company, once headquartered in Kansas City. Focusing on screenwriting conflicts surrounding *The Harvey Girls* movie, the case depicts the writer's concerns over the script as it was based on the real-life experiences of the women who worked for the Fred Harvey Company.

Imagine a thick, black plume of smoke pours from the locomotive's smokestack as it sits trackside at the Santa Fe Railroad station. Overhead the fair blue sky provides a serene backdrop to the billowing, drifting white clouds. It is the year 1890, and a group of winsome young women are aboard the Santa Fe coach on their way to a new adventure in the Fred Harvey Eating Houses. While others listen intently, one of the women reads aloud from a Fred Harvey handbook, stating "... and, while the Fred Harvey System neither demands nor expects the impossible from any employee, it does insist upon honest, excellent, hygienic, clean, prompt and cheerful service at all times..."

"THE HARVEY GIRLS"

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In TAX MARTY RULL," Judy Carboni is uncertaine a gal from other who however a final discourse weatered in the frequency power of stratistical for the Vibial's How due means that a strategy bandward advance and analyzing of the Vibial's How due means that a strategy bandward advance and analyzing of the Vibial's How due means that a strategy bandward advance and analyzing of the Vibial's How due means that a strategy bandward advance and analyzing of the Vibial's How due means that and strategy bandward advance advance and the Vibial's How due means that and strategy bandward advance advance

This opening scene for the 1945 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer movie *The Harvey Girls* provides a perfect panorama to play out the real story of the Harvey Girls. Who were the Harvey Girls? They were young women employed by the Fred Harvey Company to work in restaurants located at stops along the Santa Fe Railroad from the 1880s to the 1960s. Fred Harvey's eating establishments were known for their hospitality and high quality food, while the Harvey Girls (they were never referred to as waitresses) were known for their charm, efficiency, and excellent service. For 100 years the Fred Harvey Company, with its Harvey Houses and the Harvey Girls, would sit at the top of the hospitality industry, bringing the famous "Harvey Standard" of excellence to people traveling America via train, car, bus, plane, and boat.

Memorialized in the Oscar-winning movie starring Judy Garland and Angela Lansbury, the Harvey Girls have enjoyed a romanticized, and almost mythical reputation over the past 60 years. The subject of numerous newspaper and magazine articles, the Harvey Girls first came to the attention of Hollywood in 1936 when a screenplay written by Eleanor Griffin and William Rankin titled Susannah Was a Lady was submitted and rejected by Loews Incorporated, owners of MGM. A second script on the Harvey Girls written by Rankin, called Parade to Empire, was submitted to Loews the following year, but was also rejected. It was not until October 1941 that a third script titled The Harvey Girls, co-written by Rankin and Griffin, was submitted and accepted by Loews.

Following an intensive five-year process of re-drafting the script nine times, content oversight by the Fred Harvey Company, and changes from the original focus to a musical, the movie opened to rave reviews in January 1946. Just three years later, however, two writers, Clifford Funkhouser of Parsons, Kansas, and Lyman Anson of Wheaton, Illinois, filed a suit against Loews for copyright infringement and plagiarism. Both individuals claimed that the writers had plagiarized their work titled Old John Santa Fe.

While the plaintiffs lost their court case, copies of all three of the Harvey Girl-related screenplays are in the holdings of the National Archives at Kansas City. The court case includes photographs, articles, and hundreds of pages of depositions by Fred Harvey Company executives and key staff from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures. The script and accompanying materials relating to the court case are part of RG 21, Records of the United States District Courts, Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Civil Case 5713. To learn more about the National Archives holdings related to district court records, call 816-268-8000 or email: kansascity.archives@nara.gov

Gems for Genealogists

Years before leading his vastly outnumbered troops to their doom at the Little Bighorn, a young George Armstrong Custer was described as accurate in math. Nearly 30 years before his March to the Sea laid waste to a large swath of Georgia, William Tecumseh Sherman was deemed a "fine energetic boy." And two decades before he would earn the nickname "Stonewall," Thomas J. Jackson's dreams of a military career got a boost from a man who would help start the Civil War. Those are some of the tidbits gleaned from more than 115,000 U.S. Military Academy application documents being posted online for the first time by Ancestry.com. "The oldest West Point documents being posted online date to 1805, three years after the academy's founding, and run through 1866, a year after the Civil War ended," says Quinton Atkinson, director of content acquisition for Ancestry. The records and other related documents from that period were culled from the National Archives



in Washington, D.C. These documents represent some 16,000 individuals accepted into the Corps of Cadets," stated Atkinson. To begin your search visit: <u>www.ancestry.com</u>

Documented Rights exhibition open through March 19, 2011

The National Archives at Kansas City recently opened **Documented Rights**, an exhibition featuring documents from the holdings of the 13 regional National Archives facilities that give a voice to the national struggle for human and civil rights. It features more than 80 documents, facsimiles, images, and sound recordings, including:

• Documents from the five court cases that comprised Brown v. Board of Education, the landmark Supreme Court ruling that ended school segregation;

• The story of the schooner Amistad and the revolt of its 53 enslaved Africans, told through 1839 court records;

• Slave compensation files from former slave owners seeking monies from the U.S. government after the Civil War;

• Court records for John Elk v. Charles Wilkins and Standing Bear v. General George Crook, two cases focusing on the civil rights and liberties of Native Americans;

- Petition from relocated Aleuts during WWII, protesting their poor living conditions, that ultimately resulted in a 10% death rate;
- Booklet outlining nonviolent protest of racial segregation by Martin Luther King; and
- A court martial order for Second Lieutenant Jackie Robinson who refused to move to the back of the bus on a military post.

Since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, our rights as citizens of the United States have been debated, contested, amended, and documented. *Documented Rights* will be available for viewing at the National Archives at

Kansas City, through March 19, 2011. For more information about Documented Rights visit: <u>www.archives.gov/</u><u>exhibits/documented-rights</u>

Are you on the National Archives mailing list?

If the answer is "no," then send us an email with your U.S. postal mail information <u>kansascity.educate@nara.gov</u> or call 816-268-8000.

By providing your address, you grant the National Archives at Kansas City permission to send you information about upcoming exhibitions, special events, and programs. (Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.)





The National Archives at Kansas City is one of 13 facilities nationwide where the public has access to Federal archival records. It is home to more than 50,000 cubic feet of historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by nearly 100 Federal agencies. Serving the Central Plains Region, the archives holds records from the states of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The facility is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108.

HOURS OF OPERATION

RESEARCH ROOMS: Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EXHIBIT GALLERIES: Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed on Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

For more information, call 816-268-8000, visit our web site <u>www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city</u> or email: <u>kansascity.archives@nara.gov</u>. Find us on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity</u>

