

JOHN A. GALE

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News Release

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

Nebraska statehood birthday parties scheduled

LINCOLN – Some 3,000 students are expected to attend nine Nebraska statehood birthday parties throughout the state from Feb. 23-27.

Secretary of State John Gale, the NEBRASKAland Foundation and the Nebraska Humanities Council sponsor the free parties, which are geared for fourth- and fifth-grade students.

The parties will be held in Hastings, Kearney, Nebraska City, Seward, Fremont, Norfolk, Omaha, Boys Town and Columbus.

Participating students will enjoy musical entertainment, sing-a-longs, a birthday treat and people in historical costumes, as well as getting an opportunity to showcase their knowledge of Nebraska history.

"The parties are designed to provide fun in an educational setting," Gale said. "The parties are part of my civics education mission to encourage students to 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 parties are limited to classes that make reservations by Feb. 19. To make reservations, contact Sharon Hambek at (402) 471-6044.

The parties will observe the 142nd anniversary of Nebraska becoming a state on March 1, 1867.

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Schedule of parties

Hastings: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 23, Lynn Farrell Arena, Hastings College.

Kearney: 1:30 p.m. Feb. 23, Fine Arts Recital Hall, University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Nebraska City: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 24, gym, Nebraska City High School.

Seward: 1:30 p.m. Feb. 24, Physical Education Building, Concordia University.

Fremont: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 25, Event Center, Midland Lutheran College.

Norfolk: 1:30 p.m. Feb. 25, Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College.

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

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

Columbus: 9:30 a.m. Feb. 27, Physical Education Center, Central Community College.

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