

**JOHN A. GALE**

Nebraska Secretary of State

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[www.sos.ne.gov](http://www.sos.ne.gov)

**News Release**

March 29, 2011

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

**Eight statehood birthday parties scheduled**

LINCOLN – Secretary of State John Gale will be hosting eight Nebraska statehood birthday parties to educate and entertain elementary school children.

The parties will be held from April 11-14 in Columbus, Norfolk, Seward, Central City, Omaha (two parties), Fremont and Nebraska City.

Normally, the birthday parties are held around March 1, the actual Statehood Day. The parties were moved this year to April to avoid bad weather, Gale said.

The free parties are sponsored by Gale, the NEBRASKAland Foundation and the Nebraska Humanities Council.

Participating students will enjoy musical entertainment, sing-alongs, people in historical costumes and a birthday treat, 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, appearing in costume as the character Cactus Jack. Chris Sayre and David Seay will provide musical entertainment at the parties.

To attend the parties, classes need to make reservations by contacting Sharon Hambek at [sos.events@nebraska.gov](mailto:sos.events@nebraska.gov) or (402) 471-6044.

The parties will observe the 144<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nebraska becoming a state on March 1, 1867.

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**Schedule of parties**

**Columbus:** 9:30 a.m. April 11, Physical Education Center, Central Community College.

**Norfolk:** 1:30 p.m. April 11, Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College.

**Seward:** 9:30 a.m. April 12, Seward High School theater.

**Central City:** 1:30 p.m. April 12, Central City High School.

**Omaha:** 9:30 a.m. April 13, Durham Museum; 12:45 p.m. April 13, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School gym.

**Fremont:** 9:30 a.m. April 14, Event Center, Midland Lutheran College.

**Nebraska City:** 1:30 p.m. April 14, Nebraska City High School gym.

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