

## Celebrate Arts & Humanities Month!

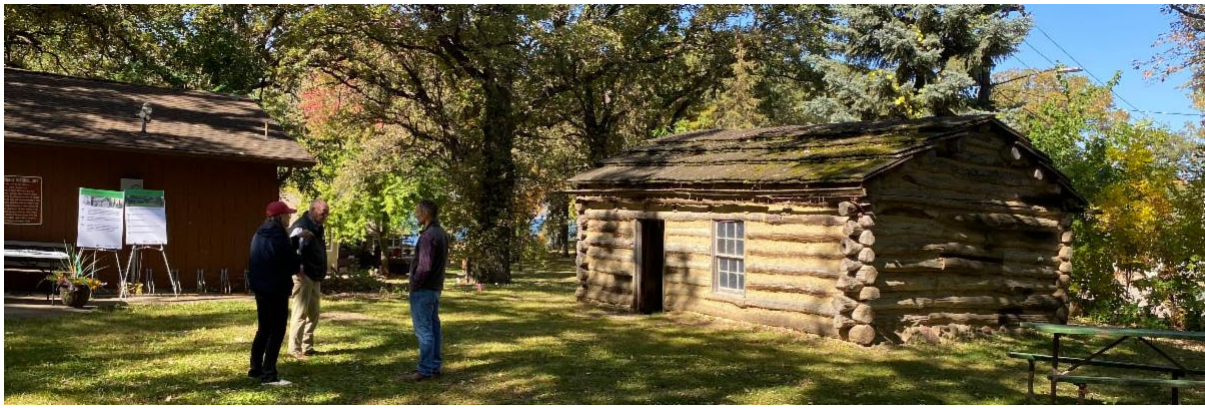


*“The arts and humanities embody much of the accumulated wisdom, intellect, and imagination of humankind, giving an importance for Iowans to share stories of significant value to them and future generations.”*

– **Proclamation** from **Gov. Kim Reynolds**, delivered by **Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg** on Sept. 30 in Winterset

Throughout October, the **State Historical Society of Iowa** and the other divisions of the **Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs** invite you to join with others across Iowa and the entire United States to celebrate the arts and humanities as a way to **spark conversation, generate new ideas and explore what makes us human**. Here are just a few ways to jump in:

- **Apply for funding** through the department's new Humanities Collaboration Grant and team up with another nonprofit organization, college/university or school to develop engaging humanities programs. **Grant applications are due Dec. 1.**
- **Visit the State Historical Museum of Iowa** or any of more than 300 other museums across the state.
- **Explore the Days of Learning**, a fascinating collection of online resources specially curated by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs staff.
- **See some of Grant Wood's artwork** at the American Gothic House Center in Eldon. The current display showcases highlights from the collection of Michael Zahs, a longtime history and science teacher from Washington, Iowa.
- **Spread the word** about National Arts & Humanities Month. Share your favorite examples of Iowa arts and humanities on social media. #IowaCulture #NAHM



## The Future of a Historic Site at Iowa's Great Lakes

Thank you to everyone who visited the Oct. 6 open house at the **Abbie Gardner Sharp Cabin** in Arnolds Park, as well as those who submitted feedback for the site's forthcoming interpretive plan. (Good news: You can still **take the online survey.**)

The cabin is the site of the 1857 Spirit Lake Conflict and now belongs to the State Historical Society of Iowa, which is working with local partners to ensure its long-term sustainability and tell its complex history in a way that remains accessible, inclusive and relevant to current and future visitors. The new interpretive plan will be developed and released in the next few months.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

## Remembering Joan Liffing-Zug Bourret



*Joan Liffing-Zug Bourret, 23, in 1952.  
(Photo by Jean Strong)*

Few people have chronicled Iowa history with more devotion than the Iowa City photographer **Joan Liffing-Zug Bourret**, who died Sunday at the age of 93.

She started her career in 1948 at the **Cedar Rapids Gazette**, where she was paid half as much her husband and was fired when she became visibly pregnant. She responded by photographing the birth of their son, in 1951, and selling the photos to **The Des Moines Register**, **Minneapolis Tribune** and **Look** magazine, which had a nationwide circulation of 3 million. The project launched a long and productive freelance career documenting everyday life in Iowa, with a particular focus on women and people of color.

A 1996 inductee of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame, Liffing-Zug Bourret donated **more than 500,000 photo negatives to the State Historical Society of Iowa**, plus many prints to the Iowa Women's Archives, University of Iowa Libraries and Kirkwood Community College. Two of her photos are part of the permanent collection at the **Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York**.

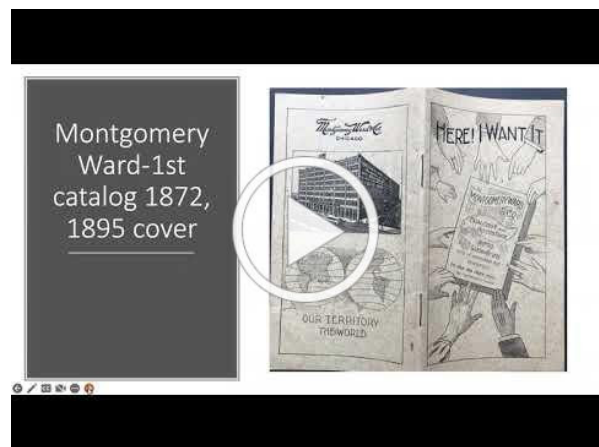
"She spent her life documenting the lives of others," her grandson Forrest Heusinkveld **told the Gazette**. "Memories fade, but the hundreds of thousands of images she donated to the State of Iowa and the words she published will live on forever."

[LEARN MORE](#)

## Iowa History 101 Presentations

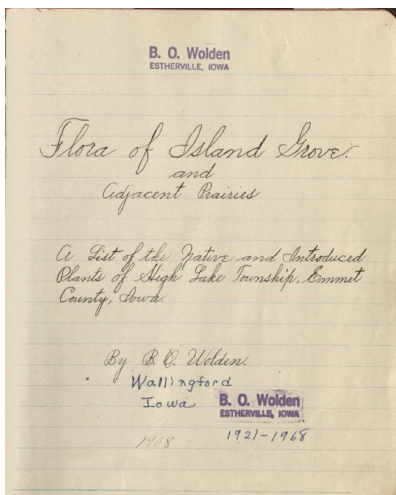
Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night should keep you from watching a recording of the latest online Iowa History 101 presentation, about the **history of the postal service** in rural Iowa and the development of mail-order commerce. Historian **Sarah Nelson** shared her research on Oct. 13.

[SEE THE VIDEO](#)



## Coming Up Next

**Iowa's Naturalists: B.O. Wolden and Conservation in the Aldo Leopold Era**  
Noon Oct. 27



Join **Amie Adams** to learn about **B.O. Wolden** (1886-1968) and other early Iowa naturalists. Together, we will consider what those who experienced the radical alteration of the prairie bioregion during their lifetimes can teach us about **natural history** and the **beginnings of the conservation movement**.

[REGISTER](#)

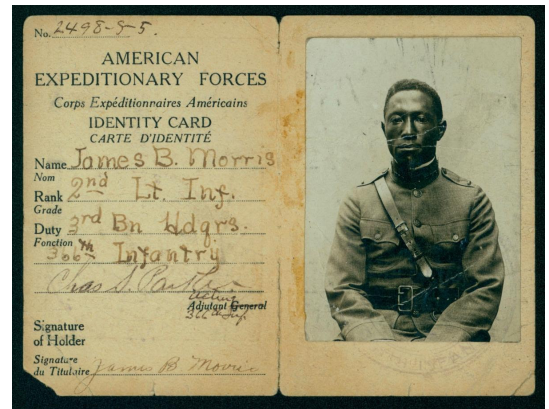


"Flora of Island Grove and Adjacent Prairies," by  
B.O. Wolden.

## The Education and Training of Seven African-American U.S. Army Officers for World War I and its Aftermath

Noon Nov. 10

Join **Bernard Harris** in a detailed analysis of little-known facts uncovered from archives and museums concerning **Fort Des Moines** in 1917, when it hosted the segregated Infantry and Medical Officer Training Camps. The talk will focus on the monthly activities in both camps as experienced by **seven African American civilians** who graduated with U.S. Army officer commissions. Each of these men later served overseas in France, many in the trenches of World War I.

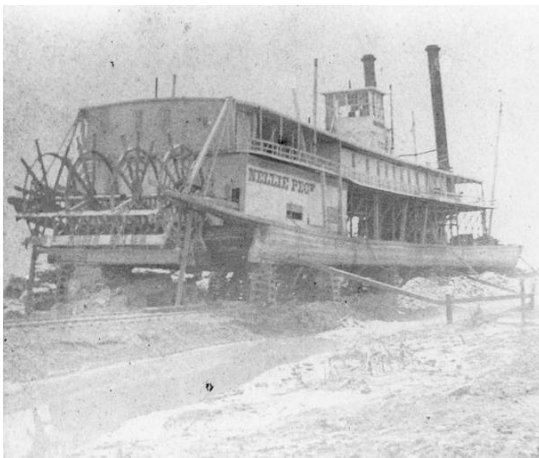


Officer James B. Morris of Des Moines, 1917.

REGISTER

## Portrait of a Steamboat Town, Sioux City, 1868-1873

Noon Dec. 8



The steamship Nellie Peck.

Join **Kassie Nelson** and take a deep dive into the relationship between **Sioux City citizens and the steamboat trade**. Highlighting the years from 1868 to 1873 emphasizes the unique nature of this relationship during a time when Sioux City and the steamboat trade were in transition.

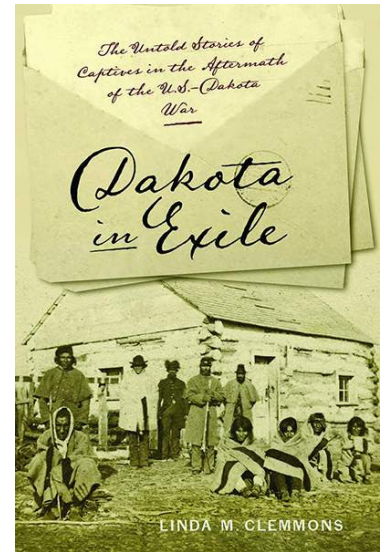
REGISTER

## Iowa History Book Club

The **Iowa History Book Club** continues on Dec. 1 with Linda Clemmons' "**Dakota in Exile.**" The online discussion will be led by **Andrew Klumpp**, editor of **The Annals of Iowa**.

Programs are recorded and posted online at [iowaculture.gov](http://iowaculture.gov).

REGISTER FOR "DAKOTA IN EXILE"



IOWA'S PREMIER CULTURAL EVENT  
**CELEBRATE IOWA**  
*Gala*

Iowa's statewide celebration of art, history, film and culture is back!  
Don't miss the 11th annual celebration featuring Iowa cuisine, music, entertainment and, of course, Iowans like you! Registration will open later this month.

**Friday, December 9**  
**6 - 7 p.m. VIP Reception**  
**7 - 11 p.m. Celebrate Iowa Gala**  
**Scottish Rite Consistory, Des Moines**