

**Bright Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties
Kansas-Nebraska Chautauqua**

**Falls City, June 25-29, 2008, Stanton Lake Park
West 25th Street**

**In the event of bad weather, tent performances will at Prichard Auditorium,
17th and Barada streets, Falls City.**

All evening tent programs are moderated by Will Rogers, portrayed by Doug Watson.

**For more information contact the Falls City Chamber of Commerce at
fcchamber@sentco.net or visit www.fallscityonline.com or visit
www.knchautauqua.org.**

Events are free unless indicated by (\$)

Youth Chautauqua Camp

Presented by Ride Into History

Wednesday, June 25 – Sunday, June 29

**Location: Elks Club, 1417 Stone Street (Wednesday–Saturday); Stanton Lake, West
25th Street (Sunday)**

1-5 p.m.; 1-7 p.m. Sunday, June 29

4th-8th grade participants will research a local historical figure and portray them under
the Chautauqua tent on Sunday evening. Pre-registration required.

Dust Bowl Traveling Exhibit and Tri-County Display

Wednesday, June 25 – Sunday, June 29

1-4 p.m. Wednesday; 2-6 p.m. Thursday-Sunday

Location: Candlelight Cabin, Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

In the 1930s, the Farm Security Administration (FSA) photographed the faces and
landscape of the Dust Bowl. Forty years later, Nebraska photographer Bill Ganzel
found and re-photographed the survivors for a book and exhibition. The *Dust Bowl*
exhibit, from Humanities Texas, combines the FSA photographs with Ganzel's
photographs to tell a story of strength and triumph in the face of despair.

WEDNESDAY, June 25

Iconic Images

High School workshop

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

1930s photographers, like Dorothea Lange, captured the hardship and despair of the
Great Depression in images that are still powerful today. Aspiring high school

photographers will study local images from the 1930s and will create their own iconic modern-day photographs. Cameras provided. Pre-registration required.

Meet the Chautauquans Ice Cream Social

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Join the Chautauquans under the tent to meet, mingle, and get a preview of the exciting events for the upcoming week!

SE Nebraska Community Band Concert

7 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

THURSDAY, June 26

Agriculture Then and Now

Presented by Patrick McGinnis

10:30 a.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

Today's family farm looks much different than the farms of our grandparents and great-grandparents. During the 1930s, New Deal farm policies changed traditional farming practices and the role of government in agriculture. This workshop will examine why these policies were introduced and how they affected rural communities.

Will Rogers: Film and American Society

Presented by Doug Watson

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

From 1929-1935, Will Rogers made 21 "talkies." These movies, filled with Rogers' trademark wit, wisdom, and an optimistic vision of American society, were extremely popular. They also provide insight into social topics from the time period such as new wealth, rural distress, political and economic corruption. This workshop examines how Rogers' movies informed Americans about complex issues. Can the same be said about today's movies?

Huey Long and State Innovation

Presented by Fred Krebs

3 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

Huey Long was innovative in his approach as Governor of Louisiana from 1928-1932. He worked to create laws that would make life easier and more equitable for the people. This workshop will examine Long's work as a reformer in his home state. How did his ideas effect change in Louisiana and the nation?

Concessions (\$)

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Local Entertainment - String Duo Mary and Jeff Barker

6:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Will Rogers

7 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Will Rogers (Doug Watson) opens the evening's tent programs with his authentic American commentary, rope tricks, and down-home humor.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Patrick McGinnis) chats about his New Deal programs and his plans to put the nation back on track.

FRIDAY, June 27

Dear Eleanor, Dear Laura

Youth Workshop presented by

10-11:30 a.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Children's Room, 1400 Stone Street

Children ages 8 and up are invited to read and discuss letters written to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt by children during the 1930s. The children will have the chance to write a letter to First Lady Laura Bush.

Crisis and the Role of the Demagogue

Presented by Fred Krebs

10:30 a.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

A demagogue can be defined by a leader who champions the cause of the common people or a leader who makes use of popular prejudices and false claims and promises in order to gain power. So - was Huey Long a demagogue? Participants in this workshop will consider what leadership meant to politician Huey Long. Clips will be shown of Roseen's 1949 film "All the King's Men," a fictitious account of Long's life.

What do Historians Say?

Presented by Patrick McGinnis

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

In 1932 during his presidential campaign, Franklin Delano Roosevelt introduced his New Deal ideas. Historians differ on the interpretation of the impact and legacy of these relief programs. This workshop will explore many interpretations and give participants the opportunity to discuss how the image of FDR changes with the perspective presented.

Radio in the Thirties

Presented by Tonia Compton

3 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

Radio in the 1930s changed the ways Americans learned about the world around. FDR, Huey Long, Will Rogers, and Aimee Semple McPherson used radio as a new way to reach the American public and this workshop will include samples of popular shows. Workshop participants will analyze radio's impact on cultural, political, and social changes of the 1930s. How does today's technology influence American society?

Concessions (\$)

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Local Entertainment - Radio Show with Falls City High School

7 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Huey Long

7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Meet Louisiana Senator Huey Long (Fred Krebs). The larger-than-life politician will share his plan to make "Every Man a King."

SATURDAY, June 28

Breakfast with the Scholars

8 a.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Enjoy the opportunity to mingle with the scholars and take part in a tasty breakfast with the Falls City community.

Floods, FEMA & the Faithful: Religious Organizations' Relief Efforts in the Wake of Disasters

Presented by Tonia Compton

10:30 a.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

This workshop will examine the development of religious groups' work providing relief efforts to people across the United States when natural or man-made disasters wreak havoc on human habitation. From the recent devastation of Hurricane Katrina to disasters in the early twentieth century like the San Francisco earthquake in 1906, victims and government agencies have increasingly come to rely on private efforts by religious organizations to provide aid. This workshop will consider the development of this trend and look at how churches and other religious groups responded to the Depression and the Dust Bowl on the Great Plains.

Iconic Images

High School workshop

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

Day 2 of the high school workshop. Aspiring high school photographers will study local images from the 1930s and will create their own iconic modern-day photographs. Cameras provided. Pre-registration required.

Making Murals with Folktales: How Butterflies Were Made

Presented by Wanda Schell

Ages 8 and up

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Children's Room, 1400 Stone Street

Zora Neale Hurston compiled folktales for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) from her home state of Florida. One folktale tells how the colorful butterflies were created to keep the flowers company and how they came to be called butterflies. In this workshop, children will listen to the vibrant story told by "Zora" and will then talk about the tale and compare it to the world they live in today. They will create a mural based on the images in the folktale and related images from their own experiences. The mural will be photographed and displayed on the website.

Concessions (\$)

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Local Entertainment - Ben and the Bern Boys

7 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Aimee Semple McPherson

7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street Aimee Semple McPherson (Tonia Compton), the charismatic founder of the Foursquare Church, will recount her pioneering work in the church and on the radio.

SUNDAY, June 29

Go Gator and Muddy the Water

Presented by Wanda Schell

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

Zora Neale Hurston wrote for the Federal Writer's Project during the Thirties, collecting folklore as well as other stories. In this workshop, participants will compare Kansa and Nebraska folklore, myths, and rituals to that of Florida collected by Hurston and its importance both then and now. Additionally, participants will explore healing rituals, songs, and children's games from Hurston's writing and how some of the more controversial themes were received by her contemporaries.

Role of Political Satire and Commentary

Presented by Doug Watson

1 p.m.

Location: Library and Arts Center Stalder Gallery, 1400 Stone Street

During the 1930s, political cartoons, radio programs, newspaper articles and film mirrored and sometimes exaggerated how Americans responded to political and religious leaders. This workshop will use examples of Will Rogers' work from the 1920s and 1930s to discuss the continuing role of humor as a response to today's world.

Concessions (\$)

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Youth Chautauqua Camp Performances

5:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Come and watch the youth camp participants bring Falls City's history to life as they portray famous local figures from the past.

Zora Neale Hurston

7:30 p.m.

Location: Stanton Lake, West 25th Street

Zora Neale Hurston (Wanda Schell), Harlem Renaissance author and folklorist, will discuss her work with the WPA and her efforts to preserve African American folklore.