

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area









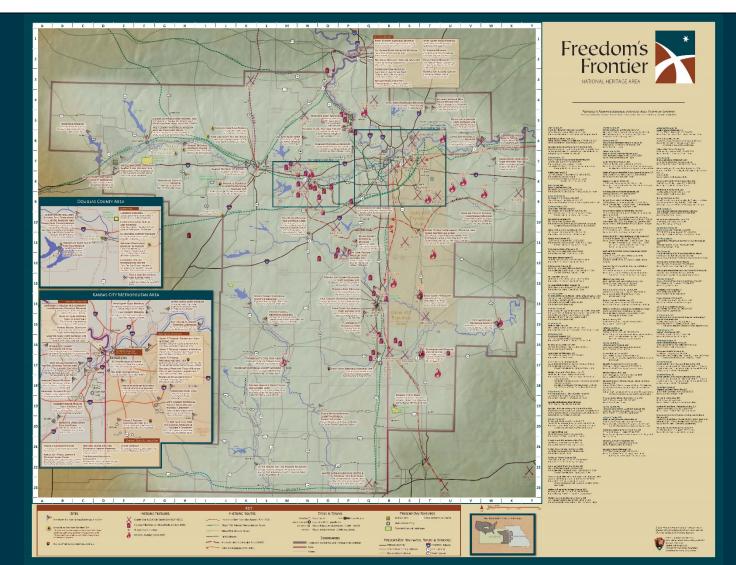














2017 Youth Camps Participation Survey

We are beginning to plan the 2017 Youth Camps!



Our Youth Camp offers groups of 4th and 5th grade Boys and Girls Club students, from the heritage area, a chance to visit various partner sites as well as a day of kayaking. The camps are guided chronologically along with our themes of The Settling of the Frontier, The Border War/ Civil War and finally the Enduring Struggle for Freedom.

We are still in the process of finalizing the exact locations for camp as well as which units of the Boys and Girls Club can accommodate us this year, but we are asking for your assistance. If your site would be interested in having the camps come to you this summer please go to the survey monkey link below.

Survey Link

Please be aware that we cannot guarantee that we will come to your site as we have to balance the schedule of many sites while maintaining the themed timeline.

We will try to make it to as many sites as we can in order for the students to get the best experience possible!

If you have any questions please email Lexi

Save the Date

January 31: Deadline to nominate a historic preservation project or advocacy effort. Visit the KPA Website for more details

February 1: Deadline for Interpretive Grant Consultation February 15: Deadline for Interpretive Grant Applications

Featured Conferences, Workshops and Webinars

January g-March 6 Leadership and Administration in History Organizations AASLH Online

January 17 Social Media 101 for Museums and Historic Sites, AALSH Webinar March 22-24 Missouri Conference on History, Springfield MO

For more information on these and other upcoming <u>conferences and workshops</u> or <u>website</u>.



Partner Site Signs!

A note from the "Signage Dept."



A quick reminder to a few of our partner sites that we have in our possession a handful of previously ordered "Partner Site" signs. If you are expecting a sign, please follow up with <u>Julie</u> to finalize your payment and we will get the signs to you right away. If you are not sure, please drop an email to <u>Doug</u> and he will follow up with you.

Also, if you would like to place a new signage order for your site, please send an email to <u>Doug.</u> We can order any size or quantity needed. Newly ordered signs will take several weeks for fabrication and delivery. Note: We do have a couple of extra "Partner Site" signs (36" x 16", high-pressure laminate) that can be yours immediately!

Save the Date

January 12: Partners Meeting- Johnson County Library, Overland Park, KS

January 31: Deadline to nominate a historic preservation project or advocacy effort. Visit the KPA Website for more details

February 1: Deadline for Interpretive Grant Consultation

February 15: Deadline for Interpretive Grant Applications

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January 9-March 6 Leadership and Administration in History Organizations AASLH Online Course

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For more information on these and other upcoming <u>conferences and workshops</u> or <u>webinars</u>, please check our <u>website</u>.

To apply for a scholarship, complete this application.

Classified

Educational Outreach Intern & Summer Camp Director- Wornall/Majors House Musuems This position is for a single person, with a stipend available for the summer portion. Visit here for more information.



Riley County Genealogical Society



While we continue to add new partners at an exciting rate, one of the newest is the Riley County Genealogical Society. They work hard to preserve records and resources from Riley County that pertain to personal and filial history. Further, their research library is not only open to the community of Manhattan, but to all those from within and without the ounty borders as a means to explore their own histories, thanks to the efforts of the

Located in an historic home at 2005 Claffin Road in Manhattan KS, and their library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 4 pm and Wednesdays and Saturdays from 1 to 4

This organization already has some history with Freedom's Frontier in the form of a long working relationship with the Riley County Historical Society, another of our tremendous partners. They were excited to hear of our efforts to get signage throughout the heritage area, and are eagerly looking forward to applying for an interpretive grant to begin using their resources in new and appealing ways. Further, they expressed their interest in ncluding Freedom's Frontier as they plan their Genealogical History Fair, which is this August on the 19th.

And of course, as our partners often do, they immediately thought of some of their fellows in Riley County who might also be interested in becoming partners of Freedom's Frontier. Off to a great start, Freedom's Frontier anticipates working with another great partner, the Riley County Genealogical Society.

Save the Date

2/27/17: Captured: The Extraordinary Adventures of Colonel Hughes (Topeka, KS) Eighty thousand Kansans served in World War II, 227,000 in World War II. We pay tribute to all Kansas soldiers by telling the story of Kansan James Clark Hughes. He served from 1917 to 1948 in the U.S. Army, and fought in both world wars. He left detailed records of his time in service; he photographed battlefields and towns in Europe; recorded his daily survival as a Japanese Prisoner of War, and saved many belongings from the wars later donated to this museum. In essence, he captured his life.

a/az/sz: New Directions in Underground Studies and Public Presentation (Kansas City, MO) A moderated conversation with Dr. Spencer Crew and Dr. Matthew Pinsker. The Spencer Cave Black History Month Lecture Series is named for Spencer Cave, who was born a slave at the start of the Civil War, later moved to Parkville, Missouri, in 1875 (the vear Park University was founded) and worked for the University for more than 70 years pefore his death in 1947. The 2017 lecture is sponsored by Park's Program of History and the Organization of American Historians.

2/28/17: To Make a Poet Black, and Bid Him Sing (Kansas City, MO) Glenn North, discusses passages from his recently published City of Song. The poetry collection celebrates the KC jazz tradition and the African-American experience, and North will reflect on what it means to be a black poet in the current cultural milieu. The event - taking its title from a line in Countee Cullen's 1927 poem "Yet Do I Marvel" - is part of a yearlong series of presentations and exhibits commemorating the 20th anniversary of the city's artsnurturing Charlotte Street Foundation

Featured Conferences, Workshops and Webinars

National Association for Interpretation Region 6 Workshop

February 26 - March 1, 2017

years. This area of the state is constantly changing, much like our interpretive profession. Connections are waiting to be made here. We hope you will create those important interpretive bridges connecting art, nature, and history as you connect with your fellow interpreters. The annual NAI Region 6 workshop has been compared to a family reunion, and rightly so. Here you will have the opportunities for networking, attending concurrent sessions, off site sessions, and hopefully find some time for yourself to relax, reengage,

Creating and Implementing the Annual Development Plan Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership

March 3-4 & April 7-8, 2017 University of Missouri - Kansas City (UMKC), Bloch Heritage Hall, 5110 Cherry Street, Room Kansas City Missouri

The key to a successful fund raising effort is the annual development plan, which uses a variety of fund raising techniques spread over an entire year to provide the funds needed to carry out the organization's mission. This course details each fund raising technique then teaches the student how to blend them into an annual development plan

For more information on these and other upcoming conferences and workshops or



D.C. Meeting Recap and Next Steps to Support FFNHA



We are experiencing a new day and age in our national government in Washington, DC. Not only do new figures head up the various executive departments, but a new Congress sits to determine both the future of many federal programs along with how much funding

It is into that atmosphere of dramatic change that Julie McPike and I traveled to Washington last week to attend the Alliance of National Heritage Areas annual meeting After the annual meeting, we spent several days meeting with our congressi representatives from both Missouri and Kansas about Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area and the 48 other heritage areas

One of the most important items we discussed was HR 1002. This new legislation would establish a National Heritage Area program under the National Parks Service in the Interior

- Establish a standardized set of criteria for new NHAs.
- Establish a rigorous process for existing NHAs to ensure accountability.
- . Modernize the program to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Clearly defines the oversight structure that will allow these popular public/private partnerships to better preserve the nation's heritage and spur economic growth with basic federal support.

Rep. Charles Dent (R-Penn) introduced the legislation with bi-partisan sponsorship from Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY). Thirteen other representatives jumped in as co-sponsors. We were excited that after our meeting with Rep. Lynn Jenkins (R-KS 2nd), she immediately joined as one of the co-sponsors.

Why is this bill important? Under current laws, Congress separately acted to establish each heritage area. (For example, Freedom's Frontier was established in October 2006.) Each of those bills were slightly different and established some unique rules for the operation of each heritage area. The National Parks Service is responsible for administering the different rules. As you can imagine, having 49 different sets of rules can make for confusion, a lack of clarity and wasted action compared to one set of rules for all That is why the National Park Service vigorously supports HR 1002.

It will also save the Congress significant work down the road. Each heritage area was established with sunsets coming due in the next few years. HR 1002 extends all the heritage area authorizations 20 years into the future. Without its passage, each individual heritage area will require separate legislation to extend authorization. One bill versus 49

We are thankful of Rep. Jenkins support of this legislation. If you live in Jenkins' district, please take a moment to thank her for supporting this important step forward. Rep. Lynn Jenkins, R-Ks 2nd (Senior Legislative Assistant Adam York)

We hope that every representative of a part of Freedom's Frontier will soon act to co-sponsor this bill. A number of you took time to write letters of support for level funding for Freedom's Frontier. That is important and we hope you continue to communicate about level funding. Additionally, if you live in any of these other districts, could you take a quick moment to email your representative and urge them to support HR 1002?

Rep. Vicky Hartzler, R-Mo 4th (Legislative Director Joe Tvrdy) Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, D-Mo 5th (Legislative Director Christina Mahoney) Rep. Sam Graves, R-Mo 6th (Legislative Correspondent Andrew Fisher) Rep. Roger Marshall, R-Ks 1st (Legislative Assistant Lauren Orndorff) Rep. Kevin Yoder, R-Ks 3rd, (Legislative Correspondent Taylor Huhn)

Your representatives listen to your voice. Take a moment by clicking on your representative's name to open up an email to the staffer who deals with these issues to let them know you support HR 1002.

Because your voice is so important. I have included links to some of the support materials we used to show <u>how heritage areas work</u>, their economic impact on their areas_and <u>how</u> HR 1002 helps those programs. Feel free to review those briefing papers.

would be remiss if I did not share with you a special moment during our Alliance of National Heritage Area's meetings. The National Parks Service's Assistant Director for Partnerships and Civic Engagement, Jeff Reinbold, and Martha Raymond, who is National Coordinator for Heritage Areas, presented Julie McPike with one of the National Parks Service Director's Partnership Awards for her work in establishing a program to help heritage areas share their best practices (pictured above). Sharing the award with McPike are Heather Wickens of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area and Katie Montgomery from the Ohio and Erie Canalway National Heritage Area

Jim Ogle



FFNHA Staff is in D.C. Want to support their efforts?

Freedom's Frontier staff is in Washington, D.C., this week to meet with our Congresspersons and Senators about the work of the heritage area. If you would like to show your support for federal heritage area funding, but aren't sure what to say, please email Julie McPike at jmcpike@freedomsfrontier.org for a template letter to assist you in

FFNHA visits the Kansas Statehouse!



FFNHA Staff and reenactors partner for Destination Statehouse

Every February, the Travel Industry Association of Kansas (TIAK) hosts a tourism day at the Kansas Statehouse. Last Wednesday, February 8, 2017, was Destination Statehouse day. A group of reenactors from partner sites joined Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area staff at the capitol in Topeka, and visited with state legislators on the value of tourism, and the heritage area, to Kansas

As we reamed the halls looking for offices of the representatives and senators who have constituents residing in the heritage area counties, we also encountered a group of pages getting a tour. The tour guide was pleased to hear that territorial governor Charles Robinson was "in the the tour. He sang an early Kansas song with the widow Barber, who was also there. Later, when the tour encountered John Brown near the Curry mural, Tragic Prelude, he also became part of the touring the building was photographed wi

We thank all of the partners who came with us for Destination Statehouse and displayed great dedication last Wednesday!

th the reenactors

Kerry Altenbernd (John (Sheriff Samuel Jones), Jar Flder (Matilda Barber) Steve Germes (Charles Robinson), Deb Powell (Mahala Doyle), and Charlene Winter (Clarina



Nichols) did a fine job of assisting with delivery of brochures and other materials that will help us to educate our state legislators about Freedom's Frontier, Kansas hi istory, and how partners work with the heritage area.

Freedom's Frontier Board of Trustees Chair Jody Craig, and Trustee Alexis Woodal | also

In addition to getting educational materials to our legislators, M anhattan CVB Director Karen Hibbard provided an introduction to Representative Tom P h illips, and Representative Bill Sutton from Gardner made time to talk to FFNHA staff.

Nednesday evening, TIAK had a reception at the Downtown Ramada, where we set up the Freedom's Frontier timeline exhibit. Tim Rues (Jim Lane), and Alexis Woodall (Mahaffie settler) were there and engaged attendees in discussions about heritage area history.

On Wednesday, Kansas legislators in the heritage area counties got an introduction to Freedom's Frontier. If you would like to participate in events such as this one in the future, especially if you already have a relationship with your area's legislators, please contact our Executive Director, Jim Ogle or other FFNHA staff members.



Partner Meetings

Partner Meeting Recap: http://conta.cc/2iXXP2b



Partner Meeting Live Stream:

https://www.facebook.co m/pg/FreedomsFrontier/vi deos/

Engaging Our Representatives

By Jim Ogle, Executive Director Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

All of us are challenged to find ways to effectively tell our stories to those who vote on our appropriations. This note outlines one way we used here at Freedom's Frontier to reach out.

A short bit of background. Like many of you, our founders organized Freedom's Frontier on a partnership model. Museums and historic sites make up our primary partners. Each tells one or more of three nationally significant stories: the settlement of the frontier, the Border War and Civil War on the western frontier and the enduring struggle for freedom. Because we shine the spotlight on partners, our offices and exhibit are not a destination site, per se.

We received a call from Rep. Lynn Jenkins (R-KS) on a Wednesday that she was available to come by for a short visit the following Monday. Her scheduler indicated she expected we would have a 20 minute or so sit down with her showing her a PowerPoint about Freedom's Frontier followed by anything else we would like to show her.

We decided to take a different approach. No PowerPoint. No sitdown.

We set it up as a "walkabout" in the British style. Partners and staff located at separate tables and displays would be our focus and tell our story. While I escorted Rep. Jenkins and her chief of staff from table to table, I made only brief remarks and introductions.

We told everyone, partner or staff, to approach this visit with these three points in mind:

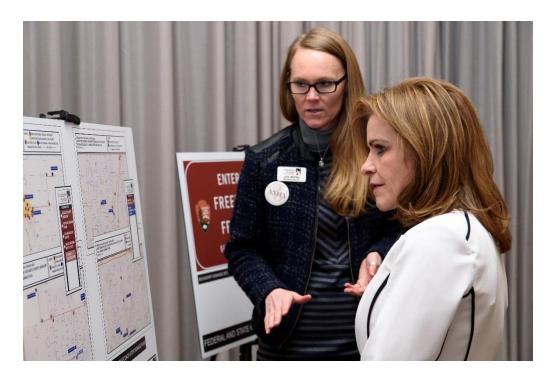
- No more than a 90-second elevator speech on their program.
- Each table had at least one "touchable" element—something that would trigger more than just the analytic part of the brain and give a sense of discovery.
- Explain in 60 seconds why Freedom's Frontier was essential to the project.

Even with such short notice, we had six partners who agreed to set up a table. We joined them with six displays on programs that Freedom's Frontier staff administers. After describing this approach to the scheduler, she added an additional 40 minutes to the Congresswoman's visit because of the valuable experience we created.

The following pictures show how we executed the visit.



Topeka Heartland Visioning Executive Director John Hunter told the story of the progress on creating an Oregon Trail riverfront park.



Managing Director Julie McPike explains our plans for signage throughout the heritage area.



Liz Hobson, Education and Interpretation
Manager and Lexi Ray,
Camps Coordinator,
explain our youth
programs to Rep.
Jenkins. This includes
our new coalition with the
Greenbush education
cooperative.



Barbara Higgins-Dover tells Rep. Jenkins how she uses a Freedom's Frontier grant to help her interpret the Kansas Riverkings Museum.



Kathleen Morgan from the Lawrence Public Library Foundation shows Rep. Jenkins how a grant from Freedom's Frontier is helping support the Lawrence Race Project.



I show Rep. Jenkins our display about how the Kansas Jayhawks got their name. History can be fun!



Jo Bogan of The Kansas African-American Trail and Mark McCormick of The Kansas African-American Museum tell Rep. Jenkins and Patrick Leopold, her chief of staff, about how Freedom's Frontier is a key partner in establishing the Trail.



Henry Fortunato explains how the Burroughs Creek Trail will be developed in Freedom's Frontier's "Hikes Through History" program.



Nathan McAlister shows Rep. Jenkins how his students created a mural honoring the story of the First Kansas Colored soldiers.



One big benefit was the number of Freedom's Frontier trustees who joined the tour. Rep. Jenkins poses with Trustees and staff.

When she had finished, Rep. Jenkins had spent an hour with our partners. She expressed her genuine thanks and surprise at viewing the diversity of our displays, our programs and meeting with partners and trustees. Nothing showed that more than when Rep. Jenkins told me while she walked to her car that she just did not realize how many different programs in which we were involved. She pledged her help in working with Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA) in getting HR 1002 passed.

Rep. Jenkins had co-sponsored our legislation in each of the past two Congresses. She has also joined us at one of our youth camps in the summer. Each year, we meet with her about our programs in Washington as part of the Alliance's annual meeting. Even with all those efforts at outreach, we believe that this effort did a better job of connecting her with the diversity of our programs and their scope in her congressional district.





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