



NEWS RELEASE

Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 9, 2008

CELEBRATION PLANNED FOR STATE'S BIRTHDAY AT HOLLENBERG PONY EXPRESS STATION STATE HISTORIC SITE

HANOVER, KS— Kansas will celebrate its 147th birthday on Tuesday, January 29, 2008, but visitors to Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site can get a jump on the festivities Saturday, January 26. This free event will feature refreshments and re-enactments throughout the day. Herbert and Alice Dyck, will do first-person costumed interpretations of Great and Sophia Hollenberg, builders and operators of the Hollenberg Station.

Kyle Birkhofer, sixth grade student at District 223 Hanover Public School, will portray Henry Kreiensieck, a German youth sponsored by and living with the Hollenbergs when he came to America as a 14-year-old boy in 1870. He made the journey from New York on the ship *Deutschland* and then by train to Waterville, Kan. The wooden box holding Kreiensieck's belongings is on display at the Hollenberg Pony Express Station.

Re-enactments are scheduled for 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the site's visitor center. The site will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

About the site: You can almost hear the thundering of horse hooves and the creak of wagons as Pony Express riders and hundreds of pioneers made a stop at historic Hollenberg Station. In 1857 Gerat H. and Sophia Hollenberg established a way station for travelers on the Oregon and California Trails, and from 1860 to 1861 they operated a Pony Express station. The building still stands and, along with the visitor center, tells the stories of the Hollenbergs, pioneer life, and the Pony Express. The Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site is one of sixteen historic sites operated by the Kansas Historical Society.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.