



NEWS RELEASE

Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2011

RE-RIDE EVENT AT HOLLENBERG CANCELED; DURST ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Please Note: This information is an update to the media release sent May 26 concerning two Kansas 150-related events at Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site

HANOVER, KS—The Kansas Historical Society announced that a Pony Express re-ride event originally scheduled for 7 a.m. Thursday, June 9, at Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site has been postponed until further notice. A recent outbreak of an equine virus has prompted horse owners to take precautionary measures to reduce exposure to possibly infected horses.

Also at Hollenberg Pony Express Station, site administrator Duane Durst has announced he will retire June 25 after 23 years of working for the Kansas Historical Society. Durst's retirement will coincide with a program scheduled for 2 p.m. June 25 at Kloppenberg Center, 512 # North Street, Hanover. "Poet Lariat" (not laureate) Ron Wilson will present "From Cattle Drives to Cell Phones: Kansas Cowboy History and Poetry. This program is free and open to the public and portrays the history of the cowboy in Kansas, including how the cowboy has been depicted in art, literature, and popular culture, such as Wild West shows, movies, and television. Wilson will also perform original cowboy poetry. For more information, contact Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site, 785-337-2635.

About the site: In 1857 Gerat Hollenberg built a one-room cabin on his land, sure that he could improve his mercantile business by locating it closer to the St. Joseph Branch of the Oregon-California Trail. A century and a half later, the cabin remains to help tell the stories of the pioneers on the trail, the Pony Express riders, and the Hollenberg family. The Hollenberg cabin, designated a National Historic Landmark, has been preserved and includes hands-on exhibits geared toward children. The visitor center and museum houses exhibits on westward expansion and the Pony Express. The Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site is one of 16 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.