

July 16, 2009

Dear Friend of the Harvey County Historical Society,

I am pleased to announce that the Harvey County Historical Museum & Archives has been awarded \$10,000 in tax credits as part of the Kansas State Historical Society's Partnership Historic Sites program. This privilege and opportunity shows that KSHS has confidence in our organization and wishes to support our mission and goals.

The funds raised by HCHM will be used for restoration and preservation of the exterior brick and limestone masonry on the 1904 Carnegie Library building. Normal deterioration on the 105-year-old building has resulted in the need to replace limestone pieces and bricks as well as requiring repointing of the joints to keep moisture from damaging the historic structure. A project of this magnitude is difficult to afford from a regular operating budget but is essential for proper care of the site. In addition, since we are on the state and national historic registers, the masonry must follow preservation guidelines, which is even more expensive. This program helps a small non-profit like HCHM find support by giving so much back to the donor. Everyone wins!

State tax credits will be issued for donations of \$1,000 to \$5,000. Different from deductions, tax credits are paid to the donor even if the donor owes no taxes. This means that a check from the Kansas Department of Revenue would be issued to the donor for the amount of the tax credit if the donor owes no taxes.

For this particular tax credit program, the amount of reimbursement will be 45% of the donated amount, and the remaining 55% can be claimed as a charitable contribution on state and federal tax returns. Thus, the actual out-of-pocket expense someone who donates \$1,000 is approximately \$350, which is a great deal for everyone involved.

Any individual or business that pays Kansas income, privilege, or premium tax is eligible with a minimum donation of \$1,000. And the maximum allowed under this program is \$5,000 per tax year. Credits will be awarded by HCHM until June 30, 2010, or until the full \$10,000 has been assigned. Donors wishing to maximum the tax credit benefit may choose to donate by December 31, 2009, for a 45% tax credit in the 2009 tax year, then donate again before June 30, 2010, to be issued credits for the 2010 tax year also.

HCHM has just begun the process of seeking donations and awarding tax credits and would like to offer our current members and supporters the opportunity to take advantage of these tax credits at the beginning of the project. Even though the tax credit program requires a minimum donation of \$1,000, donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated. Most of our projects are possible due to the support of lots of folks just doing what they can. So, every donor is essential.

If you would like more information about the Partnership Historic Sites Tax Credit Program or you would like to make a donation, please contact me at the museum. I look forward to visiting with you.

Sincerely,

Debra D. Hiebert
Museum Director