

## Museum Notes

by Kristen Parrott, curator  
for the week of January 28 – February 3, 2018

The end of the Black Hawk War of 1832 will be the subject of the next free public program here at the museum. The program will be held on Tuesday, February 6, at 7PM, in the museum's conference room. Vernon County Historical Society Board member Maynard Cox will be the speaker. Maynard helps to maintain the Black Hawk Trail in Vernon County, which is a set of stone markers commemorating the final days of the war.

The Black Hawk War of 1832 ended in a massacre of most of Black Hawk's band of Sac Indians on August 1 and 2. This happened near what is now called Battle Island, in the modern-day Blackhawk Park alongside the Mississippi River just north of De Soto. It is a painful irony that the site of a massacre is now a recreation area.

Inscribed stones mark key points along the path that the war leader Black Hawk and his band took through Vernon County to the Mississippi. These markers were created and erected in 1930 by local historian Dr. Charles Porter. A driving tour of the markers is available as a brochure at the museum, or on our website, [vernoncountyhistory.org](http://vernoncountyhistory.org).

The February program will also provide the yearly opportunity for Historical Society members to discuss and vote on the annual budget. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The first genealogy class of 2018 will be held on Thursday, February 8, at 10AM, here at the museum. Norwegian genealogy will be the topic of the day. Darlene Bankes and her daughter will talk about their recent trip to Norway to learn more about their Norwegian ancestry.

Classes are held in the museum's wheelchair-accessible, first-floor conference room. Vernon County Historical Society members attend for free, and non-members are asked to pay \$5 per class. New students are always welcome to join the class.