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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Exploring the *Minnesota's Heritage: Back to the Sources* project.**

Learn more about the Dakota Conflict of 1862 as the Dakota County Historical Society kicks off the *Third Thursday Lectures @ Lawshe*, a new series of free, monthly presentations and workshops at the Society's Lawshe Memorial Museum.

*November 4, 2010, South St. Paul, MN* – The story of the Dakota people is filled with remarkable and tragic moments. Far too many of those tragic moments resulted from the chaotic convergence of cultures, first the Ojibwe, then the French, English, and eventually descendents from much of Europe as Minnesota transitioned from “frontier” to Statehood. Join Mary Bakeman, managing editor of *Minnesota's Heritage: Back to the Sources* magazine, as she discusses the *Minnesota's Heritage* project, the scholarly review of the causes and events of the Dakota Conflict of 1862. The timing of this new, scholarly investigation of the conflict coincides with the upcoming 150 year anniversary of the outbreak of hostilities. A literal who's who of Minnesota scholars are associated with this effort which is resulting in a series of publications that seek to re-elevate scholarly work to the place of importance it once held before sound-bite history became common.

In 2008 Bakeman and a group of expert researchers published *Trails of Tears: Minnesota's Dakota Indian Exile Begins*. This group included such notables as Alan Woolworth, Stephen Osman, Curtis Dahlin, Carrie Zeman, Walt Bachman and Thomas Shaw. Other stories bubbled to the surface and *Minnesota's Heritage: Back to the Sources* was born.

Bakeman will discuss the vision for and development of this new publication, the process of selecting stories for each issue, and how to participate.

**The free program begins at 7 p.m. at that Lawshe Memorial Museum on Thursday, November 18. The museum is located at 130 Third Avenue North, South St. Paul, MN 55075.**

Presenter Mary Hawker Bakeman owns Park Genealogical Books, a local and family history bookstore specializing in Minnesota and the surrounding area. She edits the *Minnesota Genealogical Journal* in addition to *Minnesota's Heritage: Back to the Sources*, both semi-annual publications. In 2008, Bakeman was awarded the Pioneer Explorer Award by the Minnesota Genealogical Society for her contributions to the development of Minnesota resources for genealogy and family history research.

The Dakota County Historical Society has been collecting, preserving, promoting and presenting the history of Dakota County for 71 years. Serving all of Dakota County, the Society provides more than 60 public programs annually at a variety of sites, including the Lawshe Memorial Museum in South St. Paul, the LeDuc Historic Estate in Hastings, and at Dakota County Libraries, government centers, and the Burnsville Performing Arts Center.

The new *Third Thursday Lectures @ Lawshe* program will present a new speaker and topic every month. In addition to history and genealogy projects, workshops on family heirlooms, author events/book signings, and artist presentations and demonstrations are planned.

For more information contact Chad Roberts, Executive Director, at (651) 552-7548 or [chad.roberts@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:chad.roberts@co.dakota.mn.us). For more about DCHS, see website: [www.dakotahistory.org](http://www.dakotahistory.org) or visit us at the Lawshe Memorial Museum at 130 Third Avenue North, South St. Paul, MN 55075.

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