

# Headwaters Interpreter

A periodic publication of the

Three Forks Area Historical Society and the Headwaters Heritage Museum  
PO Box 116 · Three Forks, MT 59752 · [www.tfhistory.org](http://www.tfhistory.org)

May 2013

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## Depot Defenders Summer Plans

Members of the Three Forks Area Historical Society have been making plans for this summer's renovation and fundraising plans for the Trident Depot. The Northern Pacific Railway depot from Trident, MT has been moved to Three Forks and will eventually house the Headwaters Railroad and Trident Heritage (HRATH) Center.

To kick off the fundraising for this summer, the Society was presented a check from Imerys by Connie Hussung. Connie and several other employees of Rio Tinto pooled their incentive bonuses and donated them to three local organizations, one of which was for the Society's Depot Defender project.

### Interior Inspirations

David Ford of Genesis Design hosted the Depot Defenders at the Church of Christ recently and moderated a discussion of the plans for depot. After reviewing the assets and limitations, the Depot Defenders reviewed goals and brainstormed on the statement "What would you like the inside of the depot to look like on opening day?" A good discussion and good ideas were given as participants shared their visions.

### Grants

Society President Pat O'Brien Townsend has been busy writing grants for the project. She has submitted applications to the Gallatin Historic Preservation Board and the Montana History Foundation.

Work is progressing on the landscaping of the park funded by a CTEP grant. Stahly Engineering of Bozeman has been chosen to oversee the landscaping project. The Society is hoping for additional funds to install a paved road and parking lot.

### Raising the Roof

Depot Defender Project Manager Larry Wilcox has outlined this year's work schedule on the depot. The main effort is work on the roof of the depot. In addition to replacing the roofing materials and sealing the building, Wilcox has plans to reinstall the dormers that were taken out of the building sometime in late 1940s or 1950s. He anticipates the roof and dormer project will cost \$10,000 in

materials with mostly donated labor. There is a possibility that the CTEP grant may cover the cost of replacing the roof of the depot, but the Defenders are still aiming to "raise the roof," so to speak, with their upcoming fundraiser events.

### NTRAK & Milkshakes for Money

As one of the two major fundraisers for this summer, the Depot Defenders will be hosting the Montana NTRAK club on the weekend of July 27 & 28. The NTRAKers will be setting up their railroad model layout inside the depot and donations will be taken at the door. Depot Defenders will also be selling home-made milkshakes (with a choice of Wilcoxson's or Wilcox's home-made ice cream) in a variety of flavors.

That will be a busy weekend in Three Forks as the Headwaters Car Club will host its 12<sup>th</sup> annual Car Show at the Sacajawea Hotel. The Headwaters Bank Run (5K, 10K and half marathon) is scheduled for Saturday morning. All funds for the run go to build more area walking and running trails.

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## A SPECIAL INVITATION



Members of **Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association** are invited to visit the depot this July on their way to and from the annual NPRHA convention in Billings. Special arrangements to view the interior of the depot can be made by e-mailing [museumthreeforks@aol.com](mailto:museumthreeforks@aol.com). Or drop by the weekend of July 27 & 28 for a real treat, NTRAK and milkshakes!

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### And Speaking of the Buffalo Jump

Although still in the inception stage, the Depot Defenders are hoping to schedule a speaker for August 3 who will discuss Native American culture, focusing on the buffalo. With all the recent news about the Madison Buffalo Jump, it is anticipated that the presentation will be well attended. The Antique Airplane Fly-in scheduled for that weekend may also boost attendance.

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**HEADWATERS HERITAGE MUSEUM  
opens for the season on June 1!**

## Events Calendar

**May 29** - Museum Volunteer Docent Orientation - 9:30 to Noon, Methodist Church Annex.

**June 1** (Saturday) - Opening Day at the Headwaters Heritage Museum.

**June 6** (Thursday) - Meeting of the Society 7 PM, Methodist Church Annex.

**July** (T-B-D) - Meeting of the Society 7 PM, Methodist Church Annex.

**July 27-28** - Open House at the Depot in conjunction with the annual Headwaters Car Show. Montana NTrak railroad modeling will set up their "layout" in the freight room of the depot. The Society will be selling milkshakes to help keep everyone cool.

**Aug. 1** (Thursday) - Meeting of the Society 7 PM, Methodist Church Annex.

**Aug. 2** (Friday) - Patrick Finnegan will be giving a presentation at the Lewis and Clark Caverns Campfire Talks entitled *Pioneering the Cavern Township*.

**Aug. 3** (Saturday) - During the annual Antique Air Show, the Society will sponsor a presentation about Native American's and the buffalo. Details to be announced.

**Sept. 5** (Thursday) - Meeting of the Society 7 PM, Methodist Church Annex.

**Sept 30** (Monday) - Last day of the museum season.

**Oct. 3** (Thursday) - Meeting of the Society 7 PM, Methodist Church Annex.

**Nov. 10** (Saturday) - (Tentative) Lecture and Matinee, 1 PM, Methodist Church Annex.

**Dec. 6?** (Friday) - Annual Christmas Stroll, Museum open.

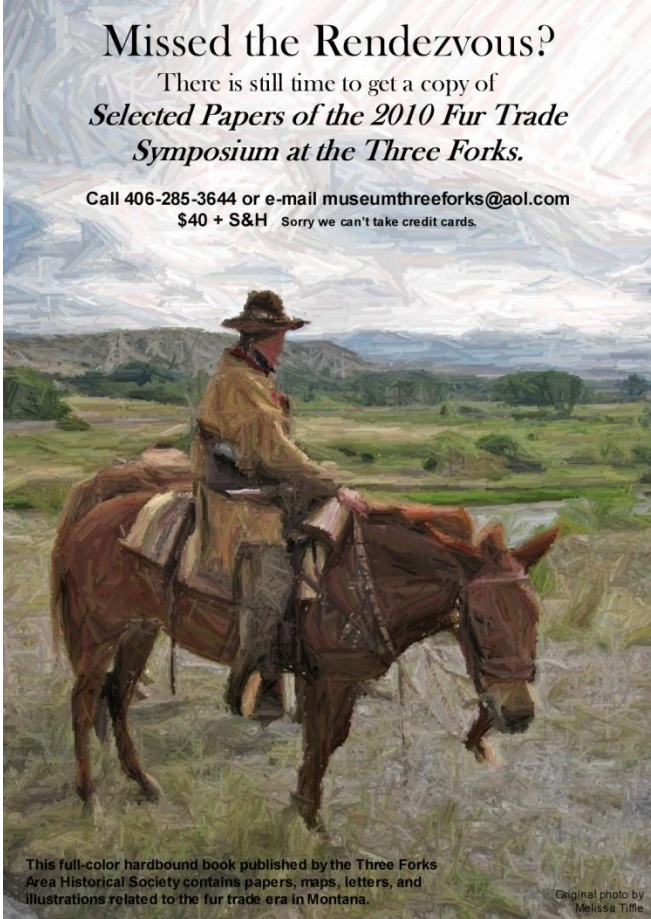
Volunteers are still needed at the Museum. Call Robin at 285-3644 or e-mail [museumthreeforks@aol.com](mailto:museumthreeforks@aol.com).

## Mystery Photo

In 1910 and 1911, James Ahl, of Cavern, built a number of one room schools including Hubbard, Grant Smith, Cavern, and Willow Creek. It is possible that he also built the Jefferson School pictured below. Where was the Jefferson (River) School (pictured to the right)?

**Missed the Rendezvous?**  
There is still time to get a copy of  
*Selected Papers of the 2010 Fur Trade Symposium at the Three Forks.*

Call 406-285-3644 or e-mail [museumthreeforks@aol.com](mailto:museumthreeforks@aol.com)  
\$40 + S&H Sorry we can't take credit cards.



This full-color hardbound book published by the Three Forks Area Historical Society contains papers, maps, letters, and illustrations related to the fur trade era in Montana.

Original photo by Melissa Tiffe.

**Our web-site: [www.tfhistory.org](http://www.tfhistory.org)**

