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Tours of new Museum site offered

The public is invited to a sneak peek of the new site of the Sioux City Public Museum on Saturday, June 20 and 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The “Our New Museum” Open House events will feature pre-construction tours, an overview of the architectural and exhibit plans, and a look at some of the artifacts that will be displayed. The Museum portion of the building will be accessible via the Nebraska Street entrance.

“This is a good opportunity for the public to get a look at the future of the Sioux City Public Museum and become involved in the process,” said Steve Hansen, Museum director.

Renovation of the former JC Penney building at 607 4th Street for use as a museum is slated to begin this summer. The new museum will occupy the entire first floor of the building — approximately 55,000 square feet of floor space, with about 10,000 square feet of two-story space as an atrium in the southwest corner of the building. Early architectural renderings call for a dramatic façade with a glass exterior through which artifacts and activities will be visible from outside.

The upcoming tours of the soon-to-be-renovated facility come on the heels of a \$2 million dollar grant awarded to the Siouxland Heritage Foundation through the Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) grant program. The Siouxland Heritage Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) created to oversee design, construction and fundraising of the new Sioux City Public Museum. The state funding is contingent upon an additional \$1.1 million being raised within the next 180 days for the \$13.8 million project.

Along with financial support, the Sioux City Public Museum is actively looking for artifact donations, particularly ones for an exhibit about the various ethnic groups who have lived in Sioux City.

For more information about the “Our New Museum” capital campaign or the open house events, visit www.siouxcitymuseum.org. The website includes the latest capital campaign news as well as giving information and a pledge card.

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