

African-American Homesteaders Focus of NET Radio Feature

LINCOLN, Neb. (Feb. 5, 2008) -- David and Hannah Patrick were the first two African Americans to homestead in Hamilton County in south-central Nebraska. Born a slave in Missouri, David Patrick used the Homestead Act to make a new life for himself and his family. Patrick helped found a church, was a member of a cemetery board and took a deep interest in education. Some of the Patrick's descendants still live in Nebraska today. Tune in to NET Radio this weekend to hear their conversation with NET Radio's Humanities Desk Producer Jerry Johnston.

The story will air on NET Radio Saturday, Feb. 9, at 8:30 a.m. CT, and repeat on Sunday, Feb. 10, at 9:30 a.m. CT. It will repeat on public radio station KIOS-FM in Omaha on Friday, Feb. 15, at 9:55 a.m. CT.

David and Hannah Patrick's granddaughters live in Omaha. Helen Patrick Seward and her sister Ruth Patrick Thomas talked with Johnston about their grandparents and the importance of their homesteading heritage.

The Nebraska Humanities Council provides partial funding for humanities features on NET Radio.

An audio link to the story will be on NET Radio's Web site (www.netNebraska.org/radio and click on Nebraska News) the day of the broadcast. All that is needed to listen to the report is access to the Internet and a free RealPlayer program.

NET Radio is a service of NET. For more information about NET Radio or to listen to NET Radio programming Webcast live, go to www.netNebraska.org/radio. All that is needed is access to the Internet and a free RealPlayer program. Webcasting of NET Radio is a free service provided by NET.

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NET Radio:

Broadcasts on the following frequencies: Alliance/91.1 FM; Bassett/90.3 FM; Chadron/91.9 FM; Columbus/90.3 FM; Culbertson/92.7 FM; Falls City/91.7 FM; Harrison/89.5 FM; Hastings/Grand Island/89.1 FM; Lexington/88.7 FM; Lincoln/91.1 FM; Max/93.3 FM; Merriman/91.5 FM; Norfolk/89.3 FM; and North Platte/91.7 FM.