



# Center for Heritage Renewal

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News: **For Immediate Release**

Subject: **Dakota Discussions Feature New Book on the Dakota War**

Public programs upcoming in Ellendale and in Fort Yates will highlight the history of the Dakota War through discussion of a new book on the subject. The book, a landmark work of history, is *Columns of Vengeance: Soldiers, Sioux, and the Punitive Expeditions, 1863-1864*, by Paul N. Beck.

The first discussion will be at 2:00pm Sunday, October 27, at the historic Ellendale Opera House. The second discussion will be at 2:00pm Sunday, November 10, in Science & Technology Center Room 120/101, Sitting Bull College.

These discussion programs are organized by the Center for Heritage Renewal, North Dakota State University, and funded by the North Dakota Humanities Council. Multiple copies of the book, *Columns of Vengeance*, are available for checkout prior to the programs from the Ellendale Public Library and from the Sitting Bull College Library. Loan of the book is free to the public, as are the discussion programs.

Humanities scholars LaDonna Brave Bull Allard, Richard Rothaus, Tamara St. John, and Tom Isern will conduct the discussions. Each discussion will be led by a team including a tribal scholar and an academic historian. Local coordinators are Jeanette Robb-Ruenz (701-535-0442, jrbruenz@drtel.net) in Ellendale and Mark Holman (701-854-8024, markh@sbc.edu) in Fort Yates.

“*Columns of Vengeance* is the best single work to read on the Dakota War,” observes Isern, who is director of the Center for Heritage Renewal. “This is a book worth reading for every North Dakotan, because the Dakota War of the 1860s shaped the country we live in today.”

For general information about the Dakota Discussion programs, contact Isern at isern@plainsfolk.com or 701-799-2942; or, refer to the website: [heritagerenewal.org/dakotawar](http://heritagerenewal.org/dakotawar).

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