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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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The Legacy of Neihardt and Black Elk Presented by Nancy Gillis

Kearney Public Library welcomes Nancy Gillis on Monday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. for ***The Legacy of Neihardt and Black Elk***. This presentation explores the remarkable legacy of a unique personal and spiritual friendship begun in 1931 between the Lakota holy man Black Elk and poet John G. Neihardt. It includes brief biographies of each man, their meetings, and its impact on adding to the knowledge of Lakota culture, Native American philosophies, and the possibilities of cross-cultural recognition and respect.

Nancy S. Gillis is the former Executive Director of the John Neihardt State Historic Site and the Neihardt Foundation's Institute for Vision and Learning. Nancy joined the Foundation as Assistant Director in May 1997 and retired in 2014, joining its Board of Directors, and speaks to schools and civic groups on Neihardt's work and a variety of related topics. Since 1992 she has served as faculty at Wayne State College, Northeast Community College, Nebraska Indian Community College, and Little Priest Tribal College teaching Native American History and Cultures, U.S. History, World History, Anthropology and Sociology.

Of Cherokee and Choctaw heritage, Gillis moved to Nebraska in 1987 to work with the Winnebago people for the Reformed Church in America and has served as their delegate to its Native American Council and the Commission for Race and Ethnicity.

This program is free. The Kearney Public library is located at 2020 First Avenue, Kearney, NE.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

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