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**For more information, contact WSC, 774-4200**

## **WSC to Host “An Evening with Abraham Lincoln”**

Williston State College will host “An Evening with Abraham Lincoln” at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9 in The Well. The event, which is a chataqua-style or first person presentation of the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, is free and open to the public.

Lincoln will be portrayed by Dr. George Frein, retired Professor of English from the University of North Dakota. His presentation is part of the Lincoln Legacy Project that celebrates the life and times of Lincoln. “Frein has portrayed Lincoln in many similar venues and Williston is fortune to get him,” said Richard Stenberg, assistant professor of history at WSC and an organizer of the event.

David Richter, coordinator for the Great Northwest Education Cooperative and workforce dean at WSC, and Stenberg have been working to bring Frein to Williston since last spring. “We had hoped to have the event last February when the bicentennial of Lincoln’s birth was being commemorated, but we could not book him,” Richter said.

Stenberg noted that “Lincoln’s presidency occurred during one of the most divisive periods in the country’s history.” Frein’s presentation will highlight those challenges.

By way of introduction of Lincoln, the Williston State College Concert Choir will perform period music before the chataqua begins. Dr. Jerry Tweton, retired Professor of History at the University of North Dakota and the historical consultant for the North Dakota Humanities Council, will portray Dr. William Jayne. Jayne was Lincoln’s personal physician, but also was named the first territorial governor of Dakota Territory by Lincoln in 1861. Tweton, as Jayne, will discuss conditions in Dakota Territory and will introduce the 16<sup>th</sup> President.

Funding for Frein and Tweton’s appearance is made possible through grants from North Star Caviar, the North Dakota Humanities Council, the Great Northwest Education Cooperative, Williston State College and the Williston State College Foundation. The event will be followed by a reception which the public is encouraged to attend and met the presenters.