

# THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

*Featuring John Voehl as Abraham Lincoln*

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2  
6 P.M.**

**Niobrara County Library**

Before the start of the American Civil War many people and leaders of the North had been primarily concerned merely with stopping the extension of slavery into western territories that would eventually achieve statehood within the Union. With the secession of the Southern states and the consequent start of the Civil War, however, the continued tolerance of Southern slavery by Northerners seemed no longer to serve any constructive political purpose. Emancipation thus quickly changed from a distant possibility to an imminent and feasible eventuality. Lincoln had declared that he meant to save the Union as best he could—by preserving slavery, by destroying it, or by

destroying part and preserving part. Just after the Battle of Antietam (September 17, 1862) he issued his proclamation calling

on the revolted states to return to their allegiance before the next year, otherwise their slaves would be declared free men. No state returned, and the threatened declaration was issued on January 1, 1863.



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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2  
3:45 P.M.**

**Children's Program with Abraham Lincoln**  
Stories that speak of Lincoln's childhood and children's antics in Springfield and in the White House

The "Civil War Series" is supported in part by a grant from the Wyoming Arts Council and the Niobrara County Library Foundation, Inc., with materials support from the Wyoming Humanities Council and the Niobrara County Library.

