

Thursday, June 20, 2019  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Ben Franklin at Dickson Mounds Tot Time on July 4**

LEWISTOWN, IL – At Dickson Mounds Museum's Tot Time on Thursday, July 4 at 9:30 a.m., tots and their caretakers will celebrate America's birthday and meet Ben Franklin, a man for all ages! Inventor, statesman, and founding father--he seemed to do it all. Listen as Franklin reminisces about his political life, writings, and scientific inventions. How has this founding father changed the way we live our lives today? Tots, their caretakers and older siblings are all welcome to join in the fun, including a craft to take home and cake to eat. This program may be a great way to start the holiday.

Terry Lynch of HFK Presents will portray Ben Franklin and present the program. Nationally known actor Terry Lynch specializes in historical portrayal to meet the needs of the young at heart who are never too old to learn something new about history's most interesting, inspirational figures. His one-man interactive presentations give audiences a new, first-person perspective on the people and events that make up our history and culture.

Admission to Tot Time is free and registration is not required. Light refreshments will be served. Groups of eight or more should call the Dickson Mounds Museum in advance to ensure the availability of supplies. The program begins promptly at 9:30 a.m., with the program portion lasting approximately 30 minutes, followed by crafts, snacks, and time to explore the museum.

The 2019 Tot Time program series is sponsored by Spoon River Electric's Operation Round-up grant, Canton Chamber of Commerce, Havana National Bank, Lewistown American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Bishop Post #1, Lewistown VFW Post 5001 Auxiliary, Rusty Melhouse of Edward Jones, and Jeff and Linda Sisson of Havana. The Tot Time program series continuously seeks sponsors. Please contact Curator of Education Christa Christensen at 309-547-3721 for more information.

The Illinois State Museum-Dickson Mounds is located between Lewistown and Havana off Illinois Routes 78 and 97. The museum is open free to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day. Tours and special programs are available for groups with reservations. For more information call 309-547-3721 or TTY 217-782-9175. Also visit us on Facebook at Illinois State Museum-Dickson Mounds or online at the Dickson Mounds link on the Illinois State Museum website at [www.illinoisstatemuseum.org](http://www.illinoisstatemuseum.org).

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