

## *See It Now . . . Freeborn County Memories*

In today's technology based world we are in danger of losing the "voices" of our community. In the future we will have fewer saved letters, journals, household accounts and many other forms of paper-based information that preserve our heritage. This is the heritage of our community and we want to insure that future generations can access it. This project is aimed at collecting and preserving oral histories of citizens of Freeborn County, Minnesota. We want to capture the memories of individuals in our community that focus on historically significant national, local and world events. Some of the participants would have been a part of the event while others will relate stories describing where they were and what they were doing when they heard about the event. It is important to remember that no one person has the same reaction to or memory of past events and by capturing both the visual expressions and the voices of different people throughout the community recalling and sharing their experience of the same event, the finished product will be a useable oral/visual personal history preserved for future generations. These interviews will be recorded in a video format and preserved on DVDs that will be available for checkout at the Library and archived at the Freeborn County Museum & Historical Village. Some of these interviews will be available for download in a podcast format or viewing online making the video/history easily shared and widely available on both of the partners websites.

The project is divided into three different phases that have been designed as a multigenerational experience. Phase 1 is the current part of the project and will focus on five important events associated with World War II:

- **Attack on Pearl Harbor** Sunday, December 7, 1941
- **D-Day** Tuesday, June 6, 1944
- **Death of President Roosevelt** Thursday, April 12, 1945
- **Victory in Europe (VE Day)** Tuesday, May 8, 1945
- **Victory in Pacific (VJ Day)** (US) Tuesday, August 14, 1945  
(Japan) Wednesday, August 15, 1945

*If you have any questions you can contact Peggy Havener at the Albert Lea Public Library (507-377-4355) or Pat Mulso at the Freeborn County Museum & Historical Village (507-373-8003).*