



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Nurses of the Civil War Presentation at Library**

**New Braunfels, TX** – On Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the New Braunfels Public Library, Cristabell Reiche West will present historical research on the role of nurses during the American Civil War. The program is possible with support from *The Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library*.

The public lecture will focus on nurses, including Florence Nightingale and Clara Barton, who tended to the wounded and ill soldiers during the Civil War of the early 1860s. More than 600,000 Union and Confederate soldiers died from combat injuries, accidents, illness, and starvation. Over 3,200 women served as nurses for the Union army and an estimated 1,000 women served as nurses for the Confederate army. Many Catholic nuns served as nurses for both the North and the South. West will highlight the medical contributions of Florence Nightingale, pioneer of modern nursing, and Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross.

“Anyone interested in the history of the Civil War, as well as the important and little-known role of nurses in the war, will find this free talk enlightening and engaging,” said Library Director Gretchen Pruett.

For more information, contact Public Services Librarian Alix Samuels at 830-221-4316.

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