

Clay County Historical Society

Clay County Historical Society Newsletter

November /December 2002

Volume XXV No. 6

**In this issue: Eating Out in Clay County •
Holiday Open House • Leave A Legacy •
1900 Buffalo River Pigeforening Autograph Quilt •
Evolution of the School Hot Lunch Program**



Hawley High School cooks Tillie Floberg and Lillie Kasin serve up nutritious, federally approved, Type A meals for hungry students in 1956. Hawley High School Annual, *The Nugget*, 1956.

President's Column

By CCHS President Donna Voxland

I'm looking forward to seeing our next exhibit, "Eating Out in Clay County." Think of all the changes in eating-out in the last 50 years. Today we hardly think twice about stepping out for a meal. When I was growing up it was a rare thing saved for special occasions. Even a driving trip to the west coast involved packing sandwiches for every lunch and finding a motel with a kitchenette for dinner. I fondly remember my older brother taking his little sisters to the White Spot Drive-In south of Moorhead in his red convertible for a malt. That's a classic early 1960s memory complete with the tray that sat on the rolled-down window and Elvis singing on the car radio. However, with all the changes in the dining-out experience, one of my favorites is still the Parke Lutheran Meatball dinner at the Steam Threshers Reunion in Rollag! Come and stir up your memories at our new exhibit, opening November 10.



Snowbird Alert!

We have just one small favor to ask....



Our newsletter is sent at a non-profit bulk rate, and cannot be forwarded, nor can it be held when you are temporarily away.

Unless we have your correct address or instructions not to mail out the newsletter during a certain time frame, you do not get your newsletter, and every newsletter that is returned to us costs an additional 60 cents—more than a first class letter.

Please help the historical society save money for educational exhibits and programs, and assure that you get your CCHS newsletters, by letting us know if you are going to be away for any length of time. We appreciate your help and thank you for taking care of this matter.



CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Donations and Memorials

September & October 2002

Artists from the Artists Workshop Display
Heritage House, Fargo
Andrea King, Crestwood, KY
North Dakota State University, Fargo
Park View Terrace Apartments, Moorhead
Anonymous

EATING OUT IN CLAY COUNTY Now Showing at the Clay County Museum!

The staff of the Clay County Historical Society is pleased to announce the next major exhibit in the Clay County Museum: *Eating Out in Clay County*. The exhibit opened with a successful grand opening reception and ribbon-cutting Sunday, November 10, and focuses on almost every way and place that folks in Clay County eat other than in their homes.

Whether taking lunch to school or work, grabbing a fast bite at the newest fast food joint, or sitting down in a fine restaurant, the practice of eating outside the home has evolved from an act of necessity to a form of recreation.

Remember eating from the window tray at the local drive-in and the great root beer from A & W? *Eating Out* includes a wide array of items from Clay County restaurants and cafes, as well as a variety of lunch containers, from the Norwegian tine (a wooden storage box) to school lunch boxes.

Saloons are represented with a display of intriguing

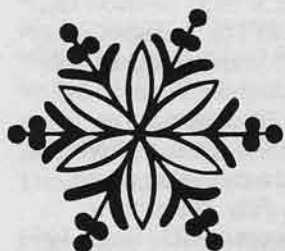
archaeological remains found along the Red River from turn-of-the-century Moorhead saloons. Spectacular photographs in this exhibit make you feel as if you've just stepped into one of Moorhead's first saloons, a hot late summer's day of threshing, or into the school lunch room.

Eating Out celebrates fellowship with a look at church basement dinners, the accoutrements needed for entertaining guests (remember those beautiful glass luncheon sets, ladies?), and special events centered on particular meals, such as Ulen Turkey Days and the Concordia Corn Feed.

Vote for your favorite Clay County restaurant and take a break in the "History Café" hands-on area with food- and nutrition-themed games and activities! Perkins won the title of favorite restaurant of November visitors.

You can see this "appetizing" exhibit as many times as you want until October 2003. Bring your friends and family! The Clay County Museum is free and open 7 days a week: Mon.-Sat. 10-5, Tues. 10-9, Sun. 12-5.

Celebrate the Season with Us!



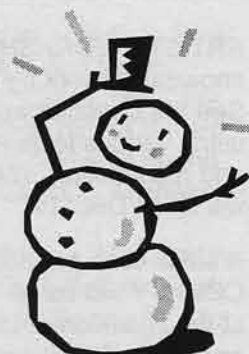
FREE! Holiday Open House
Everyone Welcome—Bring a Friend!

Saturday, December 14
2:00-4:00

Music ♪ Refreshments ♪ Door Prizes

See our new exhibit!
EATING OUT IN CLAY COUNTY

Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Avenue North, Moorhead



Outreach Displays

	Open	Close
Hawley Public Library	Dec.	March
Moorhead Public Library	Dec.	March
Barnesville Public Library	Dec.	March
Fargo CVB	Dec.	Jan.

WHAT IS IT? WHEN WAS IT? opens at the Hawley Public Library and will test the knowledge of young and old alike. If you are stumped by these items, you are in the right place to look them up!

Moorhead Public Library will experience a trip back in time with the photo display THEN & NOW. This display pairs an old photograph of a Clay County site with a more recent photo taken in the same place. [A BURNING IMPRESSION was temporarily removed to allow a special display to be viewed during October for Cultural Diversity month.]

The Barnesville Public Library presents A BURNING IMPRESSION. The art of pyrography (decorative wood burning) is the featured art, but examples of other wood-related arts are shown. One Barnesville-related item is a likeness of former Minnesota Governor Knute Nelson carved by John Nilson, a Barnesville railroad employee, who gave it G.D. McCubrey who gave it to . . . well, just visit the library and read the story.



The case at the Fargo Convention and Visitors Bureau along I-94 has a special display COLLECTING CHRISTMAS PAST featuring collectibles between WWII and the early 1960s.

TEMPORARY DISPLAYS AT THE CLAY COUNTY MUSEUM

ARTISTS WORKSHOP in the CCHS hall case showcases work by eight Hjemkomst Center artists. See the beautiful work by these talented artists, using various techniques including watercolors, oils and rosemailing. The display opened Oct. 11 and will close Dec. 11.

A small case promoting our EATING OUT IN CLAY COUNTY will be on view in the lobby late November at the Hjemkomst Center. We hope the food-related artifacts will "whet your appetite" for the "main course" in the CCHS museum just down the stairs.

Artifacts & Donors

September and October 2002

Donors include:

Moorhead: Dr. Sheumaker's MSUM American Studies Class; City of Moorhead Police Department; Alice Polikowsky Estate; Olive M Andvick; Allen Fricker

Glyndon: Sherry Watt; Marie Anderson; In Memory of Vivian Rieniets

Fargo, ND: Elaine Baron; Gerald Knutson

Mt. Vernon, WA: Terrill & Laureen Hayes

Artifacts include: book, Fiftieth Anniversary Bethesda Lutheran Church, 1890-1930; photocopies and photo reprints of materials including the Grand Opening of the FM Hotel, Moorhead, Rotary Anniversary party at Moorhead Country Club February 1953, Hank Peterson house, onion field at Peterson farm, other Peterson related photos, flood photos; Dr. Sheumaker's American Studies 217 April 2002 class projects (unpublished manuscripts) Susan Pender research paper *Norby Department Store*, Tim Jorgensen, *Interpretations on American Gun Culture* including research on Joseph Uebersetzig, Jessica Olson *Wedding Costume*, Randy Roy *The Monster [Moorhead] Foundry*; Kodak finger print kit; book & booklets: *Directory of Concordia College Graduates 1908-1977, 50 years ... Class of 1921 ... reunion 1971 ... Moorhead senior high, Moorhead High Reunion 1926-27-28, Moorhead High School Reunion July 20-21, 1979, Class of 1930 Reunion Oct. 3,4,5, 1980 Concordia College*; (2) *The Cobber Concordia College annuals 1937 & 1939*, movie program for *Gjest Baardsen* shown at the Moorhead Theatre, July 25-26 [undated, but after WWII]; (7) annuals, *The Comet*, Comstock High School 1948-1950, 1953-1956, (3) Clay County School books; b/w threshing photo; book, *A River Runs North*; book, *Fifty Years in the Hawley Lutheran Parish with Reverend SG Hauge 1950*, annual, *Hit—Hi Star 1931 Hitterdal HS*, (3) programs, Hawley, MN: Christening Ceremonies for the Gokstad Viking ship, Sunday July 27, 1980, Organ Dedicatory Concert, Hawley Lutheran Church, Sun. April 1, 1979, Hawley Civic Chorus *Bethlehem* Sun. Dec. 1952, newsletter, *Current Topics*, Feb. 1931 prohibition news sheet, booklet, Hawley Lutheran Church Dedication 1970, display panel of photos (some loose) marked *Children's Home* in Lake Park, photo Christmas cards, photo postcards, other loose photos; (6) Moorhead photo postcards, (3) Fargo photo postcards; bag, Johnson's Select Coffee packed by Andrew Johnson Co., Hawley; Jesse Ventura air freshener (unopened); Barbie & Ken dolls with patterns and clothing and other items made by Vivian Rieniets.

Autograph Quilts at CCHS

Autograph quilts or signature quilts were popular starting in the mid-1800s and were often group projects. These quilts are also called memory quilts. Signatures were written on pieces of fabric commemorating a place or event. The Solem Pikeforening quilt (see July/August 2002 newsletter) and this quilt were both made as fundraisers.

There are three autograph quilts in the CCHS collections. They date from 1898, 1899 and 1900. These will be the first artifacts entered in the Collections part of our web site. Quilts are extremely popular, and names on each might be of interest to genealogists. Each artifact will have one or more photographs, a brief description and the list of names. The following is the third of the three autograph quilts. Note: Descriptions might be altered before being posted on line.

1900 Buffalo River Pigeforening* Quilt (86" x 76") 70.5 by Pam Burkhardt

*pronounced pik-a-for-en'-ing, this is Norwegian for a young woman's church group.

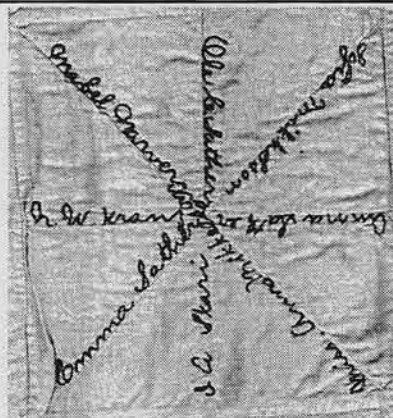
The Buffalo River Pigeforening quilt has a front, back and binding of white cotton fabric. The batting is very thin cotton batting. Both borders are machine-quilted with a single row of diamonds. The names were embroidered in a spoke design through *all three layers* with red cotton embroidery floss. The spoke design was machine-quilted on each block with four intersecting lines of stitching. First, the top layers of all of the blocks were machine stitched together to complete the top. Then, the back of each block was turned under and hand stitched down. The two borders and binding were added last.

According to information received at donation, Andreas Herseth purchased this quilt on November 3, 1900 at a sale in the Olaus Jahr home in Hitterdal. In 1970, Herseth's daughter (Mrs. Henry Hitterdal) brought the quilt back from California and donated it to the Clay County Historical Society.

In June 1999 we received a more detailed account from Ethel Roos Medalen:

Re: the "Name Quilt" from Solem Luth. Church
As I remember:

My mother, Mrs. Nels Roos (Nora Herseth) and my uncle's widow (Mrs. Carl Herseth, Jonette Kalboe) told me that my grandmother Mrs.



Block 7 in row 7 of
1900 Buffalo River
Pigeforening Quilt,
clockwise from
center top: Ole C.
Sather, Mabel
Narverud, N.W.
Kranz, Emma
Sather, I.A. Skari,
Miss Anna Mikkelsen,
Anna Sather,
Sofia Mikkelsen

Andrew Herseth (Beata Larson) prepared the quilt as a money raiser in the early years of Solem Lutheran Church in Hitterdal. She may have been Ladies Aid president – I don't know, but am guessing. Squares of white cloth were provided with instructions to write names, - then, using outline stitch and red thread embroider them. Each name was to cost 10 cents. (You will notice some squares have many names, others few.) The squares were put together by Beata and maybe my mother Nora, and later assembled as completed. Then it was to be sold at auction – a money maker you recall – and my grandfather, Andrew Herseth was the highest bidder, but price is unknown to me. When my mother, Nora talked about this to me when I was a kid, she thought Grandpa had seen and heard so much about the quilt that he wanted his wife to have it.

NAMES ON THE 1900 BUFFALO RIVER PIGEFORENING QUILT

TOP BORDER: Denne quilt er syet af Buffalo River Menigheds Pigeforening. Og solgt den tredie November Nitten Hundrede Hos* Olaus Jahr Clay Co. Minnesota [This quilt was made by the Buffalo River Congregation Pigeforening. And sold on the 3rd of 1900, Olaus Jahr house, Clay Co. Minnesota]

BOTTOM BORDER: Rev. J.D. Bothne, Mrs. Bothne, Martha Bothne, Agnes Bothne, Ruth Bothne, Carla Bothne, Norman Bothne, Miss Julia Spangelo, Mrs. E. Hartse, Minnie Hartse, Martha Hartse

*is written Hos not Hus (house)

Note: rows are read left to right. Missing embroidery accounting for more than one letter is indicated by a line; missing embroidery for a single letter is indicated by brackets [], and all educated guesses are underlined or in brackets.

ROW 1/BLOCK 1: Helda Melby, Mrs. R.H. Melby, Henry Melby, Clarence Melby, Carl Wahl, Hans Jackson, Hellene Melby, Rudolph Venner

ROW 1/BLOCK 2: Carl Petterson, John Johnson, J. O. Feragen, Mrs. [C.] Noben, C.N. Noben, Benny Petterson, Gunda P[]tterson, Emma Petterson

ROW 1/BLOCK 3: Theodore Kråts, Ole H. Gol, Adolph Olson, Ola[r]us Olson, E. Nordness, Johana Carlson, Carl T. Strand, Lina Bergquist

ROW 1/BLOCK 4: Mrs. Jakobson, Martin Wenner, Mrs. Wenner, Mrs. Kristine Brekke, Martin Brekke, Philip Brekke, J.M. Jakobson, Mrs. Gur[i] Steen

ROW 1/BLOCK 5: John Oss, Ella Holmberg, J.A. Matson, Theo Thingdal, J.A. Feragen, Andrew Sandberg, S.P. Hanson, W.M. Nilson

ROW 1/BLOCK 6: Carl W. Herseth, Nils E. Grefte, Ole Quam, O.S. Narverud, Carl Arss, Alfred Carlson, Hans Hartse, Adolph Herseth

ROW 1/BLOCK 7: Anna (Emma?) Kildal, Nettie Kildal, Mrs. Kildal, Mr. H. Kildal, Miss Inger Bye, Miss Anna By, Martha Melby, Hellen McGregor

ROW 2/BLOCK 1: Christ L____ell, August Leistics, M. Hanson, Anton Johnson, Gust Narverud, Henry Narverud, Olga Narverud, A.W. Lund

ROW 2/BLOCK 2: Ole Olson, Mrs. Narverud, Olaf Sandberg, Arne Anderson, J.J. Alrick, A.E. Wahl, F. Fish, H.E. Belden

ROW 2/BLOCK 3: Ole Levin, Julius T. Lunder, Mary Berg, Martin L. Mikelson, J. Mitdahl, Gunhild Mitdal, J.L. Anderson, Clarence Gunderson

ROW 2/BLOCK 4: S.G. Olson, Anders Heseth, Mr. Herseth, Mrs. Herseth, Maria Jahr, Clara Jahr, Oluf Jahr, Mr. A. Anderson

ROW 2/BLOCK 5: Mrs. V. Vlissingen, P.C.V. Vlissingen, Mattie Lewis, Miss Julia Olsen, Lars C. Ols[e]n, C[h] H. Hohn, Anton Moe, Paul V. Vlissingen

ROW 2/BLOCK 6: Agnes Nobben, Maggie McGregor, Nellie McGregor, Bertine Mikkelson, Nils Roos, Oscar Lundstrom, Inga Hamer, Maria Torvalson

ROW 2/BLOCK 7: Hans Hanson, To[]i[]a Dahl, A. Lund, Mrs. M. Whalen, Torwul[d or b] Torgerson, Torkel Austinson, Martha Alme, Anne Austinson

ROW 3/BLOCK 1: Annie Quam, Ruth E.M. Whaley, Mrs. Inger Whaley, Severine Quam, Mrs. Quam, Henry Johnson, Peter Quam, Christian Quam

ROW 3/BLOCK 2: Elida Johnson, Mary Johnson, Mrs. Olfson, John Johnson, Cristian Hanson, Peder Hanson, Elling Moore, Mrs. Karin Johnson

ROW 3/BLOCK 3: J. Arneson, John E. Olson, Egnal Johnson, Ella Johnson, Albert Johnson, Theodore Johnson, Mrs. Johnson, Martha Anderson

ROW 3/BLOCK 4: John Tövold, W.[S.]. Tövold, Mr. Gregerson, Mrs. Gregerson, Sigri Halvoson, Old Winjum, Ole Sanberg, Anna Sandberg

ROW 3/BLOCK 5: Mr. Carl Roos, Mrs. Anne Roos, S.O. Tang, H.C. Martinson, [T. or J.] Knudson, Hans O. Baklen, Alma Roos, Mrs. M. Stoutland

ROW 3/BLOCK 6: Sally Carlson, Bent Ulven, Randi Ulven, H.J. Ulven, Juel Ulven, Fred A. Chial, Mary Ulven, B. Hanson

ROW 3/BLOCK 7: Agnes Melby, Emma Melby, Isak Nyhus, Gustav Jacobson, Andreas Steen, Anton Melby, Anna Venner, Rangval Oss

ROW 4/BLOCK 1: Sven Olson, Mrs. Kari Olson, Olga Olson, Gunder Olson, Alex Olson, John Hogstad, Hans P. Strate, Tomine Olson

ROW 4/BLOCK 2: Sam Winjum, Andrew Winjum, Ole Pederson, Jens J. Winjum, Ole J. Winjum, Clara J. Winjum, Anna Winjum, Maria Winjum

ROW 4/BLOCK 3: M.E. Lewis, Simon Thompson, Olof Olson, Rev. O.J. Olson, John Olson, Tom Gunderson, Thia Knutson, Mrs. Gunderson

ROW 4/BLOCK 4: J.G. Buhaug, T. Saugsand, M. Holmberg, L. K. Johnson, Ole Johnson, G.M. Salomonson, W.J.R. Herring, Chr. A. Johnson

ROW 4/BLOCK 5: E.S. Kittleson, P.K. Johnson, Frank Prause, G.N. Langerud, N. Gustafson, Joh. Swenson, A. Anderson, John Walstrom

ROW 4/BLOCK 6: A. Jerdee, O. [H]alhogen, Martha Roos, Willie Nelson, Ingebor Woldal, Mathilde Mickelson, J.O. Tang, Louise Mickelson

ROW 4/BLOCK 7: E.A. Fuller, Lauris Johnson, J. Johnson, Torkil Oftelid, M.J. Solum, John K. Tetley, Peder Hanson, Mrs. J. Tetley

ROW 5/BLOCK 1: Mrs. C.K. Lee, Mary Kilstad, Sarah Mitdal, S. Ebletoft, H.E. Bergsen, Englebriet Carlson, Hilda Sorenson, Richard Herring

ROW 5/BLOCK 2: T.G. Anderson, Ellen S. Anderson, Olof Anderson, Theodore Anderson, Annie Anderson, Gilbert Anderson, Tena Anderson, Jennie Johnson

ROW 5/BLOCK 3: Bertha Narverud, Alma Herseth,

Della McGregor, Laura Herseth, Mrs. Larson, E.L. Davenport, Stina Narverud, Tilda Narverud

ROW 5/BLOCK 4: P.S. Eide, J.O. Feragen, R.H. Melby, H.O. Woldal, Miss J. Ruud, Knute Kittleson, Ole P. Storberg, J.L. Johnson

ROW 5/BLOCK 5: J.H. Johnson, Mrs. M.K. Midtdahl, Annie Skog, Gilbert Gunderson, Cora B. Lush, Jennie Westberg, Emma Larson, Emma Westberg

ROW 5/BLOCK 6: Martin Pederson, Mrs. L[e or i]na Olson, Ole C. Olsen, Mrs. Hella Moe, Miss M.L.

Moe, Mrs. Julia Holm, Martha Tinjum, Maline Tinjum

ROW 5/BLOCK 7: S.J. Tövold, Selma Tövold, Tina Tövold, Anna Tövold, Mary Tovold, Ole S. Tovold, Jens Tovold, Mrs. S.J. Tovold

ROW 6/BLOCK 1: A.G. Anderson, Anne Nerebö, Tom Nerebö, Gunder Ba[rr or n] dage, Jens Winjum, Mrs. J. Winjum, Mrs. Erickson, August Brovold

ROW 6/BLOCK 2: Selma Jahr, Austine Jahr, Jana Jahr, Adolph Jahr, Ragnild Jahr, Olaus Jahr, [O]. Wangenstien, Edvart Jahr

ROW 6/BLOCK 3: Nora M. Herseth, Olga P. Herseth, Oluf Jahr, Clara Jahr, Maria Jahr, Mrs. Beata Herseth, Mr. Herseth, Mr. Anders Herseth

ROW 6/BLOCK 4: Ole Nybacken, C. Christianson, S. Walström, John Linden, Ole Vern, Carl Jenson, P.H. Sandberg, Hjalmar Tingdal

ROW 6/BLOCK 5: Jens Tang, Clara Anderson, John Anderson, Simon Anderson, Carl Anderson, Martinus Mikkelsen, Olga Mikkelsen, George Mikkelsen

ROW 6/BLOCK 6: Inga Solwold, Mrs. Solwold, Hilda Solwold, Andreas Solwold, Agnes Solwold, Olaf Solwold, Alf Solwold, Mabel Solwold

ROW 6/BLOCK 7: Simon Mikkels[n], Mrs. Hanah Rö[n or r]agen, Tillie Lee, Mrs. Ole Johnson, Ida Mikkelsen, Mr. M. Mikkelsen, Mrs. Mikkelsen, Lars Mikkelsen

ROW 7/BLOCK 1: O.C. Melby, Alf Sandberg, O.S. Tingdal, Peder Gilbertson, Hans Nordby, K. Kittelson, Si[v]e Wiger, Gunild Kittelson

ROW 7/BLOCK 2: Oscar J. Oss, Ole O. Velo, Steen Hanson, Adolf Mjör, Carl H. Tetly, C.W. Hanson, P. H. Hanson, W.W. Daveson

ROW 7/BLOCK 3: Olga Stein, Mrs. C.S. Walstrom, Clara Stein, Caroline Hansen, L.L. Hagen, Mrs. S. Hansen, Ida Iversen, Bertha Iversen

ROW 7/BLOCK 4: Miss M. Lomsdal, Miss Oline Lomsdal, Mrs. Liv Lomsdal, Nels Lindstrom, Hans Ellingson, Mrs. Ragne Ellingson, Christ Holden, Mrs. Guri Holden

ROW 7/BLOCK 5: Oscar Jahr, C.E. Björge, Mrs. Grafslund, P.S. Grafslund, B. Hanson, Mrs. Wangenstaen, Mrs. C.E. Bjorge, S. Ebeltoft

ROW 7/BLOCK 6: Martin Olson, Harold Solvold, H. A. Steen, Thos. Oads, J.E. Rise, Martin Olson, Theo. Whaley, O.O. Noben

ROW 7/BLOCK 7: Ole C. Sather, Mabel Narverud, N.W. Kranz, Emma Sather, I.A. Skari, Miss Anna Mikkelsen, Anna Sather, Sofia Mikkelsen

Moorhead 1900-2000: A Century of Change The Perfect Solution for your Gift-giving Dilemma!

Have you purchased your copy of *The Last One Hundred Years in Moorhead 1900-2000: A Century of Change* yet? Do your family members and friends become engrossed in the book every time they come over to visit? Have you barely had a chance to see it because you've lent it out so many times?

Looking for a simple \$20 gift for your holiday gift-giving? We have the perfect solution at the Clay County Historical Society! *The Last One Hundred Years in Moorhead 1900-2000: A Century of Change* was published by Heritage Publications of Ulen in 2000, and has been a joy to everyone who's seen it since!

Clay County Historical Society Member Merlyn

Valan purchased the book for all his children. He says, "The photos bring forth a nostalgia which draws you to the book." The book helps him relate to an earlier time, listening to his parents talk about the "good old days." It instills in the reader pride in their hometown and upbringing.

Stop by the Clay County Historical Society office in the Clay County Museum to pick up this perfect gift today! We also have *Fargo, North Dakota: From Frontier Village to All-America City, 1875-2000*, for your friends and family west of the Red River. Office hours are 9:00-5:00 Monday-Friday. You can also have the books sent to you with the order form on page 13.



Cooks Esther Nettetstad, left, and Ellen Richards cut up oranges in the Moorhead Central Junior High School kitchen, February 1971. Moorhead Central Junior High School Collection.



Teacher Nellie Hopkins hands out 1/2 pint bottles of whole milk to underweight Moorhead 1st Ward students, 1929. Local Kiwanis bought the milk for kids who could not afford the penny or two per bottle cost. Moorhead Public Schools, *Annual Report, 1929-1930*.

EVOLUTION OF THE HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

By CCHS Archivist, Mark Peihl

"Old men bear the want of food best; then those that are full-grown; youths bear it least, most especially children, and of them the most lively are the least capable of enduring it." Hippocrates, quoted in *A History of the School Lunch Program*, Antonia Demas, Ph. D., 2000.

Hippocrates, the father of western medicine, recognized the importance of nutrition on children 2500 years ago. Educators have known for over 150 years that children learn better when they are properly nourished. But it the 1960s before all Clay County children had access to a daily hot meal at school.

European countries were way ahead of the US in providing meals for school kids. In most countries, private charities at first carried out feeding programs for poor children. But as compulsory education became the norm in the late 1800s, school authorities faced clearly undernourished children everyday. National and local governments began taking responsibility for funding school lunch programs. By 1910, most European countries had successful programs in place.

The US, however, was far behind in funding school lunch. Early in the 20th century, educators and scientists published a series of books highlighting the problem of malnutrition among the nation's children. This led to reforms in some larger cities, but, though the need was clear, no comprehensive plan was instituted.

Ironically, children attending one-room, rural schools with no kitchen or lunchroom facilities may have had the best chance at a noontime meal. Distance usually precluded going home to eat. Some Clay County teachers asked children to bring

ingredients from home for a stew or soup to be heated on the school's stove for everyone to eat. In most rural schools children brought sandwiches for lunch, often in makeshift lunch buckets made from old lard or tobacco tins.

According to the *Ulen Union*, the newly formed Ulen Independent School District began serving "warm lunches" in February 1917. Though not full meals, the dishes served were "wholesome and well cooked...[and] varied each day so as to offer a desirable variety." A penny or two per meal (about 20 cents today) paid for the materials. The labor for this innovative program may have been the high school Home Economics class. The Ulen experience was probably an exception.

When the US entered World War I, fully a third of young Americans trying to enlist were rejected for diseases related to malnutrition. Shocked Americans started some school lunch programs, most organized and maintained by charitable groups. In the late 1920s underweight Moorhead grade school children received ½ pint of whole milk per day. The Moorhead Kiwanis Club paid for the milk for children who could not afford it.

It took the Great Depression to force the country into action. High unemployment and lack of money for food caused serious and obvious nutrition problems. That also meant low commodity prices and surplus crops for farmers. With the Agricultural Act of 1935, the US Congress gave the Department of Agriculture 30% of duties collected on imported goods to purchase surplus commodities and make them available to the needy and children through school lunch programs. Minnesota hired a Director of Commodity Distribution to oversee the operation in the state. Central warehouses shipped food to county warehouses for distribution to the needy and schools.

In Clay County, communities took part in a cooperative venture to supplement the commodities with fresh vegetables. One town raised green beans in a school owned garden, another peas, still another carrots. The federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) paid women to cook school meals and can excess for winter use and men to tend and harvest the gardens and haul the produce to the other schools. In Moorhead the present site of Washington Elementary was a huge truck garden.

In a 1950 report, Moorhead Superintendent S. G. Reinertson called WPA worker Mary Kline a key figure in the processing of the foods. Government regulations required making both tomato preserves and juice. Mrs. Kline dismissed that as "nonsense," canned both together, separated the two when recipes called for it and greatly improved efficiency. She later worked as a cook at Lincoln Elementary.

By the early 1940s the WPA projects were extremely popular and widespread. In 1941, some two million lunches were served daily. In 1942 the number jumped to six million. But WPA funding dried up in 1943. The Clay County cooperative arrangement ended. Moorhead schools began buying produce from local truck gardens then wholesalers. Other schools fended for themselves.

Military needs in World War II cut surplus commodities. But, just as in the first world war, one third of American enlistees were rejected for nutrition related illnesses. The WPA programs had begun too late for the eighteen-year-old recruits but the federal government continued some aid to schools through the war. Clay County School District #3 (Rollag) alumni Burnice Mayfield Everson recalls, "I remember during the war we got commodities like salt pork, dry beans, cheese, grapefruit, etc. So our teacher would cook pork and beans on the wood-coal stove for dinner so we had hot lunches. It tasted pretty good on a cold winter day."

After World War II Director of Selective Services, General Lewis Blaine Hershey told congress malnutrition was a threat to national security. American forces had sustained 155,000 casualties during the war as a result of malnutrition. It was time for

congress to act. In June 1946, President Harry Truman signed the National School Lunch Act. This created permanent federal funding for locally run school lunch programs. The act provided funding to states based on average income and number of school age children, made money available to schools to buy equipment and spelled out a formula for state matching dollars for food. Matching funds could come from income collected as payment for lunches by those who could not qualify for free lunches and financial support or donations by local school boards or private organizations.

The act also spelled out minimal nutritional standards the meals had to meet. According to *Hot Lunch: A History of the School Lunch Program*, the Secretary of Agriculture "established three types of acceptable lunches: Type A was to provide one third of the minimum daily requirements of a child 10 to 12 years of age, Type B was to be a supplementary lunch in schools that could not provide their students with a Type A lunch and Type C consisted of ½ pint of whole milk. Later the Type B lunch was dropped.

Clay County kids in many graded schools soon enjoyed the act's benefits. But in the late 1940s nearly 40% of Clay County's elementary students attended rural, one-room schools with no kitchen facilities. By 1961 all these schools had closed and students attended modern facilities in town with kitchens.

Today, the Moorhead School District serves about 3300 hot lunches per day with a variety of menu items to choose from. The district also provides 700 breakfasts, an after school snack program and morning milk program. Some 90% of district kids participate.

Most pupils in one-room rural schools brought a sandwich and a cookie or piece of cake with them, often in a makeshift lunch box made from an old lard or tobacco tin. Some teachers heated hot chocolate or pork and beans over the school stove. In the 1920s underweight Moorhead children were offered a half-pint of milk per day, paid for, in part, by the local Kiwanis.

During the Depression of the 1930s, the federal government provided schools with surplus commodities (peanut butter, beans, milk, etc.) to feed children. The Works Progress Administration paid women to work as cooks in schools and men to tend and harvest school owned gardens. In Clay County schools in various towns cooperated in raising fresh vegetables. One town raised peas, another corn, still another string beans.

Moorhead supplied vegetables from a garden located where Washington Elementary stands today. WPA

workers also canned tomatoes and other products for winter storage and trucked the veggies from town to town.

After WPA funding dried up in 1942, Clay County's cooperative program ended. Individual schools made their own plans. In 1946 President Harry Truman signed the National School Lunch Act. This provided schools with surplus commodities, reimbursed schools for the cost of hot lunch programs and set minimum nutritional standards the lunches had to meet.

CCHS Board of Directors Endorses Red River Valley Leave A Legacy™

Many people wish they had the kind of money to give generously to their favorite charities. There is a simple tool at our fingertips that makes just such a gift possible, easy and affordable. That tool is remembering a nonprofit organization in a will with a bequest. The Clay County Historical Society is part of a new program aimed at reminding people of the ease of doing just that.

The Red River Valley Leave A Legacy™ program promotes interest in charitable giving by reminding people of average incomes that they have the ability to foster and continue important values by including a nonprofit organization in their estate plan.

Red River Valley Leave A Legacy™ is a collaborative effort to educate the public and promote the idea of giving through bequests and estate plans by increasing awareness of and interest in charitable planning. This collaboration consists of professional advisors working with nonprofit organizations including social services and arts organizations, places of worship, hospitals, education institutions and other philanthropic associations.

In the United States, at least 70% of households make charitable contributions annually, yet less than 6% of households

give money to charities through bequests.

"Charitable and educational organizations need our support or better serve our communities and enhance the quality of life that makes this area an appealing place to live, work and raise a family," said Bruce Furness, mayor of Fargo and a member of the steering committee overseeing the statewide campaign. "Red River Valley Leave A Legacy™ will encourage people to remember their favorite charity in their will or estate plan."

We hope Leave A Legacy™ will encourage individuals to take time to put their estate plan into place.

If you have questions about how you can include the Clay County Historical Society in your estate planning, please contact us at 218-299-5520, or visit with your family attorney.

Even pebbles leave ripples



Even a modest gift in your will or estate plan can make a lasting impact in your community.

Contact your favorite nonprofit agency for more information, or call Leave A Legacy at (701) 280-1420.



Photo exhibit on Mexican migration coming to CCHS

A photo exhibit by Yolanda Arauza will be on display for most of 2003 at the Clay County Museum beginning in January.

Yolanda Arauza teaches Chicano Culture at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. Her research interests lie in the settlement and assimilation experience of Mexican Americans in the Red River Valley. She is actively involved in the campus Latino student organization, Organizacion Latina Americana, and co-produces and hosts two Spanish language radio programs, Notas Latinas and Ritmos Latinos, which are aired on 23 radio stations throughout Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana.

This exhibition of photography evolved from Arauza's thesis work, and documents the cultural history and legacy of the Mexican-Americans who lived and worked in the Red River Valley in the early part of the twentieth century.

Mexican migration to the Red River Valley is

recorded as early as 1923. The advent of World War I and restrictive immigration laws at the very time beet production was expanding in the Red River Valley created a shortage of workers to work the land. This labor shortage initially brought the first Mexicans to the Red River Valley.

The first group of migrant workers came mainly from the Winter Garden Area of Texas, around Crystal City. A number of second- and third-generation descendants of these first migrant laborers from the Winter Garden Area settled permanently in this area, bringing with them rich cultural traditions in music, religion, and family.

Photos from Arauza's mother-in-law's estate supplement the exhibit, as well as photos from the Catholic boarding schools established for migrant workers' children.

*parts reprinted from "Mexicanos In the Red River Valley" exhibition brochure

New CCHS Memberships & Renewals

CCHS extends a very special thank you to the following individuals who renewed their memberships or became new members in September and October.

NEW MEMBERS

Jean Allrich, West Fargo
Mary Baumler, Fargo
Chris & Jolly Corley, Glyndon
Clifford Gilbertson, North Saint Paul
Steve Handegaard, Dalton, MN
Dana Heidelberger, Boyce, VA
Raymond Tresse, Moorhead
Wayne & Loanna Wagstrom, Mhd

RENEWALS

Leona Anderson, Hawley
Colonel Milton & Armored Arneson,
Moorhead
Erwin Backlund, Moorhead
Delores Bekkerus, Glyndon
Sharon Benz, Moorhead
Gary & Rose Bergan, Hawley
Dave & Carolyn Bowe, Fargo
Richard & June Chenoweth, Mhd

Beverly Coleman, Moorhead
Sara Lee Cook, Saint Paul
Dorothy Cummings, Fargo
Marvin & Shirley Dauner, Hawley
Robert & Mary Davies, Moorhead
John & Audrey Elton, Hawley
Art & Gwen Erickson, Moorhead
First National Bank of Hawley
Ruth Franzen, Moorhead
Marion Gee, Fargo
Helen Glawe, Fargo
Waldo E. Hatledal, Hawley
Bonnie M. Haugen, Moorhead
Helen M. Hedelund, Moorhead
John & Beverly Hest, Hawley
Lorine Holschuh, Moorhead
James Johnson, Moorhead
Virginia H. Johnson, New York, NY
Audrey Jones, Lexington, KY
Evelyn Keeping Hansen, Hawley
Alden Knatterud, Moorhead
Gertrude Knutson, Moorhead
Korsmo Funeral Service, Moorhead
Marilyn Krogh, Fort Collins, CO
Sam Leathes, Dilworth
Matt & Zona Mathison, Moorhead

Larry & Janet Nelson, Fargo
L. Maynard & Elaine Oss, Elk River
Joseph Pederson, Hawley
Edgar B. Peterson, Burbank, CA
Sherwood, Sr. & Marilyn Peterson,
Sabin
Lloyd G. Pladson, Pelican Rapids
Dewey & Margery Possehl, Mhd
J. Donald & Naomi Rice, Moorhead
Dorothy Sandvik, Moorhead
Doris Severinson, Hawley
George C. Shippey, Fallbrook, CA
Doug & Margaret Sillers, Moorhead
Sally Sologuk, Fargo
Roger & Barg Spilde, Moorhead
Jim Steen, Fargo
Shirley Stelter, Moorhead
Marjorie A. Stoa, Fargo
Dorothy Storandt, Moorhead
Phyllis W. Thysell, Fargo
Mark & Donna Voxland, Moorhead
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John Young, Jr., Hawley
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Reminisce with family over the holidays!!

A Century of Change (Moorhead) & From Frontier Village To All-America City (Fargo)

Moorhead, 1900-2000: A Century of Change is full of historic photographs and stories that provide the story of Moorhead. See how much Moorhead has changed!

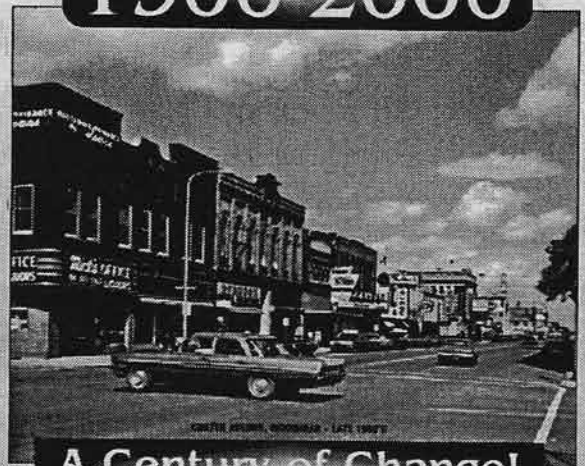
Fargo, ND, From Frontier Village to All America City, 1875-2000 is a unique collection of photos and stories chronicling Fargo's first 125 years.

These high-quality, paper cover books, published by Heritage Publications of Hendrum, MN, are fundraisers for the Clay and Cass County Historical Societies.

Pick up your copies today at the Clay County Museum & Archives in the Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Avenue North, Moorhead, or send your check or money order for \$23.00 with the form below.

Call CCHS at 218-299-5520 for more information.

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Peace On Earth



Happy New Year

to All!



Calendar

December 10 & 11	CCHS Annual Tour! Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga, tour to St. Paul & Little Falls
December 14	CCHS Holiday Open House, 2:00-4:00
February 2003	Eating Out in Clay County Communiiversity seminars
March 2003	Lutheran Lady program
April 8, 2003	CCHS Annual Meeting
May 2003	School Lunch Play
Summer 2003	Eating Out-themed movie
September 2003	Oktoberfest!
October 2003	Dessert reception—exhibit ends
November 2003	New Exhibit opens!
December 2003	CCHS Holiday Open House

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Thank you to these special members of the Clay County Historical Society:

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Join or Upgrade your membership today!

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Rigels, Inc., Appliances-TV
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Vikingland Kiwanis

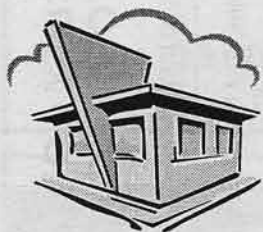
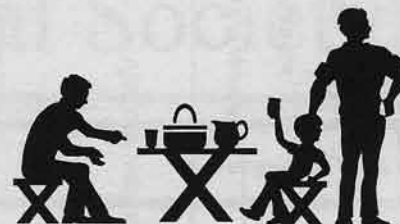
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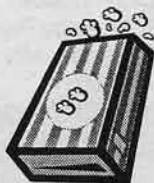
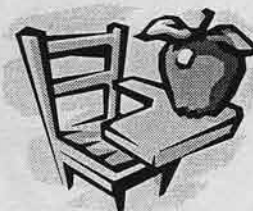
the Clay County Historical Society presents:



EATING OUT IN CLAY COUNTY

Every way that residents of Clay County eat anywhere but in their own home—from restaurants and picnics to hospital food and school lunch!

Menus, lunch boxes, photos, luncheon sets, church dinner plates, promotional items, archaeological saloon remains, and more!



Vote for your favorite Clay County restaurant and menu item, or email or send your choice to us!

Stay posted for upcoming programs and events in conjunction with *Eating Out in Clay County*, starting in 2003!

Showing through
December

Bird's Eye

**View: Aerial Photography
in Clay County**



Equestrian Trophies

See this wonderful collection of trophies acquired through 40 years of one family's quarter horse competition!

Opens Dec. 23!

Clay County Museum Hours: 10-5 Monday-Saturday, 10-9 Tuesday, 12-5 Sunday
Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Avenue North, Moorhead, MN ♦ FREE ADMISSION



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- ◆ Support preservation of your heritage
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