It’s time for Chocolate & Bling at the museum on Thursday, November 30. The evening of fun and frivolity begins with a silent auction of new and vintage jewelry. Around 50 pieces will be available for a worthy bid. The jewelry tree returns this year with direct sales of items off the tree. The live auction with those items of greater value will follow after the meal. Guests will be encouraged to view the Festival of Trees exhibit in the Remick Gallery.

In the meeting room dinner will be served between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. at tables decorated for the holiday. Ten women will design their tables based on the theme “A Shimmering Holiday Showcase.” An assortment of chocolate desserts will complete the meal. Winners of the silent auction will be announced to conclude the evening. Tickets will be available on Wednesday, November 1st at the museum. Only 80 tickets are available! Cost is $15. We encourage everyone to wear their bling!

If you have any jewelry you would be willing to donate, please contact Linda at the museum.
The current exhibit in the Remick Gallery entitled “RETURN” showcases art work by Haley Tardiff. Haley is a multi-disciplined artist who was born in South Carolina. As part of an Air Force family, she moved across the country more than once. Her family settled in Lakefield when she was in the 8th grade. She graduated from St. Cloud State University with a degree in Art Photography but also enjoys drawing and painting. The exhibit features over 30 works of art in a variety of mediums including acrylic paintings, digital paintings and drawings completed since 2010. This show runs through November 18, 2017.

If you are planning a visit to the gallery, our hours are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

“Festival of Trees” December 1-23, 2017

The Festival of Trees opens December 1st in the Remick Gallery. We encourage businesses, clubs and individuals to decorate a tree in the theme of their choice. Visitors vote for their favorite tree throughout the month of December. If you would like to decorate a tree or have questions, please contact the museum at 831-1134 or e-mail us at cchs@windomnet.com

Coming in January … “2018 Photo Show...Give it your best shot!”

We are looking for local photographers to participate in the upcoming photo show. Think black & white …think Cottonwood County! Where can your camera take you?

The Details…
Pick up a registration form at the museum. We ask for two 8” x 10” images of the same photo. One will be in the photo show and one will become part of the photograph collection at the museum. Maximum of one entry per photographer may be brought to the museum until January 13, 2018. No matting, framing or mounting of the photo! The goal of the show is to promote Cottonwood County and our local photographers.
Sometime in the mid-1940s 4-H softball teams in Cottonwood County began to include two female players. That was the rule. Dale Township was tough to beat in the ‘50s because of the Maras sisters. Some 30 or so years later it was the Piotter family who helped their team cream their opponents. However, a few women remember that they themselves had shortcomings. One was **Myrna Baarstad Anderson**, who was a member of the Westbrook Willing Workers. “I could catch the ball well and was a good hitter, but I couldn’t throw very far,” she said with a laugh. “I played in the outfield. I could catch a fly ball, but if it was a grounder, I’d throw it to the shortstop who came close to me and he would relay it.” She also played on the girls’ town team—first base. That way she didn’t have to throw farther than the pitcher, second base or home. **Kathy Elston Glidden** was a Springfield Sparkler. She was one of three available players. “I was just ‘there’—a left-fielder,” she said. “Joanne Van Norman and Maggie Bartosh were the others. Maggie was very good. We had some really good guys playing, so we sparkled!” Other players included **Caryol Grams Einertson** and **Phyllis Nelson Bakken**. Caryol was a member of the Rosehill team. Phyllis was a Willing Worker. Caryol and her sister, Audrey, who is two years younger, played when they were about 14 or 15. “I probably played in the outfield because I remember the terrible fields with holes in the grass,” she recalled. On the other hand, the Willing Workers enjoyed great conditions. “We played in the Westbrook City Park, where the city team played,” Phyllis said. “We organized our games around their schedule.”

Fast forward to the 1980s. **Robin Elston Snyder** played with the Springfield Sparklers for about 10 years on the junior and senior teams. “You could move a junior up to the senior team but not the other way around,” she explained, “I was a horrible softball player. They put me in right field. Melinda and Marsha Jongma were good, though. By the late ‘80s more and more girls were available.” To Robin, 4-H softball was the summer social event. The team got together every Friday night for the games as well as Mondays when they would practice on Barb and Clifford Hunter’s pasture. While some areas of the state continue to play 4-H softball, Cottonwood County’s final season was in 2014.
A Christmas Activity:
Gingerbread House – Make & Take

Join us at the museum for a fun morning making and decorating a gingerbread house for the holidays. The event is Saturday, December 2 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Meeting Room. An adult must accompany the child (must be 5 years of age and up). Due to space limitations, please call and reserve your spot. Cost: $2.00. Don’t miss this opportunity for family fun!!

New Ornament Arriving in December

The museum started an ornament series three years ago that began with historic sites in Cottonwood County. The first ornament features the Cottonwood County Courthouse which was built in 1904. The second ornament showcased the Westbrook Depot, which is now part of the Westbrook Heritage House Museum and has been on the National Register since 1986. Our third ornament is a site well known in the county—The Jeffers Petroglyphs. It is the largest concentration of carvings in Minnesota and was placed on the National Register in 1970. Our fourth ornament will be from the Mountain Lake area. Check them out…these make great Christmas gifts!

Fall Recap Fund-Raiser

The Cottonwood County Annual Fall Fund-raiser once again was a success with 171 meals served on September 11. Our exhibit in the Remick Gallery, Hidden Nature, was held over one week so visitors had one last chance to see photographs by local photographer Jessica Bak. Money raised for the event will go towards our office lighting fund. Thank you to all the museum supporters who came to the events, to our volunteers who make it happen and to Thrivent Financial for their monetary “start-up” contribution.
The first history bus tour to the Minnesota State Capitol occurred on September 7. The renovated Capitol was the highlight of the day with its newly painted ceilings and walls, regilded horses and conserved art work. Other stops on the beautiful fall day included the Minnesota History Center and Jim’s Apple Barn.

**General Fund Donations:**

**Donations made between July 1 - September 8, 2017**

Leland & Marilyn Erickson in memory of Betty Morfitt; Leland & Marilyn Erickson in memory of Dick Noyes; Leland & Marilyn Erickson in memory of Wilma Sogge; Leland & Marilyn Erickson in memory of Shirley Nelson; Leland & Marilyn Erickson in memory of Grace Clark; Grant & Dorothy Johnson in memory of Harry Bekx; Donna Hanson; LaVonne Neerland in memory of Emma Lou Miller; Dallas & Joan Giese

**Office Lighting Project**

Leland & Marilyn Erickson

**Choice Dollars through Thrivent Financial**

Harry & Shirley Schuur; Linda Fransen

**CCHS Membership**

**CCHS Welcomes New Annual Members:**

Judith Hintze; Jean Foley

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Renewals**

Norma Loewen; Patricia Holmes; David & Carolyn Van Loh; Vay & Arleen Rodman; Dean & Kathy Kretsch; Laura Williams; Neil Henry; Judy Kielty; Zola Wood; Dorothy Fundahn; Herman & Lylas Eigenberg; Roxanne Potter; Dallas & Joan Giese

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Patron Renewals:**

Ernest & Judith Dellinger; David Mathiason

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Sponsor Renewals:**

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JESSICA BAK: SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

At the Museum - 2017

“Return”
By Haley Tardiff
September 17—November 18, 2017

CCHS Annual Meeting
“The Women of Southwest Minnesota In the Great War” by Dr. Anita Gaul
November 5, 2017 at 2:00 pm

“Chocolate & Bling”
November 30, 2017 at 5:30 pm

Festival of Trees
December 1 – 23, 2017

“Gingerbread House—Make & Take”
December 2, 2017 at 10:00 am