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# Welcome to EMMONS COUNTY

The Linton Industrial Development Corporation, Linton Chamber of Commerce and the *Emmons County Record* have prepared this special free guide to Emmons County, North Dakota, a friendly and relaxing place to live and visit. The guide can be found online at [www.ecrecord.com](http://www.ecrecord.com) and [www.lintonnd.org](http://www.lintonnd.org).

Emmons County, located on the eastern banks of gorgeous Lake Oahe and near the state's capital city of Bismarck, is essentially a small town area. Settled by Dutch and German-Russian immigrants in the late 1800s, the area's main industry has always been agriculture, giving way to a hard-working, good-food-loving, clean and hospitable people. As the modern era dawned upon Emmons County, however, agriculture has evolved into larger operations and residents have demanded modern technological services, making way for an up-to-date community of farms, ranches and small businesses. Of course, each town is different and its residents focus on slightly different goals. The one goal they all agree upon, however, is a strong sense of community, and with this Emmons County Guide they invite you to join in their venture.

Inside this edition you will find pages introducing you to the towns of the county and their diverse services and attractions. Of special interest to fishermen and hunters is a guide to the resorts on Lake Oahe, a brief look at the area's national wildlife refuge and a list of comfortable camping and lodging opportunities at each town.

So come on! Why not check out Emmons County for yourself?



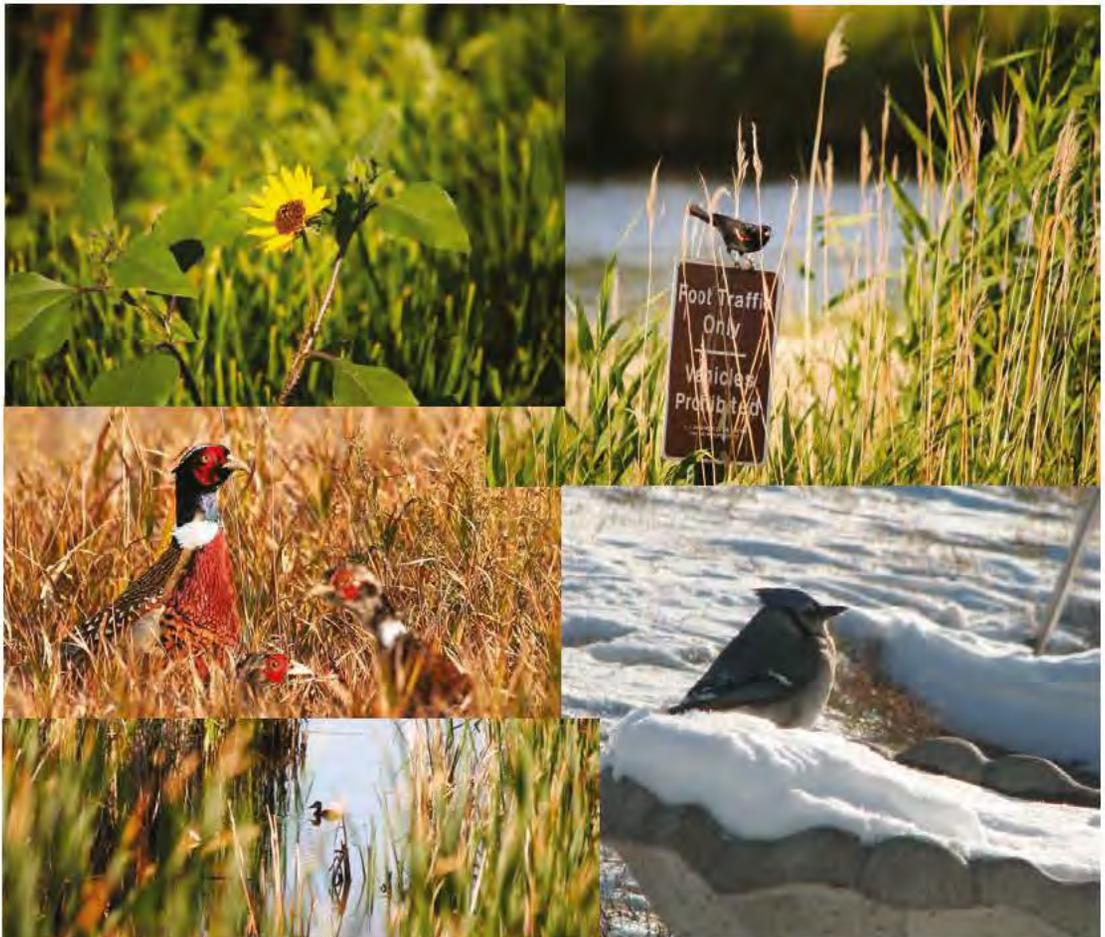
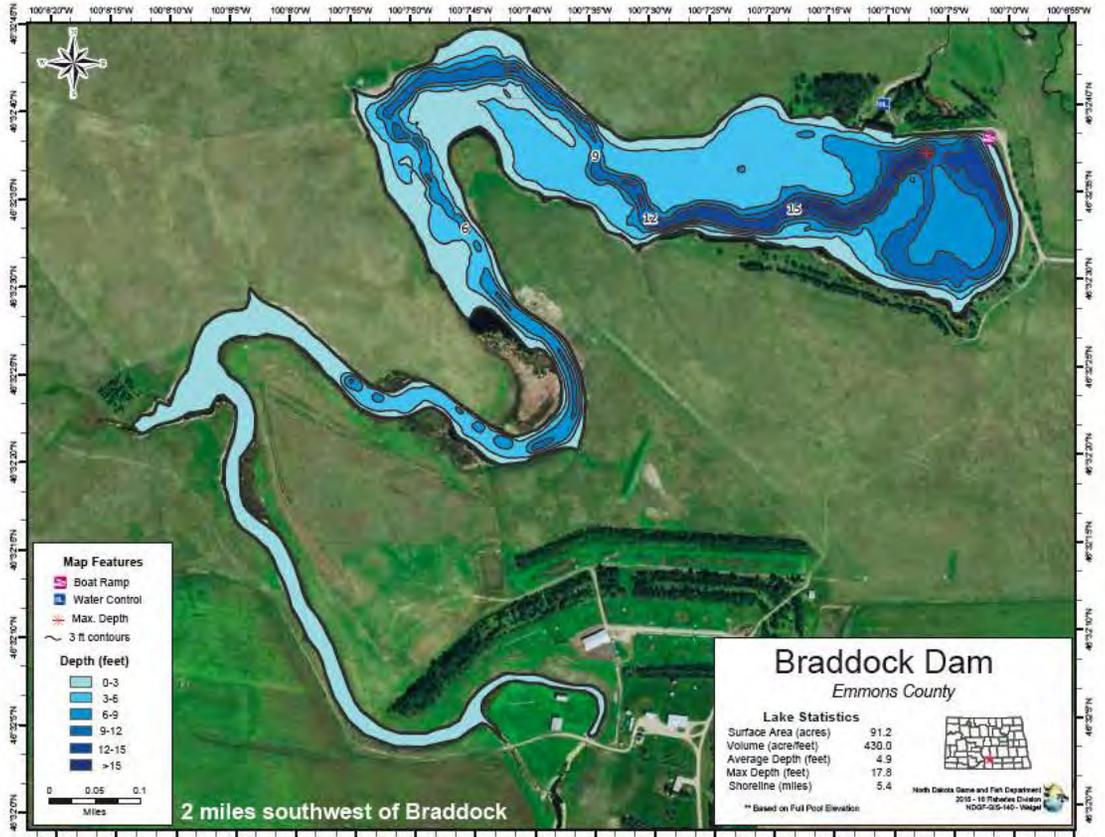
## Table of Contents

Braddock.....	2-5
Hague .....	7-11
*St. Mary's Catholic Church .....	11
Hazleton .....	13-17
Kintyre .....	19
Linton .....	21-27, 30-31
Linton Municipal Airport.....	31
Nokota Horse Conservancy.....	31
Map of Emmons County .....	28-29
Strasburg .....	33-41
*Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church.....	39
*The Welk Homestead.....	41
The Schwab Sod House .....	41
Westfield and Hull.....	43
Lake Oahe.....	45-49
Beaver Valley Sno-Goers Club.....	51
Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge.....	52-53
Maps of Rice Lake and Nieuwsma Dam.....	54
Emmons County 4-H.....	55
Historic Mile Markers .....	56
Prairie Bells: Grotto of the Holy Family .....	56

\*Listed on National Register of Historic Places



# Braddock Dam



# Welcome to Braddock



Braddock, the oldest town in Emmons County, was settled in 1883. The town site was platted in 1888, but real development began in 1898 with the arrival of the Soo Line Railroad. The village was incorporated in 1916, with a peak population of 216 reported in 1920. Braddock now has about 20 residents.

The town comes alive during pheasant and deer hunting season and during the annual threshing show, which is held the first weekend after Labor Day.



Back in the early 1900s, Braddock was a busy town.

## Cross on the Prairie

In 2007, Pete and Mary Ellen Naaden, long time residents of Braddock, were inspired to erect an 18-foot replica of the crucified Christ, a monument to a surviving faith on the Emmons County prairie. The "Cross on the Prairie" stands in a field just west of town.



St. Katherine's Catholic Church

**Food:** Hager's Bar  
**Lodging:** Braddock Dam Camping Grounds, Braddock City Park Camping Grounds, Betty's Hunting Lodge, Svanes Hunting Lodge  
**Shops:** Braddock Implement & Lumber Co., Bruun Cleaning & Trucking  
**Events:** Annual South Central Threshing Association, Inc. Threshing Bee & Antique Show, Deer Hunters Widows Luncheon  
**Churches:** St. Katherine's Catholic Church



The DMVW Railroad goes through town.

## Hunting, Fishing and Camping

Some of the best upland game can be found around Braddock, including geese, duck, pheasant and deer hunting. Several hunters own houses in Braddock, attesting to the great abundance of wildlife here for hunters to come back year after year.

Braddock City Park offers four electric hook-ups and Hager's Bar offers another four on top of primitive camping grounds. Braddock Dam is also a great place to pitch camp.

Built in the 1930s by the federal WPA, the Braddock Dam, located two miles south of town, is a great place for ice fishing. The dam has an abundance of walleye, northern and perch. Fishing after the spring spawning season remains good until about mid June. Then the dam begins to get mossy, but die-hard fishermen continue to try their luck throughout the summer.

For all women who lose their husbands to the hunting craze, Braddock also hosts the Deer Hunters Widows Soup and Salad Luncheon, held annually on the first Saturday of hunting season.

During the annual threshing show, camp sites are available at the threshing grounds on the north edge of town.



Braddock Dam during a summer sunset



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*invites you to their annual*

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*First weekend after Labor Day*

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**Braddock, N.D.**

*St. Katherine's Church Fall Bazaar*

*Second Sunday of October, Braddock, N.D.*

# Braddock Threshing Grounds



The Braddock Threshing Grounds is the place to be the first weekend after Labor Day. The Annual South Central Threshing Association, Inc. Threshing Bee & Antique Equipment Show is held that weekend. Like sentinels of time, threshing machines standing on the hillsides beckon visitors through the gates to the bee and show.

Over 1,000 visitors each year begin both weekend days with a parade made up of antique tractors and machinery as well as antique vehicles, horses and buggies.

Visitors can see first-hand how early Emmons County settlers harvested their grain and made silage. Hand baling, log-cutting, shingle-cutting and rock crushing are also demonstrated.

There is always lots of food and entertainment, including some fun at the old-time saloon, Miss Kitty's, just one part of the collection of pioneer buildings depicting life from the good-old days of the late 19th century.

The Braddock Threshing Grounds is also a beautiful setting to hold anniversaries, birthdays, weddings and reunions. For more information or to book an event at the grounds, call (701) 220-8535 or (701) 391-4500.



## Braddock News Letterpress Museum

The SCTA and the *Emmons County Record* have teamed together to gather a collection of antique printing equipment from the early days of prairieland newspapers. The rare, some one-of-a-kind machines have been shipped from across the country and many still work. To take a tour and see first hand some presses at work, stop in during the Threshing Bee or call (701) 254-4537.



School tours are welcome



The Threshing Grounds is party-ready for any get-together, including family reunions



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# Welcome to Hague

Hague, having been around for more than 100 years and having a rather small population, is another one of those towns that quietly continue to exist—until the residents decide to have a party. Or two. Or three.

Hague, situated in the southeastern part of Emmons County and about six miles from the South Dakota border, was founded during the winter of 1902-03 on the coming of the railroad. It was named “Hague” by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad officials for “The Hague” in the Netherlands to honor the Dutch homesteaders of the area. These Dutch people, however, gradually settled farther west, so it was primarily populated by Germans from Russia.

The first schoolhouse was built in December of 1903. By 1906 Hague had a church, school, bank, two general stores, three elevators, two lumber yards, two livery stables, a hotel, two farm implement dealers, cigar store, billiard room, blacksmith and wagon shop, feed store, two cream stations, barber shop and butcher shop. A town hall was added in 1907.

In 1911, Hague had a physician and surgeon, Dr. J.O.F. Krauschaar, and a drug store. A fire hall was built in 1912, an electric light plant in 1918. Livery stables were replaced by garages. The business places changed hands periodically, buildings burned down and were replaced by others, and life went on in an unhurried comfortable fashion. Hague hit its peak population of 442 people in 1940.

The healthy farming community that calls Hague home today is a people very dedicated to making life in Hague fun—and not just for their own townspeople. Their events have become a focal point of Emmons County life for locals and visitors alike.

Hague is home to a very active Amvets Post that does a lot for the community.

**Food:** Hague Cafe, Hague Store, The Quencher  
**Lodging:** Hague Park and Campground  
**Shops:** North Central Farmers Elevator  
**Events:** Annual “Salute to our Soldiers” and awesome fireworks display  
**Churches:** St. Mary Catholic Church



## Salute to Our Soldiers

While it is true that Hague is a small community, this community hosts some of the biggest events in Emmons County. Every Independence Day Hague hosts its Annual “Salute to Our Soldiers,” in which the Krumm family and other residents honor the soldiers who have served to protect our country from the Revolutionary War to present day conflicts. After the honors are given, a truly amazing fireworks display draws people from around the region. The night continues with a street dance.



Don't miss the fireworks display in Hague!



The first brick St. Mary Catholic Church in Hague is shown in 1920



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## Sites in Historic Hague



### Iron Crosses of St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

The pioneer cemetery just west of Hague is the old St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, where 70 handmade wrought iron grave markers stand. It is one of North Dakota's most unique cemeteries and is located on what were the grounds of the original St. Mary's Church site.

By far the most predominant form of marker found there is the handmade type of wrought iron cross, or "eiserne kreuze" in their makers' native German tongue.

The cross symbolizes religion or the foundation of society, while the iron is a symbol of strength, the muscles of society. The surviving crosses remain open to the effects of time and nature.

A new gate was installed in 1988. The recent revival of the interest in the "eiserne kreuze" has been beneficial to the art form. Today the old St. Mary's Cemetery is carefully tended, and the iron crosses wear a protective coat of silver paint.

The first burial in the present cemetery on the south side of Hague was in 1915. The first burials were positioned eastward, the direction of the rising sun and the holy city of Jerusalem. Later the burials were positioned to face north toward the new church.

Although not open to the public, near Hague is a Carmelite monastery, and fund-raising is underway to build a new monastery.

Just a few miles west of Hague is Rice Lake which features excellent fishing from a boat or from the shore.



North Central Farmers Elevator is a large complex in Hague



Hague Park, south on Main Street

### Hague Park and Campground

Hague Park and Campground lies conveniently in the center of town on the south side of Main Street. The grounds are well shaded and offer swings, slides, a basketball court and horseshoe court. The park also features four RV electrical hook-ups, a dumping station, bathrooms with showers and a picnic shelter. Water can be obtained from the bath house's water supply. The park is also conveniently close to Quencher's Bar, the Hague Grocery Store and the Hague Cafe.

### Liberty Memorial

Liberty Memorial is a beautiful reminder of the sacrifice of those who have served or are serving in our armed forces. Standing in the middle of town on the north side of Main Street, the memorial commemorates their sacrifice and signals to all who look upon it the dedication those men and women have to keeping our homeland safe.

Hague is also home of the Robert L. Kraft Amvets Post No. 23. Built in 2008, the post has served as not just the local meeting place for veterans, but it has also hosted the state meeting.



A full house at the Hague Cafe

### The Hague Cafe

The Hague Cafe has become famous for its homemade food, especially on Thursdays. Every Thursday the cafe offers some of the best German home cooking in the country, and many people travel from afar just for the popular dishes.

In the summer, a group of bikers from Bismarck venture down almost every Thursday to enjoy the warm weather and the delicious home-cooked strudels. True fans get there early to make sure they get a plate – it goes fast!

The Hague Cafe is located on Main Street. If it's almost noon, just look for the congregation of cars or motorcycles.



Celebrities don't often find their way to a small town in North Dakota, but on Fri., Aug. 28, 2015, some did. Gwen Sebastian, nationally known singer from Hebron, N.D., who made her way to fame on *The Voice*, and the Gefroh Brothers from the Bismarck/Mandan area, traveled to Hague for an end-of-summer bash put on by promoter, Todd Nieuwsma of Hague. The concert was held outdoors in a grassy area on the west end of town, with campers and semis surrounding the area. Hague is fast developing a reputation as the site for entertainment, from fireworks and a patriotic program on the 4th of July to special concerts and street dances. Watch the *Emmons County Record* or its website, [www.ecrecord.com](http://www.ecrecord.com) for information on upcoming events.

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# St. Mary's Catholic Church

St. Mary's Catholic Church is the pride of the Hague community. The oldest continuous German-Russian Catholic Parish in North Dakota, St. Mary's Church is on the National Register of Historic Places. The gothic-style church was built in 1929, but only after much deliberate effort on the part of the Hague community.

It was in about 1885 that the first German-Russians began to settle in this territory. Initially services were held in private homes. In 1890 a small wooden church was built in the settlement of Selz, about a mile west of what is now the town of Hague.

The priests from Fort Yates came across the Missouri River occasionally to have Mass at St. Mary's. Father Bernard Strassmaier was the first priest to serve the parish.

By 1906 the parish was large enough to build its first brick church in Hague proper. Father Peter Schardt was the first resident priest at Hague. The original church was sold at a public auction.

On February 13, 1929, Ash Wednesday, a disastrous fire destroyed the beautiful church, leaving only a few pillars with some bricks.

Many courageous efforts were made by the people to save the church and in particular the Holy Eucharist and the tabernacle. All efforts failed because there was no fire truck or adequate water. People worked

desperately, carrying water with pails and only managed to save the rectory.

After the fire, Mass was held in the school building south of the church. On some occasions, services were held downtown in the building which is now the Hague Grocery Store.

The spectacular church that stands in Hague today is due to the efforts of past and present parishioners. Despite the Great Depression at the time, the parishioners raised funds to build a new church that was reminiscent of the beautiful 1906 building. The cornerstone was laid August 4, 1929, and the church was dedicated on June 19, 1930. Much of the labor was supplied by



local church members. The church basement was excavated entirely by hand with only the assistance of horses. Hebron brick from North Dakota was used for construction. The church cost approximately \$80,000 and is presently valued at over \$1.2 million.

The 13 Roman-arched stained glass windows portray saints. The Stations of the Cross are statue sized with special lighting for each.

Oil paintings, scenes from the life of the Virgin Mary, adorn the ceiling. There are over 100 statues and paintings of angels throughout the church.

A large angel adorns the main altar, where the Blessed Sacrament is served. This kneeling angel holds the sanctuary lamp. Two other angels near the front entrance with dish in hand containing the holy water are a welcome sign to worshippers and guests to remind them of the sacredness of the place and the need for cleansing as one enters God's house.

The church's most outstanding feature is the "High Altar" with a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary with a lighted crown.

Every August 15 the parish celebrates its patronal feast, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with a special Mass in the church.



The 1929 fire at St. Mary's Church

the 1929 fire at St. Mary's Church. Despite the Great Depression at the time, the parishioners raised funds to build a new church that was reminiscent of the beautiful 1906 building. The cornerstone was laid August 4, 1929, and the church was dedicated on June 19, 1930. Much of the labor was supplied by



St. Mary's Church altar



St. Mary grotto, the original entrance to the church that burned in 1929

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## Welcome to Hazelton!

Stop by and meet the residents of one of Emmons County's great little cities—Hazelton. We may not be large in number—approximately 240+ souls—but we are strong in spirit, looking to the future and what it has to offer. We have some outstanding young people within our school and community, leaders and future leaders who also look forward to making our community bigger and better.

Our community stands together whenever there is a need. We take pride in our school. The facility, one of the finest in the area, includes a large gymnasium, theatre room, exercise room with hot tub and more. However, emphasis is on a well-rounded education and incentives for students through the availability of the Dollars for Scholars program and the HMB Millennium Endowment Fund (check out the website) which provide many scholarships each year to assist students as they look to the future.

Hazelton has a number of great businesses ready to serve the needs of community members and any travelers who stop by.

Prairie Village Mall, located on Main Street, is home to a grocery store, salons, a popular coffee shop that is run by volunteers and presently there is a large area available within the mall designed for manufacturing.

We have a clinic, many agriculture-related businesses, a CPA, bank, credit union, insurance agency, service stations, automotive/vehicle repair, fuel suppliers, construction/remodeling businesses, two storage facilities, three churches, a beautiful park with campground and more.

Activities for Learning, Inc., located in the northeast section of Hazelton, is the proud provider of the renowned RightStart™ Mathematics program. This innovative elementary and middle-school math curriculum is used by home schoolers, schools and tutors all around the world. The AL Abacus and math card games, designed by Dr. Joan A. Cotter and proudly made in North Dakota, provide a solid foundation and clear understanding of mathematics while addressing all learning styles. AFL's mission is to help children understand, apply and enjoy mathematics.

For more information about Hazelton, contact Hazelton Development Corporation by phone or fax at (701) 782-4368; email: [info@hazeltonnorthdakota.com](mailto:info@hazeltonnorthdakota.com); or visit the website at [www.hazelton-northdakota.com](http://www.hazelton-northdakota.com).

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The Prairie Village Mall: Main Street Market, Tammy's Styling Salon, Shear Brilliance Salon & Day Spa, Hazelton Coffee Shop. Also large area for manufacturing or other business available—(701) 782-6878.

**Food:** Main Street Market, Road Hawg Grill, Hazelton Coffee Shop, Central Dakota Frontier Cooperative, DJ's Hitching Post

**Lodging:** Hazelton Park and Campground

**Shops:** Activities for Learning, Beastro Oil, Central Dakota Frontier Cooperative, Don's Body Shop, Shear Brilliance Salon and Day Spa, Stramer's Automotive Service, Tammy's Styling Salon

**Events:** Community Christmas Party, Hazelton Community Day, Holiday Happenings, Ladies Spring Salad Luncheon, Opal Girls Birthday Celebration, Veterans Day Recognition & Dinner, Annual Easter Egg Hunt

**Churches:** Evangelical Presbyterian Church, St. Paul Catholic Church, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church



### Hazelton Community Day draws a huge crowd Community Events

The first Saturday after Veterans Day is the Veterans Day Recognition & Dinner, where the community comes together to remember departed veterans and honor those still among us. And since the dinner comes from a German community, it has to be good!

Hazelton comes alive with activity each year on the third Saturday in June. Community Day, held annually since 1963 and sponsored by the Hazelton Lions Club with other organizations and businesses taking part, begins with a parade and races. The Lions Club serves a barbecue meal in the park at noon. Activities vary from year to year, but the afternoon is filled with the fun of children's games, ball games, a horseshoe tournament, a trap shoot, paint ball and much more. Ice cream and a chuck wagon provide refreshments throughout the day. Whether you're relaxing in the shade with an ice cream cone or visiting with friends and neighbors in the quiet, peaceful park, it's a great way to spend a refreshing afternoon. A street dance finalizes the day's activities.

December is a busy time for Hazelton, especially the second weekend in December. The weekend starts off with Holiday Happenings, a fun day of booths, crafts, food and more to highlight Hazelton's Christmas season. Santa Claus, sponsored by the Hazelton Lions Club, drops in for a visit on Saturday to bring joy to the kids and kids at heart. The weekend wraps up with the Community Christmas Party on Sunday, a wonderful time for fun, food and friends. Hazelton is the place to be the second weekend in December!



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## Historical Sites of Hazelton



A restored wooden windmill beckons to U.S. Highway 83 travelers as they pass by Hazelton Park; a lone reminder that Hazelton was once known as the "City of Windmills." Approximately 100 towers faced into the wind to supply water as the town grew to its peak of about 600 citizens more than a half century ago. The restored red and white Monitor windmill was erected in the park in 1993, a gift from retired farmer Ernest Balliet who had placed another monument in the park in 1992 as a tribute

to early pioneers and founders of Hazelton. A history of Hazelton's colorful past is engraved on the 3x7 foot monument made of black stone imported from Africa. Sketches on the monument show the progression of the area—from its inhabitation by Native Americans, buffalo, covered wagons, and early settlers to Hazelton's first bank and Hazel Roop, the little girl for whom the town was named. Balliet said the monument would be a legacy to a younger generation who might not otherwise be aware of the character, hard work and dreams that this small town was built on.

During the 1880s and 1890s, Sioux Indians from Standing Rock Reservation near Fort Yates and Fort Totten Reservation near Devils Lake, traveled back and forth to visit. They camped along the Three-Track Trail, so called because of the trail left by the Indian travois. The indentations can still be seen in some of the native prairie near Hazelton.



The Perras house serves as a guardian of history, including these women's items

In 1994, the Hazelton Historical Society took up the responsibility of preserving local history for future generations. Its first goal was to purchase the Elise Perras house on Main Street. The Perras house, which had a kitchen and living room on the main floor and two bedrooms upstairs, served as

the family home, the town's first post office in 1903 (Mrs. Perras was postmaster) and a millinery shop, all at the same time. The house has been restored and includes original items donated by Mrs. Perras' great-granddaughters as well as authentic period furniture, clothing and other items.

Another building has been added to the museum complex. When completed, it will contain many more artifacts pertaining to local history. The museum is open during city celebrations or by appointment. For tours, call (701) 782-6284, (701) 782-6210 or (701) 782-6293.



The museum on Main Street

### Mysterious Cannonballs

Visitors driving or walking through Hazelton's residential area often wonder at the large round rock formations in the yards of several homes.

Theories as to the origin of these yard "ornaments" are varied. Perhaps the near-perfect round rocks are remains of petrified snowmen. They could be summer snowballs. But it is unlikely that anyone would use them in a snowball fight or would even want to for that matter. Old-timers will tell you the stone balls were formed by bugs that lost their balance and began rolling, picking up speed and sand as they rolled along, coming to rest only after they became too tired to roll any longer. It has also been said that the cannonballs came from cannons used by the military in the 1800s. Most of the rocks were found near the town of Cannonball, where the Cannonball and Missouri Rivers meet.

The most plausible explanation for the near perfect roundness of the sandstone, called concretions, is that tiny pebbles at the bottom of the river actually rolled along the riverbed, picking up sand with a snowball effect and then probably became lodged in the river bed during spring flooding. Some concretions can still be seen today in places where the land is eroding and caving in along the river bank.

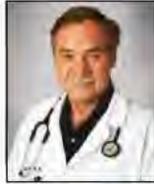
There are only two or three places in the world where the concretions have attained this unique round shape. The largest one found weighed 1,500 pounds.

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., displays rocks from each of the 50 United States. This round rock, taken from the river west of Hazelton, is labeled "North Dakota Dumbbell." Oh, well, we forgive them.





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## Hazelton Churches



St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church



St. Paul Catholic Church



Evangelical Presbyterian Church

## Hazelton Recreation

Hazelton's park is relaxing and enjoyable and has gained a reputation for being one of the best small town parks in North Dakota. Located on the west edge of Hazelton, the park is easily accessible from U.S. Highway 83. Covered shelters, an enclosed shelter and barbecue grills are provided for family and company picnics. There's a fun playground as well



as shuffleboard, horseshoe, volleyball, tennis and basketball courts—something for anyone and everyone. The baseball diamond is especially popular for local get-togethers, where people can either join in on the fun or relax and enjoy America's favorite pastime.

The park offers seven full RV hookups, five with electricity, and a comfort station with showers to provide the necessary conveniences for an overnight stay. There is also a dump site. Nightly fees are \$15 for RVs and \$12 for tents. For more information or to reserve a spot, call (701) 429-3004.



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# Welcome to Kintyre!

Kintyre, a little town located three miles north of Highway 34 near the Emmons County line, reached its peak in the 1920s and then watched its population diminish. But like a Timex watch, it keeps on ticking.

Swedish settlers came to the area in the early 1880s and 1890s. They were the Petersons, Jacobsons, Andersons, Nelsons, Swensons, Olsons, Hansons, Pearsons and others. Ole Sjerslee was known as "The Norwegian," and William McAllister was the Scotsman. Later Norwegians and Finlanders moved in, making the mixed but strong Scandinavian settlement that remains today.

Established in 1904, the town is home to about 20 inhabitants. A very active business in the area is Titan Machinery. It started out as Wolf's Farm Equipment in 1965, and it continues to run strong as Titan Machinery and serves a wide area.

South Central Grain is another long-standing business in Kintyre.



An aerial view of Kintyre



South Central Grain Agronomy Center



Titan Machinery has remained a strong business for nearly half a century

Centennial Park, located near downtown, is a well kept place to relax and hang out with family and friends. With picnic tables, shelter, grills, playground equipment, volleyball nets and horseshoe courts, any summer day in Kintyre can easily be turned into a fun get-together. Each year the town hosts a picnic for former residents and Kintyre area people on the last Sunday in June.

A few landmarks, fallen into disrepair, remain in the otherwise neat town. These landmarks are an intriguing reminder of history, and the quiet town brings a feeling of nostalgia as one walks through, observing the old structures. In the mid 90s, the hotel was torn down, and the U.S. Post Office closed. The vault from the old bank still stands where it was originally placed, unable to be broken down by time like the rest of the building was.

The area's pheasant and waterfowl populations allow for excellent hunting.

Goose Lake, located about three miles west of Kintyre, is home to thousands of geese as they migrate south each fall.



Trinity Lutheran Church



Goose Lake lives up to its name each fall, a perfect place for hunting



Centennial Park, at the heart of Kintyre, is a beautiful place to relax



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# Welcome to Linton!



Linton's Memorial Day Service with the Dan R. Richardson American Legion Post 54

## Linton Founded in 1899

Linton, the county seat of Emmons County, was founded in 1899, west of the present business section and across U.S. Highway 83. "Old Town," as it is known today, is all residential.

Linton was named for George W. Lynn. "Lynn" and "town" were combined to form the name Linton, and since Mr. Lynn wasn't too happy about the town being named after him, the residents changed the spelling to Lin-ton. The town's peak population of 1,826 was reached in 1960. Presently the town has approximately 1,300 residents.

The Linton School is known both for academics and extracurricular programs and provides a top-notch education to children in grades K-12. The school has a \$1 million scholarship trust, and every graduate who completes a semester of college in good standing receives a scholarship.

Linton has a strong agricultural base like all of Emmons County, and the town is a service community which provides a steady payroll base and a stable economy. With about 90 businesses, Linton is a trade center for the area.



Santa leads the Light Up the Night parade  
**Community Events**

Linton is a community that likes to have fun, and with a full slate of events year round, the fun just keeps coming.

The Dan R. Richardson American Legion Post 54 and Auxiliary hold a Memorial Day service at the Linton, St. Anthony's and Temvik Cemeteries.

June is Dairy Month and each year the Linton Chamber of Commerce sponsors Dairy & Ag Day to celebrate our agricultural industry.

The day is filled with games, food and shows, and is highlighted by a parade and the crowning of the Dairy & Ag Royalty.

Independence Day is always a festival in Linton.

**Food & Beverages:** Bosch's Meat Market, Country Climate, Gas Plus, Green Lantern Lounge, Happy Hour Bar, Linton Food Center, Scoopz Ice Cream & Eatery, Model Bakery, Scherr's Meats, Webo's Restaurant & Lounge, Thatsa Pizza & More, Bayside, Ritz Gallery & Gifts Coffee Shop

**Lodging:** Don's Motel, Cobblestone Inn, Willows Motel, Seeman Park campground, Sunrise Mobile Home Park and Campground, Umber's

**Shops:** Boutique 23, Family Dollar, A Touch of Honey, Linton Floral N' More, Thrifty White Drug, Linton Fitness Center, Linton Hardware Center, Martin Oil Co., Nodak True Value, Pfeifle On 83, Ritz Gallery & Gifts, Saylor Implement, R&K Equipment, EBS Beauty Salon, Unique Attractions Salon, Stacy's Hair Hut

**Events:** Chili Cook-off, Cabin Fever Day, City-Wide Rummage Sale, Dairy & Ag Day, Light Up the Night, Memorial Day, 4th of July parade, Nokota Horse Conservancy activities

**Churches:** Assembly of God, First Baptist Church, Peace Lutheran Church, St. Anthony Catholic Church, United Methodist Church



Chili Cook-off—Food and Fun!

The day is kicked off with the 4th of July 5K Walk/Run. The annual Linton Lions Club Demolition Derby has also become a popular Linton tradition over the July 4th holiday, with a huge crowd each year cheering on their favorite drivers in the metal-crunching mayhem. Cash prizes are awarded to the top winners.

August is the month for the huge City-Wide Rummage Sale.

The Chamber's Chili Cook-off, which is held the evening of the pheasant season opener in October, is a major event that attracts visiting hunters as well as locals.

Light Up the Night is the Friday after Thanksgiving when Linton officially kicks off the holiday season. The evening consists of a winter parade bedecked with bright lights and, of course, Santa Claus.

After the parade downtown bustles with activities, including visits with Santa, hot chocolate and more!

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The Ludwig and Christina Welk Homestead, which was restored by a non-profit organization in 1990-91 and operated by volunteers through June 30, 2015, became a North Dakota State Historic Site on July 1, 2015, thanks to action by the North Dakota Legislature in 2013. Now, in addition to celebrating the legacy of world-famous Champagne Music Maker Lawrence Welk, the site will be interpreted along new lines... as a pioneer farm under the Homestead Act, as a focal point of the Germans from Russia who immigrated to south central North Dakota and as an example of ethnic architecture, including the only sod (Basta) house in the inventory of the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

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# Linton Parks



Linton kids playing T-ball at Legion field  
**Dan R. Richardson American Legion Park**

The Dan R. Richardson American Legion Park in Linton is a haven for kids and adults alike inside the city limits. The Legion baseball diamond is home to many Linton baseball games, for kids as young as five in T-ball to high schoolers in Legion ball tournaments. And of course the diamond is open to anyone when games are not being played.

The Linton Municipal Swimming Pool is a highlight of any kid's summer. It is open for all swimmers at the start of every summer until the end of August.

The pool offers swimming lessons, a diving board, a 90-foot water slide and a kiddie pool for younger swimmers up to age five. Lessons are available.



**The Linton Municipal Swimming Pool**

Between the baseball diamond and the pool is a fun playground featuring swings, a jungle gym, a merry-go-round, two slides and a picnic shelter.

Across the street from the park and pool is a monument to honor America's soldiers. Put in place in 2007, this monument is especially meaningful to Linton residents, with names of past and present Legionnaires inscribed on the two outside pieces of the granite memorial. The site also has a tank retired from American battle.



**Linton American Legion Memorial**

## Seeman Park

Seeman Park provides a beautiful, safe and enjoyable way to spend your time while visiting Linton. The park is beautifully situated along Beaver Creek, with a walking path going past the creek spillway up a steep ridge to a gorgeous overview of the park and the distant Linton area.



The park features three playground sites, a baseball diamond and a nine-hole Frisbee golf course. This challenging course runs through the park's meadow, along the creek, through a difficult gauntlet of brush, up to the park's highest point with a beautiful overview of the spillway and back down toward the softball diamond.



Seeman Park is also a beautiful place to plan an

overnight camping experience. The park is complete with camper spots with electricity, barbecue grills, sheltered picnic areas and a bathroom/shower.

And for those who are staying in town there is a beautiful two-mile walking/bike path connecting Legion Park on the east side of Linton to Seeman Park.

The path is a popular way to get a vigorous run or a relaxing walk or bike ride with the beautiful view of Emmons County's lush hills and trees in the background.



**Beaver Creek flowing through Seeman Park**

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## Linton Recreation, Lodging and Hunting

### Linton Lodging and Outdoor Recreation

Hunting and fishing are huge attractions to Emmons County and specifically the Linton area. Sportsmen make their way to Linton every year to take advantage of the hunting offered here, and Linton is prepared with many places to accommodate traveling souls year round.

For starters, Kimble's Guns & Repair offers top of the line weapons care. They can also assist in any other questions about hunting in the area.

Don's Motel, conveniently beside Gas Plus convenience store on U.S. Highway 83, has 24 rooms, smoking and nonsmoking, with air conditioning, cable TV and Internet. For more information call (701) 254-5457.

Cobblestone Inn & Suites is located in town just off U.S. Highway 83. The hotel features 31 air-conditioned rooms with kitchenettes and refrigerators and microwaves. Wired and wireless Internet access is complimentary, and LCD televisions with cable programming provide entertainment. For more information, call (701) 254-5734.

Umber's Bed & Breakfast is a cozy place to spend time. Located just east of Highway 83 and a block from downtown Linton, Umber's offers the unique homemade comfort of personalized service. For more information, call (701) 254-4134.

Willows Motel, on the south edge of town, offers 23 air conditioned rooms with free wireless Internet and cable TV. Before setting out in the morning, also be sure to grab a complimentary cup of coffee. For more information, call (701) 254-4555.

Sunrise Mobile Home & RV Park, located just east of Legion Park, is an ideal place for camping for hunters, construction workers or tourists. Sunrise offers full hook-ups, a dump station and plenty of extra room for tents. Pre-registration is not required, but to obtain more information or to reserve a spot call (701) 321-1463.

Seeman Park, which is just east of Linton and a half-mile south of Highway 13 is also a great place to camp. For more information, see "Linton Parks."

If you have a camper, Bayside Resort, featured under the Lake Oahe section, is also a great place to spend the night near Linton, just 15 miles west of town on Highway 13. It has full hookups for RVs, a convenience store, fuel and a restaurant/bar.

Cattail Bay Resort, which is south of Beaver Bay, just off Highway 1804 has campsites and a bar.

Stateline Resort, further south on 1804, has campsites and a store/cafe.

### Linton Country Club

The Linton Country Club is one of the finest nine-hole grass green courses in North Dakota. The course is very well kept with a great location west of Linton on Beaver Creek. The course is open April through October, and it is one of Linton's most popular recreation areas. With many different rate options, the club offers a beautiful and challenging getaway for any golfer, beginner or professional.

The club house offers a spacious and cozy lounge to sit back and relax after a long game or enjoy a hot meal. The club store also sells golf balls, driving range balls, tees and gloves.

The Country Club is equipped with 60 storage sheds that are available for rental, as well as electric carts, pull carts, golf clubs and range balls that are also available for rental. For any questions, call the Linton Country Club at (701) 254-9093.

### Linton Rifle Range

The Linton Rifle Range, just west of Linton off Highway 13, is a great place to get into practice for the fall hunting seasons.

The Linton Lions Club leases the land from the county and keeps up the grounds.

The range is open to the public and is ideal, having a natural hilly backstop and a location close to Linton but not inside it. The range is made for shotguns, rifles and pistols, with targets at 25 yards, 100 yards and 250 yards, as well as a trap shoot on the grounds. Trap shoots are held during the summer.

For more information contact Kimble's Guns & Repair, (701) 254-5502.



Linton Country Club features a beautiful nine-hole course



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Catholic Church  
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Church  
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## Linton Churches



Peace Lutheran Church



Full Gospel Assembly of God



First Baptist Church



United Methodist Church



St. Anthony Catholic Church

## The Emmons County Museum



The former St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, the first stop in the museum tour

The Emmons County Museum, spearheaded by the Emmons County Historical Society after it was founded in 1973, is a treasure trove of everyday items from Emmons County's history. While many museum collections focus on dazzlingly unique items, the Emmons County Museum prides itself in its range of common belongings that tell the story of Emmons County's past.

The museum is spread through four buildings on the corner of 1st St. N.W. and W. Oak in Linton. The main building, where the tour begins, is the old, stone St. Matthew Episcopal Church.

The Emmons County Museum features many interesting collections, including post office items from Temvik, Larvik and Tell; U.S. military items from most of the American wars, including a button off a Revolutionary War uniform; the safe that was stolen in the infamous battle for the county seat between Lin-

ton and Williamsport; displays of household items from different eras, each subject displayed in its own room in the church rectory; Native American artifacts; 19th century horse buggy and cutter, and much, much more!

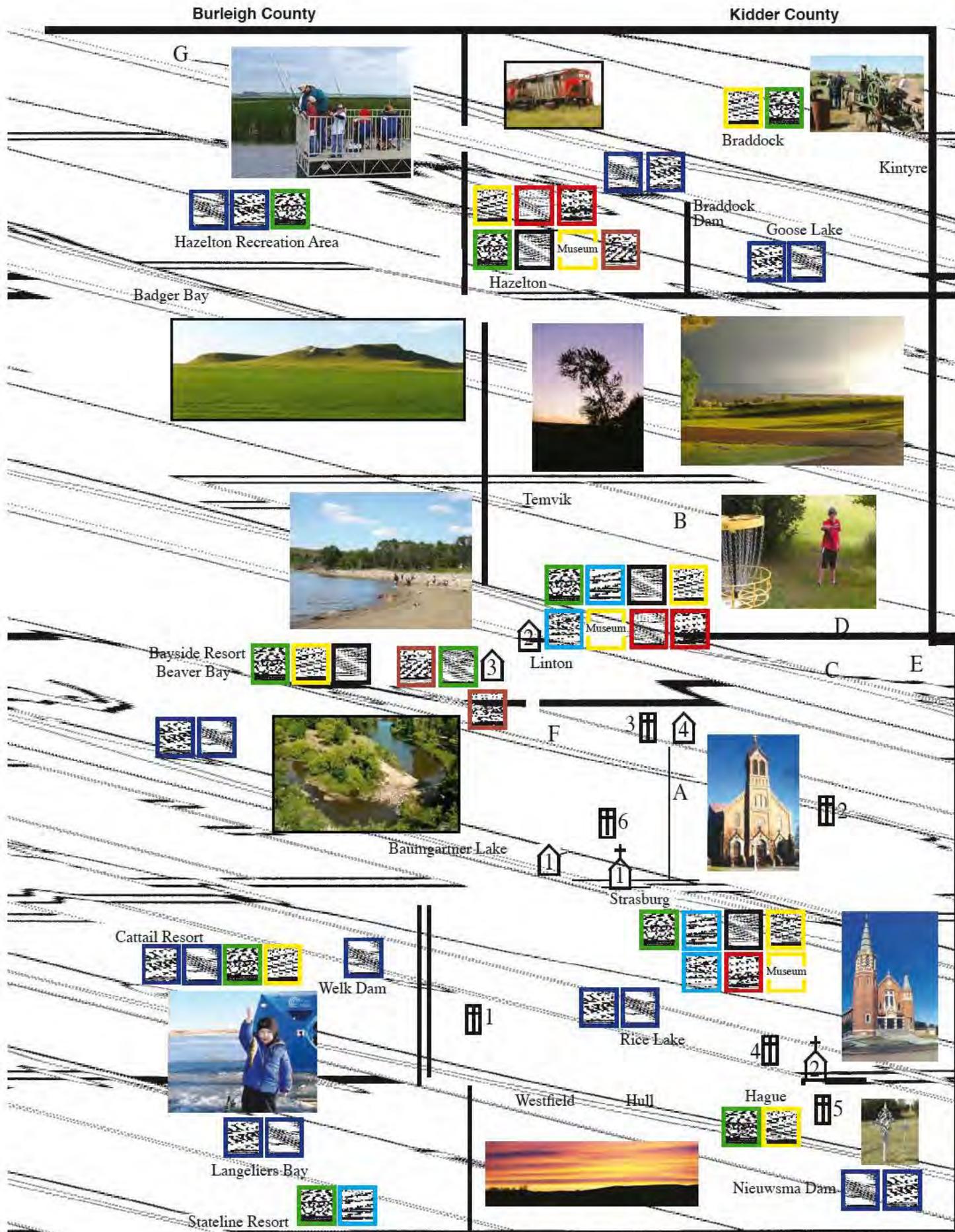
Perhaps even more interesting than the items themselves, however, are the stories behind them of a people who struggled to survive in an imperfect world. Come learn about the pioneers of Emmons County and the legacy they have left for the modern world.

The Emmons County Museum is open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, Friday and Sunday from 2-4 p.m., Dairy & Ag Day, Fourth of July and by appointment. To schedule a tour, call (701) 254-4399.



Dress worn in 1865 at Lincoln's Inaugural

# Map of Emmons County



- ### Sites on the National Register of Historic Places
- Churches on National Register**
1. Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church—Strasburg
  2. St. Mary's Catholic Church—Hague
- Buildings on National Register**
1. Ludwig Welk Farmstead
  2. Emmons County Courthouse
  3. Willows Hotel (currently Willows Apartments)
  4. Johannes Goldade House
- Cemeteries on National Register**
1. Holy Trinity Cemetery
  2. St. Aloysius Cemetery
  3. Sacred Heart Cemetery
  4. Old St. Mary's Cemetery
  5. Current St. Mary's Cemetery
  6. Tiraspol Cemetery
- Other sites of historic significance**
- A. Schwab Sod Farmhouse
  - B. German Ev. Lutheran Bethlehem Cemetery
  - C. Prairie Bells: Grotto of the Holy Family
  - D. St. Michael's Church and Cemetery
  - E. St. Joseph Cemetery
  - F. Linton Lutheran Cemetery
  - G. Glencoe Church and Cemetery





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## Nokota Horse Conservancy



The Nokota Horse Conservancy is a non-profit organization aiming to preserve the Nokota Horse breed. Nokota horses are the descendents of the last surviving population of wild horses in North Dakota. In the 1940s and 1950s, federal and state forces combined to attempt to eradicate wild horses from North Dakota since it was perceived they were competing with livestock for the same grazing acres.

The Nokotas held on, though, becoming the only surviving breed of wild horses. When Theodore Roosevelt National Park was established in the North Dakota Badlands in the 1950s, some of the surviving Nokotas were inadvertently fenced in, and the Park began rounding up the horses to eliminate them from the park altogether, selling them at public auctions.

In the 1980's two ranching brothers, Leo and Frank Kuntz, began buying the horses at these public auctions, stepping in to save this magnificent breed. And in 1999, the brothers, with the assistance of other

like-minded individuals, started the Conservancy.

The Kuntz Ranch, just east of Linton, serves as the home to many of these beautiful animals, but the Conservancy is constantly struggling to provide enough land for the horses. International interest has begun to spread the word of the Nokotas, and some Nokotas have even made the journey overseas, but many more horses still need your help.

The Conservancy has its annual meeting every summer, over Father's Day weekend in June, with four days of fun activities planned around the Nokota horse and its unique history, including opportunities to observe the Nokotas in a near-natural state through pasture tours, participate in the Horses on the Prairie Camp, a street dance, a community breakfast and Art in the Park and, of course, great food!

For more information, visit the website at [www.nokotahorse.org](http://www.nokotahorse.org), or contact the conservancy directly by phone at (701) 254-4205 or by email at [info@nokotahorse.org](mailto:info@nokotahorse.org).



The Nokota horses on the Kuntz Ranch

## Linton Municipal Airport

The Linton Municipal Airport is a state-of-the-art facility ready to meet the needs of pilots and visitors. Located just two miles south of Linton, it is easily accessible. With a focus on small aircraft, the airport features a 3,700-foot lighted runway, and the staffed terminal offers a comfortable rest area for pilots looking to refuel their planes with available jet A fuel or avgas 100LL. Pilots are also welcome to park their planes for the day and take an available courtesy car around the area. The airport offers its mechanical services to incoming pilots, with knowledgeable mechanics close by to inspect aircraft equipment. The staff is also available for crop spraying.

A new feature at Linton Municipal Airport is the GPS Approach.

Linton Municipal Airport's CTAF is 122.9. The Aviation Weather System phone number is



(701) 254-4965. The latitude is 46-13.24' and the longitude is 100-14.74', with a field elevation of 1779 feet. The airport's hours are 8:00-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or call the airport to make after-hours appointments. For more information, call the Linton Municipal Airport at (701) 254-5449 or (701) 321-0913.



The Linton Municipal Airport terminal welcomes visitors, including fishermen and hunters



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# Welcome to Strasburg!



The streets are always packed for Strasburg's Independence Day events

## Strasburg—A Progressive Town

Many small towns in rural areas are struggling to survive, but Strasburg continues to be a progressive, busy community. Major projects completed in recent years include updating the water and sewer systems and the installation by BEK Communications Cooperative of state-of-the-art fiber optics to accommodate high-speed Internet and other high-tech services. South Central Regional Water has brought high-quality, filtered Missouri River water to Strasburg and the surrounding area. Water from the new system is a boost to farmers and an incentive for people to build in the area.

In 2015, voters approved a \$3.9 million update of the Strasburg Public School to provide a top quality educational facility to benefit students and the community.

The spirit of Strasburg, famed Champagne Musicmaker Lawrence Welk's hometown, was shown after the historic Blue Room was destroyed by fire. Current and former residents banded together to raise money to rebuild the hall, bar and eatery. Many large events, from weddings to gatherings of organizations, are held at the Blue Room.

On July 1, 2015, The Welk Homestead (birthplace of Lawrence Welk) became a North Dakota State Historic Site. The site is visited by people around the world to learn about homesteading, the Germans from Russia heritage of the area, pioneer agriculture and Lawrence Welk.

## Lots to Offer

Strasburg is noted for its gift shops, restaurants, modern grocery store, two hardware stores, The Welk Homestead, a popular swimming pool at Welk Park,

Veterans Memorial Park, campground, grain elevator, two agronomy centers, nationally known used auto parts company (Ken's Auto) and other facilities. Strasburg has an excellent school system which is well staffed and provides an ideal teacher to student ratio.

Soon, a remodeled elementary school and new high school will be completed.



**Food:** SJ Foods, Blue Room Bar & Grill, The Galley, Ampride, Time Out Tavern

**Lodging:** Two cabins, Wunnerful Inn, Strasburg Campground

**Shops:** The Little German House, Schreiner's Hardware, Furniture & Appliances, Keller's Hardware & Excavating, Mattern's Machine, Ellingson's, Ken's Auto Inc., Northern Plains, North Central Farmers Elevator, Zoom Away, Creative Touch Salon

**Events:** Beaver Valley Horse Club Rodeo, Memorial Day parade and activities, 4th of July parade and activities

**Churches:** Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Strasburg Reformed Church



## Veterans Memorial Gardens

One of the most impressive tributes to America's veterans can be found along Main Street in Strasburg: The Veterans Memorial Gardens.

The project began in 1984, and the Romanus F. Wagner VFW Post 6264 purchased a granite monument that features a replica of the Iwo Jima Memorial. Initially placed next to the VFW Hall, the monument was moved to the memorial park when it was created in 1989.

With the help of the N.D. National Guard, the post obtained a twin 40 mm anti-aircraft gun mounted on a tank chassis for the park. The 44,000 pound gun sits on a concrete slab where it is permanently displayed.

In September of 1994, a wall made from bricks, each representing an Emmons County veteran, was dedicated, and hundreds of people gathered for this historic event. The bricks represent the county's earliest known veterans as well as contemporary veterans, such as those from Operation Desert Storm.

The park also features a gazebo and lighted walkways, in addition to a beautifully lighted sign. Veterans Memorial Gardens is a "must see" for anyone visiting the Strasburg area. The VFW has a variety of annual patriotic events.

On Memorial Day, the post honors veterans buried at the two local cemeteries as well as Hague, Hull and Westfield. Deceased veterans are honored with volleys fired by a firing squad and by a bugler playing "Taps."

The Strasburg VFW makes a number of charitable donations to worthy causes locally.



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## Sites in Strasburg



**Strasburg Reformed Church**

Strasburg Reformed Church has its roots in the immigration of sturdy Dutch pioneers who came into Dakota Territory from the Netherlands in the early 1880's. These pioneers organized a Reformed Church in Campbell County, South Dakota, and built a sod church. This is thought to be the only sod church in the history of the Reformed Church in America.

Severe hardships on the plains caused many members of the "Van Raalte Church" to migrate to Iowa or Michigan. Remaining families organized a church on a site known as "Peterman's land" south of Strasburg. That building was destroyed in a storm. In 1886 a group formed the Hull Christian Reformed Church, and in 1887 the Hope Reformed Church was organized at Westfield.

Several years later, on July 31, 1916, a meeting was held in the home of Mauritz and Anna Van Soest for the purpose of organizing a Reformed Church in Strasburg. It was organized that day with a membership of 15 persons. The congregation at first worshipped in the M. Van Soest home and later in the public school building. A new church was erected in 1917 at a cost of approximately \$6,000. The first pastor was Rev. Roelof Duiker, who served from 1919 to 1923. A parsonage was built in 1923 at a total cost of \$3,342; both buildings still stand.

Worship services were held in the Dutch language Sunday mornings and in English during the afternoon. Since 1934, all services have been held in English. The highest number of members was attained in 1932, just before the drought plus the Depression caused many families to move out of state. Five sons of the church have gone into full-time ministry.

Pastors came and went over the years, averaging from three to seven years per pastorate. The last full-time resident pastor to live in the parsonage was Rev. Gilbert Van Beek from 1969-79. Since then a succession of Pulpit Supply Pastors have served. In the summers during some years, students from Western Theological Seminary would take care of pastoral duties.

The church building suffered extensive interior damage from a fire in 1962, and it was repaired and

remodeled with much volunteer labor by the congregation. Since then the church has been re-sided, insulated and given new windows in 1990, and shingles were added to the church steeple in 2006.

Rev. Floyd Haan is the current pastor and has served the church since 2000.

The Strasburg Reformed Church has a loyal "core" of Dutch-descendent people, which includes and welcomes those of any ethnic background. The congregation is blessed with a hard-working group of women (RCW) and skilled organists and pianists, plus faithful Sunday School teachers. The people love to sing, and the building resounds beautifully with their hymns and songs.

The church celebrated its centennial in 2016.

Doors are always open, and guests are welcome to worship in this church. Sunday services are held at 9:15 a.m. and Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. The address is 2nd street and Ave. G., Strasburg.



**Gary Keller gives a tour of his family's hotel**

### **Keller's Hotel**

Keller's Hotel, one of Strasburg's original hotels from the early 1900s, has been converted into Keller's Hardware Hank—at least, on the ground floor. On the second floor, the old hotel, closed in 1943, has been frozen in time and remains a legacy of one of Strasburg's original businesses.



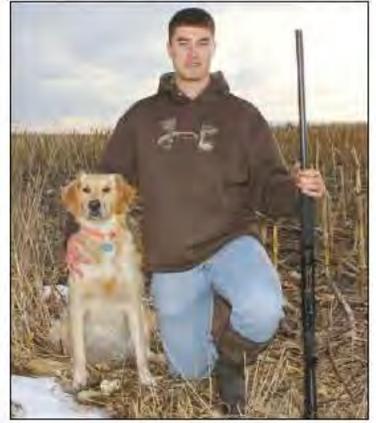
Gary Keller, grandson of the hotel's founder, Valentine Keller, owns the hardware store and, as an expert on the

history of the hotel as well as Strasburg, gives the museum tours. Tours are by appointment only and must be scheduled one day ahead of time.

To schedule a tour, call Gary at Keller's Hardware, (701) 336-7616.



**An original bedroom from the hotel**



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## Beaver Valley Horse Club Rodeo



Saddle Bronc Riding at the BVHC Rodeo

The Beaver Valley Horse Club was organized in 1960, and it is among the more unique groups in Emmons County. In its early years, the club concentrated on horse shows and annual banquets. By 1966, the horse club had built an arena just outside of Strasburg and held its first rodeo

in August of that year. racing, bull riding and the always fun rodeo clown antics. The Saturday events are always topped off with a street dance in Strasburg.

The horse club also hosts other events during the year. Check the *Emmons County Record* for more information, [www.ecrecord.com](http://www.ecrecord.com).



Rowdy the rodeo clown watches during show

in August of that year.

The Beaver Valley Horse Club Rodeo is Strasburg's main attraction each summer. The rodeo usually hosts a number of events, including bronc riding, calf-roping, steer wrestling, girls barrel



This rider scrambles off his horse to rope his calf in time

## Strasburg Outdoor Recreation



### Strasburg Park and Campground

Strasburg is a great place to stay while taking a few days for hunting and fishing. Pheasants are always populous in Emmons County, as well as other birds and deer. Fishing is also a great pastime on nearby Rice Lake, Nieuwsma Dam and Schwan Lake.

Strasburg offers a variety of lodging options for sportsmen in the area, including the Strasburg Park and Campground. It features nine full hook-ups for campers and plenty of other space for pitching tents, as well as a picnic shelter and other picnic tables scattered around the grounds for the campers' enjoyment.

Two cabins are located on the east side of the Ampride convenience store and gas station just off Highway 83. The cabins are a popular place for hunters and fishers to stay from as far away as Wisconsin and Alabama. Cabin 1 has one full size bed and two twin beds, cabin 2 has one full size

bed and three twin beds and both have a bathroom/shower. These cabins are often booked, so be sure to reserve a spot well ahead of time. For reservations, call the Ampride store at (701) 336-7786.

Wunnerful Inn is a unique place to stay for any reason. The home-like inn offers six theme bedrooms with a full kitchen on the main floor, a kitchenette upstairs, a full bath on both floors, a half bath in the basement and a washer and dryer on the main floor. For more information, call (701) 400-9657.



Deer are plentiful

# WELCOME TO GERMAN-RUSSIAN COUNTRY!

**G**erman-Russian Country is the heartland of the Black Sea Germans, Germans from Russia who settled on the Great Plains of North America. The Germans from Russia are among the most visible and vibrant ethnic immigrant cultures of the Plains. Three counties in southcentral North Dakota — Emmons, Logan and McIntosh — are at the center of German-Russian Country.



## Our Mission/Vision

The Tri-County Tourism Alliance's mission is to organize people interested in preserving and promoting the Germans from Russia heritage and culture in order to enhance tourism opportunities in the three counties of Emmons, Logan and McIntosh.

Find more information about Tri-County Tourism Alliance projects, events and visitor information on our website:

[www.germanrussiancountry.org](http://www.germanrussiancountry.org)



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## Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



The spectacular Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, listed on the National Historic Register, has a long history and is a beloved part of the Strasburg community.

In the fall of 1888, men from Strassburg, South Russia, came to south central Emmons County in search of suitable land for farming. The first settlers arrived in the spring of 1889: Jacob Feist; brothers Jacob Baumgartner, Johannes Baumgartner and Franz Baumgartner; Kasper Feist; Joseph Burgad, and Albinus Schneider. They were soon followed by Frank Geisinger, Egidius Keller, Peter Kraft, Jacob Geffre, Lorenz Schwab and Martin Schwab. Many of their descendants still live in the area.

The times were difficult with no crops. The settlers collected buffalo bones which they sold to raise money to buy flour. The first priest to offer Mass in the early settlers' homes was Fr. Bernard Strassmeier who came across the Missouri River from Ft. Yates, N.D., some 26 miles.

In 1892 Fr. Joachim Widmer, a Benedictine from St. John's Church in McIntosh County, served the area. Holy Trinity was built in Krassna, southwest of Strasburg, and that gave the people of Strasburg courage to build their own church, Sts. Peter and Paul Church, in 1893. The original church was located two and a half miles northeast of the present site of Strasburg. It was called Tiraspol, and that church was where famed band leader Lawrence Welk was baptized on March 16, 1903. He later attended St. Benedict's School in Strasburg.

Fr. Benedict Peter, who served St. John's, soon saw the need for a resi-

dent priest at Tiraspol, and he took up residence with the Peter Kellers, whose farm was near the church, until a rectory was built at the turn of the century.

With the arrival of the railroad in 1902, the town of Strasburg was formed. When the construction of homes and the store were finished, a controversial decision was made to move the church and rectory from Tiraspol to the new site. When the buildings were being moved to the new site, they got hung on the railroad tracks. People who opposed the move refused to help get the buildings off the tracks, but fortunately the train crew came to the rescue.

Through all the divisions in the parish, the church was without a pastor until Fr. Alois Stringel of the Order of Saint Benedict arrived in January of 1907. Already plans were underway to build a new and larger church. Excavation began in the fall of 1909. When Abbot Vincent Wehrle became the first Bishop of Bismarck in 1910, he came to bless the cornerstone of the new Sts. Peter and Paul Church.

The present church, a landmark in the area, was constructed at a cost of \$45,000. The first Mass was a Midnight Mass for Christmas in 1911. The new church was 128 feet by 50 feet with a 70-foot transept and an 85-foot tower. The church was consecrated on June 28, 1916, and was the second consecrated church in the Diocese.

The Ursuline Sisters arrived on September 21, 1910, and opened a school in the church basement. The school started with about 70 students, and there were over 200 within two years. The old church was remodeled into a convent and boarding quarters for students. By 1917 a new school was built for \$50,000. Enrollment reached 300 when high school classes were added.

As a WPA project during the 1930's, a gymnasium was added to the school complex. Eventually, a central Catholic high school was established. Emmons Central High School operated until 1985 when it closed and its facilities were sold to the public school district. St. Benedict's Grade School operated until the parish centennial year in 1989.

Mass is celebrated at Sts. Peter and Paul Church at 4 p.m. on Saturdays and 8:45 a.m. Sundays. The first Sunday in October marks the annual Sts. Peter & Paul Church Fair, consisting of a delicious meal followed by Bingo.



# Welk Homestead State Historic Site

Photo by Brian. R. Austin, Graphic Services, SHSND



## Visit the Welk Homestead State Historic Site to learn about

- 19th century agriculture
- German-Russian culture and architecture
- National entertainer Lawrence Welk, who grew up on this farm



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## The Welk Homestead

The Welk Homestead, a state historic site managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota, is a beautiful remastering of national bandleader Lawrence Welk's boyhood farm. Visitors will learn about agriculture in the early 19th century, German-Russian culture and architecture, and the Welk family's life on the farm.

This 6.11-acre site is the homestead of Ludwig and Christina Welk, who immigrated from near Odessa, Russia, in 1893. Nearly 120,000 people of German heritage left Russia for the US between 1870 and 1920, mainly due to political pressures. Free or cheap land drew many to North Dakota.

The Welk house was built in 1899 of dried mud

and brick, a common building method of the Germans from Russia. Additional architectural features also point to the family's German-Russian heritage. A summer kitchen, outhouse, blacksmith shop, granary, and barn are open seasonally.

Lawrence Welk, born in 1903, learned to play the accordion from his father. He left the farm in 1924 to pursue a career in music. In 1955 he made his debut on national television. The Lawrence Welk Show was produced for 26 years, with reruns still airing throughout the country and internationally.

The Welk Homestead is located northwest of Strasburg, just off Highway 83 at 845 88th Street Southeast, Strasburg.



The Welk Homestead is a beautiful setting near Strasburg (Photo courtesy of Robert Knutson)

## The Schwab Sod House



The Schwab Sod House is a beautifully preserved time capsule of early prairie life. One of the few sod houses left in the area, it has stood the test of time for over a century and stands now as a testament to the lasting influence of Emmons County pioneers.

Lorenz and Regina (Wald) Schwab built their house sometime in the early 1890s with German-Russian sun-dried adobe blocks. This time-tested building housed four generations of Schwabs, and today it stands as a reminder of Emmons County's heralding past.

Each room in the house features original furniture

from different eras in the Schwabs' history, transporting visitors into times unfamiliar and sometimes even forgotten. The house lies amidst a quiet prairie, much like it did over a century ago.

To get to the Schwab Sod House, turn onto Main Street of Strasburg and go east. Follow this road as it goes 1/2 mile east of Strasburg, then turns north for one mile and then turns east again. After two miles comes 13th Avenue S.E. Take this road north for three miles, and the house will be to the east.



The house has been furnished with many different era items, like this 70's era living room



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# Welcome to Westfield and Hull!

The towns of Hull and Westfield, lying near the South Dakota border, are nearly interlocked. Connected by a four-mile-long gravel road and serving mainly as farming communities, many of the people who claim Hull and Westfield as home can be at one town just as quickly as the other. The towns even share the same pastor.

While some may see this area as a lifeless rural community, the residents will convince you otherwise. With so many ties between Hull and Westfield, the residents have become an extended family to each other, and they would love to add on!

## Hull

A church, a store, post office and school marked the beginnings of the Dutch settlement of Hull in 1887. While the store, Hull's only business, is long gone, the Hull Christian Reformed Church remains strong and the center of the community. Since its inception, the town's population has stayed consistent at about 40.



**Hull Christian Reformed Church  
Independence Day Activities**

The Fourth of July is a great time for both Hull and Westfield. An Independence Day parade for both towns is held in Westfield, and following the parade there are many games and delicious food lined up for a fun day of hanging out.

In 2009 a new tradition was started: the Annual "It Happens" Pie Throw. And by "pie" they don't mean the fruit-filled kind. The winner is crowned the new royalty. Don't miss the chance to meet the next reigning Cow Chip Queen.



**The kids participate in races after the parade**



**The "Squirmy Wormy Train" in the Independence Day parade**

## Westfield

Originally named "Hope," Westfield is also a Dutch settlement that was founded in 1884. It is locally known as "Wooden Shoe Community." The first settlers came from Iowa. The village, which never incorporated, has had a population of 40 for most of the 20th century.

Hope Reformed Church and the Bakker Elementary School are located in Westfield today. And the delightful development of "Grandma's Kuchen," the first Westfield business in years, has created quite a stir in the community. For those unfamiliar with kuchen, it is a traditional German dessert that has a thick, pastry pie crust and is filled with a thick custard and fruit pieces. Grandma's Kuchen has been hailed as the best kuchen in the world, with few daring to argue. Grandma's Kuchen is always ready to welcome visitors with a hot pot of coffee.



**Hope Reformed Church in Westfield**



**The Annual "It Happens" Pie Throw**



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# The Missouri River's Lake Oahe

Emmons County's western border is the shore of the beautiful Lake Oahe, a reservoir that runs between two state capitals: Bismarck and Pierre. With a fish population consisting of walleye, northern pike, catfish, black crappie and small mouth bass, the lake is a popular destination.

Besides a number of boat ramps for easy access to the lake, three excellent resorts are located in Emmons County—Stateline, Cattail and Bayside.



**Stateline Resort offers a beautiful view of Lake Oahe**

### Stateline Resort

Stateline Resort, just north of the South Dakota border on Highway 1804, is a camper's paradise year round. The resort is 70 miles south of Bismarck, N.D.

Besides the fishing on Lake Oahe, which fishermen can access via the Langeliers Bay boat ramp just a mile more north, the resort is in an area with an abundance of wildlife for hunting and trapping. The area has pheasants, ducks and geese, whitetail and mule deer, beavers, muskrats, rabbits and raccoons.

The resort offers a cafe (with free wireless Internet), beer, bait, licenses and camping. There are full RV hook-ups (nightly, monthly and seasonal rates).

For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/StatelineResort](http://www.facebook.com/StatelineResort), email [statelineresort@yahoo.com](mailto:statelineresort@yahoo.com) or call (701) 336-7765.



**Pheasants are a huge attraction in the area**



**First deer... a big buck!**



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Bass, White .....	4 lbs 10 oz
Crappie.....	3 lbs 4 oz
Paddlefish.....	130 lbs
Perch, Yellow .....	2 lbs 15 oz
Salmon, Chinook .....	31 lbs 2 oz
Sauger.....	8 lbs 12 oz
Saugeye.....	12 lbs
Walleye .....	15 lbs 12 oz

For more information on Emmons County and North Dakota fishing and hunting, go to the Game & Fish web page at [www.gf.nd.gov](http://www.gf.nd.gov) or the N.D. tourism web page at [www.ndtourism.com](http://www.ndtourism.com).



**Langeliers Bay, just north of Stateline Resort, is just one of the many boat ramps on Oahe**



**Jet skiing and tubing on the lake**



**Stateline offers full RV hook-ups**

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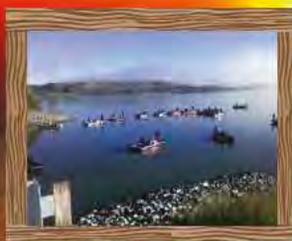
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# The Missouri River's Lake Oahe

## Bayside Resort

Bayside Resort is about 13 miles west of Linton on Beaver Bay, one of the most popular fishing and hunting spots in Emmons County. Fitted with 40 full RV hook-ups, the grounds are sportsman friendly. The convenience store sells bait, gas, drinks and snacks for the passing fisherman or hunter.

If someone comes to the end of a long day and needs a full, hot meal without the energy it takes to cook it, Bayside also has a restaurant and lounge. Popular with both visitors and locals looking for a good meal, Bayside restaurant serves hearty meals sure to please any guest. Bayside opens at 9 a.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It closes at 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

To reserve an RV spot or a dinner table, call (701) 254-5540 or go to [www.baysideoahe.com](http://www.baysideoahe.com).



Fishing is family fun!



Bayside Resort offers 40 full RV hook-ups



Bayside Resort has an excellent restaurant

## Beaver Bay

Beaver Bay offers many full RV hook-ups and primitive camping grounds. Right along the shore of the bay, the grounds are ideal for long fishing trips or a shorter deer-hunting trip. The waters are a welcome sight for anyone, whether it is for fishing or the more recreational jet skiing, tubing or simply a refreshing swim.



Beaver Bay, 13 miles west of Linton



Beaver Bay boating, a great summer pastime



Oahe is among world's best walleye fisheries!

## Bicycling Along Lake Oahe

Bicyclists from around the nation have traveled up historic Highway 1804 that runs along the east side of Lake Oahe and through Emmons County. Some bikers prefer enjoying the view Emmons County has to offer, while others pass through on a longer journey to recount the steps of Lewis and Clark from St. Louis all the way to Oregon's west coast. The magic of traveling along the same route as Lewis and Clark over two centuries ago is too fun to resist for many adventurers, and Emmons County offers many refueling, camping and lodging options for those taking the challenge.



Bicyclists stopping at Bayside to refuel while traveling the 1804 trail

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# The Missouri River's Lake Oahe



Cattail offers a great view of Lake Oahe

## Cattail Resort

Southwest of Linton lies "one of the best fishing spots on the river," Cattail Bay. The Cattail area has a boat ramp, camping grounds, picnic tables and vault toilets provided by the Corps of Engineers.

Just south of that lies Cattail Resort, a place where die-hard fishermen never get tired of coming back year after year. With 20 full RV hook-ups and further room for tents, Cattail is a quiet area beloved by fishermen. While fishing is the main attraction, hunters also make

Cattail Resort their home while going after pheasant and deer. For more information or to make a reservation, call (701) 336-7377.



Cattail Resort provides 20 full RV hook-ups



The Cattail boat ramp, just south of the resort

## Hazelton Recreation Area & Badger Bay

The Hazelton Recreation Area, located 15 miles west of Hazelton, is yet another great setting for camping and fishing. With 12 electrical and 18 primitive campsites, there is plenty of room for weekend travelers.

There is also a large parking lot to accommodate boaters, fishers and swimmers. There are two courtesy docks, a two-lane launching ramp, a fish-cleaning station, a playground, a horseshoe pit, fire rings and picnic tables.

The newest facility in the area is Badger Creek Campground, 6320 Highway 1804 S.W. It features full-service camping pads. For more information, call (701) 321-2224 or (701) 321-5736.



Hazelton Recreation Area is a popular entry into Lake Oahe

Linton, ND 58552-0038

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# Beaver Valley Sno-Goer's Club



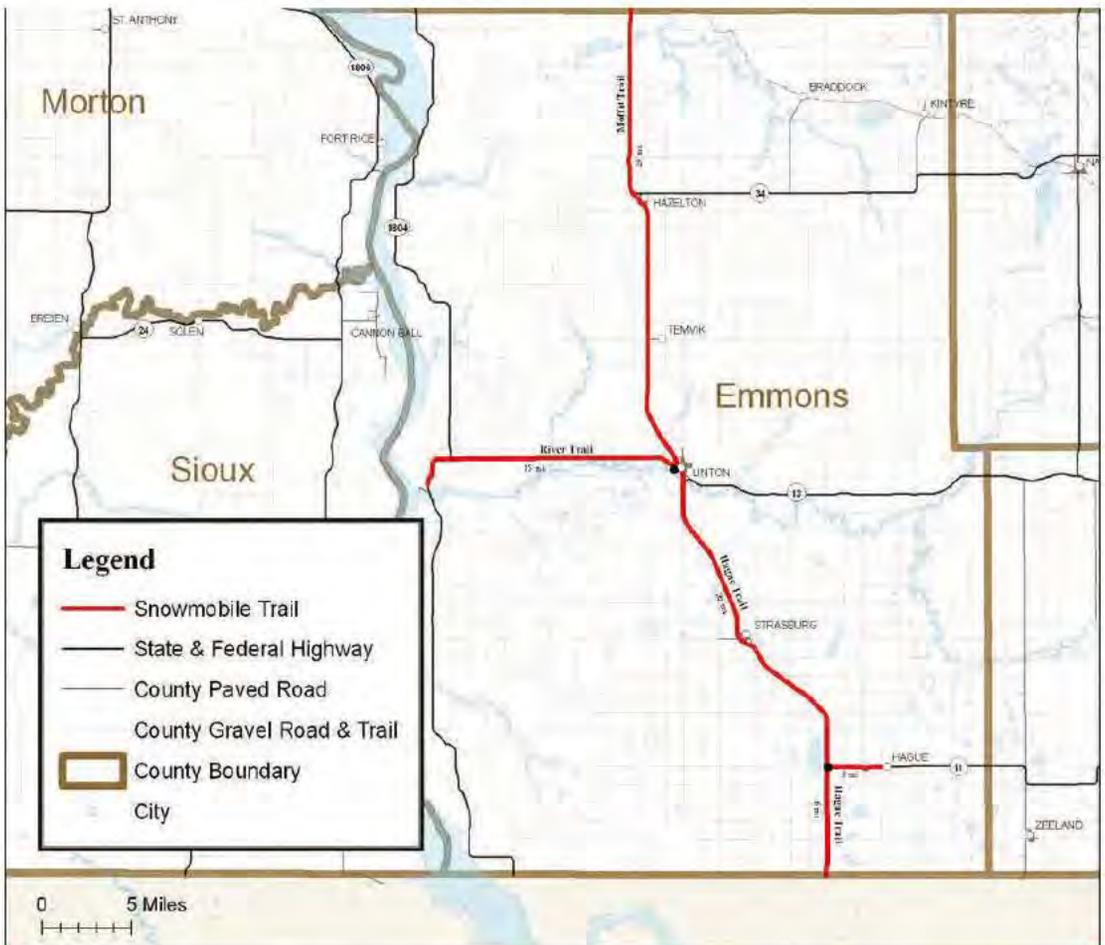
every month, September through April. The club holds their annual banquet for members in January every year and also hosts a snowmobile certification class, usually in November, as needed.

To join the club or get more information, call (701) 254-4433. For trail conditions, call (701) 328-5377 or 1-800-HELLO-ND or write to PO Box 394, Linton, ND 58552-0394. Check out the Snowmobile North Dakota website at [www.snowmobilend.org](http://www.snowmobilend.org).

The Beaver Valley Sno-Goer's Club, the county's snowmobile club since 1970, is a very active organization both in and out of the snow. The Emmons County snowmobiling trail, shown on the map below, is a state trail and is regulated by the club. The trail is open to the public and is a great way to get out during the winter months.

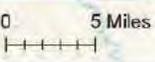
Events include fun runs, fundraisers and the Annual Kiddie Day (weather and snow conditions permitting) at the Linton Municipal Airport, where kids are welcome to play in the snow, ride mini snowmobiles on a controlled track and go on a snowmobile-pulled sled ride by club members.

The Sno-Goer's Club meets the third Friday of



**Legend**

- Snowmobile Trail
- State & Federal Highway
- County Paved Road
- County Gravel Road & Trail
- County Boundary
- City



## Emmons County Snowmobile Trails

# Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge



**\*Vehicle use is prohibited on all NWR's and WPA's, except on clearly designated roads or on trails posted with "Vehicle Access Route" signs.**

**\*All maps of Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge are in a constant state of revision due to an ongoing conservation program. To view more maps of the refuge, visit the web site.**

# Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge

Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge is located near Moffit, just north of the Emmons County border. The refuge is about 2 miles long and 16 miles wide. It contains 22,300 acres, 16,000 of which are lake bottom, with rolling prairie and cultivated uplands on the remaining 6,300 acres.

Largely developed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1933, Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge has become a haven for many animals, both resident and migratory.

Visitors are welcome to the refuge during daylight hours for bird watching, wildlife observation, photography, fishing, hunting and environmental education.



## Fishing at Long Lake

Fishing is permitted on Long Lake Creek, a beautiful body of water that gives fishermen great access to northern pike, walleye, yellow perch, bullhead, carp and sucker.

Ice fishing is also a great way to spend the winter months. All fishing must be done during daylight hours.



## Shore fishing is popular at Long Lake

## Hunting at Long Lake

Long Lake provides a beautiful sanctuary for many types of birds and deer, making it an ideal place for hunting. Upland gamebird, youth deer, firearm deer, muzzleloader deer, and archery deer hunting is available. Please be aware of the refuge regulations before hunting.



## Bow hunting for deer is great at Long Lake



## Canada Geese gather at the refuge

## Birding at Long Lake

Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge has a wide variety of birds on its lands. The following is a very brief, incomplete list of Long Lake birds. The complete list includes 308 birds and can be viewed on the Long Lake website.



### Common Birds:

- Grebes
- Tyrant Flycatchers
- Cormorants
- Herons
- Egrets
- Larks
- Swallows
- Geese
- Swans
- Ducks
- Harriers
- Thrashers
- Gallinaceous Birds
- Rails
- Cranes
- Wood Warblers
- Sparrows
- Avocets
- Sandpipers
- Gulls
- Terns
- Blackbirds
- Orioles
- Goldfinches
- Owls

### Rare Birds:

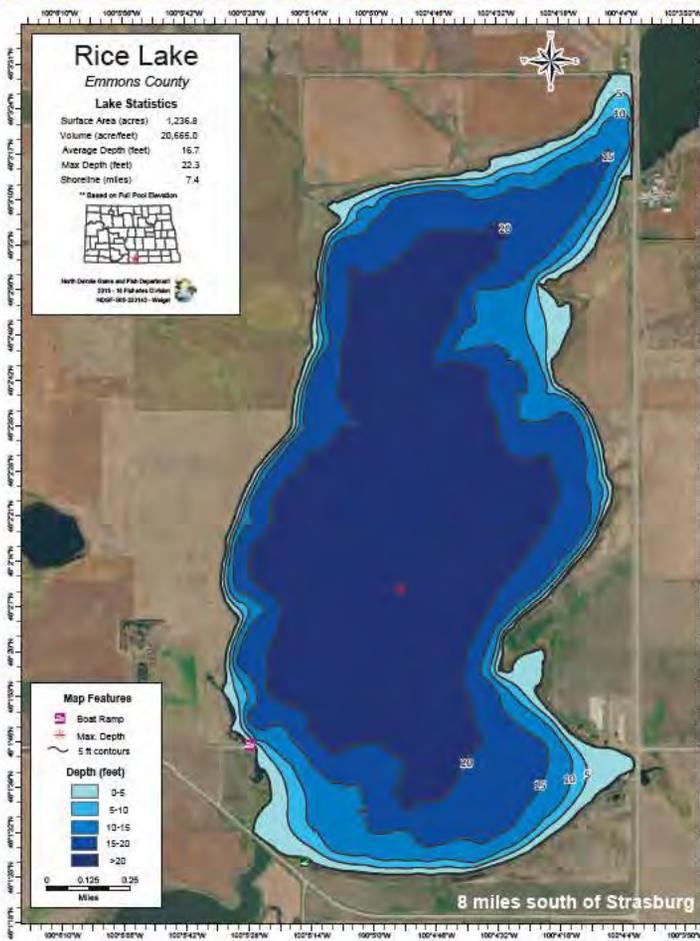
- Loons
- Ibises
- Shrikes
- Vireos
- Chickadees
- Nuthatches
- Kinglets
- Pipits
- Waxwings
- Tanagers
- Grosbeaks
- Cuckoos
- Swifts
- Hummingbirds
- Woodpeckers
- Turkey Vultures



## This white pelican holds on during a cold and windy day on the lake

Make sure to be familiar with the refuge regulations before fishing and hunting. To view regulations or to get more information, go to [www.fws.gov/longlake](http://www.fws.gov/longlake) or call the refuge at (701) 387-4397.

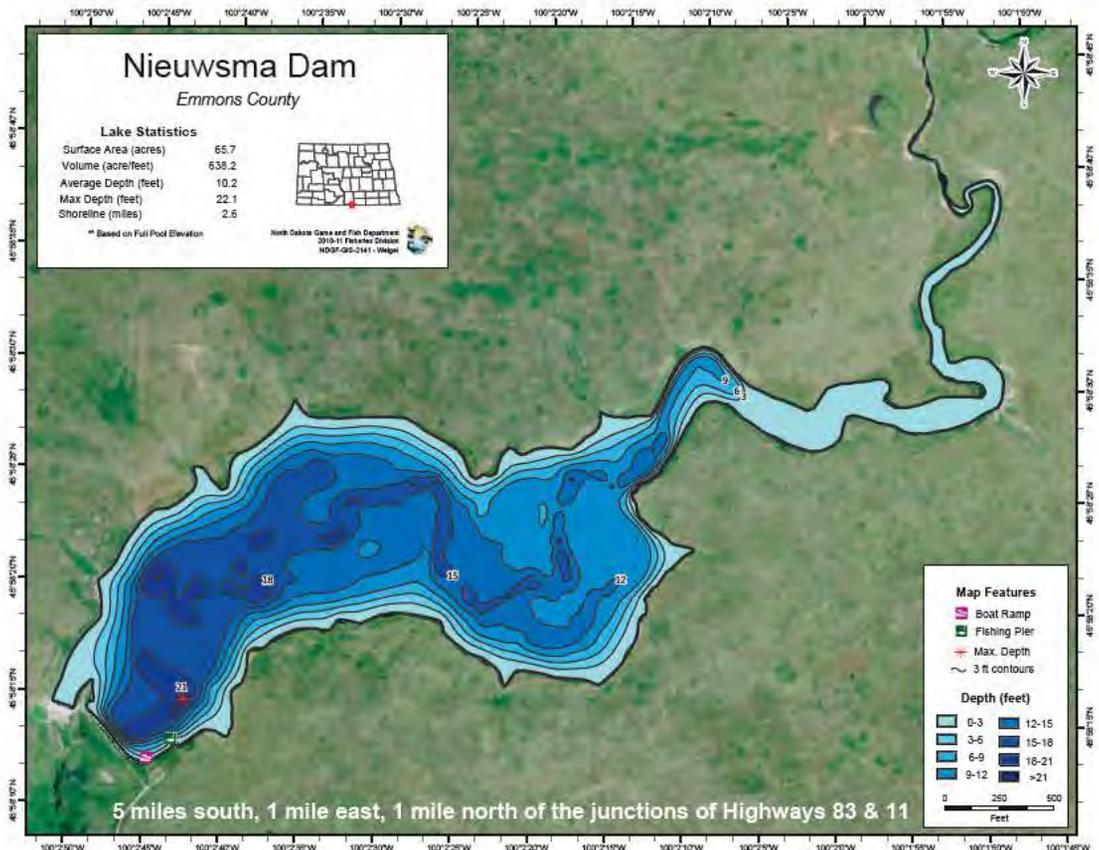
# Rice Lake and Nieuwsma Dam



Nieuwsma Dam and Rice Lake are just two of the popular fishing areas in Emmons County, in the vicinity of Hague, Strasburg, Hull and Westfield. Many people enjoy a relaxing time on the shores of these two areas, both on boat and on shore. An especially popular shore-fishing spot on Rice Lake lies along the northeastern shore along U.S. Highway 83. And, of course, ice fishing is a great winter pastime at these lakes along with the other inland water sources in the county, including Goose Lake, Braddock Dam and Welk Dam.



A relaxing day on Rice Lake



# Emmons County 4-H Is Growing!



## Emmons County 4-H Is Growing!

Emmons County 4-H members are very involved in local, state and national activities. The program has grown to 160 members in five clubs with many adult volunteer leaders assisting the program.

Emmons County 4-Hers have done well at state and even national competition. For example, in 2015, the shooting sports team went to Nationals.

Other events Emmons County 4-H members compete in are the Communication Arts Contest, Project Expo/Clothing Revue Contest, Consumer Choices Judging and the Shooting Sports Club, including archery, rifle and shotgun.

Another perk of being a 4-H member is the Emmons County 4-H Scholarship, which is awarded annually to a former Emmons County 4-H member.

Emmons County 4-H Achievement Days are held in Linton every year on the Wednesday and Thursday of the second week in July. It's the big event of the year for 4-H members and their families, and the public is always invited to attend.

Static exhibits are judged and displayed at the Emmons County Courthouse Auditorium. Livestock judging of all classes is a major event at the 4-H Quonset east of town. Achievement Days also include a 4-H Horse Show.

Members are also very involved with the North Dakota State Fair in Minot during July of each year. Members exhibit in many different project areas, and members may spend five days at the State Fair showing livestock and horses as well as their entries in the many other categories.

To learn more about the Emmons County 4-H program, contact the Emmons County Extension office at (701) 254-4811, or stop by the office located in the Emmons County Courthouse in Linton.



## Historic Mile Markers

The boundary between North and South Dakota is the only border between two states marked every half mile with quartzite markers.

In 1890 the U.S. Congress appropriated \$25,000 for the project. The markers, cut from a quartzite quarry at Sioux Falls, S.D., are seven feet tall and 10 inches square and are set three and a half feet into the ground. Surveyor Charles H. Bates placed 720 monuments along the boundary, only two of which could not be placed in precise locations because of rivers. Bates placed the monuments in 1891-1892. The monuments were shipped to the border via railroad and Missouri River steamboat.

The initial monument was placed where the borders of North and South Dakota and Minnesota touch, and the final monument (360 miles from the initial stone) was placed in August of 1892 at the juncture of the North and South Dakota and Montana borders.

Bates joked that he should be an honorary member of the Humane Society for having erected 720 "superb cattle-scratching posts."

One of the easiest to spot of the markers today is located where scenic Highway 1804 intersects with the border in southern Emmons County.



This marker is on the west side of Highway 1804 at the North and South Dakota border

## Prairie Bells: Grotto of the Holy Family



A huge crowd gathered on the Ben and Dan Vetter Farm east of Linton on Sunday, June 26, 1994, to witness the blessing of the Prairie Bells: Grotto of the Holy Family.

Bishop John Kinney of Bismarck performed the blessing of the shrine which was built through the efforts of the Vetter family, their neighbors and friends.

The shrine is located on a five-acre plot atop a rolling hill and features a handmade fieldstone grotto with a 50-foot bell tower. Inside the grotto the Holy Family is depicted with statues, and two benches rest on a gray and black granite floor. The black granite, imported from India, is laid in the shape of a cross.

Three bells, ranging in weight from 250 to 1,200 pounds, comprise the Prairie Bells and can be heard up to 10 miles away when rung. The bells formerly chimed at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Zeeland.

Three thousand trees have also been planted, shelter belt-style, around the north and west perimeters of the site.

"We really want to turn the area into a park," noted Leland Vetter, one of the founders of the Bells. "We hope people (of all faiths) will come here for reflection, to ring the bells and have family fun like picnics. It's important that people know this is theirs to enjoy."

Prairie Bells is located 16 miles east of Linton and one mile north of Highway 13. In July of 1995, 260 people, many from a great distance, signed the guestbook. Stop by for a quiet visit, ring the bells and enjoy the beautiful view of the prairie.

For more information, please contact Prairie Bells: Grotto of the Holy Family, 2315 79th St. SE, Linton, ND 58552.

# Emmons County's Royal Family invites you to Linton, N.D.!



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