**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Historical Society’s Lunch and Learn series focuses on ethnic and language-speaking groups in Franklin County**

This summer, the Franklin County Historical Society is bringing Lunch and Learn back for its sixth season. The popular weekly lunchtime program will focus on the history of different ethnic and language-speaking groups that settled in Franklin County.

People from different groups came to Franklin County for different reasons. French speakers settled together in the Utopian community of Silkville in the 1870s. Many Mexicans came to Franklin County to build and maintain the railroad and settled in communities along the line. Some of these settlers stayed and assimilated into the fabric of Franklin County, but other settlers moved on when the opportunities that brought them here didn’t pan out.

Lunch and Learn programs are held on Thursdays at noon at the Franklin County Records & Research Center at 1124 West 7th Street Terrace in Ottawa. The programs, which last about an hour, are open to the public and are free to attend. Attendees are invited to attend any or all of the programs. Coffee and tea will be provided; attendees are welcome to bring a sack lunch.

2016 Lunch and Learn Schedule:

June 16: French-Speaking Settlers in Franklin County

June 23: Scandinavian Settlers in Franklin County

June 30: German-Speaking Settlers in Franklin County

July 7: Bohemian Settlers in Franklin County

July 14: Mexican Settlers in Franklin County

For more information, please contact Deborah Barker at (785) 242-1232 or barkerd@olddpotmuseum.org.

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