



				
Wed Partly Cloudy H 36 L 22	Thurs Mostly Cloudy H 28 L 16	Fri Partly Cloudy H 28 L 17	Sat Partly Cloudy H 34 L 22	Sun Partly Cloudy H 34 L 21



Wednesday, November 29, 2023

WE'RE ONLINE www.tricocanary.com

Vol. 47 Number 23

In this issue ... Grygla JCC's Santa Day is fun for the whole family!

Local firearms instructor wins Top Gun Award



By Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor

Luke Nordvick, of Grygla, has been a Firearms Instructor for about five years now. He is also the owner of Nordvick Arms, LLC, Firearms Training. Luke just completed his annual continuing education courses at an Advanced Firearms Instructor Development and Certification Course with Tom Givens, of Rangemaster, in Iowa. Luke said it was an awesome experience with a full 8 hours in the classroom learning about having the right mindset to protect yourself and others, how to prepare yourself so you don't "freeze" in a fight for your life, how to limit liability in a shooting class, lessons learned from previous defensive gun uses, and much more.

The group also had a total of 8 hours of live fire on the range, shooting 850 rounds. "We worked on coaching other shooters, contact distance retention shooting, as well as working on our own fundamentals and other skills, including drawing from the holster, reloads, target transitions, and much more," he said.

At the advanced course, Luke won the class's Top Gun Award! It means that he had the highest timed shooting qualification scores in the class with 100% and 99.5%! Luke says there were some very good instructors and shooters there from 5 different states.

He added, "I will continue to learn and be a perpetual student so I can pass that information on to other responsible, law-abiding citizens who choose to make sure their families and communities are safe."

Luke will be hosting another MN Permit to Carry class soon. The date for this one is December 17th at the Wannaska Community Center at 1pm. Sign up at <https://nordvickarms.com> or contact Luke directly at 218-689-8187. You can also request a date or details on a private class. Looking ahead, Luke might add some more advanced pistol shooting classes this summer. You can follow Nordvick Arms, LLC on Facebook for more information about classes and upcoming events.



GHS Music Concert this Thursday



Members of the Grygla School Jr. High Band (6th-8th grade) are rehearsing for their upcoming concert that's taking place this Thursday night, November 30, at 7:30 p.m. The concert will also include the Sr. High Band as well as the Jr. High/Sr. High Choir. All are welcome to attend and support our young musicians! Please make note that the Elementary and Head Start program will be on Friday, December 15 at 2 p.m. Photo courtesy of Gene Lunsetter



Our Savior's Lutheran Church is located east of Grygla. Photo by Grygla Eagle Newspaper

Annual Advent Celebration

Our Savior's Lutheran Church in rural Grygla will be holding their Annual Advent Celebration on Sunday, December 3rd, at 6pm. Special music and Christmas readings will be provided, followed by a traditional holiday meal. Everyone welcome. Please call Holly Rychlock at 294-6497 to make a reservation.

Grygla City Council October Meeting Minutes

The November meeting of the City Council was held at the Grygla Civic Building on Monday, November 13th. Council members approved the October minutes, which are included below. Official minutes are taken by Grygla City Clerk and recapped by Eagle Editor. For the full version, including receipts & disbursements, visit www.grygla.gov/office2.com

The regular meeting on October 9th was called to order at 7pm at the Civic Building by Vice Mayor Gavin Nordby with the following council members present: Mayor Devin Ruud, Dustin Nelson, Karla Byklum and Dave Dunrud. Absent: None. Also present were Rose Aune, Tim Foss, Josh Lian and Rocky Hagen.

SALE OF 1994 F350

Bids received were Tim Foss \$1,655, Wayne Stark, \$3,600, Justin Morris \$2,500, Nancy Hammer \$2,900, and Devin Ruud \$4,000. Nordby made a motion, seconded by Byklum, to accept the bid for the Grygla Fire Department's 1994 F350 for \$4,000 from Devin Ruud. Dunrud and Nelson approved, Ruud abstained. Motion carried.

Mayor Ruud took back control of the meeting.

Council approved last month's Minutes, along with receipts, disbursements, checking, savings & total balances for the month. The payment of all bills was also approved. Other items included:

FIRE HYDRANT BY COOP STORE

Nordby made a motion, seconded by Dunrud, to appoint signature authorization to Mayor Devin Ruud and Clerk/Treasurer Rose Aune to sign off on the approval of resolution for the city's share of the costs of utility adjustment construction to be performed on TH 89. Motion was carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Still need to set up a date for fixing the flooring.

WATER TOWER

There was nothing new to report at this time.

DUMPSTER SIGN

New sign is finished and will be hung up on Wednesday.

TRAILER COURT

Josh Lian was present to discuss the costs of his bill for the trailer court. Council is trying to help him to explain to the residents that lot rent needs to be increased to cover the costs of their water, sewer, and garbage bills. Rose is going to get costs from other trailer courts. Just for comparison, a camper staying at the campground has to pay \$100/wk, \$400/mo. Rocky is going to read the meter daily to try to find days that there might be a leak in one of the trailers.

There are complaints about dogs not being leashed in the trailer court. There have been many complaints about the appearance of the trailer court. Josh was asked to talk to the residents about these issues.

2024 LIQUOR LICENSES

Liquor licenses were approved for The Hound Pub & Dining and Grygla General Store.

EXTRA MEETINGS

Ruud had Opioid meeting, hazard mitigation meeting, and the TH 89 meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED



• CHURCH CALENDARS

GRYGLA LUTHERAN PARISH
Grace and Our Savior's, Grygla
Pastor Marilyn Grafstrom
Recorded services will play on Garden Valley channel 36 on Wednesdays 7pm and Sundays 9am & 7pm.
Wednesday, Nov 29
11am Bible Study, 2:15pm Release Time; 3:30 FFF night, 6pm Grace Choir, 7pm Confirmation
Sunday, Dec 3
Grace: 9am Worship
OS: 9:30am SS, 10:30am Worship

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH, ELCA
Bethany, Ekelund, Faith
Wednesday, Nov 15
Wednesday School; Confirmation at Faith 7pm w/ 6:30pm supper
Sunday, Dec 3
Bethany: 8am Worship, 9am SS. Bethany Church Cleaning Day.
Ekelund: Council meeting at 8:30am, 9:30am Worship, 10:30am SS
Faith: 10am SS, 11am Worship, Council meeting at 12pm. Parish Board Budget/Calendar meeting at 7pm
Monday, Dec 4
Ekelund WELCA meet at the Cafe 10am (Gift Exchange)
Tues, Dec 5
Faith WELCA 9am

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF
St. Clement's - Grygla; St. Ann's - Goodridge
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
Sundays:
St. Clement's: 10:15am

Worship
St. Ann's: 12pm Worship

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH Skime
Pastor Steve Bliss
Sundays
9:30am Worship

UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH Gatzke
Pastor Tim Lundeen
Sundays
8:30am Worship

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
St. Petri - Grygla; Mt. Olive, Nazareth - Trail; Oak Park - Oklee
Pastor Jeff Merseth
Wednesday, Nov 29
Wednesday School 5-7pm; 6:30pm Vespers
Saturday, Dec 2
9am Worship at Mt. Olive
Sunday, Dec 3
St. Petri: 8am Worship
Nazareth: 8:45am SS, 9:45am Worship
Oak Park: 11am Worship, 10am SS. 12pm Oak Park Ladies Aid Christmas Party

Please email your church calendars to:
grygla.eagle@gmail.com

Community Calendar

Wed | Nov 29
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; Grygla Library open 2-6pm; ECFE at Grygla Library 5:30pm

Thurs | Nov 30
Foot Care Clinic at Grygla Community Center 9:30am; Grygla High School Music Concert 7:30pm

Fri | Dec 1
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; Betts Studio open 3-7pm; GBB at Roseau; BBB at Red Lake

Sat | Dec 2
Betts Studio open 10am-4pm

Sun | Dec 3
Betts Studio open 12-4pm; JCC's Santa Day at Grygla Community Center 2-5pm; OS Advent Supper 6pm

Mon | Dec 4
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; Chargers Fall Sports Banquet at Goodridge Community Center 7pm

Tues | Dec 5
BBB at RLC; GBB at SH

****IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX NOTICE – AGRICULTURAL & RESIDENTIAL HOMESTEAD****

This will affect your 2024 property taxes and eligibility for Property Tax Refund.

Have you purchased or moved into a property in the past year?
Contact your county assessor to file a homestead application if you or a qualifying relative occupy the property as a homestead on or before December 31, 2023.

What is a qualifying relative?
Qualifying relatives for both agricultural and residential homestead include parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of the owner, by blood or marriage.

When do I apply?
You must apply on or before December 31, 2023.

Once homestead is granted, annual applications are not necessary unless they are requested by the county assessor.

Contact the assessor by December 31, 2023 if the use of the property you own or occupy as a qualifying relative changed during the past year.

If you sell, move, or for any reason no longer qualify for homestead classification, you are required to notify the county assessor within 30 days of the change in homestead status.

Marshall County Assessor's Office
218-745-5331

G37-38C

****IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX NOTICE – SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL HOMESTEAD****

Do you own agricultural land but do not have an agricultural homestead?
Homestead is available on farmland as long as all the following conditions are met:

(1) The owner must live within four cities, townships or a combination thereof from the farm;
(2) The owner or qualifying relative must actively farm the land;
(3) The owner and operator must be a Minnesota resident;
(4) Neither the owner nor their spouse claim another agricultural homestead in Minnesota; and
(5) The farm consists of at least 40 contiguous acres.

What is a qualifying relative?
For special agricultural homestead, a qualifying relative includes a spouse, child, grandchild, sibling, or parent of the owner, either on the person's own behalf as an individual or on behalf of an entity.

When do I apply?
You must apply on or before December 31, 2023. This is an annual application accompanied by your 156EZ from the 2023 crop year. Contact your county assessor for applications.

Marshall County Assessor's Office
218-745-5331

G37-38C

Betts Pottery Open Studio

Betts Pottery is having an Open Studio right in time for your holiday shopping. 2023 Open Studio Hours: Friday, December 1, from 3-7pm; Saturday, December 2, from 10am-4pm; Sunday, December 3, from 12-4pm.
20% off Blueberry Mugs & Cups. Offer good through

HELP WANTED

Marshall County Social Services is accepting applications for a Children/Adult Mental Health Social Worker position. A Degree from an accredited four-year college with a major in Social Work, or a closely related field is required. Minnesota Merit System certification is necessary. Salary range is \$27.04 to \$37.07 depending on experience. Please send your **resume** to 208 Colvin Avenue, Warren, MN 56762 **AND** complete an application on line at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem/default.cfm>. Any questions, please call 218-745-5124. Marshall County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Deadline to apply is 12/1/23.

G36-37C

Grygla School is seeking applications for a full-time Dean of Students/Athletic Director
Starting date will be as soon as the applicant is able to do so.

This position will assist the Superintendent/Principal in the supervision of K-12 students.

Specific duties include:

- Communicating with the Superintendent/Principal, staff, and guardians regarding student academic and behavior issues.
- Assisting Coaches, Advisors, Custodial, and Transportation Staff in organizing extra curricular activities provided at our school.
- Sub Acquisition for teachers and paraprofessionals.
- Oversight of Online College in the High School students.
- K-12 Attendance Verification.

Contract would be 185 days based on the Grygla Education Association contract.

Applicant should hold a valid Minnesota teaching license and have previous experience as a teacher.

Position will be open until filled.

Please contact Derek Gieseke at 218-294-6155 or at dgieseke@grygla.k12.mn.us with any questions regarding this position.

ISD 447 is an Equal Opportunity Employer

G36-37C

Boys Basketball first game of the season

This Friday is the first boys game of the season for the Chargers. They will travel to Red Lake. However, it will just be JV at 6pm and Varsity to follow at 7:15pm. No Junior High games that night due to low numbers for the Red Lake JH teams.

Santa Days

'Tis the season to be jolly and Jolly Old St. Nicholas will be gracing the area soon! Santa Days are coming up in both the communities of Grygla and Goodridge.

Grygla
The Grygla JCC's will be hosting their Santa Day this Sunday, December 3rd, at the Grygla Community Center. The fun will happen from 2-5pm with the following events on the schedule: Bingo 2-3pm, Chili served 3-5pm, Santa Visits 3:30-5pm, Face Painting 3:30-5pm. There will also be hot chocolate served, a (s)elfie station, kids crafts and coloring, Christmas movies playing, along with lefse and donuts for sale! This event is freewill donation.

Goodridge
Santa Day will be held in Goodridge on Saturday, December 9, from 12-3pm at the Goodridge Lion's Hall. Santa & Mrs. Claus will be on site, along with cookie decorating, crafts, sleigh rides, coloring contest, hot cocoa, apple cider, hot dogs and treat bags! This event is sponsored by the Goodridge Lions & Lion Tamers.

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G46TEC

Fall Sports Banquet

The GG Chargers Fall Sports Banquet is scheduled for Monday, December 4th, at 7 p.m. in the Goodridge Community Center. The banquet is being catered by the Goodridge School & Goodridge Lion's Club and will consist of ham, mashed potatoes/gravy, corn, ice cream, coffee and milk. There is no charge for athletes, student managers, coaches and athletic directors.

U.S.P.S. No. 002330

Grygla Eagle

Serving Eastern Marshall & Northern Beltrami Count es

Richard D. Richards - PUBLISHER
Karl Sundberg - EDITOR
Phone 294-6220

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—
\$35 per year in the trade area (Grygla, Gatzke, Goodridge & Wannaska addresses)
\$45 per year outside of the area

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Grygla Eagle, PO Box 17, Grygla, MN 56727.

Blood Drive at GHS

There will be a Grygla Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, December 13th, in the Grygla School Gym from 9am-3pm. To Schedule your life saving appointment, go to donors.vitalant.org and use blood drive code: Grygla or email Brenna at bbakken@grygla.k12.mn.us or call the Grygla School at 218-294-6155.

Donors who are 16 years old will need a minor donor permit. Go to Vitalant.org, bottom of the page, donor forms.

Because of you, life doesn't stop.

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Mail us a check to:
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Grygla, MN 56727
or call: 218-294-6220

Note: If you just want an online subscription you can register and pay online or call 218-487-5225. Cost for online is ONLY \$25!

www.TriCoCanary.com

☐ YES, I would like to order a subscription.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please check appropriate box: START DATE

☐ 1 yr. in-county ☐ 1 yr. out-of-county _____

☐ 6 mo. in-county ☐ 6 mo. out-of-county _____

☐ I would also like the online subscription for free with my purchase of the Grygla Eagle.

Email address: _____

1. Choose an ornament from the tree or ask staff to pick one for you.

2. Have staff record which ornament was chosen.

3. Purchase a \$25-\$50 gift.

4. Return unwrapped gift to the this location before December 6.

Thank you for your participation!!

Marshall County Social Services
*Ornaments will be available on the trees
November 9 - December 5*

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G37C

‘Rescuing Christmas,’ movie made in Duluth, hitting Hallmark December 7
Taken from the Duluth News Tribune, By Jay Gabler, October 2, 2023

Rachael Leigh Cook stars in the holiday rom-com, which was filmed in May. It will premiere exclusively on the streaming service Hallmark Movies Now. Just over a year after “Merry Kiss Cam” arrived on Hulu and showcased Duluth as the setting of a holiday romantic comedy, another rom-com filmed in the city will hit a national streaming service.

This time it’s “Rescuing Christmas,” a movie about a woman who gets grumpy and wishes Christmas would disappear. When her wish magically comes true, she has to “rescue” the holiday by convincing an entire city of the holiday’s existence. Starring Rachael Leigh Cook (“She’s All That”) and Sam Page (“Mad Men”), the film will premiere December 7 on Hallmark Movies Now.

That streaming service is part of the Hallmark movie empire, but it’s not exactly the same as the Hallmark Channel. Hallmark Movies Now features a wide range of Hallmark films, including many that have played on the cable channel, plus some originals seen, at least initially, only on streaming.

“Rescuing Christmas” will be one of two Hallmark Movies Now originals this holiday season, reports Variety. The movie was produced by Mandy June Turpin, who also brought “Merry Kiss Cam” and the forthcoming Christina Milian thriller “Body Language” to Duluth.

As reported by TV Insider, “Rescuing Christmas” also features three Minnesota actors



Winter Word Search




F	L	U	R	R	I	E	S	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	P
X	M	I	T	T	E	N	S	R	Q	E	R	Z	F	T	S
C	S	H	N	L	N	T	F	F	L	N	N	T	R	B	C
X	N	F	R	G	C	F	F	C	N	K	L	E	R	L	A
B	O	R	C	E	D	H	I	R	R	T	R	R	I	R	I
L	W	O	Q	V	I	C	I	E	E	N	J	S	J	Z	F
U	F	S	L	N	I	N	B	L	I	E	F	P	L	Z	G
S	L	T	F	P	S	M	D	W	L	F	Z	S	R	A	V
T	A	Y	J	E	E	N	V	E	U	Y	E	I	Q	R	Z
E	K	G	S	C	B	M	O	M	E	V	H	L	N	D	G
R	E	Q	E	H	M	R	R	W	O	R	C	A	V	G	Z
Y	G	D	T	M	I	A	U	L	B	K	N	F	T	N	F
Q	P	Q	D	H	E	V	G	A	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y
M	R	L	R	R	W	R	E	R	T	L	N	K	L	L	R
K	O	B	O	O	T	S	C	R	R	Y	C	L	L	J	G
C	J	X	M	N	G	I	N	G	E	R	B	R	E	A	D




blizzard

blister

bobs

chilly

cold

December

carrots

February

furries

froezing

frosty

gingerbread

gloves

hut

icicle

January

mittens

reindeer

scarf

shiver

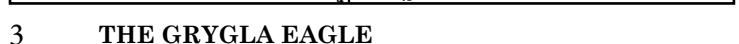
snowball

snowflake

snowman

winter



— including one from Duluth — in addition to the Minneapolis-born Cook. Bailey Stender, a Hollywood actor who is a veteran of stage productions at Duluth Playhouse and her alma mater Duluth East High School, plays one of Santa's elves.

Another elf will be played by Patrick Thomas O'Brien, a Twin Cities resident with a long stage and screen resume including the role of Mr. Dewey on NBC's "Saved By the Bell." Santa himself will be played by T. Mychael Rambo, a distinguished actor and singer who frequently performs with major Twin Cities theaters and has also done occasional screen work.

Filming locations for "Rescuing Christmas" included Bayfront Festival Park; Lincoln Park neighborhood businesses including Frost River, Dovetail Cafe and OMC Smokehouse, and the Duluth Creative Co.

The Lake Superior Railroad Museum will feature extensively in the movie, with the locomotive William A. Crooks becoming "a mini Polar Express" and the Depot Square storefronts serving as "a quaint Christmas Village backdrop," the museum announced in a May news release.

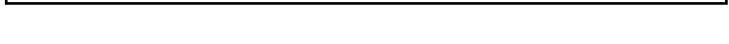
The movie will also feature background actors from Duluth and was made with a number of local crew members. As with "Merry Kiss Cam," seasonal snowfall will be simulated by special effects.

In May, the film's director Emily Moss Wilson praised the area for its support. "It's just been so wonderful to feel accepted by the town and the community," she said, "and for people to be excited about movies."



Hot Cocoa Maze

Circle items you would like in your hot cocoa:



Watch on GVTv

Channels account set up and ready to go! Charger Home Games are broadcast on Channel 36 (Grygla) and Channel 38 (Goodridge), as well as on many of our opponents' channels for away games!

By Kari Sundberg, Eagle
mon

Editor

Homemade Cinnamon Apple Chips

These baked Cinnamon Apple Chips are made with a few simple ingredients like McIntosh apples, cinnamon and sugar. They make a tasty snack your whole family will love.

This recipe calls for McIntosh (or Honeycrisp) because they are always naturally sweet and great for eating and baking. Don't worry about it if you don't own a dehydrator, these apple chips bake perfectly in the oven at a low temp.

Ingredients

4 cored and sliced McIntosh apples (1/8 to 1/4 inch thick)

2 teaspoons ground cinna-

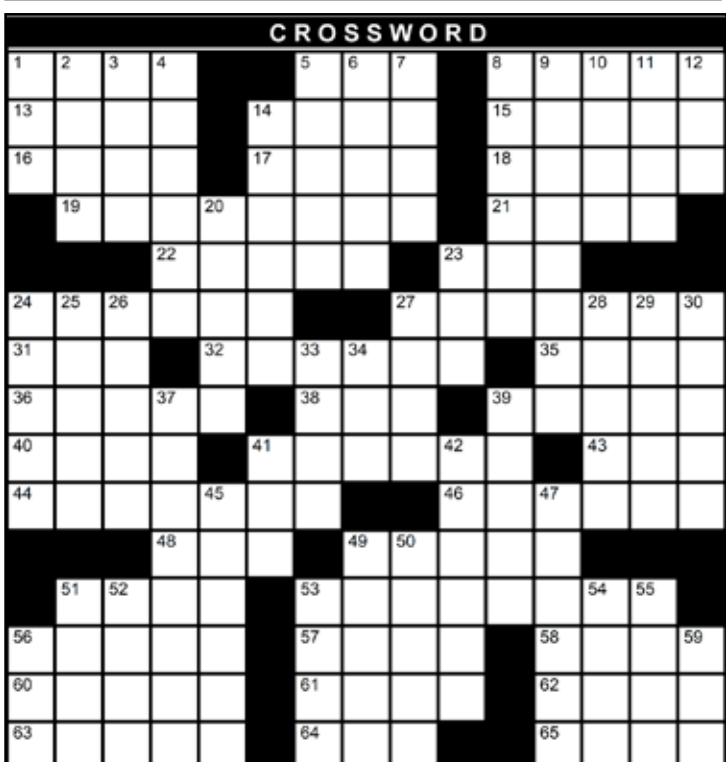
1 teaspoon granulated sugar (can be omitted)

Cooking spray

Instructions

Preheat oven to 200 degrees. Add the sliced apples to a large bowl; then coat the apples with the cinnamon and/or sugar. Spray a baking sheet with cooking spray or line one with parchment paper; then line the apples flat on the pan. (You may need to use two pans so that they are not overlapping). Bake 2-3 hours until the chips are dry yet still a bit soft. Allow to cool completely before placing them in an air tight container for up to 4 days.

*Depending on the thickness of your slices, these apple chips will be on the softer side.



Theme: The 1980s **DOWN**

ACROSS

1. *"Heaven's on Fire" band
5. *Setting of "Cheers" TV show
8. Derive
13. "I'm ____ you!"
14. Gas station brand
15. Affirmatives
16. Image in Orthodox Church
17. *Robert Wagner or Stephanie Powers, on TV
18. *Vote for H.W. Bush, e.g.
19. *Weird Al's last name
21. Forum, pl.
22. Dog-____ book
23. Clingy plant
24. Spiky succulent
27. Accumulates (2 words)
31. Turkish military leader
32. Consequence
35. *Wintour of Vogue
36. Zoroaster follower
38. E in B.C.E.
39. #53 Down, third person singular
40. Do like exhaust pipe
41. Hertz' offering
43. Extra cost
44. Expert, in U.K. (2 words)
46. *Ricky Martin's boy band
48. Arrival time acronym
49. *Piano player Lee Curreri on "Fame"
51. *Baltimore player
53. *Mikhail Gorbachev's policy
56. Recipient of money
57. *Umberto Eco's "The ____ of the Rose"
58. Oration station
60. Some tournaments
61. In the thick of
62. Place, in French
63. Not at all good
64. Bitty

DOWN

1. Ornamental pond dweller
2. Deep black
3. Greek promenade
4. Shakespeare's output
5. *Lou Reed's "Home of the ____"
6. Like thick smoke
7. Campus military org.
8. Attractive to look at
9. *"Back to the Future" car
10. One on drugs
11. Cecum, pl.
12. Is, in Paris
14. "A horse is ____ ____, of course, of course"
20. Resin-producing tree
23. Took the bait
24. *Christopher Reeve's sartorial style in "Superman II"
25. Old World lizard
26. Indigenous person from Suriname or Guyana
27. Surveyor's map
28. Mix-up
29. Not married
30. Promenade in Spain
33. Tournament ranking
34. Remains canker
37. *Washington's volcano Mount ____
39. *Close of "The Big Chill"
41. Genetic initials
42. Entertained
45. Affirm to be true
47. Cavatappi or udon, sing.
49. Scapegoat's due
50. Fiber crop variety
51. Head of family
52. Deed hearing
53. Chew on
54. Schooner canvas
55. *TV's "Family ____"
56. Sound of explosion
59. *"Peggy ____ Got Married"

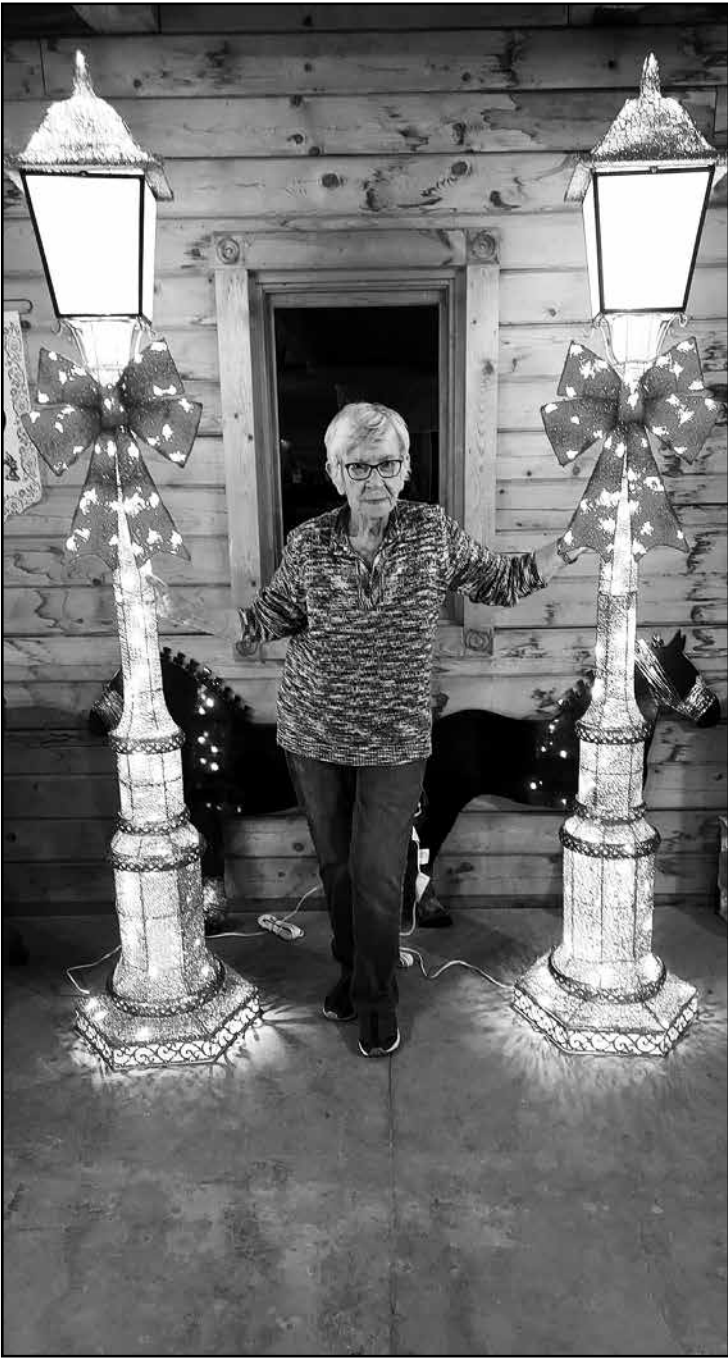
Wednesday, November 29, 2023



NCTC Honor Band was held last Tuesday, November 21, at Northland Community & Technical College. Autumn Osse and Harlie Hagen represented the Grygla High School Band and performed on stage. *Photos courtesy of Gene Lunsetter*



There’s no place like home for the holidays



Marie Konickson, Denise's mom, stands next to two beautiful Christmas light poles. (Both pics from last year.)

By Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor

Some of you might remember this article from last year, but it's worth running again for anyone who might have missed it! We're spreading some holiday cheer by taking a peek at something truly magnificent.

Well, the true magic comes when all the decorations have been put in their place, which will be happening very soon! The home of Shannon & Denise Ostby truly transforms around the holidays. For anyone who has been there, or is friends with Denise on social media, then you know just what holly jolly Christmas spirit we're talking about. You'd agree that it feels like stepping right into a Hallmark Christmas movie or a home in Santa's village.

Denise updated us all last week by simply saying, "And so it begins." The many, many wooden crates have gotten unloaded – the sleeves rolled

up – and the decorating has begun. A brief interview with Denise is shared below; it's the same interview that ran in last year's issue at this time. We're also showing you some photos as Christmas unfolds in the Ostby house. It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Interview with Denise Ostby
Where do you store all those crates and how many do you have? We keep them under the hay shed. I think there's 14 of them – we got them all from Polaris.

How have you accumulated so many Christmas decorations over the years? Either from family or buying. My mom and I also joined our stuff together once she moved in with us.

How long does it take you to decorate the whole house? About a week! We do the entire house.

Where do you put all your other decorations? At

Christmas, we take everything off the walls in the house. Basically, everything goes out, even the towels. We unpack the Christmas crates and make a swap! All of our regular house stuff goes in the crates, and we replace it with everything Christmas – even bedding and pillows.

Do you always wait until right after Thanksgiving to decorate? Yes, but one year during COVID, we decorated at hunting season. I said, "Why shouldn't we be happy." But otherwise, we usually always wait until after Thanksgiving. For many years, we would wait until after December 13th. That's Alex's birthday so when he was young I always wanted him to have his birthday separate from Christmas.

Who helps! My mom and I do the inside – Shannon does the outside.

What events will you host this year to show it off?

For the last 5 years, we've been hosting the Red Hat Society. They all come after the Grygla Elementary School Christmas program. Family celebrations, of course. And we're thinking about hosting a Girl's Christmas Party this year with games, potluck, and a gift exchange.

What is your favorite decoration to put up or display? Well, usually it's a big wreath that my mom made me. I also love this birch log centerpiece with holes carved into it for candles – I've used that for 15-18 years now.

How long have you been transforming your entire house into part of Santa's village? We've been doing it since forever. Mom's been here 10 years now, so a lot of her Christmas stuff and my Christmas stuff got mixed together. We have a lot of nice things that we just enjoy putting up!



These three pictures are from this year. You can see the crates upon crates of Christmas decorations! Denise said the decorating in the garage is all done and now they're tackling the house!

