Vol. 128 Number 46

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

McINTOSH Times

$1.00

Since 1888

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota

McIntosh VFW Post 6891 and the Win-E-Mac Marching Band during the parade on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2017.

Fengestad Solie American Legion Post 200 marching to the Memorial Park in Winger for the Memorial Day Program.

Saluting during "Taps" is Clifford Bartz during the Memorial Day White Cross Ceremony in McIntosh. "Taps" is being played by Joe Collova.

Connie Strom and Lois Boehrnsen representing the area Quilts of Valor sewing group presented Carsten Zahl, Dennis Boucher and Vince Raaen with quilts during the Memorial Day program in Winger.

Candles were lit in memory of deceased Veterans Les Goodwin, Gerald Hanson, Frank Kriewalk and Alan Versdahl during the Memorial Day program in Winger.

Memorial Day 2017: Honoring the brave

The Winger and McIntosh Communities gathered on Monday, May 29, 2017 to honor those who served our Country and have passed on.

The morning started in Winger with a Program presented by the Fengestad Solie American Legion Post 200. There was a Posting of Colors, National Anthem, and an Invocation by Post Chaplain Helmer Homme. Guest Speaker, Travis Kolden spoke to the community. Afterwards there was a Quilts of Valor presentation, honoring the newly deceased Veterans and the crowd continued to a program at the Memorial Park across the street from the Community Center.

In McIntosh the VFW Post #6891 and the Auxiliary presented a Memorial Day program that began with a parade of Veterans, along with the Win-E-Mac Marching band down Main Street and ending at the Community Center.

The Community Choir performed, and Invocation was given by Ben Ramse and a Memorial Day Address by Kurtis Ellefson. There was a Quilts of Valor presentation, and the retiring of the Colors by the Color Guard.

The program continued in front of the old school with a White Cross Ceremony, a Veteran' Remembered Roll Call by Ben Ramse and Taps that was played by Joe Collova.

God Bless America!

Enduring the chilly wind were Cameron Svalen and Erich Gensburger during the Memorial Day White Cross Ceremony in McIntosh.

Breelyn Hegre and Dakota Hedlund were part of the White Cross Ceremony in McIntosh on Memorial Day.

Summer reading is here at the Mac Library!

Kids and teens of all ages are invited to read to earn prizes this June, July and August. Participate by picking up a reading log at a library near you. Use the logs to keep track of time spent reading and bring completed logs to a LARL location for a prize!

Summer Reading Program Kick-Off

Our Warming Planet w/ Agassiz Environmental Learning Center onMonday, June 12 at 10:30: AM: In this program learn what you can do in your own home to help our warming planet! Join Danielle from the Agassiz Environmental Learning Center for this program.

Learn About Tools on Monday, June 19 at 10:30: AM: Join contractor Ken Kasprzak as he introduces a variety of tools and demonstrate their uses.

Hides, Holes and Animal Homes on Monday, June 26 at 10:30: AM: Have you ever been on a walk through the woods and wondered what lives in the tree, or that cave? Danielle from the Agassiz Environmental Learning Center will introduce us to fascinating Minnesota animal homes and why it is important to keep them safe.

The Animal Builders on Wednesday, June 28 at 3:30: PM: Join a park naturalist from Itasca State Park as we explore some amazing animal builders and then try to build your own treasures.

Robotics on Monday, July 10 at 10:30 a.m.: Did you know that the Win-E-Mac's Robotics Team has competed in State Competitions? Find out what they do and how they win during this way-cool demonstration.

Build a Simple Catapult on Monday, July 17 at 10:30: AM: Making a catapult starts out as a fun craft but ends with a fun activity! We will add a target or a competitive goal and now we have a game. It might possibly be the perfect toy!

Meet a Minnesota State Patrol Trooper: Monday, July 24 at 10:30: AM: A Minnesota State Trooper will talk about being safe on the road and in our community.

Fair Banner Letters on Monday, July 31 at 10:30: AM: Color your own letters to make your own words.

Professor Marvel's DIY Magic Show on Thursday, August 3 at 10:30: AM: Professor Marvel's DIY Magic Show provides a fun, quirky, interactive "play-scape" where kid's imaginations can be inspired. In this play-scape kids quickly discover that through reading anything is possible. You'll love the DIY Magic Show because it packs a powerful reading message; a message that motivates kids to read. Kids will love the show because it's just plain FUN! This event is made possible throug funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Jens Stordahl and his mom, Andrea make a butterfly with paint during the Craft Fun Night in McIntosh.

Dawson Gunafson made a caterpillar during craft night in May at the McIntosh Library.

Digging for bugs looks fun for Henry Swanson with the help of Shannon Svalen during the ECFE/McIntosh Library craft fun night in May.

Community Calendar

Wed. June 7: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Computer Class at McIntosh Library 1pm to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm;

Thurs. June 8: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Fri. June 9: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Mon. June 12: McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Tues. June 13: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm

Wed. June 14: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Computer Class at McIntosh Library 1pm to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's

Thurs. June 15: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Fri. June 16: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Mon. June 19: McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Tues. June 20: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm

Quilt of Valor recipient Dennis Boucher and his family during the Memorial Day program in Winger.

Karey Mandt received a Quilt of Valor during the Memorial Day program in McIntosh.

Vince Raaen and his wife displaying the Quilt of Valor that was presented to him on Memorial Day in Winger.

Receiving the honor of a Quilt of Valor was Carsten Zahl in Winger on Memorial Day.

Marvin Neste and family displaying his Quilt of Valor that was presented to him during the Memorial Day program in McIntosh.

Please contact the McIntosh Times if you move or have a change in your address so we can keep the paper coming to your home on time.

MISSING

FROM MOVING SALE LAST SUMMER:

A large popcorn tin with 2 small framed pictures and green cloth earring case.

REWARD $50.

Call **870-435-5544**

M10-11P

Thank You!

Thank you for the beautiful Quilt of Valor that I received on Memorial Day and to all who made this possible. A special Thank You to Betty and Ilene for their work in making this quilt.

Thank you,
Marvin Neste M11P

Thank You

Thank you so much for the "Quilt of Valor" presented to me at the Memorial Day program in Winger, and to the ladies who donate their time and talents to make this possible.

It is very much appreiciated and a gift I'll always cherish.

Sincerely,
Vince Raaen M11P

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Baby Shower

for

Kristi (Schow) Grettum & twin baby boys, Gunner John & Grayson Daniel

at

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, McIntosh

on **June 17th** @ 10:00 am

Everyone Welcome!

M11-12C

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
McINTOSH
Thursday, June 8, 2017, 5:30 PM
— COMMUNITY CENTER —

CALL TO ORDER:
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
ROLL CALL:
DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:
AGENDA ADDITIONS:
APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
a. MAY 11TH REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
PUBLIC CONCERNS:
OLD BUSINESS:
a. MAIL BALLOTS
NEW BUSINESS:
a. BUILDING PERMIT – NATHAN FRISK
b. MCINTOSH SENIOR LIVING
c. LAWN MOWING – POPLAR MEADOWS
d. SIDEWALK REPAIR
APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS:
COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS:
NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE:
ADJOURNMENT:

M11C

MAC TO FLUSH WATERLINES

The City of McIntosh will be flushing waterlines and hydrants each Thursday throughout the summer.

Residents are encouraged to watch for rusty or dirty water on these days. Fill washing machines to check water before adding clothes. M6-25C

VFW Auxiliary #6891 News

The June meeting of the VFW Auxiliary #6891 will be held at 5 p.m., Monday, June 12, 2017 at The Club in McIntosh. All Auxiliary members are urged to attend this meeting.

Just a reminder from the VFW Auxiliary for everyone to fly a flag on Flag Day, June 14. Residents should also remember to fly a flag on all special day of the year

FLAG DAY
JUNE 14

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. June 7: Bob Olson, Sarah Lundquist, Carmen Syverson, Diana Lindseth, Nickie Carlson, Kelly Lee, *Dennis & Diane Boucher

Thurs. June 8: Holly Kringlen, *Jim & Carla Ferden

Fri. June 9: Calvin Burslie, Ava Frank, *Gerald & Colleen Borud, *Ron & Heidi Lemer, *Josh & Katie Roed

Sat. June 10: Corey Rassmussen

Sun. June 11: Toby Strom, Calin Skeie, Silas Lee, *Tom & Wendy Reitmeier

Mon. June 12: Robert Hegland, Tamera Ostenaa, Janelle (Graff) Haas

Tues. June 13: Sherman Tranby Samantha Lee *Dean & Anita Roy

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Fosston
Fr. John Suvakeen, Pastor

Sun. June 11: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Sun. June 18: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

If you have any questions please call 435-6484.

CALVARY-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN PARISH
Winger/Bejou
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson

Sun. June 11: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

Sun. June 18: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson

Sun. May 28: 11:15am Worship Service.

Sun. June 4: 11:15am Worship Service.

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Independent
Gary Johnson, Pastor
www.gosen-church.com
Face Book: Gosen Church

Wed. June 7: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place; 7:00pm Bible Study at Don & Sharon Ramberg's

Sun. June 11: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service

Tues. June 13: 10:00am Sunday Worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2

Wed. June 14: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place; 7:00pm Bible Study at Don & Sharon Ramberg's

For information on free rides to any of the above activities call 218-268-4242 or 218-687-3461 Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Hwy. 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then ½ mile east on County Road 206.

MCINTOSH AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Pastor Karl Anderson

Wed. June 7: 6:30pm Youth Group at Mt Carmel; 7:30pm Bible Study at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. June 8: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

Sun. June 11: 9:30am Worship at Trinity; 11:00am Worship at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. June 15: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

Sun. June 18: :30am Worship at Trinity; 11:00am Worship at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. June 22: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
Pastor Jill Torgerson

Sun. June 11: 9am Worship
Sun. June 18: 9am Worship

DOVRE FREE LUTHERAN
Pastor Don Edlund

Wed. June 7: 7:00pm Bible Study

Sun. June 11: 10:00am Worship Service

Wed. June 14: 7:00pm Bible Study

Sun. June 18: 10:00am Worship Service

Wed. June 21: 7:00pm Bible Study

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Rev. John Anderson, Pastor

Sunday June 11: 8:45am diving Worship with Holy Communion and Confirmation

Sunday, June 18: 10:45am Divine Worship Service (please note time change)

Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays

McINTOSH Times

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THE WINGER ENTERPRISE

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Winger News

Linda Pulskamp

Hello again from a very sunny and beautiful day (Thursday) after a very cool, windy and wet Memorial Day weekend. Although there wasn't much rain to be had, it was a very gloomy weekend.

Even tho the weather was cool and windy, Memorial Day Services at the Winger Community found a standing only crowd on hand for the Service. Speaker Travis Kolden gave the Memorial Day address, with special music by Emma Erickson and Quilts of Honor were presented to Carsten Zahl, Dennis Bouche and Vincent Raaen.

There were many former Winger residents that were in attendance and was a good time for visiting with so many of them.

As the weekend ended Graduation Services were held in many of the area schools with many young people moving on to a new phase of their life and it will be for many the last time they are together as they go their different ways in life. Good Luck to them all.

This weekend brings the Erskine Water Carnival, another time to see many friends and relatives come back for the activities. The always have a fun filled weekend and it ends with a parade on Sunday evening this is well worth the time to take in.

SYMPATHY to the Flermoen families on the recent passing of Lily Ann (Flermoen) Roed. Lily was the oldest child of the late O. L. (Lou) and Ellen

Flermoen and the last of the Lou Flermoen children to pass away. Memorial services will be held at the Maple Lake Lutheran Church on June 24th.

Truman and Darlene Johnson of Dilworth were visitors Memorial Day weekend at the Boyd and Sylvia Bratager home.

Last Wednesday, Milton Carlson and Judy Gieseke spent some time going to various cemeteries and decorating the graves of their loved ones with flowers.

Last weekend, Verlys and Helmer Homme attended 5 different graduation receptions that were held in the area.

Paul Carlson stopped in at the Milton Carlson home for a brief visit last Wednesday on his way home from work.

Memorial Day weekend house guests at the Pulskamp home were Steve Johnson of Coon Rapids and Brent and Skylie Pulskamp of Wahpeton.

Paul Carlson stopped in at the Milton Carlson home on Tuesday on his way to work for a brief visit and a cup of coffee to go.

Memorial Day afternoon Betty Myhrum along with Kjersten and Dakota Poissant and Chelsey Haugen and Steve Cullen of Thief River Falls were all guests at the Sue and Chris Eischen home in New Folden. A pot luck supper was had with Sue as the chef, grilling burgers for the family.

Sunday evening supper guests at the Pulskamp home were house guests Steve Johnson, Brent and Skylie Pulskamp, Marv Engesether of Plummer, Reha Sanstead of Erskine, Donnie Johnson of Maple Lake, MN, Nola Abele of Fosston, Dean Johnson, Joan Helland of Fargo, Jim Pederson of West Fargo, Danny, Angie, Teegan, Morgan and Peyton Brtek, Tony, Tyler and Justus Brtek of Bagley and Kelly Johnson.

Last Saturday Paul and Donna Carlson picked up Milton Carlson and he accompanied them to several graduation receptions.

Betty Myhrum attended the graduation reception for Elaina Espeseth that was held last Saturday after graduation and also the reception held at the Winger Community Center for Bailie Burcham.

Milton Carlson was among many of the Carlson and Erickson families that attended the Memorial Day Service at the Community Center. Milton's Great Granddaughter sang the "National Anthem" and also "God Bless America". The young lady has a tremendous voice and did an awesome job singing the two songs. After the program Milton along with Mike, Kari, Terry and Oliviayah Keller were all dinner guests at the Lonnie and Judy Gieseke home.

Again I stress more news please. Call or email it is needed to keep this happening each week.

In closing, dream as if you"ll live forever, live as if you'll die tomorrow.

From Bun Manor:

Another lack luster news week. Thursday, Joyce bought lunch for Bun at the Coop in Mac. Following lunch Bun headed over to the Poplar Meadows living place to visit with Mike and Doris Olson. Doris answered the door. She told Bun that Mike was upstairs playing in a hot game of Bingo. He left before Mike got back but he did have a nice visit with Doris. Her brother Norman and his daughter Nancy had been up to visit her and Mike earlier in the week.

Bun was having lunch again in Erskine with his buddies Bert and Panzer. One of Bun's readers spotted him having lunch and came over and asked Bun who was going to buy.(she wanted the inside scoop). Bun told her either Panz or Bert were buying. Bun was curious to see if either one would buy. The both of them are really frugal. Panz ponied up the bill and Bert left a tip. Bun was proud of them.

Saturday morning some Winger Lions members helped out at "Take a Kid Fishing" in Erskine. There were around 120 kids who showed up. Each child won a prize and were treated to hot dogs and beans.

Saturday afternoon, Bob Finkle surprised Bun by stopping by to visit him. His friend Connie came with him along with daughter Alexis and her friend Kevin Donnelly from Scotland. They came up to visit with family. Bob's sister Cindy from Colorado was back for a visit.

Lorri Massmann met up with Karen Sadlowski and both grandmas spent from Friday to Tuesday in Texas. Great to spend time with grandson Harrison and their children Evan and Nikki. Temperatures in Texas were in the 90's. Did lots of visiting and of course spoiling their grandson Harrison.

Brian and Elizabeth Massmann headed down to Pickerel Lake in SD to spend the Memorial Day weekend with her family. The following week they packed their things from their apartment in Crookston and moved into a house that they bought about a mile south of Fertile. Friday, they headed into Fertile for the fair barn fund raiser. They got acquainted with a few of the locals. Good luck on your new home. Brian and Elizabeth.

Save the Date: The Winger Lion's Annual Fish Fry is on Saturday, June 24th.

The Win-E-Mac Marching Band performed at the area Memorial Day programs in the area, including in Winger.

The flag cadets in Winger lined up to march along with the Color Guard during the Memorial Day program on Monday, May 29, 2017.

Post Chaplain Helmer Homme.

Lauren Kaupang marched as a Flag Cadet in the Winger Memorial Day program.

Post Commander, Gary Sontelie and Guest Speaker, Travis Kolden salute as Emma Erickson sang the National Anthem during the Memorial Day program in Winger.

The County Line

By Warren Strandell
Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

"All's well that ends well."

That old saying seems to describe what happened in St. Paul, at least as it concerns the requested funding for several projects in Polk County including the $30 million Regional Solid Waste Expansion Project.

The second phase of funding for that project was included in the bonding bill that was approved by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Dayton. In fact, all of the major appropriation bills were approved and signed by governor with one sticky exception.

That one sticky exception is, of course, the line item veto in the government finance bill. That veto removed the $65 million needed to run the House and Senate over the next two years.

Because of the importance of that funding, the veto action could keep this year's legislative process from coming to an end for several weeks. The governor used the veto to try to renegotiate provisions in the tax bill that involve estate and business property tax cuts and the elimination of the automatic tobacco tax increases. He also wants to address teacher licensure regulations that are in the education finance bill and there's also the issue of wanting to grant driver licenses to undocumented immigrants.

So, stay tuned as these things remain in the news.

Polk County project

For Polk County, the $9.5 million that was included in the $998 million bonding bill was key to having this $30 million solid waste expansion project move forward. The first phase of financing for the project ($8 million) had been approved during the 2015 session of the legislature. The second phase of the two-part funding process was in legislation that fell victim to some last-ditch maneuvering at the end of the 2016 session. That funding was finally approved this year.

If you have been adding the numbers, the $9.5 million and the $8 million appropriations figures don't add up to the $30 million total needed for the project. This $12.5 million gap will require local financing.

As the host-county for the six-county solid waste organization and owner of the Resource Recovery Facility (incinerator) in Fosston, Polk County will be on the hook for most of that total… but not for all of it.

Since the project includes new transfer stations in Crookston and in partner counties Beltrami (at Bemidji) and Hubbard (at Park Rapids), the cost of those stations not covered by the grant dollars will become the responsibility of the individual counties.

When all is sorted out, Polk County will have a local cost-share of something in area of $7 million. To ease the concern of tax-conscious readers, which we all are, it must be noted that the bonds sold by Polk County will be paid back through the collection of tip fees when the waste is delivered to the incinerator at Fosston…. and not by a bump in your property tax bill.

In the end, Polk and its partner counties will be well positioned for long into the future and will have what the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency says will be the best solid waste program in the state. And since the debt service for the local cost-share of the project (those bonds) won't end up on your property tax bill that sounds like a big winner to me.

The 'Special Session' problem

As for what goes on in St. Paul with all of the games that are played at the end of the session, there is a solution.

The solution is this: At some point in the hours before the scheduled end of the session, there should a drop-dead point at which no more amendments would be allowed, no filibustering could occur, no provisions to "suspend the rules" could be used and no other measures could be implemented to complicate the process.

The politics would have to end. Bills would have to be voted up or down on the state that they are in at that time. No changes. Either approve or reject the bill as it is… and then go home.

This wouldn't prevent any of the political moves that are used during the session, just make them end at a reasonable point without any of the stunts that lead to an extra session.

Thoughts for the day:

When I was a boy, I was told that anyone could become president. I'm beginning to believe it. — Clarence Darrow

Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river. — Nikita Khrushchev

Disclaimer: Thoughts expressed in this column are those of the author and are not necessarily a reflection of the opinions of the other members of the Polk County Board of Commissioners.

Veterans from the Fengestad Solie American Legion Post 200 marched during the Winger Memorial Day program and also gave a 21 gun salute during the program in the park.

Random Things and Stuff

Summer Long Camp

By: Emily Lynne

These next few weeks of articles are going to be focused on summer camp. If you remember my articles from when I went to Puerto Rico, these will be similar. I have the opportunity to work at a summer camp as a health aide from June until the middle of August. This camp as about 200 staff from all over the US as well as 20 different countries, and about 400 or so campers from the same places. These campers come for a period as short as two weeks or as long as eight weeks.

Each week, I am going to focus on a different area of the camp and hope to enlighten your interest in summer camps. I hope you enjoy these articles throughout the summer of life away from the everyday busyness of life and technology. Stay tuned!

"Camp….where strangers become friends and friendships last forever"

College News

The Office of the Registrar at the University of Minnesota Crookston recently announced its list of spring semester 2017 graduates. Students completed their degree requirements during spring semester 2017.

The University of Minnesota Crookston enrolls approximately 1,800 full-time students and is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The U of M Crookston is a four-year baccalaureate degree granting institution, dedicated to learning, discovery and engagement in northwest Minnesota.

Graduates in the Class of 2017 included Tyler Oppegaard, of Erskine, MN who earned a Bachelor of Manufacturing Management in Information Technology Management

The University of Minnesota Crookston now delivers 34 bachelor's degree programs, 22 minors, and 39 areas of emphasis on campus as well as 14 degree programs entirely online.

To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

Kalli Roy during the White Cross Ceremony in McIntosh on Memorial Day.

Win-E-Mac Marching Band trumpet player, Remy Goodwin during the bands performance in McIntosh.

Participating in the White Cross Ceremony in McIntosh is Kiersten Anderson.

The speaker during the McIntosh Memorial Day program was the Kurtis Ellefson.

The McIntosh Community Choir, directed by Gerald Borud perfromed during the Memorial Day Program at the Community Center.

William Shimpa places a wreath at the base of a cross in McIntosh on Memorial Day.

Cora Earls was all smiles despite the cold during the White Cross Ceremony in McIntosh on Memorial Day.

WEM School Announcements

Playground Build

We are looking for volunteers to help with the WEM Playground Build!!! The build will take place June 20-23rd. Start times would be 7 am until dark around 10 pm. If you would like to help us, please indicate below a time frame and dates that would work best. We are going to set up shifts for each day. Lunch and Supper will be provided each day at 12 and 5 pm. Again, thanks for all that you do, and continue to offer to the WEM School! Check any days that would work and call the school asap! Tues June 20th Wed June 21st Thurs June 22nd Friday June 23rd Shifts: 7am-12pm 12pm-5pm 5pm-10pm Call when you can!!! Thanks! 218-563-2900

MN tourism industry forecasts a strong summer travel season

On the heels of Minnesota's picture-perfect fishing opener weekend, the summer travel season is shaping up to be a strong one for the state's tourism industry. A pre-summer survey of Minnesota lodging businesses revealed a positive outlook for summer travel statewide, continuing an upward trend over the past several years.

Close to half of respondents (46%) expect summer revenue to be up, and 41% predict increased occupancy compared to the already strong summer of 2016.

By contrast, only 11% of respondents expect decreased occupancy, and 12% expect revenue to be down. Overall, 84% of respondents rated their current financial health as growing (25%) or stable, but positive (59%).

Respondents cited various reasons for their positive outlook, including: the number of reservations already on the books for this summer; a good economy; their own advertising efforts (particularly online via social media and online booking engines); and new or renovated rooms or facilities, with some citing business from weddings and groups.

"We are very pleased, but not surprised, to hear that Minnesota's lodging industry is expecting another strong summer," said John Edman, director of Explore Minnesota. "Successful marketing, increased social engagement and high-quality customer service are leaving a lasting impression on visitors. Combined with a good economy, we expect these trends to continue throughout the summer."

The survey was completed by 234 Minnesota lodging businesses, including hotels and motels, resorts, bed-and-breakfasts, campgrounds and vacation home rentals.

This positive outlook for Minnesota is in line with national trends. AAA projects more than 39 million Americans will travel over Memorial Day weekend alone, the highest travel volume since 2005, with higher confidence and more consumer spending as driving factors. While road trips will account for 88% of travel this weekend, the number of airplane, train/bus and cruise vacations are all up over last year.

"With last fall's Ryder Cup, the upcoming X Games, and many other events big and small scattered all over the state, it's clear there is something happening in Minnesota," Edman said. "The excitement about Minnesota as a destination continues to build and, in turn, helps contribute to a $14.4 billion leisure and hospitality industry."

#OnlyinMN Campaign Continues

The award-winning #OnlyinMN travel marketing campaign continues this year after achieving impressive results the last two years. An independent study found the 2016 spring/summer campaign generated 3.5 million trips and $388.8 million in spending that would not have occurred otherwise. In addition, 2.85 million people who did not visit Minnesota in 2016 indicated they intend to do so in the next year.

In partnership with Minneapolis-based ad agency Colle+McVoy, the 2017 campaign features one new TV spot (along with three returning spots from 2016); rotating digital billboards; robust digital advertising; inspirational social media efforts; plus print and radio ads to tell the story of all the premier events and unique festivals taking place across the state. A targeted effort is also in place to specifically reach Hmong and Somali residents in the Twin Cities.

To date, the popular #OnlyinMN hashtag has been used more than 560,000 times, and Explore Minnesota has amassed more than 375,000 fans on social media.

Yard of the Week

The first Yard of the Week of the season belongs to Levi and Kelsey Perrine of Winger.

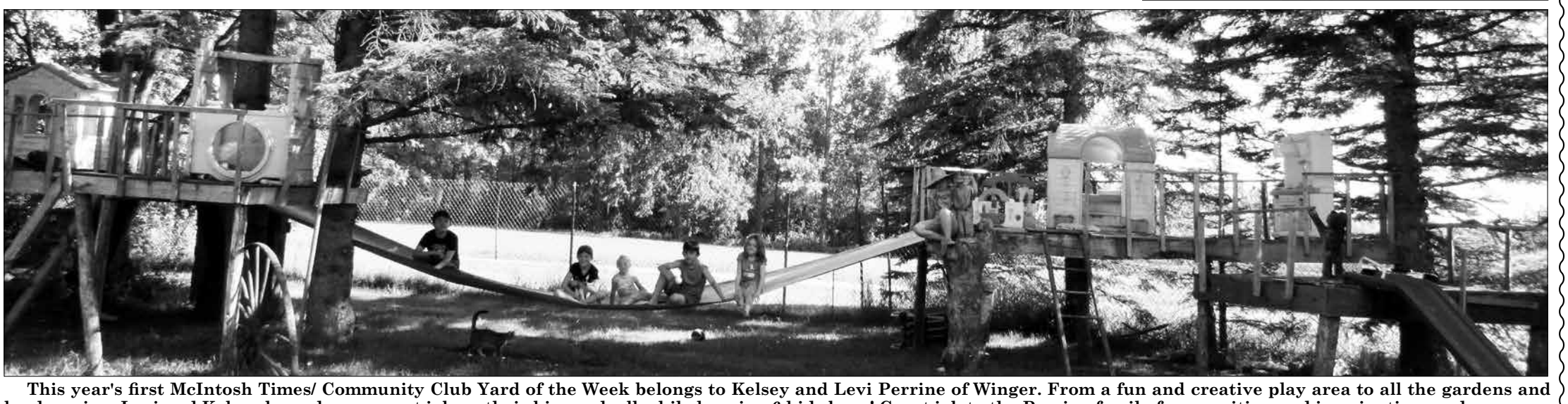
The Perrine family had been working on making their yard a fun and relaxing place.

Along with the rustic and fun landscaping they have a firepit and a bit of livestock around the place, including their pet pig!

The Perrines have 6 kids as well and try to make the yard a fun and adventurous place for them to play.

McIntosh and Winger city and rural residents will be featured in the McIntosh Times and Community Club Yard of the Week.

If you have a yard you would like to have featured, please let us know by emailing us at mcintoshtimes@gmail.com.



This year's first McIntosh Times/ Community Club Yard of the Week belongs to Kelsey and Levi Perrine of Winger. From a fun and creative play area to all the gardens and landscaping, Levi and Kelsey have done a great job on their big yard, all while keeping 6 kids busy! Great job to the Perrine family for a exciting and imaginative yard.