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Creative ways to ring in the new year

Counting down the hours until the new year can be exciting, as the world anxiously anticipates the adventures in store for the months ahead.

Celebrating the new year dates back thousands of years to the ancient Babylonians, who celebrated a new year come the first full moon after the spring equinox. The new year is now commemorated in various ways across the globe. According to History.com, one million people gather in New York City's Time Square to watch the famed crystal ball drop each year. Across the pond in London, celebrants watch thousands of individual fireworks launch over the Thames River. In Sydney, Australia, roughly one million people line the shoreline each year to watch a fireworks show over the famed harbor.

To match the excitement of New Year's festivities, each year party hosts and hostesses are on the lookout for innovative ways to entertain and ensure everyone has a blast. The following are a few ways to do just that as you and your guests prepare to close the book on 2015 and usher in 2016.

Go bowling. New Year's Eve probably isn't a big league night, so it's likely you can reserve a number of lanes. Book in advance to take advantage of affordable food and drink packages. Some alleys now offer more than just bowling, with live music or deejay entertainment as well. You do not have to be a professional bowler, either, as the goal of bowling with friends is to simply have some fun and make some last-

ing memories.

Try a "first". There is a first time for everything, and why not try something you have been thinking about doing for some time on the first day of the new year? Maybe you're ready to tap into your adventurous side and try sky-diving. Or, you may be looking to travel abroad to experience something you have longed to see, such as the Egyptian pyramids or the city lights in the romantic city of Paris.

Cheer for every time zone. Thanks to the various time zones across the globe, "Happy New Year" is shouted multiple times throughout the night on New Year's Eve. TimeandDate.com notes that, depending on how you define the time zone and if you include the International Date Line, there are 24 or 25 standard time zones. That gives revelers 25 opportunities to usher in the new year. Choose a country in each time zone, and then employ that country's cultural traditions to celebrate the new year.

Design a scavenger hunt. A fun activity for both adults and children, scavenger hunts can send guests in search of clues and answers based on things that happened over the previous 12 months. Include photos and other mementos when preparing clues.

Make a Time Capsule. This idea is intriguing, and it will work in so many different ways. You can make a time capsule to hide for someone else to find years from now, or one to be opened up next New Year's Eve. Maybe a yearly capsule filled with predictions and resolutions for the year ahead. You and your friends can put in memorabilia covering the span of your friendships. You and your family can put in an item for each year you've spent celebrating together – the possibilities are endless.

Anyway you choose to celebrate, here is hoping 2016 is spectacular!

Community Calendar

- Wed. Dec. 30:** 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; Bingo at The Club Bar & Grill 6:30pm
- Thurs. Dec. 31:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm;
- Fri. Jan. 1: Happy New Year!**
- Mon. Jan. 4:** 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. Jan 5:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Wed. Jan. 6:** 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. Jan. 7:** McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm; Bingo at The Club Bar & Grill 6:30pm
- Fri. Jan. 8:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. Jan 11:** 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. Jan. 12:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm



Performing "Summer's Lullaby, her Superior Instrumental Solo during the Win-E-Mac Senior High Band and Choir Concert on Monday, December 14th, was Mikayla Vesledahl accompanied by Andrew Hanson.



Percussion accompanists for the Junior High choir were Liliana Snegireff, Mason Spry and Brekken Lindberg.



Kelsey Knutson, Mikayla Vesledahl and Indianan Nornes accompanied the choir during the Senior High Choir Concert on Monday, December 14th at Win-E-Mac Arts & Event Center.



Dressed up and ready to perform at the Elementary Christmas program were Trevor and Preston Lacy and Lukas Gensburger.



One of the 3 McIntosh Community Club Holiday Lighting contest winners was Wes Brekke.



The Win-E-Mac 3rd Graders performed "Blitzen Boogie" adorning antlers during the Elementary Christmas concert on Thursday, December 7th.



The Win-E-Mac Kindergarten through 3rd grade classes sang "Do you want to Build a Snowman?", a song from the movie Frozen during their Christmas Program on Thursday, December 17th.

50th Anniversary

Come one, come all, to help celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary for Jim & Betty Herdliska




An Open House will be held at the
Erskine United Methodist Church (located 1 block east of the bank)
Sunday, January 3, 2016 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm

*Please join us, as we celebrate this milestone in their lives
All are invited...*

R39-40C

NOTICE

Hill River Township Filing Notice

The filing dates for the township of Hill River, County of Polk, State of Minnesota will be from Tuesday, December 29, 2015 until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Filing will be for one (1) Supervisor for a term of three (3) years and one (1) Clerk/Treasurer for a term of two (2) years.

The filing fee is \$2.00. Filing is to be at the Clerk/Treasurer's home.

*Raymond O. Sundrud,
Clerk/Treasurer
Hill River Township*

M39-40C



Winner of the Christmas Gift Basket from Neil's Quality Meats & More for the week of December 14th is Cindy Stonehouse of Oklee, MN. Accepting the basket on her behalf is her son, James Stonehouse.

Sewing News

On Saturday, January 9 all are invited to McIntosh Community Center to sew their unfinished projects or start new ones! We will start at 9 am and sew until we want to quit! Dinner is Pot Luck! Come whenever you can! Any questions call Connie Strom at 563-2666

From The Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson

Some criminals will say almost anything to try to scam people—including threatening arrest, lawsuits, imprisonment, or even physical harm. While the scams take several different forms, the goal is the same—to pressure people to pay money or reveal personal or financial information. Below are a few examples:

Tax Scams. "Cindy" received a call from someone who identified himself as an IRS agent. The "agent" told Cindy that she owed \$5,000 in taxes and that the IRS would file a lawsuit against her if she did not wire money by day's end. Cindy became suspicious because she knew that the IRS contacts people about such matters by U.S. Mail. She hung up and called her tax preparer, who confirmed the call was a scam. The individual repeatedly called Cindy for the next few days, but she did not answer, and the calls eventually stopped.

Phony Debt Collection Scams. "Phil" and his family members received calls from an individual who claimed he owed a \$750 debt. The individual demanded immediate payment, but refused to provide any information about his com-

pany or the debt. He told Phil that he would send the police to Phil's home if the debt was not paid within 24 hours. Phil told his family to ignore future calls from the scam artist.

Imposter Scams. "Susan" received a call from an individual who purported to be her grandson. He told her that he was in jail in Mexico and needed her to wire money immediately to pay for bail. He asked her not to speak with his parent because he didn't want to get into trouble and then handed the phone to his supposed attorney. The fake "attorney" told Susan that her "grandson" would be sentenced to five years in prison if she did not wire \$2,500 for his bail that afternoon. After the call ended, Susan called her grandson's mother and learned that the grandson was at home. When the scam artists called back, Susan did not answer their calls.

Utility Shut off Scams. "George" received a call from a woman who claimed to represent his utility company. The "representative" told George that he owed \$275 on his utility bill and asked him to send the money via a reloadable payment card. When George said that he wanted to check his account online, the woman told him that his electricity would

be shut off unless he paid the bill immediately. George hung up and called his utility company at the telephone number on his most recent bill. The company confirmed that he was current on his payments and the call was a scam.

Advice for Avoiding Intimidation Scams

- Don't be intimidated into paying money you don't owe or disclosing your personal or financial information in the face of scare tactics.

- Hang up if something doesn't seem right.

- Don't be rushed. The scam artists who perpetrate intimidation scams try to create a false sense of urgency to get people to act before they have time to think the situation through.

- When a caller claims to represent a specific company or agency, ask for his or her name and employee number. Then call the company or agency back using an independent and trusted phone number, like the telephone number in your billing statement or the phone book.

- Don't send money via hard-to-track methods, such as wire transfer, overnight delivery, or reloadable cards, unless you are absolutely certain that you are sending money to a real friend or family member. Money sent by these methods is almost never recoverable.

- Information about people is commonly available online and elsewhere. Scam artists often use this information to legitimize their claims.

For more information on these scams, call the Minnesota Attorney General's Office at (651) 296-3353 or (800) 657-3787, or visit our website at www.ag.state.mn.us.

Did you know?

According to data from Statistics Brain, the American Cancer Society and Health Land, around 70 percent of smokers harbor a desire to quit altogether, while 40 percent of smokers will try to quit this year.

Quitting smoking is a popular New Year's resolution, and a choice that can improve smokers' health dramatically. Smokers can reduce their rate of dying from smoking by half just by quitting before age 50.

Although the percentage of smokers who will succeed in quitting the first time around is small, it is still worth the effort.

Today there are many different plans, medications and smoking-cessation support groups to help smokers as they attempt to quit.




Happy New Year

The holidays are a special time.

As the year ends, we want to express our thanks and appreciation to our many loyal customers and friends.

As your "hometown" bank, we look forward to serving you in an exciting new year.

Warmest holiday wishes to you and your family.

First National Bank of McIntosh will be CLOSED on Friday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day.




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M40C

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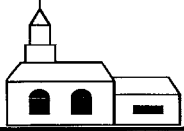
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Call or fax: (218) 563-3585
Ad deadline is Noon on Friday prior to publication

Church News



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

Sun. Jan. 3: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

If you have any questions about the schedule please call 435-6484.

CALVARY-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN PARISH
Winger/Bejou
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson
Sun. Jan 3: 8:30am Worship Service at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship Service at Calvary

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson
Sun. Jan. 3: 1:15am Worship Service

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

Wed. Dec. 30: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place

Thurs. Dec. 31: 10:00am Telecast of the Luther League Christmas Program

Sat. Jan. 2: 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

Sun. Jan. 3: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 10:45am Worship Service

Tues. Jan. 5: 10:00am Sunday Worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2

Wed. Jan. 6: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place;

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.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
Pastor Paul Magelson
Sun. Jan. 3: 8am Worship

MCINTOSH AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:

Pastor Karl Anderson
Trinity:

Wed Dec. 30: 7:30pm Bible Study

Sun. Jan. 3: 11:00am Worship Service

Mt. Carmel:

Thurs. Dec. 31: 7:00am

Men's Breakfast

Sun. Jan. 3: 9:30am Wor-

ship Service; 10:45am Sunday

School; 12:30pm Confirmation

Notice to Residents of King Township, Polk County, MN

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of King Township, that the Annual Election of Town Officers will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

Filing for township offices opens on Dec. 29, 2015 and continues to January 12, 2016. Offices to be elected are:

1 Supervisor
1 Treasurer

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the clerk-treasurer. A \$2.00 filing fee is required by law.

Loren Gieske, Clerk
King Township

M40C

McINTOSH Times

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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DOVRE
FREE LUTHERAN
Pastor Don Edlund
Wed. Dec. 30: 7:00pm Bible Study on Jewish Roots
Sun. Jan. 3: 9:30am Worship Service; No Sunday School
Wed. Jan. 6: 7:00pm Bible Study on Jewish Roots

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Rev. Mark Peske, Pastor
Thurs. Dec. 31: 5:00pm New Year's Eve Service
Sun. Jan. 3: 9:30am Worship Service; No Sunday School or Confirmation
Service Broadcast, TV Channel 12 Wednesdays at 10am - Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays



Spiritually Speaking

Speak words that uplift and inspire

It is perhaps a cliché that words can heal or words can harm. But, it is nevertheless true that we can uplift and inspire our fellows with words of we can belittle and degrade them. Thus we should always choose our words carefully. Consider the effect which your words will have on others before you blurt them out. And of course words are not the only way for us to express ourselves to each other. Our body language and demeanor speak volumes. If you roll your eyes when someone is speaking you are showing contempt for them. If you ignore someone who is talking to you, this failure to recognize them can be profoundly disrespectful. The forms of language and discourse, both verbal and bodily, are ways in which we can either validate or invalidate others. We should speak words which uplift and inspire others rather than humiliate or attack them. Almost everyone responds to kindness, whether that is a kind word or a kind smile.

Remember this:

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." -Proverbs 15:1

Polk County Public Health

Polk County Health provides monthly foot care clinics at locations throughout the county. Foot soaks and nail trimming are provided. This is not a diagnostic clinic. Referrals are made to medical doctors when necessary. A fee of \$20 is charged per client participating in the clinic. County residents are encouraged to call Polk County Public Health for further information. All clinics are open to the public. Please register for an appointment at the location of your choice.

The foot care clinic will take place in McIntosh at the McIntosh Office of Polk County Public Health in the lower level of the Bjella Building on Thursday, January 7, 2016 and Thursday, January 21, 2016, starting at 9:00 am. You can call 218-281-3072 for an appointment. Foot care is by appointment only, you must call the office if you wish to visit a schedule.

If you have any questions about foot care clinics or other services provided by PCPH, please call offices at: Crookston 281-3385; East Grand Forks 773-2431; or McIntosh 563-2010.

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Dec. 30: *Rudy & Kathy Finseth
Thurs. Dec. 31: *Bryce & Andrea Stordahl
Mon. Jan. 4: Amanda Shultz
Tues. Jan. 5: Mathea Jore, Corey Smeby, Sandy Salvhus

THE WINGER ENTERPRISE

3

Wednesday, December 30, 2015

Winger News

by Linda Pulskamp

Hello again from Winger and the Union Lake and surrounding area. It definitely is looking like Christmas with each snowfall we get. The front on Tuesday that went through left us with a little bit more snow but the roads left a lot to be desired, was a rather treacherous drive home Tuesday evening. Temps still are very mild for December in Minnesota, and I don't know of to many complaining. Oh yes, those waiting to ice fish are probably are grumbling a little bit.

Sympathy to the family of Hermina Rude. Hermina was a sister in law of Edna Helgaas and a very talented and dear lady. She was active in our community with the Calvary Ladies quilting and also had been active in the Auxillary here in Winger.

Paul and Donna Carlson visited and were coffee guests last Saturday morning at the Fern and Milton Carlson home. Sheldon and Rita Trandem and Dellas Paradis were visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home on Thursday December 17th.

Kathy Richardson of Oak Grove was a house guest at the Lucy Brtek home last week end. She came especially to attend the funeral of her cousin Orlie Sollie.

Last Sunday Chris, Sheila, Jade, Vincent, Jasmine and Carson Benesh brought dinner to Milton and Fern Carlson's home and was enjoyed by all. Later in the day Paul and Donna Carlson picked up Fern and Milton Carlson and they all attended the Christmas program at the New Hope Church in Fertile as they had grandchildren partaking in the program.

Butch and Linda Pulskamp were Saturday evening visitors at the Dean Johnson bringing him birthday greetings. Later they visited at the Kelly Johnson with Kelly and granddaughter Lily.

Sheldon and Rita Trandem were Sunday afternoon visitors at the Pioneer Home in Erskine with Helmer and Verlys Homme.

After attending the funeral for Orlie Sollie on Monday, Lucy Brtek and Kathy Richardson stopped in at Mac Manor in McIntosh and had a very enjoyable visit with Joyce Balstad.

Kari, Terry and Olivayah Keller of Bejou were Tuesday visitors at the Fern and Milton Carlson home.

Helmer Homme attended the funeral at the Vernes Lutheran Church on Monday for Orlie Sollie.

Monday night Betty Myhrum joined Kathy Richardson at the Lucy Brtek home and all enjoyed visiting and had supper together before Kathy left for her home.

Once again not a whole lot of news, Bunny help.

I want to wish you all a blessed, happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Please remember our mili-

tary men and women and so many others for what ever reason that will be unable to spend the holidays with family and friends.

Until next week and with that a new year, peace.

From Bun Manor:

Betty Lou, Stacey, Chelsey Myhrum and Steven and Susan Eischens all headed to the Twin Cities on the 17th. for a doctor's appointment for Chelsey and to spend a couple nights at the home of Kjersti and Dakota Poissant. Although no baking was done on Friday because the alternator in the vehicle needed to be replaced, they all finished the day by going uptown Minneapolis to the Comedy Sportz. The next morning everyone packed up to headed back to Winger where Kjersti and Dakota will be joining them for Christmas. Many laughs were shared by all!

Union Lake froze over on Saturday morning December 19th. This is by far the latest in 25 years that it has taken to freeze over since Bun has been living at the lake.

Condolences go out to the family of Hermina Rude on the loss of their loved one. Hermina was a very kind and adorable lady. Needless to say her funeral at Immanuel Lutheran church in Bejou was well attended by well wishing mourners.

Monday afternoon John Balstad and his Amish friend Herman came out to the manor with a church pew from the Sandhill church located in Sletten township east of Winger. John had shortened the pew so it would fit in Bun's foyer area. Bun thanks you John!

Brother Andy and Linda came up for a couple of days to visit Bun. Monday evening they drove over to Fosston to watch Lori and Tennis Balstad's daughter Faith play seventh grade basketball against Fertile. Fosston won with a couple of points scored by Faith to help the cause.

They headed over to Moran's in Winger after the game to have supper. Andy bought. Dale was supposed to meet them for supper but there was a breakdown in communication. Dale missed out big time because Andy buys about as much as Ole does and that isn't saying much.

Wednesday afternoon Bun's god daughter Nevaeh stopped out with a tree ornament she had made. Bun was bummed because he wasn't home when she came out.

Christmas Eve afternoon Floyd and Gerri Balstad had their grandsons, Everett, Grant and Travis along with sons Dale, David and his wife Shawnn out for dinner.

They attended Christmas eve service at Calvary in Winger. There were close to a hundred people present for the service. There are very few true Wingerites left in the

area. Bun saw MarJenna McWilliam (daughter of Bruce and Lavonne) at church and chatted with her some. She is such a sweet gal.

Judy and Lloyd Schulz along with son Dougie and grandchildren Chaez and Maxx came up to celebrate Christmas eve and Christmas day at uncle Tim's place.

A little different this year with no young children running around and tearing the place apart. Since there were no children around Bun had Chewie the dog come over to entertain. Christmas Day marked the 12th year that Bun lost his mother Lorraine to the Lord in Heaven. God bless her soul.

Bun called Joyce Balstad on Christmas Day to wish her a merry one. She did get her traditional lutefisk dinner after missing out on the Bejou dinner. Her son David and his family visited her on Christmas eve. David made some amends with his mother for forgetting her birthday earlier in the week. The good son Dale was there on Christmas to keep her company.

Ole was once again busy playing Santa at the Tony Stuhaug resident in Erskine and Mark Broden's in Fertile. Santa Ole is thinking about retiring but has no apprentice to take his place. Good luck Ole!

Proud Grandma Pammy Wang had her grandson Graddon along with Peter, his wife Kali, son Christopher and daughter Jessica home for Christmas. Bun is sure that Roger was with them from Heaven.

Chris Wang returned home to Gillette, Wyoming in his truck with his Lazy boy recliner he got from his mom after spending a week in the Winger area. Byron, Lois and him went out to celebrate Christmas eve supper at the Vance and Teri Kaupang residence east of Winger. Jon Aasen was also a supper guest.

Christmas day Lois made a turkey for Chris, Jeff, Debbie and her son David Sall. They all headed over to Fosston to watch the new Star Wars movie only to find out there was no movie. Remember to check your listings so you don't have to make an unnecessary trip. Too funny!

Brian and Elizabeth Massmann returned home Sunday after spending Christmas in Turton SD. with her parents Monte and JoAnn Troske.

Steve and Lorri Massmann came home Saturday evening after spending time visiting family in the Osakis area. Steve told Bun the roads were snowy and icy all the way up to Waubun before the sun came out.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I hope you all have a blessed New Year, (Bun) Tim.



Regional Ag News

Jim Stordahl,
Extension Educator

Program to Compare Crop Budgets

As we turn the calendar to a new year, many farmers are contemplating their cropping options for the upcoming season. With the reality of significantly reduced crop prices, and razor thin margins, many are looking for ways to compare the economics of different crop options.

To help in this effort, NDSU Extension recently offered an updated "Crop Compare Program for 2016".

This program provides a tool for producers to check the changing scenarios until final planting decisions are made this spring.

The North Dakota State University Extension Service has updated the Crop Compare program, which is a simple spreadsheet designed to compare cropping alternatives.

The program uses the direct costs and yields from the 2016 projected crop budgets for nine regions of North Dakota, but producers are encouraged to enter the expected yields and input costs for their farm. Although this is geared to North Dakota, simply select a crop-

ping region that reflects yields and costs similar to your farm.

The user designates a reference crop and enters its expected market price.

Depending on the region, a broad selection of nine to 18 crops are compared. The program provides the prices for competing crops that would be necessary to provide the same return over variable costs as the reference crop.

"Producers can compare these 'break-even' prices to expected market prices to see which crop is most likely to compete with the reference crop," says Andy Swenson, NDSU Extension Service farm management specialist. "Grain prices can move quickly. The program provides a tool for producers to check the changing scenarios until final planting decisions are made this spring."

It should be noted that an underlying assumption is that fixed costs, such as machinery ownership, land, and the owner's labor and management, do not vary among crop choices and therefore do not need to be included in the analysis. The projected margins of each crop

will need to cover those costs.

"In practice, there may be differences in fixed costs that should be considered," Swenson says. "For example, there may be additional labor, management and risk associated with a competing crop. If all the labor and management is provided by the owner-operator, it would be considered a fixed cost and could be excluded. However, the producer should add some cost if he or she would only want to produce the crop when an adequate reward would be received for the extra time and management required relative to the reference crop."

A similar rationale could be used if a competing crop is considered higher risk. The Crop Compare program is available at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/farmmanagement/tools>

Also, the complete 2016 crop budgets are available at <http://bit.ly/2016NDCropBudgets>

For more information, contact me at 800-450-2465 or stordahl@umn.edu. This article was provided by Andy Swenson, NDSU Extension Service Farm Business Management Specialist.



30 years ago...1985: The master decorator Sydney Klemmetson outside his home. According to Syd, it all began in 1948, with one string of lights. What began with one string of lights became a tradition for the Klemmetson's and really the whole community of McIntosh. Sydney and Winnie Klemmetson's home was on the south side of McIntosh,



20 years ago...1995: Win-E-Mac staff members and employees sampled the holiday treats during the Christmas Tea that was hosted by the Board of Education and held on December 20th. (L-R) Delores Schow, Elmyrna Kaupang, Kevin Abrahamson and Sherman Rolf.



10 years ago...2005: This year the Men's Group consisted of four Junior High students along with four Senior High students. The group includes: Kyle Peterson, Tyler Oppegaard, Zach Boehrnsen, Casey Nornes, Joseph Lee, Jacob Herwig, Dakota Christianson, and Justin Grinolds.

Clearing Up Confusion on REAL ID

By, Deb Kiel, Minnesota State Representative

Recently, a number of constituents have contacted me regarding REAL ID, and with some folks receiving incorrect information, I want to clear up the confusion and give clarity to Minnesotans planning trips next year.

For those planning to fly in early 2016, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has indicated that no one should need to change their travel plans if they only have a standard-issued Minnesota driver's license which does not currently meet federal REAL ID requirements to board a commercial aircraft. DHS will give non-compliant states like Minnesota 120 days' notice before enforcement and have stated that will not begin immediately in January.

For those who don't know what REAL ID is, it's a set of standards and procedures passed by Congress in 2005 to improve the security of driver's licenses and personal identification cards. REAL ID requires states to verify an applicant's date of birth, Social Security number and place of residence, as well as if the applicant is lawfully present in the United States.

The final phase of the law is set to go into effect no sooner than January 1, 2016.

During the 2009 legislative session in Minnesota, the leg-

islature voted unanimously in the House and 64-1 in the Senate to prohibit the Minnesota Department of Public Safety from taking action to implement or create a plan to implement REAL ID, and it was signed into law by then Governor Pawlenty. Issues raised around REAL ID included the cost of state compliance to this new federal mandate, as well as the collection and retention of personal data.

Now, Minnesota is the only state not in compliance or on the path to compliance for REAL ID, which could prohibit Minnesotans from using their state issued driver's license to board a commercial flight starting next year.

Currently, twenty-three states or territories are in full compliance, and thirty-one others have received extensions toward full compliance. Both Governor Mark Dayton and House Republicans have sent letters to DHS requesting an extension.

Additionally, it's important to note that two other types of identification are available to Minnesotans that do meet federal REAL ID requirements. Passports can be used as identification to board a flight, as well as a Minnesota-issued Enhanced Driver's License which is already available and facilitates easier border crossings into Canada, Mexico and some Central American nations.

In Minnesota, an Enhanced Driver's License costs an extra \$15 over a standard license and requires greater identity verification measures to receive: a birth certificate (or State Department form verifying legal status in the United States), Social Security card (or tax return), proof of photographic identity and two documents proving Minnesota residency.

The nearest locations offering an Enhanced Driver's License are Detroit Lakes and Bemidji.

The Minnesota legislature is set to begin its next session in March 2016, and is expected to take up the issue of REAL ID then.

No legislative action on REAL ID can be taken before that unless the governor calls a Special Session.

I hope this helps clear up the confusion around REAL ID, and adds clarity for people planning to travel next year. My main objective is to ensure that Minnesotans can continue to travel without hindrance, so please contact my office if you have any additional questions or concerns.

State Rep. Deb Kiel serves District 1B, which includes the counties of Pennington, Polk, and Red Lake. She can be reached at rep.deb.kiel@house.mn, 651-296-5091, or 537 State Office Building, 100 MLK Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155.



The Win-E-Mac Junior High band performed songs such as “Celebratios Overture”, “Yankee Doodle Dazzle”, A Joyous Christmas”, and “African Bell Carol” during their concert on Monday, December 7th in the new Arts & Event Center.



On Monday, December 7th, during the Win-E-Mac Junior High Concert, the choir, directed by Charity Salmonson, performed for a large audience.



The Win-E-Mac Senior High Women's Group sang “Silent Night” during the Senior High band and choir concert held at the Arts & Event Center on Monday, December 14th.



On Thursday, December 17th, the Win-E-Mac 4th through 6th graders performed a Christmas musical, “A Christmas Line” for family and friends. The main characters in the story were, Chase Shear, Jayden Gensberger, Savahanna Svalen, Kianna Tadman, Alivia Winter, Arich Gensberger, Anton Hickman, and Monania Erofeeff.

Students have the option of Postsecondary Enrollment

What is the Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program?

Postsecondary Enrollment Options allows high school juniors, seniors and some sophomores to take college courses at an actual college. The courses are taught by a college instructor. You can take a variety of courses, ranging from general education to technical courses. They can be taken face-to-face in a classroom, online, or a combination of the two. You can go part-time, and take some classes at your high school and some at the college. Or you can take all of your classes at the college.

What are the benefits of taking PSEO?

Because PSEO courses are free, you can save time and money earning your degree. Some students have earned an associate's degree at the same time they completed high school. You can also complete occupational certificates tuition-free. If you're not finding your high school classes interesting or challenging, then PSEO may be a good option for you. Colleges and universities offer a wide range of classes. This gives you the chance to explore more subjects and at an advanced level. PSEO students have access to the same support services that the college students do, such as writ-

ing tutors. Studies have also shown that students who take college courses in high school are more likely to graduate with a bachelor's degree in four years. That's important. Each additional year of college costs you more money.

Who can take PSEO?
PSEO is available to eligible public, private, alternative learning center, charter school or home-schooled students in 11th or 12th grade. PSEO is also available to 10th grade public school students (see yellow sidebar).

How do I take PSEO?
You need to check with each college or university on its admissions requirements and deadlines to apply. Each institution that participates in PSEO has eligibility requirements that you may need to complete. View a list of participating Minnesota college and universities.

How do I earn college credit?
You complete the same work as the college students do and are your work is graded using the same standards. You then receive a college transcript from the college or university. This allows you to transfer the credit to other colleges. All public colleges and universities and some private ones in Minnesota accept credits earned through PSEO. Many public and private schools in other

states do, too.

How do I earn high school credit?

You need to share your transcript from your PSEO courses with your high school to get high school credit. This is not automatic.

How many Minnesota students take PSEO?

In 2014, more than 9,000 Minnesota students took advantage of PSEO courses.

How much does it cost?
PSEO is tuition-free for Minnesota students. This includes course tuition, fees and textbooks. It does not cover general school supplies (such as notebooks, pens, pencils, etc.) or materials that students wish to purchase for use after the course or program is complete. Transportation costs (bus fares, gas for a car, parking fees, etc.) for eligible students may be covered. Ask your school counselor if you can be reimbursed for transportation.

Where can I find more information about PSEO?

You can contact the PSEO coordinator at the colleges you are interested in to learn more about the program and what is offered. You can also find information on the Minnesota Department of Education website, or talk with your high school counselor.



Performing during the Elementary holiday play on December 17th at Win-E-Mac school.

'Tis the season for a winter walk grouse hunting

A ruffed grouse hunter walks through woods with young aspen and pines.

While stopping for a moment on the sunny day, deep silence is broken by the sound of chickadees.

"In the December woods, a grouse hunter can get a break from a busy schedule and find peace in the fresh air," said Ted Dick, ruffed grouse specialist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. "The woods this time of year are uncrowded and you never know what wildlife you might see."

Grouse season is open through Sunday, Jan. 3. This year's warmer temperatures and light snow cover have made it easier to get around in the woods. Grouse hunt-

ing doesn't require much gear – pack a small game license, shotgun, some decent boots and warm clothes.

"Late-season grouse hunting is different, and challenging. There are fewer birds, and survivors are often warier and more easily spooked. Each bird harvested is considered a trophy," Dick said.

Once there is adequate snow, grouse roost beneath the snow for much of the day, and often come out into the trees at dusk.

For places to hunt, Minnesota has 528 wildlife management areas in the ruffed grouse range that cover nearly 1 million acres, 50 designated ruffed grouse management areas and 600 miles of hunter walking trails. State, county and federal forests also provide an abundance of opportunity.

This past fall, the DNR created a new Web page at www.mndnr.gov/rgma that allows

hunters to easily access information on the state's ruffed grouse management areas. To find more tips on how and where to hunt, see www.mndnr.gov/hunting/grouse.

Less restrictive Red Lake winter walleye regulations

Anglers fishing Upper Red Lake this winter will be able to keep three walleye – one more than last winter's limit – and those fish can be from a broader size range.

Regulations became effective Dec. 1 that set the daily bag and possession limit for Red Lake at three walleye, and only one of which may be longer than 17 inches.

Last winter, anglers could keep two walleye, one of which could be longer than 26 inches. All walleye 17-26 inches had to be immediately released