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Times

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McIntosh, Minnesota



Lifelong resident of McIntosh, a McIntosh business owner, and a retired McIntosh Fireman. Dan Salvhus is undergoing treatment for esophageal cancer. The McIntosh Fire Department held a benefit for him on Sunday, November 26th. Here, Dan and his wife, Mary are pictured with their 3 daughters, Leah, Jill and Amie, and their families.

Win-E-Mac announces holiday concerts

Elementary Music Programs
Win-E-Mac students in grades Kindergarten through Sixth Grade will be presenting their annual holiday programs on Monday, December 11, 2023. The programs will take place in the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Events Center. THE K-3 PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 12:45 PM, AND THE 4-6 PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 2:00 P.M. The K-3 program under the direction of Amanda Shultz will feature many holiday songs for you to

enjoy! The 6th grade band will be performing holiday music in the auditorium commons before the 4-6 program. The 4-6 program under the direction of Charity Salmonson will begin at 2:00 with all students in Grades 4-6 performing the play "Survival Santa" which will feature many acting and speaking parts. What a great way to kick off the holiday season! Hope to see you there!

Junior High School band and choir concert
The Win-E-Mac Music Department is pleased to announce the Jr. High Band & Choir in concert on Friday, Thursday, December 14, 2023, beginning at 7:30 P.M. The concert will take place in the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Events Center! The concert will feature the Jr. High Band & Choir performing several selections, including some holiday music! Please come out and enjoy an evening of music!

Senior High School band and choir concert
The Win-E-Mac Music Department is pleased to announce the Sr. High Band and Choir will be presenting their annual Fall/Winter concert on Monday, December 18, 2023, beginning at 7:30 P.M. The concert will take place in the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Events Center. This concert will feature the Sr. High Band and Sr. High Choir performing a wide variety of music for your listening enjoyment, including several holiday songs. As traditional, the concert will conclude with the singing of "Peace, Peace" by candlelight. Come and enjoy an evening of musical entertainment!

Best books to give for the holidays

If you plan to follow the "four-gift rule" this holiday season — something they want, something they need, something to wear and something to read — experts from the University of Minnesota Libraries recommend choosing books from a wide range of new releases.

Lisa Von Drasek, curator of the Kerlan Collection of Children's Literature, shares book suggestions for the young people in your life. Malaika Grant, arts, humanities, and area studies librarian, shares great adult gift ideas.

Lisa Von Drasek
"We are Branches" by Joyce Sidman and illustrated by Beth Krommes
"Branching is nature's most efficient way to spread something...from one central spot over a large area." The blood in our body branches out from arteries to veins and back again. The bones of the fruit bat branch from arms stretched in wings to their fingertips. And colorful coral branches skyward under the oceans and seas. Science writer and poet Joyce Sidman pairs again with artist Beth Krommes to create an intergenerational picture book treasure of factual information that is a joy to read aloud.

"I'm From" words by Gary R. Gray Jr. and pictures by Oge Mora
"We follow a community of children dancing through their day as a Black child joyfully announces that they come from 'early morning wake-ups, handcrafted blankets knitted with memories.' All is not perfect but resilience and strength are expressed through Gray's straightforward language and Mora's celebratory collage illustrations reminiscent of the work of Ezra Jack Keats."

"Paul Bunyan: The Invention of an American Legend" by Noah Van Sciver, Marlena Myles and Lee Francis, IV
"Many may believe the story of Paul Bunyan is a tall tale about a goofy oversized lumberjack and his sweet companion, Babe the Blue Ox. They would be wrong. Paul Bunyan was an invention of the timber industry whose goal was the clear cutting of indigenous lands. Noah Van Sciver with a team of experts, Lee Francis, IV, (Pueblo of Laguna), Marlena Myles (Spirit Lake Dakota/Mohagan/Muscogee), Dr. Deondre Smiles (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe) present the true story of loggers, propaganda and the land. The cartoon graphic format and original art by Myles with additional archival materials have created an accessible and layered factual history for all ages."

Books...
Continued on page 2 ...



Class cancellation:
Due to the lack of snow and no snow fall is the forecast The Polar Beach Snowmobile Club and Lengby - Fosston Knight-riders are cancelling the snowmobile safety classes for December 9th and 16th. The clubs will be rescheduling as soon as the weather has become more cooperative.

Santa is coming to Winger and McIntosh

The Annual Winger Lions Breakfast with Santa will be this Saturday, December 9th. A pancake breakfast will start at 9:00 am with Santa arriving at 10:00 am. The Winger ladies will have activities such as a hot cocoa bar, face painting, Christmas movies, and coloring activities for the kids as they wait for Santa's arrival. Come to McIntosh for the Annual Santa Claus Day on Saturday, December 16th beginning at 9:30 am. Enjoy goodies or a warm beverage. Check out our Santa

Letter mailing station to make sure you can send Santa any last-minute requests. There will also be a fun craft project to take home with you. These stations will be available all morning. Sing Along with Susan Lee from 10:00 to 10:30 when Santa will arrive! Meet with Santa from 10:30 am to noon and have your picture taken with him. Make sure to register for door prizes donated by Jered's Grocery of McIntosh. See you at these fun Christmas events!



WEM Santa Shop
The Win-E-Mac Student Council will host their annual Santa Shop for all elementary students on Thursday, December 7th. The students will be able to come down to the Arts & Events Center to buy family Christmas gifts for only 25 cents each (limit 5 items per visit).



Jered Agnes from Jered's Grocery in McIntosh made a huge food donation to the DTOM Veteran's Ranch located in Bagley to help the ranch make Veteran Thanksgiving Food Boxes. The mission of the DTOM Veteran's Ranch is to provide a safe place for hope, healing and recovery for military service members, Veteran's, and their families while encouraging their lives through hope, faith, and family activities, and helping them learn to live again with purpose. They offer State of the art equine therapy, mentoring and counseling, housing assistance, and food, clothing and living needs. To donate or for more information you can contact them at help@dtomveteransranch.org or by calling (605) 725 - DTOM.



On Sunday November 26th the McIntosh Fire Department held a breakfast benefit for their retired fireman brother, Dan Salvhus at the McIntosh Community Center. The department members are pictured here with Dan and his wife, Mary. If you were unable to make it to the benefit and would like to help, donations can be mailed to McIntosh Fire Department, c/o Dan Salvhus Benefit, PO Box 356, McIntosh, MN 56556.

100 Years Ago This Month: Historical events from December 1923

The month of December has been home to many historical events over the years.

Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in December 1923.

· **Universal Pictures releases the film "The Darling of New York"** on December 3. The film is the first to feature five-year-old Peggy-Jean Montgomery, also known as "Baby Peggy," who would soon be earning an annual salary of \$1.5 million.

· **Charles Keating is born on December 4** in Cincinnati, Ohio. Keating would ultimately become one of the more infamous figures in American finance when he plays a prominent role in the savings and loan crisis of 1989.

· **Kentucky Governor Edwin P. Murrow** commutes the death sentence of convicted murderer Steve McQueen on December 5. McQueen was a juvenile at the time of the crime and Governor Murrow had received numerous requests to commute the sentence, which he did just days before his term as governor was due to end.

· **The Reichstag of the Weimar Republic** votes to pass an enabling act on December 8. The act, which garners 313 votes to just 18 dissents, gives Chancellor Wilhelm

Marx the power to implement emergency economic and welfare measures. The act lasted until the dissolution of the Reichstag in March 1924.

· **The National Dairy Products Corporation**, which would ultimately become a conglomerate now known as Kraft Heinz, is founded on December 10.

· **James D. Cummings and J. Earl McLeod of Washington, Kansas**, file a patent application for their invention, the bulldozer, on December 18. The patent is granted on January 6, 1925.

· **On December 18, American congressman Andrew Volstead** tells a law enforcement conference in Minnesota that the American people were giving up their opposition to the Volstead Act, which established the prohibition of alcoholic beverages. In his remarks, Volstead predicts the act will never be repealed.

· **Nine farms in Goodhue County, Minnesota**, receive electricity for the first time on December 24. The delivery of electricity is part of a project to demonstrate the economic feasibility of rural electrification in the United States.

· **On December 24 in Washington, D.C.**, United States President Calvin

Coolidge presses a button and turns on 2,500 electric bulbs, thus beginning the tradition of the National Christmas Tree.

· **The first patent application** for Russian-born American inventor Vladimir Zworkin's "Television System" is filed on December 29. The patent is eventually granted on December 20, 1938.



I would like to thank everyone who came to my 90th Birthday party, and thanks to my 5 sons who worked hard to make it all happen. Thank you all for the cards and flowers.

*Thanks again,
Carole Burslie*



The First National Insurance Agency is pleased to announce that they have hired a new agent, Taylor Dierkes. Taylor is the son of Dan & Darlene Dierkes of McIntosh, and will be taking over the role of insurance agency manager in the future. He was born and raised in Sauk Rapids, and comes to McIntosh by way of Fargo, where he has worked in property management. Please stop in the bank and welcome him to town!



Thank you to all who attended my Benefit. God has truly blessed me with great family, friends and neighbors.

Thank you to the fantastic members of the McIntosh Fire Department for a great breakfast benefit that they put on. Also thank you to those who generously donated to the silent auction and raffle. Most of all I thank you all for your prayers and encouragement.

God Bless.
Dan & Mary Salvhus • Leah, Jay, Tyus & Trey
Jill, Ben Tavin & Raiden • Amie, Dave, Josiah & Mara

Start 2024 with a snowshoe lacing workshop

On Saturday, January 6th, 2024, the Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuges Association will be hosting a Snowshoe Lacing Workshop at the Rydell NWR Visitor Center.

The one-day workshop will run from 9:00am – 5:00pm. Class participants will learn how to lace their own pair of Ojibwa-style snowshoes.

This is a fun, hands-on class. You'll be able to work at

your own pace with provided instructions and friendly presenters to assist you along the way.

The goal of the class at the end of the day is to send you home with at least one completed snowshoe.

Snacks and lunch will be provided, courtesy of the Friends of Rydell and Glacial.

We want to thank the Thanksgiving Eve Service for having an offering for the local food shelves. We want to thank you for the money that we received. We will put it towards buying food for our patrons.

Grace Community Food Shelf, Erskine



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

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

Sun. Dec. 17: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Pastor Rene Mehlberg
Synodical Authorized
Minister Katie DeMarais

Sun. Dec. 10: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Sun. Dec. 17: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Our Saviors Lutheran Church, McIntosh will run church services on Channel 30 on Garden Valley Channel 30. They will also be available on YouTube on channel One in Spirit - The Journey. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sunday until further notice.

MCINTOSH AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Interim Pastor:
Nathan Dalager

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 11:00am; Sunday School: 9:45am

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am; Sunday School: 10:45am

Lutheran Parish YouTube Channel

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

Sun, Dec. 10: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)

Mon, Dec. 11: 7:00pm Annual Meetings of the Sunday School, Luther League, and Congregation

Tues, Dec. 12: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed, Dec. 13: 6:30pm Bible Study at Sharon Ramberg's home

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
Pastor Lee Laaveg

Sun. Dec. 10: 9:00am Worship

Sun, Dec. 13: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker,

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger

Sundays: 10:30am Coffee Fellowship; 11:00am Worship

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH- NALC
Erskine
Rev. Pam Thorson

Sundays: 9:00am Worship
Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

Books...

Continued from page 1

Malaika Grant
"The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year" by Margaret Renkl

"A wonderful gift for gardeners, birders, and nature lovers, Renkl's book of 52 short essays is designed to be read over the course of the year. She reflects mostly on observations of the flora and fauna in her own Nashville garden, but this is also a memoir of the seasons of her life. Featuring 52 unique color artworks by the author's brother, Billy Renkl, 'The Comfort of Crows' is a lovely and profoundly touching book from an insightful observer of the natural world."

"The Creative Act: A Way of Being" by Rick Rubin

"Rick Rubin, co-founder of Def Jam records, winner of eight Grammy awards, produc-

er of legendary musicians Jay-Z, Adele, The Beastie Boys, and many more, is a renowned artist with much wisdom to share. This is a treatise on what it means to be an artist, a contemplative guide on enhancing creative abilities, and a meaningful and useful gift for anyone on a creative path. Rubin underscores the notion that everyone possesses artistic potential, offering mental frameworks for both unleashing creativity and surmounting obstacles. It is the sort of book one will revisit over the years for inspiration and to revisit favorite musings such as, 'artists allow us to see what we are unable to see, but somehow already know.'"

"Project 562 : Changing The Way We See Native America" by Matika Wilbur

"In this work of art and beautiful gift, Matika Wilbur, a renowned photographer and storyteller from the Swinomish and Tulalip Tribes, documents members from the 562 federally recognized Tribal Nations across the United States. Utilizing 'indigenous photography methods,' she prioritizes relationships and storytelling to capture hundreds of stunning portraits and compelling personal narratives of contemporary Native people, photographed in clothing, poses and locations of their choosing. Wilbur honors and celebrates the vibrant tapestry of present-day Native American life and cultures to achieve the goal in her title, truly changing the way we see Native America."



Over the weekend of November 17th - 18th, the McIntosh Community Center was buzzing with activity. Friday the ladies from East Polk County Quilters and guests were kept busy making quilt kits to sew the next day and throughout the year. On Saturday the ladies gathered to sew up some of the quilt tops. Joann Sannes, Lois Boehrnsen, Denise Disrud, Judy Tadmam, Irene Harmon, Kathy Finstad, Connie Strom and Dorothy Sandberg. If interested in sewing a quilt top for this group feel free to contact any one of these ladies and they will get you a kit. Also if there are any ladies out there with a longarm and they would be willing to donate their services please reach out to any one of these ladies and we can get quilt top, quilt back and batting to you.

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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Explore the outdoors this winter by hunting small game

Hunting pheasants, ruffed grouse, squirrels or rabbits offers opportunities to enjoy the Minnesota outdoors as temperatures fall and snow blankets the landscape.

Pheasants: Hunting season is open through Jan. 1, 2024. On Dec. 1, the daily bag limit increases to three roosters, with a possession limit of nine roosters. The best places to find pheasants at this time of year are in tall grass or cattail marshes. Hunters should remember to exercise caution

around thin ice. **Grouse:** Hunting season is open through Jan. 1, 2024. Wintertime grouse hunters might find success during the “golden hour,” which is the last hour before sunset, when ruffed grouse move out of their snow roosts to feed. **Squirrels:** Hunting season is open through Feb. 28, 2024. Winter is breeding season for squirrels, which means they are active and easier to find.

Rabbits: Hunting season is open through Feb. 28, 2024.

Hunters will find the most success around thick cover, such as brush piles, thorn tangles and briars.

Check out the regulations and complete bag limit information on the Minnesota DNR website. More information about how or where to hunt can be found on the DNR’s learn to hunt webpages. Recorded webinars with tips on how to hunt pheasants, grouse, squirrels or rabbits are available on the outdoor skills and stewardship page of the DNR website.

Online applications now open for MN 2024 Industrial Hemp Program

These licenses are for growing and processing industrial hemp only.

Online applications are now open for anyone wishing to grow or process hemp in Minnesota in 2024. A license from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is required for individuals and businesses.

Applications must be submitted by April 30, 2024, and a license is valid for the 2024 calendar year.

The application can be found on the MDA website. Along with the online form, first-time applicants and authorized representatives need to submit fingerprints and pass a criminal background check. These licenses are for growing and processing industrial hemp only. The hemp grower or processor application is not for the growth or sale of adult-use or medical cannabis. The application is also not intended for the sale of hemp-derived cannabinoid products. Adult-use cannabis information can be found on the Office of Cannabis Management website. Information related to medical cannabis and hemp-derived cannabinoid products can be found at

the Minnesota Department of Health website.

Growers and processors need to be aware of the following for 2024:

All authorized representatives designated by the applicant must pass a criminal history background check prior to the issuance of a license.

Every lot of hemp grown requires pre-harvest THC regulatory testing. Each official regulatory sample collected by the MDA will cost \$100.

The MDA licenses processors that handle raw hemp and initially process it by extraction, decortication, devitalization, crushing or packaging, and the department will continue random inspections of processor locations.

License fees will remain the same. The minimum cost of a grower license is \$400. A processing license is a minimum of \$500.

While the deadline to apply or renew is April 30, 2024, those actively growing hemp plants indoors past December 31, 2023, must renew their license before expiration at the end of the year.

Questions about the MDA’s

Industrial Hemp Program should be sent to hemp.mda@state.mn.us or 651-201-6600.

Background

Industrial hemp and marijuana are both types of the same plant, Cannabis sativa. They differ by the concentration level of the psychoactive compound tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) within the plant. Hemp has less than 0.3% THC, and levels above that are considered marijuana.

Minnesota operated under a hemp pilot program from 2016-2020. In 2021, the program began operating under a new, federally approved state plan that governs production and regulation.

Minnesota Industrial Hemp Program Licensing and Acreage Statistics are available on the MDA website.

Story to Share?

If you have a story or photos you want to share, please send to: mcintoshtimes@gmail.com

Join us for Strategic Farming: Let’s Talk Crops 2024

By Liz Stahl, Extension Educator – Crops, Anthony Hanson, Extension Educator – Integrated and Pest Management, and Phyllis Bongard, Content development and communications specialist.

Pull up a chair and join in or bring the conversation with you as you go about your day. Whatever works best for you, join us this winter to discuss some of the key issues and questions around commodity crop production facing Minnesota farmers today through the “Strategic Farming: Let’s Talk Crops” webinar series. This live, online program will provide up-to-date, research-based information to help optimize your crop management strategies for 2024. Sessions will be held over Zoom, which can be accessed via your computer, phone, or other mobile device, and will run from 9:00 to 10:00 am Wednesdays, January 10 through March 27, 2024.

Sessions will be very informal and open to all interested. Each session will start with a brief presentation by the discussion leaders for the day, followed by discussion framed around farmer/participant questions on the topic.

Topics and speakers:

• **January 10:** Grain prices and marketing strategies given current geopolitics & soy-

bean crush capacity. (Frayne Olson, Crops economist/Marketing specialist, North Dakota State University)

• **January 17:** Join us LIVE at the MN Ag Expo (no Zoom session today)

• **January 24:** Big Data & Corn Genomics - what does it all mean for you? (Candice Hirsch, Corn genomics professor & Jeff Coulter, Extension corn agronomist)

• **January 31:** Pushing soybean maturity to the max. (Seth Naeve, Extension soybean agronomist)

• **February 7:** Making herbicides work better PART 1: Making choices and adjustments to ensure a successful application. (Tom Peters, Extension sugar beet agronomist)

• **February 14:** Making herbicides work better PART 2: Demystifying adjuvants. (Joe Ikley, Assistant Professor/Extension Weed Specialist, North Dakota State University & Greg Dahl, Adjuvant development advisor, WinField)

• **February 21:** What pays for soybean insect management? (Bob Koch, Extension soybean entomologist)

• **February 28:** Thirsty cover crops - do they impact our cash crops? (Anna Cates, Anna Cates, State soil health specialist & Dan Smith, Nutrient and pest)

• **March 6:** Fertilizer - How

to get your best ROI. (Dan Kaiser, Extension nutrient management specialist & Jeff Vetsch, Researcher at UMN Southern Research & Outreach Center)

• **March 13:** Are we smarter than the average European corn borer and corn rootworm? (Fei Yang, Extension corn entomologist)

• **March 20:** Efficacy matters: Fungicides for managing specific corn and soybean diseases. (Kiersten Wise, Professor/Extension plant pathologist, University of Kentucky)

• **March 27:** Look Out! An Update on Emerging Soybean and Corn Diseases. (Dean Malvick, UMN professor and Extension specialist: field crops plant pathology)

For more details and to register, go to <https://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming>. There is no charge to participate, thanks to generous sponsorship from the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council. Not able to attend a day? No problem. Sessions will be recorded and posted for viewing later at your convenience.

We hope you will take this opportunity to join with U of MN Extension in discussing crop topics at our “Strategic Farming: Let’s Talk Crops!” program in 2024.

Collect and sell black spruce cone in northern MN to the State Forest Nursery

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Forest Nursery is looking for people to collect black spruce cones this winter in northern Minnesota.

The seeds found inside the cones are needed to reforest nearly 3,000 acres of black spruce forest each year.

“Over the last few years, the number of collectors has decreased and we are in critical need of black spruce cones” said Sarah Ebert, State Forest Nursery manager. “We pay people \$100 per bushel, which is about nine gallons of cones. Collecting black spruce now is a great way to earn some cash before the holidays.”

People interested in collecting black spruce cones should first contact one of the DNR’s seed drop-off stations to get information and instructions on collecting, handling and labeling the cones. The DNR Forestry seed drop-off stations that are buying black spruce cones are: Baudette, Bemidji,



Cloquet, Deer River, Hibbing, Littlefork, Orr, Tower, Two Harbors, Warroad, and the Minnesota State Forest Nursery (near Akeley). Visit the DNR’s seed and cone collection webpage (mndnr.gov/forestry/nursery/cone-seed-collection.html) for drop-off location addresses and phone numbers.

Only high-quality, ripe, closed black spruce cones free of stems and debris are eligible for purchase. Colorado blue,

white, or Norway spruce cones are not accepted. The window to collect and sell viable black spruce cones is open now through February 2024.

If people are not sure where to find cones, a DNR forester from a drop-off station can provide advice.

To learn more, visit the DNR’s seed and cone collection webpage (mndnr.gov/forestry/nursery/cone-seed-collection.html).



35 Flermoen Family Cousins 2nd through 6th generation cousins had Thanksgiving together at Oak Grove Farm, rural Winger, on Thanksgiving Day. Cousins from Muskegon, Michigan, Rock Rapids, Iowa, the Twin Cities area, Fargo, North Dakota, and all corners in Minnesota.. Steven and Amber Flermoen 5th generation from Maple Grove, Minnesota were chief planners. Mark and Therese Flermoen 4th generation from Muskegon, Michigan were principal organizers at Oak Grove Farm. A great gathering!

9th Annual
Rydell/Glacial Ridge Christmas Bird Count

Rydell and Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuges will be hosting their 9th Annual Christmas Bird Count on Thursday, December 14th. This public event is administered by the National Audubon Society and is the longest running citizen science bird project in the U.S. This year marks the 124th year of the Christmas Bird Count.

Counts are held in designated areas throughout the U.S. between Dec. 14 and Jan. 5 each year. In recent years, counts were annually completed in over 2,500 locations, including Canada and Latin America. More than 75,000 people participate in the counts and more than 50 million birds are tallied each year!

Information from the count provides important information on winter ranges of birds, population trends, and how a changing climate alters winter bird distribution.

Birds observed in the Rydell/Glacial Ridge Count Circle over the past eight years have included 54 different species, including northern shrikes, Bohemian waxwings, red-bellied woodpeckers, Hoary redpolls, northern goshawks, white-winged crossbills, and Lapland longspurs.



People interested in participating do not need to be experienced birders. This event can serve as a learning experience for new birders and those individuals will be paired up with Refuge staff or experienced volunteers. Participants should meet at the Rydell Refuge Visitor Center at 8:00am for coffee and a brief meeting. Bring binoculars and a bird book if you have them. If not, we'll have some on hand for your use.

Counting will take place within a 15-mile diameter circle that stretches from Eskine west to the center of Glacial Ridge NWR.

Participants can count from a vehicle or on foot, depending on their preference and the weather conditions that day. Refuge staff will host a potluck lunch back at the Visitor Center at noon. After a hearty lunch, folks can "call it a day", or can go back out and continue to search for birds.

Please RSVP no later than December 8th to Wildlife Biologist, Ben Walker at 218-230-5563 or benjamin_walker@fws.gov. Ben can also help if you have questions about the count or need more information.

Win-E-Mac Giving Tree 2023

The Win-E-Mac School will once again be having their annual Giving Tree.

We will be sharing the "stars" virtually again this year. We willW1 anonymously post "stars" for the Win-E-Mac School District that may have a need this holiday season for clothes, winter clothing, toys, or other items.

Their wish list will be linked to their Star number. If you are interested in taking a Star or donating items, please follow the link posted on the school website (wemschools.org) or school Facebook page.

There you will find prompts that allow you to choose a child by age and it will display their wish list. Not all items on the wish lists need to be purchased, but we suggest getting clothing items and at least 1 toy or fun item. Donations of items are also accepted, we use those items to fill the wish lists for children on the Giving Tree.

All gifts will need to be dropped off at Win-E-Mac school, unwrapped, no later than December 15th so they can be distributed to the families.

If you need some assistance



or you know of a child or family that may be in need this

holiday season, please contact Cassie Subbert or Emily Stoner, at the school 563-2900 or 687-2236.

The Giving Tree also accepts monetary donations. The donations go toward food gift cards for families to use over the holidays.

If you are interested or have questions about donating, please contact one of the people stated above.

Hosted by Win-E-Mac Seniors

Fundraiser Dinner

Tuesday, December 12th

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Adults \$8 • 12 and under \$5

The Win-E-Mac Senior Class will be hosting a Pulled Pork Mac & Cheese dinner during the double header on December 12th against ABW to raise funds for their class trip! Come out and support the Senior Class!



The students from Mrs. Olson's class at Freedom Christian Academy helped pick up groceries at Hugo's Family Marketplace for the Thanksgiving dinner that was served to the community on Thanksgiving day. FCA received a Thrivent gift card to help pay for this meal.



Freedom Christian Academy students and families served over 215 meals to the community on Thanksgiving day. It was an amazing event and FCA plans on doing it again next year.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

is a nonprofit and 100% volunteer-run organization. Drop off boxes will be located in Mc. Svalen's and Mrs. Anderson's classrooms. Donate new cat and dog toys, food, treats, paper towels, pet carriers, hand sanitizer or disinfectant spray and wipes now through December 15th. Every donation is appreciated.

The annual Grace Lutheran Food Drive has started. Elementary students can bring their items to their classroom, high school students may bring their items to the following rooms. 7th - Ms. Hauser, 8th - PLTW, 9th - Mrs. Winter, 10th - Mr. Breitbach, 11th - Mr. Hickman, 12th - Mr. Eckman. The winning elementary class will win a pizza party and the winning high school class will receive doughnuts.

The senior class is selling Christmas-grams (\$3 each). Stop in the library before school every day next week to see the four options and order for friends or family. We will deliver them on December 18th and 19th.

Fundraiser Dinner hosted by Win-E-Mac Seniors on Tuesday, December 12th starting at 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm.

The Win-E-Mac Senior Class will be hosting a Pulled Pork Mac & Cheese dinner during the double header on December 12th against ABW to raise funds for their class trip! Come out and support the Senior Class!



Win-E-Mac Superintendent Randy Bruer and school board members Jim Ferden and Tyler Brekken recently attended Minnesota Rural Education Association's 2023 Greater Education Summit. While at the Summit, Jim Ferden was honored with an Outstanding Service Award for his service as MREA's Board President for 2023.

Home of the Patriots

WEM School Announcements

Open gym is each Sunday from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

The **BIOGirls 2024** season is quickly approaching. This program is open to girls in grades 2-6 but we are also seeking 2 junior mentors who are in the junior high or high school. If you are interested in knowing more about the program or what being a junior mentor looks like, please plan to attend a meeting in Mrs. Langemo's room on Tuesday, November 21st. Junior High will meet at 11:15, Senior High will meet at 12:00. Feel free to bring your lunch with you.

Yearbook Pre-sale. Order a Yearbook, Get a Donut at Delivery in May! Cost is \$40.00 now and until December 20th. Cost increases to \$50.00 after December 20th.

Yearbooks can be purchased in the office or from Mrs. Winter (room 51) before or after school or during students' noon hours. Complete the form below and return it with your payment.

Pet Supplies Drive at Win-E-Mac School sponsored by the Senior High Student Council. All donations will benefit Smileys Rescues located in Fertile, MN. Smileys Rescues

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