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McIntosh, Minnesota



Lonny Gieseke, a Winger American Legion Post 200 member with his family of volunteers Lisa Schaumburg, Kari, Mike and Oliviyah Keller.

Annual Independence Day gathering this Thursday, July 4th

You are invited once again to motor out to the home of Dan & Darlene Dierkes, 28891 350th St SE, McIntosh, on Thursday, July 4th. At 10:00 am.

Ben Ramse will read the grievances against King George III that caused our forefathers to say, "Enough!". That document, the Declaration of Independence, is as important today as it was in 1776. It reminds us why those brave souls were willing to fight for freedom, and that we need to continue that fight for the next generations.

We will begin precisely at 10:00 am and will be done by 10:15 am, but you are welcome to stay for coffee and lemonade, great conversation, and treats provided by the neighbors. (Thank you to everyone who



contributes!)

We will hold it in the garage, rain or shine; some seating is provided, but feel free to bring your own lawn chairs. If you need directions or have

questions, please call 320-250-5711 or email darlene1978@gmail.com.

We hope to celebrate our country's independence with you!



Laurie Pinske, one of the event coordinators for the Winger Flag Day community fundraiser at the Fishpond helping Bennett Massmann hold the fishing rod for the big catch!



Terry Keller helping Eddison Gieseke "skip rocks" as they wait to see what prize the rock lands on during the Flag Day Fundraiser held in Winger on Friday, June 14th.



Friday, June 14th the Winger Legion and volunteers served around 115 people for the Flag Day Fundraiser held at the Winger Community Center. The groups raised over \$7500 to go towards community projects.

The history of America's Independence Day

Few summertime holidays elicit as much excitement as the Fourth of July, also known as Independence Day in the United States. Each year, family, friends and revelers anticipate the arrival of the holiday so they can host barbecues, enjoy the sun, listen to their favorite summertime tunes, and commemorate the freedoms afforded by the monumental events that led to the holiday's establishment.

Independence Day became a federal holiday in 1941, but July 4th has stood as the birth of American independence for much longer. July 4th marks a pivotal moment in the American Revolution. According to PBS, the colonies were forced to pay taxes to England's King George III despite having no representation in the British Parliament. "Taxation without

representation" became a battle cry and was one of several grievances colonists had with Great Britain.

Conflict between the colonies had been going on for at least a year before the colonies convened a Continental Congress in Philadelphia in June of 1776, says Military.com. On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence from England. Two days later, on July 4, 1776, delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration of Independence is an historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson was considered the strongest and most eloquent writer of the declaration writing committee charged with putting the colonies' sentiments into words. Richard Henry Lee of Virginia was one of the first people to present a resolution for American independence, and his commentary was the impetus for the formal Declaration of Independence. A total of 86 changes were made to Jefferson's original draft until the final version was adopted. The signing of the document helped to solidify independence, and eventually lead to the formation of the United States of America.



Winger Lions Fish Fry is June 29th

The 2024 Winger Lions Fish Fry is on Saturday, June 29th, 2024 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Winger Community Center. Adults: \$15.00 Children (6-12): \$10.00 and Children 5 and under are free.

Menu: Fish (all you care to eat), Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Rolls, and a Beverage. Take out is available.

Proceeds will assist in benefiting ongoing medical expenses for Mike Renna.

This will be a collection site for used eye glasses and hearing aids to support the Lions Club International.

A total of 56 delegates signed the document. Although John Hancock's signature is the largest, it did not hold more weight than the other signatures. Rather, rumor has it, Hancock signed it so large so that the "fat, old King could read it without his spectacles." However, the National Archives says it was also customary that, since Hancock was the president of the Continental Congress, he be the first person to sign the document centered below the text.

The Pennsylvania Evening Post was the first newspaper to print the Declaration of Independence on July 6, 1776. The first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia's Independence Square on July 8, 1776.



Members of the American Legion Post 200 in Winger saluting as they burned American Flags for disposal during the Flag Day event held on Friday, June 14th. Left to right Legion Members: Seth Senn, Robbie Jones, Dean Henny, Lonny Gieseke, Paul Carlson, Orrie Flermoen, Bruce Benbo, John Hillstad and Gary Sonsteli.

Simple tips for more flavorful grilling

Grilling is sometimes described as an art form. Many skilled grillmasters are a testament to that assertion, and it's apparent to anyone who enjoys grilled foods that some who man the grill have a knack for producing flavorful dishes.

Though grilling requires a little trial and error on the path to becoming a go-to grillmaster, there are some simple strategies anyone can employ to produce more flavorful finished products.

• **Dry rub foods before putting them on the grill.** Grilling enthusiasts may debate if a dry rub or a marinade is best for grilled foods, and that back-and-forth may never produce a definitive answer. The choice of dry rub or marinade is ultimately up to the cook, but a dry rub can be more convenient because it can be applied shortly before foods are placed on the grill without sacrificing flavor. Many recipes call for foods to marinate for several hours or even overnight. Both dry rubs and marinades can improve the flavor profile, but the former can do so without too much planning ahead of time. Dry rubs also tend to be made with ingredients such as salt, pepper and brown sugar that many people already have at home, adding to the convenience of this approach that can enhance flavor without too much effort.

• **Oil the grates before cooking.** Similar to utilizing a dry rub when cooking, oiling the grill grates can add flavor and make grilling more convenient. Various online grilling experts and forums advise using a silicone brush to apply an oil with a high smoke point (the smoke point is the temperature at which the oil will begin to smoke). The online grilling resource 4thegrill.com notes that corn (smoke point 450 F) and peanut oil (440 F) are better than extra virgin olive oil (410 F) when oiling a



grill grate. The oil applied to the grate can add some additional flavor, and also create a nonstick surface that ensures food is not torn apart while it cooks over an open flame.

• **Bring meat to room temperature.** One of the keys to successful grilling is to ensure foods cook evenly. Prior to grilling meat, take the meat

out of the refrigerator roughly 20 to 30 minutes before you intend to put it over a flame. This allows the meat to reach room temperature, which in turn increases the likelihood it will cook evenly.

• **Cook with wood.** The culinary experts at Williams-Sonoma note that wood can be used to add flavor to grilled foods. Williams-Sonoma recommends soaking wood chips, herbs, or grapevine cuttings for 30 minutes and then draining before using with a charcoal grill. Avoid soaking wood or aromatics when grilling on a gas grill, as doing so can make it difficult to ignite the grill.

Grilling is a skill that anyone can develop over time. But even novices can employ a few strategies to increase the flavor profile of their next meal cooked over an open flame.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

Letter of Thanks

Humbled thanks are now due to our many generous supporters, throughout our community and within our Thirteen Towns. Your financial gifts are greatly appreciated.

In choosing to introduce the official Flag Day and flag retirement ceremony we members of the Winger American Legion Post 200 sensed the opportunity to share and extend a tradition, to serve the public in properly retiring tattered, frayed and torn American Flags. The attendance of so many supportive guests and young children within the Winger Community Center on Friday, 14th June was testament to the public appreciation for our 101-year-old Post.

As with the retirement of old flags, so also the thought of people who grow old and fade away. People die. Organizations do not have to.

Therefore, choose to continue your support and appreciation for our Post as we boldly embark into our new century of service. Should you be a former member of the military, please join us. If you never served yet want to collaborate with us, please make contact and become one of our community supporters.

On behalf of Winger American Legion Post 200.

*Dean M. Henney
Captain, USMCR (ret.)
19 June 2024*

M15C

Health officials tracking increase of animal tularemia cases

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Minnesota Board of Animal Health (BAH) are tracking an increase of tularemia cases in Minnesota animals, especially cats in the Twin Cities metro area. Officials warn that people can become infected with tularemia as well, mainly through contact with sick animals.

Typically, only about seven animal tularemia cases are reported annually. In 2023, however, 21 cases were reported, and seven cases already have been reported in 2024. Animals that have not been tested are also showing clinical signs consistent with tularemia, according to veterinarians.

Tularemia, a potentially serious illness that can infect animals and people, occurs naturally in the United States. It is caused by the bacterium *Francisella tularensis*, which is found in wildlife — particularly rabbits, squirrels and other rodents. Pets are most often exposed to tularemia by hunting these animals, but they can also be exposed through tick or fly bites. Although many animals can be infected with tularemia, cats are at an increased risk. Signs of illness in animals include a high fever, weakness, lack of appetite, newly formed skin or mouth ulcers and swol-

len lymph nodes.

"This increase in animal cases is likely partially driven by increased recognition and testing by veterinarians," said Maria Bye, senior epidemiologist in the Zoonotic Diseases Unit at MDH. "Pet owners need to be aware that cats, especially, can become very ill with a high fever and can quickly succumb to the disease. It's important for pet owners to be aware of this disease in their pets because it is possible for a person to become infected as well."

There are six or fewer human tularemia cases each year in Minnesota. People most commonly become infected with tularemia from tick and fly bites, bites and scratches from infected pet cats or by touching animals that have the disease. Tularemia is not spread person to person.

All forms of tularemia in humans are accompanied by a sudden onset of fever. Other signs and symptoms include skin wounds or ulcers, swollen lymph nodes, headaches, chills, joint and muscle pain and nausea. Symptoms in people generally appear three to five days after exposure but may occur as soon as the next day or up to 14 days after exposure.

In May 2024, a person from Ramsey County developed tularemia after being bitten by a stray cat. In June, a person from Hennepin County became infected after mowing over a dead animal.

To keep people and pets safe from tularemia:

- Keep cats indoors and do not allow pets to hunt small animals.
- Give pets tick preventative medication to help prevent tick bites.
- Use insect repellent to stop ticks and flies from biting.
- Avoid contact with wild animals; wear gloves if you must handle them.

If pets spend significant time outside or if they have had known rabbit or rodent contact and develop symptoms consistent with tularemia, MDH and BAH encourage owners to bring them into their veterinarian for evaluation.

Anyone bitten or scratched by an animal that meets these criteria should call MDH at 651-201-5414 as well as their health care professional about what to do next.



Wed. June 26:
Matt Thompson

Thurs. June 27:
Debbie Haaven, Tenley Grettum, *Clay & Teresa Syverson

Fri. June 28:
Judy Webster, *Craig & Jill Lende

Sat. June 29:
Cole Shaver, David Herem

Sun. June 30:
Jade Pries

Mon. July 1: Justin Burslie, Carla Bruggeman

Tues. July 2:
Nickolas Schow, Hudson Smeby, Gabe Paskvan, Westin Enger, *Paul & Julie Schow, *Dan & Mary Salvhus



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

Sun. June 30: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley; 3:00pm Divine Mercy Sunday, St. Mary's, Fosston

Wed. July 3: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Fri. July 5: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sun. July 7: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley; 3:00pm Divine Mercy Sunday, St. Mary's, Fosston

Wed. July 3: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

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

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

Su. July 7: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Our Savior's 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:
Pastor:
Jerry Moan

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 11:00am

Lutheran Parish YouTube Channel

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

Fri. June 28: 10:00am Telecast of the Ottoson Concert on GVTV--30

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

Tues. July 2: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed. July 3: 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. June 30: 9:00am Worship

Sun. July 7: 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: 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am 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.

Thriving Life Church
Erskine, MN

Sunday service at 10:00 am
Call or visit us at: 22722 350th Street; 218-687-2343

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.



A crowd gathered as the American Legion Post 200, in Winger, preformed the flag burning ceremony, demonstrating how to properly retire flags on Friday, June 14th.



Volunteer event coordinators for the Winger Flag Day program and supper were: KariAnn Keller, Laurie Pinsky and Lisa Schaumburg.

Please join us to celebrate
Sharol and Sharon Johnson's

65th Wedding Anniversary.
An open house will be held at the Erskine Community Center on Sunday, June 30th from 4 to 6 P.M. Sharol and Sharon look forward to seeing you.

Please, no gifts, as your presence will be gift enough.



NOTICE ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING VERNES CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The annual election and meeting of the Vernes Cemetery Association will be held on Monday, July 8, 2024 at the Vernes Lutheran Church. The meeting shall start at 7:00 p.m. and all association members are invited to attend. Association members are all members of Vernes Lutheran Church and anyone else who has relatives or friends buried in the cemetery. Again, all members are encouraged to attend.

Raymond O. Sundrud
Secretary/Treasurer
Vernes Cemetery Association
19 June 2024

M15-16C

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M3-28C

Polk County Commissioners Minutes

JUNE 4, 2024
BOARD MINUTES

Pursuant to motion of adjournment, the Polk County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:00 o'clock a.m., June 4, 2024. Members present: Commissioner Paul Reese, Commissioner Warren Strandell, Commissioner Gary Willhite, Commissioner Joan Lee, Commissioner Mark Holy, and Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator, Clerk of the Board. Others present: Ashley Loewen. Members absent: Samuel Melbye, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the June 4, 2024, agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Holy and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the June 4, 2024, consent items:

- 1. Approve the May 21, 2024, Board minutes.
- 2. Approve Auditor Warrants.
- 3. Approve Payment to Johnson Controls, Fargo, ND, in the amount of \$3,820.00 for AHU 4 Replacement Parts for the Facilities Department.

COUNTY BOARD MEMBER
ISSUE FORUM

- 1. Discussion was held by the Board regarding the new State Flag. It was noted that the County has the choice of whether or not they would like to fly the new flag. A motion was made by Commissioner Holy and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve flying the old Minnesota flag at the Government Center and to remove the new flag.
- 2. Discussion was held by the Board regarding adding two appointees for the West Central Regional Water District (WCRWD) Committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve adding this item to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by

Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to appoint Brian Evenson and Mike Burd to the WCRWD Committee.

- 3. Commissioner Reese brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. Received questions regarding upcoming agenda items
 - b. City Council meeting regarding the WCRWD in Nielsville
- 4. Commissioner Strandell brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. City Council meeting regarding the WCRWD in Climax
- 5. Commissioner Willhite brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting
- 6. Commissioner Lee brought forth that she attended the following meetings:
 - a. Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Legislative Recap
 - b. Developmental Achievement Center (DAC) Annual Meeting
 - c. DAC Regular Meeting
 - d. Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) Meeting
 - e. Update on Opioid Settlement
 - f. Received a number of phone calls regarding items on today's agenda
- 7. Commissioner Holy brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. Received several phone calls from concerned citizens regarding construction on Highway 220, as well as an agenda item regarding the roundabout
 - b. Received phone calls regarding concerns of funding to the WCRWD

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Douglas Franke, Area Wildlife Supervisor, along with Emily Hutchins, came before the Board with matters pertaining to the Minnesota DNR:

- 1. Approve Resolution (2024-36) Review of Proposed State Land Acquisition

RESOLUTION (2024-36)

Review of Proposed State Land
Acquisition

The following resolution (2024-36) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 97A.145, Subd. 2, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources on June 4, 2024, provided the County Board with a description of lands to be acquired by the State of Minnesota for water, forestry, wildlife, and natural plant community conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, Lands to be acquired are described as follows: All in Woodside Township (T148N R43W) – see Addendum 1 "LAND DESCRIPTION" for full legal description; and

WHEREAS, It is understood that the above parcels will be presented by an annual PILT payment from the Department of Natural Resources following the sale from The Nature Conservancy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Polk County Board of Commissioners hereby grants approval to allow the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to proceed with the process of acquisition and sale of property from The Nature Conservancy abutting Crystal lake in Woodside Township.

Commissioner Strandell seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None.

HIGHWAY

Richard Sanders, Polk County Engineer, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

- 1. CD 60 Maintenance Request
A petition for ditch maintenance request has been submitted to replace a culvert in Section 14 of Lowell Township, and also to survey and clean in Sections 13 and 14 of Lowell Township. A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the work in CD 60 Sections 13 and 14 of Lowell Township and to name Richard Sanders, Engineer, over the project.
- 2. Award SP 060-070-020 CSAH 21/TH 75 Roundabout

Discussion was held with the Board regarding awarding SP 060-070-020 to Gladen Constructions, Inc. of LaPorte, MN, in the amount of \$2,683,501.95. It is not allowed to

award this as of this morning, June 4, as the Highway Department does not have clearance yet. This will be presented again for approval at the next Board meeting.

- 3. Purchase of Super Property
In 2022, Polk County has an appraisal done on the portion of the Super Property lying southeast of CSAH 12 near the Polk County Campground. The land was recently reappraised, with the new appraised value being \$132,000.00. Polk County can use both CSAH Regular funding and Maple Lake Park Funding to purchase the property. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve moving forward with the purchase of the property.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Karen Warmack, Social Services Director, came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

- 1. Child Support Worker Replacement Request
A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve filling an open Child Support Worker position and any internal subsequent position vacancies occurring because of this action.
- 2. Contract Amendment with the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)
Social Services has a contract with the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) to provide the SNAP Employment and Training program in the amount of \$7,469.00 for the period of December 11, 2023, through September 30, 2024. This request is to amend the original contract to include an additional \$24,655.00, with a total cumulative amount of the contract being \$32,124.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Holy seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract amendment with DEED in the amount of \$24,655.00, with the total contract amount being \$32,124.00.

SHERIFF

Mike Norland, Chief Deputy, on behalf of James Tadmur, Polk County Sheriff, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his

department:

- 1. Monthly Sheriff Reports
The May 2024 Monthly Sheriff Reports were discussed and presented to the Board. (Reports on file in the Administrator's Office)
- 2. Contract Services with LEAST Services/Counseling LLC
The Polk County Sheriff's Office is entering into a contract with LEAST Services/Counseling LLC. They will be providing psychological services including counseling, consultation, and training to the Sheriff's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve entering into a contract with LEAST Services/Counseling LLC.

PROPERTY RECORDS

Kayla Schumacher, Land Records and Licensing Specialist, on behalf of Samuel Melbye, Director of Property Records, came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

- 1. Liquor Licenses
The applications, payments, and approvals by the County Sheriff and the County Attorney have been received for three annual liquor licenses. A motion was made by Commissioner Holy seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the annual liquor licenses for Lakeview Resort, Inc., the Snow Sled Inn Bar and Grill (Deonne Maygra), and the One N' Only of Euclid, Inc.
- 2. Additional Tobacco License
A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Holy and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2024 Tobacco License for Old Trails End LLC of Trail, MN, as presented to the Board, of which the application and payment have been received.

FACILITIES

Richard Langlois, Facilities Director, and Josh Plante, Assistant Facilities Director, along with Jerry Amiot and Dan Morlan of the Polk County Historical Society, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

- 1. Museum Assessment, Repairs, and Maintenance
Polk County Facilities staff have completed the assessment of needed repairs for the museum building site. Some safety items have been addressed. Repairs include the concrete entry and roof patching. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve moving forward with additional repairs to the museum building.
- 2. Change Order for the Government Center Roof Project
Additional roof materials needed to be removed during the demolition process. This request is made by the contractor to recover the additional expense incurred. The original contract sum was \$440,000.00; the amount to be increased by the Change Order is \$19,040.00, with the new contract sum, including the Change Order, being \$459,040.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Holy seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Change Order proposal from Equity Builders and WSN in the amount of \$19,040.00.

PLANNING & ZONING

Jacob Snyder, Assistant Environmental Services Administrator, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

- 1. Approve Resolution (2024-37) Conditional Use Permit for Kurt Larson, Shalom Estates, to Place Six Docks that would Provide 11 Watercraft Mooring Spots on the Shoreline of a Common Access Lot within Shalom Estates
Resolution (2024-37) was offered by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-37) on file in the Administrator's Office)
- 2. Approve Resolution (2024-38) Conditional Use Permit for Jenessa Kiecker for Operation of a Home-Based Dog Kennel and Boarding Business
Resolution (2024-38) was offered by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-38) on file in the Administrator's Office)

Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-38) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 3. Approve Resolution (2024-39) Conditional Use Permit for Larson Seed and Agronomy, M&M Larson, to Operate a Farm-Related Seed Sales Business
Resolution (2024-39) was offered by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Holy and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-39) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 4. Approve Resolution (2024-40) Conditional Use Permit for Daniel Larson to Construct an Off-Site Billboard in the Commercial District
Resolution (2024-40) was offered by Commissioner Holy seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-40) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 5. Approve Resolution (2024-41) Conditional Use Permit for Travis and Megan Pederson for an Accessory Structure Greater than 800 Sq Ft and to Hook Up a New Septic System to the Accessory Structure
Resolution (2024-41) was offered by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-41) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 6. Approve Resolution (2024-42) Conditional Use Permit for Rory Jon and Cheryl Knutson for an Accessory Structure Greater than 800 Sq Ft
Resolution (2024-42) was offered by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-42) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 7. Approve Resolution (2024-43) Conditional Use Permit for William Wahousek for Hooking Up a New Septic System to a New Accessory Structure
Resolution (2024-43) was offered by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-43) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 8. Approve Resolution (2024-44) Conditional Use Permit for Kevin and Patricia Lien for Hooking Up a New Septic System to a New Accessory Structure
Resolution (2024-44) was offered by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-44) on file in the Administrator's Office)

- 9. Approve Resolution (2024-45) Conditional Use Permit for Jerry Skjervén for Hooking Up a New Septic System to a New Accessory Structure
Resolution (2024-45) was offered by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Holy. NAYS: None. (See Resolution (2024-45) on file in the Administrator's Office)

ADMINISTRATION

Chuck Whiting, Polk County Administrator, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

- 1. 2025 Budget Planning
Discussion was held with the Board regarding budgeting issues for 2025.
- With no further business the Board adjourned to reconvene at 2:30 o'clock p.m., June 18, 2024.
- Gary Willhite, Chair
ATTEST:
Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator
Clerk of the Board M15C

this summer for students going into third through ninth grades. "Summer Arts Stages," a group out of East Grand Forks, will be in residence from Friday, July 29th through Friday, August 2nd to direct Disney's The Aristocats KIDS! Rehearsals will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm every day that week. The performance will be at 7pm on Friday, August 2nd.

If your child is interested in participating, please visit the Win-E-Mac school website at www.wemschools.org.

If you have any questions (or if you might be interested in crew rather than cast), please email Andrew Hanson at ahanson@wemschools.org.

The Fitness Center access has now been changed to summer hours. (The Fitness Center is closed during the school day during the school year.) You are now able to get into the fitness center 24/7. If you have any questions, please call Kristi at the school.

AUDITOR WARRANTS 05/24/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Bremer Bank Na	1,831,682.58
Bremer Bank Na	520,381.19
School District 2176 Treas	249,907.95
School District 2311 Treas	189,746.90
School District 2609 Treas	596,481.75
School District 2906 Treas	214,604.22
School District 592 Treas	151,866.90
School District 593 Treas	1,371,907.89
School District 600 Treas	325,021.01
School District 601 Treas	764,144.09
School District 630 Treas	15,492.77
Final Total:	6,231,237.25

AUDITOR WARRANTS 05/28/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
AT&T Mobility	2,790.88
Civil Specialties Inc	6,000.00
Crookston Water Department	3,660.78
Davidson Construction	539,445.53
Dynamic Infrastructure Inc.	20,000.00
ELEMENTAL AIR	11,180.00
GP Excavating LLC	22,890.00
Mn State Treasury	6,210.50
Newman Traffic Signs	8,658.50
Norman County Public Health	13,075.07
Ottertail Power Co	26,603.89
Polk County Public Health	25,031.22
7 Payments less than 2000	3,230.39
Final Total:	688,776.76

AUDITOR WARRANTS 05/29/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
1 Payments less than 2000	15.00
Final Total:	15.00

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/10/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Internal Revenue Service	193,741.70
Minnesota Revenue	33,413.15
Final Total:	227,154.85

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/20/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Minnesota Revenue	6,689.00
Mn Dept Of Rev Tax Division	50,719.03
Mn Dept Of Revenue	4,526.00
2 Payments less than 2000	1,733.48
Final Total:	63,667.51

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/20/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Mn Dept Of Revenue	2,850.00
Final Total:	2,850.00

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/24/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
U.S. Bank Corporate Payment Systems	86,188.81
Final Total:	86,188.81

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/24/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
U.S. Bank Corporate Payment Systems	561.38
Final Total:	561.38

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/24/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Mn Dept Of Rev Tax Division	1,724,616.40
Final Total:	1,724,616.40

MANUAL WARRANTS 05/24/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Internal Revenue Service	196,823.84
Minnesota Revenue	34,362.38
Final Total:	231,186.22



Swimming lessons are Monday through Thursday during June and July. Here are the bus times:

Bus times will be 2:30 at WEM School, 2:45 at Mentor C-Store, 3:00 at Winger Depot, and 3:15 at McIntosh Cenex. Drop off points will be at the same locations at approximately the following times: McIntosh at 5:45, Winger at 6:00, Mentor at 6:15, and WEM School at 6:30. Times may be adjusted!

Swimming Lesson Dates:
2nd session: June 24-July 11th. (Please note: there is no swimming on July 4th. Monday, July 15th will be added instead.)

Win-E-Mac is excited to offer an arts opportunity

Name of County	Polk County, Minnesota
Date of Meeting	May 21, 2024, Convened at 8:00 AM. -Adjourned 9:24 at AM.
Board Members Present	Gary Willhite - Chair Mark Holy - Vice Chair Joan Lee - Commissioner Warren Strandell- Commissioner Paul Reese - Commissioner Paula Waters - Secretary Cathy Gutterud - Board Member
Staff Present	Karen Warmack, Director Ashley Jacobson, Case Aide Victoria Ramirez, Social Services Manager Angela Holloway, Social Services Supervisor Austin Eskew, Social Worker CPS Megan Starr, Social Services Supervisor Jennifer Erdmann, Social Worker Team Leader Alicia Kieckbusch, Social Services Supervisor
Others Present	Chuck Whiting, County Administrator

Non-Public	
Special Run 4-19-24	\$15.00
Special Run 4-24-24	\$225.87
POS 4-24-24	\$29.80
Payroll Pay Date 4-26-24	\$385,254.03
POS 4-30-24	\$228,990.61
Payroll Pay Date 5-10-24	\$394,842.31
1 st of the Month	\$95,371.76
Special Run 5-15-24	\$30.00
POS ACH 5-24-24	\$3,364.97
POS 5-24-24	\$433,575.98
MA Insurance	\$14,240.72
Medical Transportation	\$26,253.93

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 05/21/2024 for Payment 04/19/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
1 Payment less than 2000	\$15.00
Final Total:	\$15.00

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 05/21/2024 for Payment 04/24/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
1 Payment less than 2000	\$225.87
Final Total:	\$225.87

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 05/21/2024 for Payment 05/10/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
Always There Staffing	\$ 3,096.45
Enterprise FM Trust	\$ 8,946.36
Lift Bridge Lodge-Duluth	\$ 2,200.64
Marshall County Social Services	\$ 9,297.89
Norman County Social Services	\$ 2,876.27
Pennington County Human Services	\$ 20,481.62
Red Lake County Social Service	\$ 2,413.15
Roseau County Social Service Center	\$ 42,256.07
9 Payments less than 2000	\$ 3,803.31
Final Total:	\$ 95,371.76

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 05/21/2024 for Payment 05/15/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
1 Payment less than 2000	\$ 30.00
Final Total:	\$ 30.00

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 05/21/2024 for Payment 05/24/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
30 Payments less than 2000	\$ 4,355.59
Final Total:	\$ 4,355.59

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 05/21/2024 for Payment 05/15/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
Amundson Funeral Home	\$ 2,946.25
Carlin Family Funeral Service	\$ 5,300.00
DHS-Swift	\$ 31,381.66
Fredrikson-Ganje Funeral Homes	\$ 2,650.00
Polk County IS Department	\$ 19,470.56
Polk County, MN	\$ 42,410.83
Stenshoel-Houske	\$ 5,300.00
Verizon Wireless	\$ 4,897.33
WEX Bank	\$ 2,207.77
36 Payments less than 2000	\$ 13,560.88
Final Total:	\$ 130,125.28

Personnel	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Chesnie Wojciechowski, Social Worker CPS, May 20, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Shayla Hendricks, Social Worker CPS, May 28, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Jennifer Bachmeier, Office Support Specialist, May 28, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Tayler Salazar, Office Support Specialist, May 28, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Candice Auguste, Social Worker CPS, June 3, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of William King, Family Based Services Provider, June 3, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Regina Zapata, Family Based Services Provider, June 4, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Paige Fiebigler, Social Worker CPS, June 10, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Resignation of Joy Partridge, Family Based Services Provider, effective June 7, 2024. Request for replacement was referred to County Board on May 21, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Resignation of Sheena Kramer, Accounting Technician, effective May 9, 2024. Request for replacement was referred to County Board on May 21, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Resignation of Rebecca Strand, Eligibility Worker, effective May 14, 2024. Request for replacement was referred to County Board on May 21, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the End of Probationary period of Sarah Rodriguez, Social Worker, effective May 8, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Erin Dimich, Social Worker (LTC), effective April 22, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Alicia Kieckbusch, Social Services Supervisor, effective May 6, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Nicole Meyer, Eligibility Worker, effective June 3, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Akala Knatterud, Eligibility Worker Trainee, effective June 3, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Terry Mackner, Child Support Officer, effective September 9, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Kalab Thompson, Social Worker Trainee, effective August 5, 2024.	
The Director reviewed with the Board the Personnel Organizational Chart dated May 21, 2024.	
Budget	
The Director reviewed with the Board the following Budget Reports: Social Services Budget Report -April 2024.	
Social Services Month End Fund Balance Summary - 2002 through April 2024. Out of Home Placement Cost Expenditures Report - April 2024.	
County Board Information	
The Director informed the Board regarding the 2024 contract with Deka Ali to provide Cultural Navigation Services from April 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. This contract was referred to the County Board on May 21, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the 2024 contract with Wellness in the Woods Virtual Peer Support Network. This contract was referred to the County Board on May 21, 2024.	
The Director informed the Board regarding the 2024 contract with Angela Holloway, Social Services Supervisor, and Austin Eskew, Social Worker CPS, spoke to the Board regarding Child Protection unit updates.	
Megan Starr, Social Services Supervisor, and Jennifer Erdmann, Social Worker Team Leader, spoke to the Board regarding CMH updates.	
Victoria Ramirez, Social Services Manager, spoke to the Board regarding FRC updates.	
Karen Warmack, Director Polk County Social Service Center	
Gary Willhite Chairman, County Social Service Board	
Attest: Paula Waters Secretary County Social Service Board	
	M15C

Minutes	
A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell, seconded by Commissioner Holy, and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Minutes from the April 16, 2024, Polk County Social Service Board Meeting.	
Agenda	
A motion was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Strandell, and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the meeting Agenda for May 21, 2024, Polk County Social Service Board Meeting.	
Review of the Cases and Claims	
A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell, seconded by Commissioner Willhite, and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Cases and Claims as follows:	
Admin	
Medicare Part B	\$8,123.70
Employee & Board	\$4,355.59
Administration	\$130,125.28

Talking wisdom teeth with U of M



Every year, an estimated five million people in the United States have their wisdom teeth surgically removed. Most dentists begin to discuss wisdom teeth removal in mid-to-late adolescence, making it important to stay informed on the topic for yourself and any young people in your life.

James Swift, a professor in the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, explains wisdom teeth, why they're often removed and what to know about removal.

Q: What are wisdom teeth? What purpose do they serve?
Dr. Swift: Wisdom teeth — also called third molars — are the furthest back teeth in the row of teeth that extend from the center of your mouth. They are considered molar teeth and are flat on the surface just like your first molars and second molars. They are part of the grinding function of back teeth, compared to the incisors in the front of your mouth, which provide a cutting function when chewing food.

Q: Are wisdom teeth always removed?
Dr. Swift: Not everyone needs to get their wisdom teeth removed. In some people, wisdom teeth come in — or “erupt” — fully and are functional. However, many wisdom teeth that come in and are not removed from the jaw bone either partially erupt, remain beneath the gum tissue or stay beneath the bone, which we then classify as “impacted.” If wisdom teeth partially erupt, they may harbor bacteria in the mouth and may become affected by gum disease or cavities because they are not fully

exposed. Some people may also experience pain and discomfort in their jaw and gums as the teeth come in.

Q: How do you know if wisdom teeth need to be removed?

Dr. Swift: Dentists typically begin to address wisdom teeth during a patient's late teenage years. You can ask your dentist to evaluate your wisdom teeth during a regular check-up, where they will look for the presence of periodontal disease around the third and second molars. Dentists often refer patients to receive x-rays to identify the internal appearance of wisdom teeth and their place in the mouth and jaw. Patients should always report new pain or discomfort in the area to their dentists, as it can be linked to emerging wisdom teeth.

A person may not need to have their wisdom teeth removed if it's possible to maintain good oral hygiene. If this is the case, your dentist should continue to perform checks for the health of your wisdom

teeth on all following dental visits.

Q: What should people know about the removal process?

Dr. Swift: The removal of wisdom teeth is considered a minor surgical procedure and nearly always done in an outpatient setting. All four wisdom teeth may be removed in one visit, and the procedure generally takes under an hour. Patients receive anesthetic and may choose a sedative rather than local anesthetic to sleep through the procedure.

The healing process can take up to two weeks. Patients will likely see some swelling and/or bruising after the procedure, and there may be some residual blood in the mouth immediately following the procedure as it clots. Some patients will have stitches in their mouth, which may dissolve during the healing process or require removal by a dentist. Pain medication will be discussed with your dentist.

Q: How are you advancing oral surgery knowledge

M State earns esteemed NACEP reaccreditation

M State's concurrent enrollment program has earned reaccreditation from the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP), the nation's accrediting body for college credit-bearing programs for high school students.

NACEP this week announced the results of its 2023-2024 accreditation review cycle, with M State among 10 colleges and universities in the country to receive reaccreditation. NACEP accreditation denotes the highest standard of excellence in concurrent enrollment programming.

M State's concurrent enrollment program (CEP) has been NACEP-accredited since 2016. Reaccreditation is valid for the next seven years, through the 2030-2031 school year.

“NACEP accreditation is an assurance of high-quality educational programming for our CEP students, and is a badge of honor for M State,” says Megan

Adamczyk, Director of Dual Enrollment and Academic

Success at M State. “We strive to make our CEP courses stimulating and inspiring, so students feel engaged in the college experience and are encouraged to keep challenging themselves academically.”

Programs seeking NACEP accreditation or reaccreditation must undergo a strict peer-review process and thorough self-study. They must demonstrate adherence to 16 high standards regarding course quality and rigor, student support, accountability and more. One hundred and thirty-four programs are currently NACEP-accredited, across institutions in 26 states.

“There are thousands of great programs in the nation, but only 134 actually took the step to open up their policies and practices for an independent review,” says NACEP Executive Director Amy Williams.

Talking a tale of two springs and weed management

After a dry winter and early growing season start, rain has turned this into a tale of two springs. In west central and northwestern Minnesota, early-seeded small grains and corn were planted before the frequent, heavy rains started in mid-May.

Since then, planting soybeans and other crops has been a challenge, according to Dr. Joe Ikley, Extension weed specialist at North Dakota State University.

Although corn and soybean planting is on track with the 5-year state averages, cool weather, rain and a lack of sunshine have limited crop and weed growth in the entire region. When sunshine and warm temperatures return, weeds like waterhemp can grow an inch every day. It won't take long for them to exceed recommended treatment heights, so fields need to be watched closely.

“Weeds will continue to emerge because we have so much soil moisture,” states Dr. Debalin Sarangi, University of Minnesota Extension weed specialist, “so adding a Group 15 residual herbicide like Warrant, Dual or Outlook to the postemergence herbicide tank mix will help with control.”

Where growers had an opportunity to apply preemergence (PRE) herbicides they have been working very well. In contrast, where only early postemergence herbicides were applied, herbicide activity has been slow and fields tend to be weedy.

With a contact herbicide, you should have a sense of how well it's working within 3 to 4 days.

Weeds may not be dead, but you can still gauge effectiveness. Systemic herbicides work best when weeds are actively growing, so conditions that delay growth also delay translocation and control. If you normally expect activity within 5

days, you may need 7-10 days or more to gauge how well it's working.

Herbicide drift is a concern with wind speeds trending upward, especially in this tale of two springs where crops are at varying stages of development. There are still relatively good, although small, application windows at either end of the day when wind speeds are low enough.

When spraying near sunrise or sunset, it is important to pay attention to low level temperature inversion conditions as they increase your risk of herbicide drift.

While end-of-day applications minimize drift, herbicide activity is less effective. If wind speeds allow, it's best to apply herbicides near midday when it's sunny and weeds are growing fast.

Check your weather app to find the best time for postemergence applications.

Where PRE application windows were limited in corn, growers will be relying on early POST applications. While many products recommend application at V2 or 12-inch corn, height restrictions vary depending on the pre-mix. Read the label for growth stage cut-offs.

Many corn herbicide products can be applied either as a PRE or POST application. Because of this, growers can likely stick with their weed control program. In contrast, if PREs didn't get applied in soybeans and the field was rained out, herbicides may need to be switched.

Dr. Sarangi's team surveyed waterhemp populations for herbicide resistance and what they found was alarming. Multiple herbicide resistance is spreading in Minnesota, with some waterhemp populations surviving six different sites of action. Liberty is the only postemergence herbicide that waterhemp is not resistant to,

“NACEP-accredited programs are bold, brave, and have committed to ensuring that quality is enshrined in policy and practice. Every student deserves a quality experience in their dual enrollment program.”

During the review process, M State was commended by NACEP for the college's “investment into CEP,” “passionate leadership,” supportive administration and faculty and complementary high school partners, and M State students were recognized for their knowledge of CEP course offerings and benefits.

CEP courses save students time and money by allowing them to earn high school and college credits simultaneously, at no cost to them. The college credits earned are usually transferable, meaning they can be applied to degree programs at other higher education institutions. At M State, CEP credits are seamlessly

at the U of M?

Dr. Swift: Throughout my career, I have been involved in efforts to standardize practices for dentists around third molar removal, ensuring all practitioners complete a thorough evaluation to determine the necessity of removal for each patient. I have also researched pain management for third molar removal, focused on reducing pain and discomfort resulting from extraction. As both a professor and a practicing oral and maxillofacial surgeon, I work every day to improve care directly for our patients and educate the next generation of providers in the classroom.

James Q. Swift, DDS, is a professor in the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. He is a graduate of Cornell College and the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, and completed a general practice residency at Oklahoma Children's Memorial Hospital and University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He has served on two cleft palate/craniofacial teams during his career, and has received an RO1 award from the National Institute of Dental Research to study inflammatory mediators and pain management. He has also performed clinical research in the area of temporomandibular disorders and inflammatory mediators of the temporomandibular joint space, and has acted as principal investigator on implant research which included pre-market approval studies for a number of implant systems. Dr. Swift practices full scope oral and maxillofacial surgery in the Twin Cities area.

transferable within the Minnesota State system's 33 colleges and universities.

M State partners with 41 high schools in rural west central Minnesota to offer concurrent enrollment programming. The college provides student admission, registration, advising and transcript processing for CEP students from those high schools, in addition to faculty mentors for the high school teachers who lead CEP courses.

Founded in 1985, M State's CEP has grown and evolved to include a wide range of course offerings, including career and technical courses in accounting, business and health as well as general education options in art, biology, chemistry, communications, economics, English, math, history, physics, political science, psychology, sociology and Spanish. The college serves more than 1,800 CEP students every year, awarding more than 14,000 credits.

inches. “For the best control, at least three effective active ingredients should be applied,” he adds.

Neither weed scientist is a fan of rescue treatments. The herbicide application will kill off the most susceptible of the tall weeds, but given their size, there will likely be survivors. They would at least be more herbicide-tolerant, which can become problematic long term as populations shift toward resistance.

For more information from University of Minnesota Extension, visit extension.umn.edu/crop-production.

More than 5,000 drivers cited for distracted driving during April



Taking your eyes off the phone is tough in our always-on society, but you won't regret it while driving. Staying safe and alive far outweighs a potentially deadly choice to text and scroll.

Law enforcement officers across Minnesota issued 5,380 citations for hands-free cell phone violations during a month-long distracted driving enforcement campaign in April. Our Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) coordinates the statewide campaign with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. It includes advertising in support of the Toward Zero Deaths traffic safety program.

Numbers are increasing: The more than 5,000 citations for hands-free cell phone viola-

tions this year are nearly 2,000 more citations handed out than during last year's campaign.

Disturbing trend: “The number of citations issued is disturbing, unacceptable and extremely frustrating,” said Mike Hanson, OTS director. “Getting distracted behind the wheel for even a couple seconds can end with someone being seriously hurt or killed. What if that someone was your loved one? Put distractions away and make the roads safer for everyone.”

Hands-free is the law: Accessing or posting on social media, streaming videos, checking that box score or Googling information on a device while driving are against the law in Minnesota, even in hands-free mode.