



McINTOSH Times

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Win-E-Mac Dean of Students and Activity Director Brady Langemo was recently recognized at the Minnesota AAA Convention as the Region 8A Athletic/Activity Administrator of the Year. Congratulations!

MN Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 7 - 11, 2025

The week of April 7 - 11, 2025 is designated Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness Week. Severe Weather Awareness Week is a public education campaign promoted by the National Weather Service, Minnesota Department of Public Safety and local Emergency Management Agencies.

Why severe weather awareness week? According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota experiences an average of 29 tornadoes per year. In 2021, Minnesota recorded 64 tornadoes, including 22 on December 15th alone, which were the latest reported tornadoes on record. A record was set in 2010 with 113 tornadoes touching down across the state.

Each day of the week features a different weather hazard, and two statewide tornado drills will be conducted on Thursday, April 10th.

Weather Alerts and Warnings are Monday's topic. Several different types of watches and warnings may be issued for an area. Remember that watches mean that conditions are favorable for the development of severe weather or tornadoes, and warnings mean that severe weather or tornadoes are occurring, likely to occur, or are imminent. Advisories and special weather statements may come from the National Weather Service for storms that will impact an area but don't quite meet warning criteria.

Thunderstorms are considered severe when they have one-inch hail or winds higher than 58mph.

Severe weather, including hail and lightning are covered on Tuesday. Hail develops during thunderstorms when a strong updraft is featured, especially in super cell thunderstorms. Hail causes nearly a billion dollars in damage annually and can range from pea size to over the size of softballs. Lightning kills around 100 people each year, more than tornadoes. If you are outdoors and encounter lightning, remember the saying, "When thunder roars, go indoors." Lightning can strike ten miles from a storm and can strike even when it isn't raining.

Wednesday's topic is flooding. Minnesota floods kill more people than other weather events.

Nationally, floods claim nearly 200 lives each year, force 300,000 people from their homes, and result in property damage in excess of \$2 billion. In 2019, six out of the nine state and federally-declared disasters in Minnesota involved some sort of flooding. Flooding deaths occur at night 75% of the time, and of those deaths'

half died in vehicles. As little as six inches of rapidly flowing water can knock you off your feet. Never drive through flooded roadways, a foot of water will float most vehicles. Turn around, don't drown!

Minnesota's state-wide tornado drill will take place on Thursday. Outdoor warning sirens and NOAA Weather Radios across the state will be sounded at 1:45PM and 6:45PM. The two drills are intended to allow workplaces and schools an opportunity to test their severe weather plans. The second drill is to allow second shift workers and families at home an opportunity to test their plans. In accordance with the Association

of Minnesota Emergency Manager's best practice guidelines, outdoor warning sirens in Polk County are used for tornadoes and intense thunderstorms with expected winds in excess of 70mph. There is never an "all clear" activation for sirens.

Prepare your family for a weather emergency:

- Create or update emergency plans with your entire family so everyone knows what to do in an emergency. Ensure everyone has up-to-date contact info and knows what to do.
- Practice your family plan during the tornado drills. Have everyone build a family emergency kit together.
- Check with places your family spends time, such as

Shingles, Windows, Sheet Rock)

- Dry Paint Cans
- Mattresses, Box Springs, Couches, Chairs
- Other Miscellaneous Household Items

Unacceptable items for the collection site include:

- Tires
- Small Appliances
- TV's
- Computers or Monitors
- Railroad Ties
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Cement
- Hazardous Materials

*Please note that we are not accepting yard waste: branches, leaves, grass clippings, etc. These items can be taken to the green dump on the south end of town. If you need assistance, please contact the City Office.

Don't let this happen to you!

It's that time of year when folks are doing extra cleaning around the house and trying new products to make those jobs easier.

We strive to make sure the sewer system stays clear and doesn't back up into buildings. You can help us (and your neighbors) by not flushing:

- Grease or oil down drains. Grease such as cooking oils, tallow, bacon grease, etc. will harden in the lines, and on the float switches, causing the pumps not to work.
- Non-biodegradable items

down drains. Items such as cigarette butts, dental floss, Q-tips, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, tampons or condoms can clog the pump and pipes.

▫ Flushable manufactured wipes. Even if product states it is flushable it does not disintegrate like toilet paper, so it clogs and tangles in the rotors of the pumps and lines.

▫ Rigid or gritty materials down drains such as cat litter, coffee grounds, chicken bones, eggshells, fish scales, etc. Limit the materials you put through a garbage disposal to edible food products only.

▫ Flammable or volatile liquids down drains such as gas, waste oil and thinners. It is illegal to dispose of these items in the sewer system.

▫ Household chemicals down drains, such as paint, pesticides, herbicides, strong cleaning products, or other toxic chemicals.

▫ Manufacturers list many things as flushable, but the only thing that belongs in a toilet is toilet paper and human waste.

On behalf of your neighbors and friends, thank you for helping to keep clogged sewer lines at a minimum!

Remember it's a toilet! Not a trash can!

*Water lines will be flushed every Thursday throughout the summer. If you notice wa-

ter is rusty and discolored discontinue use during this time and let water run until clean in lines.



55+ discount driving program to be held at WEM

Precision Driving Center (A Division of St. Cloud State University) will be at Win-E-Mac on Saturday, May 10th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Those who attend are eligible to get up to 10% off their car insurance for three years. You can register by calling 888-234-1294 or online at DriverDiscountProgram.com.

The 55+ Driver Discount Program (DDP) courses are approved by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety in accordance with Minnesota State Statute 65b.28 and will save you 10% on your auto insurance premiums.

MN Statute requires insurance agencies to offer a 10% automotive insurance discount upon completion of an approved 4-hour class. Upon completion, you will receive a certificate to submit to your insurance company.



Cub Scout Pack 3089 would like to extend a big thank you to all those in our communities of Fosston/Lengby, McIntosh, Erskine, and Fertile who participated in our Scouting for Food Drive. With your help, Pack 3089 collected over 200 pounds of food which were donated to local food shelves. THANK YOU! Pictured are some members of Pack 3089 based out of Erskine. Back (L-R) Macey Lee, Adler Stordahl, and Mason Lofgren Front (L-R) Iver Walker, Alexander Kildal, Miles. Oppegaard, and Rhett Kolden Not Pictured: Ember Berhow-Dawn and DJ Sharp.

Clarification on Emergency Department investment at Essentia Health-Fosston

Recent statements regarding Essentia Health's planned \$12 million investment in the emergency department at Essentia Health-Fosston require clarification to ensure the public has an accurate understanding of the facts.

While the First Care Medical Services board did approve this investment at a recent meeting, certain characterizations of Cassie Heide's stance have been misleading. Ms. Heide, who represents the City of Fosston on the three-member First Care Medical Services board, did not oppose the investment itself.

Rather, her concerns were

related to the validity of the board meeting in which the decision was made.

Ms. Heide's objections were based on her assertion that the removal of board member Bob Overmoe and the appointment of new members unilaterally by Essentia Health did not align with the 2009 affiliation agreement between First Care Medical Services, the City of Fosston, and Essentia Health. Her "no" vote was not a vote against the improvements; rather, it was based on the fact that the board was not conducting a legal meeting of duly appointed directors. During the meeting, she voiced her

objection on this basis while also stating that she was in full support of Essentia's proposed emergency department investment.

Additionally, it is important to note that the planned improvements to the emergency department were part of the 2009 agreement.

This commitment has been in place for sixteen years, making this investment not a new initiative, but a long-overdue fulfillment of an existing agreement.

This clarification is provided to ensure that the public has a full and accurate understanding of the situation.

Tips for the gardening beginner

Gardening is a popular hobby all over the world. Ruby Home Luxury Real Estate estimates there are 71.5 million gardening households in the United States alone.

That translates to around 185.9 million people engaged in some form of gardening, which places the U.S. among other countries where gardening is wildly popular, including Australia and China.

A greater number of people are showing interest in gardening, which is a rewarding hobby that's good for the mind and the body.

Those who are new to gardening may need a crash course to get started. These pointers can help anyone foster a newfound passion for gardening.

Choose the best location

Spent time in the yard and decide where to house a garden.

A far-off corner may get the most sun, but will you forget about the garden if it is too far away? Ideally, the garden should be located where it will get at least six to eight hours of sun each day. There also should be a water source nearby. The spot also should be convenient so that it is easy to go and pick

vegetables or prune flowers.

Start small

If you're new to gardening, begin with a small garden footprint so that you can get your feet wet. A raised garden bed can be a good starting point because it is contained and easy to maintain. As your experience (and garden) grows, you can add to the garden size the next time around.

Amend the soil

It's possible but unlikely that the soil in the backyard is the perfect mix to grow healthy plants. It's more likely that the garden will need some soil modification.

You can test the soil make-up with do-it-yourself kits or work with a garden center. A garden typically requires a mix of compost to add nutrients to the dirt; peat moss or coconut coir to help with water retention and to make the soil lighter; and vermiculite that helps to retain water. A compost bin set up at the same time as the garden allows gardeners to continually produce nutrient-rich food to add to the garden.

Plant starter guide

It's best to keep a few things in mind when planning the garden. Think about what will grow well in your climate.

Consider how big the garden will be and the size of mature plants. A small garden will not be able to accommodate corn, for example. Also, how would you like the space to look and what will be its function? Is this a purely aesthetic garden or one that will be food-bearing?

Start seeds inside

If you'll be starting a garden from seeds, it's best to start indoors before your region's frost-free date. This way the delicate plants will get the needed care and can establish before they go outdoors in the ground. Keep them humid by covering the seedlings in plastic wrap. You can start the seeds in different containers, even empty egg cartons. Transplant to larger containers after the seedlings grow a second set of leaves. Once you're free from overnight frost, you can place the established, strong seedlings in the ground.

An automatic watering system, such as a timer hooked up to the sprinkler, can keep the garden well watered, which increases the chances of success. Then it will only be a matter of weeks before the garden can be enjoyed throughout the season.

Savoring maple syrup season

Many of us associate maple syrup with the vibrant red leaves of fall, but it is actually made in early spring. As temperatures fluctuate around the freezing mark tree sap starts flowing, making this the perfect time to celebrate maple syrup.

Harvesting maple syrup is a four step process:

- 1. Tap**
- 2. Let it Flow**
- 3. Boil**
- 4. Bottle**

After filtering, it's time to bottle. Pure maple syrup can last up to a year on the shelf or opened in the fridge, and indefinitely when frozen.

Lucky for us, the rich, sweet flavor of maple syrup can be enjoyed throughout the year! While it's a classic topping for pancakes, maple syrup shines in a variety of recipes, from sweet to savory.

This simple dressing is sweet, tangy, and delicious on a spring salad. We drizzled it over spring greens topped with maple candied nuts and crumbled goat cheese. Add grilled chicken, crispy bacon, or hard-boiled eggs for a fresh and hearty spring lunch.

Maple Vinaigrette

1/4 cup pure maple syrup
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in an 8 to 16-ounce jar with a tight-fitting lid.

Screw the lid on the jar tightly and shake vigorously for 60-90 seconds to combine and emulsify the dressing.

Drizzle over your salad of choice!

Note: Separation is natural over time – simply put the lid back on the jar and shake again to combine.

Crunchy, nutty granola gets taken up a level with pure maple syrup! It's perfect to top your breakfast yogurt or grab a handful on the go.

The addition of egg white gives this recipe the delightful large clusters that are so fun to munch on, but you can skip that step in a pinch or to make it vegan. Looking for a sweeter treat? Increase the amount of maple syrup to your taste and enjoy.

Maple Cherry Granola

2 1/2 cups old-fashioned oats
1/2 cup wheat germ
1/3 cup roughly chopped almonds
1/2 cup coconut flakes (or shredded)
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 cup local maple syrup
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 egg white
1/2 cup chopped dried cherries

Directions:

Preheat your oven to 275° F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Combine all of the ingredients except the egg white and dried fruit in a large bowl, tossing to coat evenly.

Whisk the egg white in a small bowl until frothy. Add to the granola mixture, stirring to distribute it throughout.

Spread the mixture evenly over the parchment paper-lined baking sheet and bake for 30 minutes.



Remove from oven and sprinkle the cherries in. Use a large spatula to turn over sections of the granola that may be cooking faster, breaking them up as little as possible.

Place back in the oven for another 10-15 minutes, until mixture turns golden.

Store granola in jars or airtight containers in a cool dry place. It will keep for about two weeks, or freeze for longer storage.

Quick facts

Annual NW Art Exhibit at UMC

The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council announces the Annual NW Art Exhibit from Monday, April 7th through Sunday, April 27th at the University of Minnesota Crookston International Room in the Sergeant Student Center, nets to the bookstore.

You will be able to explore art created by student and adult artists from our 7 county area (Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Polk, Pennington, Roseau, and Red Lake).

The featured artists will be competing for \$2,300 in cash awards.

By visiting you will be able to vote for Peoples Choice, some art will be for sale.

There will be a reception

Grace Lutheran ladies to be at MSL

Grace Lutheran ladies will be having a program at Mac Senior Living on April 10th at 2pm. Anyone is invited to join us. Singing, entertainment, craft, devotion and fun!

Salem Cemetery Annual Meeting

Salem cemetery association will have their annual meeting on Sunday, April 13th at 2pm at the McIntosh Community center. Donations can be mailed to P.O. box 136, McIntosh MN 56556

Correcting the record about Social Security office closings

Recent reports in the media that the Social Security Administration (SSA) is permanently closing local field offices are false. Since January 1, 2025, the agency has not permanently closed or announced the permanent closure of any local field office. From time to time, SSA must temporarily close a local field office for reasons such as weather, damage, or facilities issues, and it reopens when the issues are resolved. The agency has announced the permanent closure of one hearing office, in White Plains, NY.

SSA works closely with local congressional delegations before closing any office permanently. The agency also reassigns employees from an affected office to other locations to help communities access in-person services.

"SSA is committed to providing service where people need help and our local field offices are no exception," said Lee Dudek, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "We have not permanently closed any local field offices this year."

SSA identified for the General Services Administration underutilized office space to ensure the government is spending taxpayer money as prudently as possible. The agency provided GSA a list of sites for termination. Most of these are small hearing rooms with no assigned employees. Since most hearings are held virtually, SSA no longer needs these underutilized rooms.

Open House at FCA

There will be an Open House event at Freedom Christian Academy.

Everyone is warmly invited to visit and explore our school as we kick off the 2025 - 2026 academic year enrollment, welcoming students from PreK through 9th grade. Open house will be Monday April 7th from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our dedicated teachers, tour our facilities, and learn more about the enriching educational experiences we offer. Whether you're a prospective family or a community member interested in our school, we look forward to connecting with you.

Don't miss this chance to see firsthand the vibrant atmosphere and community spirit that make FCA a special place to learn and grow.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday



Pastor Peter Franz will be in McIntosh.

Franz will give Lenten message at McIntosh churches

Please join us for "Old Testament Pictures of the Cross," Lenten messages featuring Pastor Peter Franz on April 5-6 hosted by the McIntosh Free Lutheran congregations.

At Trinity Free Lutheran (rural McIntosh) on Saturday at 10:00 AM Pastor Franz will present Jesus, The Giant Killer (1 Samuel 17). Saturday evening at 7:00 PM he will share about Jesus, the One Lifted Up (Numbers 21). Sunday at 9:30 AM the focus will be Jesus, the Perfect Substitute (Genesis 22). Franz will also be preaching at Mt. Carmel Free Lutheran at 11:00 AM followed by a potluck meal back at Trinity.

Pastor Franz married McIntosh native Judy Moan, and God has blessed them with seven children and twenty-three grandchildren. He has served congregations in Minot, ND; St. James, Mankato, Cloquet, and Maple Grove, MN. He also served as an adjunct instructor at the Free Lutheran Bible College and Seminary and as Vice-President of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Thur. April 3: Bria Weber, Jaxson Boyd

Fri. April 4: Destiny Hedlund, Ella Finseth

Sat. April 5: Levi Halstad, Earl Roed, Joan Lee

Sun. April 6: Kassi Schow, Judi Lindseth, Callie Boucher Darco

Mon. April 7: Allen Carver

Tues. April 8: Charles Lindseth, Brenner Sylstad, Ethan Shimpa, Amanda Farrell, *Jordyn & Daros Zahn

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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

Wed. April 2: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Fri. April 4: 11:30am Adoration and Benediction followed by Noon Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sun. April 6: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Wed. April 9: 8:45am Friday School Mass, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph, Bagley

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

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Rachel Roggenbuck,
SAM

Sun. April 6: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Sun. April 13: 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 FREE LUTHERAN AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Pastor:
Jerry Moan

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am; 10:45am Sunday School

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) 9:45am Sunday School; Sunday Worship: 11:00am

Wednesdays: 6:30pm Confirmation; 7:15pm Free Lutheran Youth meets at Pastor Moan's home

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

Sun, April 6: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)

Tues, April 8: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed, April 9: 6:30pm Bible Study at Connie Parr's

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. April 6 : 9:00am Worship

Sun. April 13: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker

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

DOVRE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger, MN

Sundays: 9:00am Adult and Children's Sunday School; 10:00am Worship Service

Wednesdays: 7:00pm Bible Study

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger

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

Early intervention can slow progression of symptoms and extend lives

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

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M3-28C

Anhydrous safety
should be top concern this spring

The MDA offers safety tips for those maintaining equipment and applying and transporting NH3.

Many farmers and applicators will soon apply anhydrous ammonia (NH3) prior to planting or sidedress after planting.

Even with a rush against time and the weather, safety should never be compromised. Accidents involving anhydrous ammonia have proven how dangerous and deadly the chemical can be when not handled properly.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is providing the following tips to farmers and applicators so they can safely apply anhydrous ammonia.

- Always wear appropriate goggles and gloves. Never wear

contact lenses.

- Be sure to have a clean, adequate emergency water supply of at least 5 gallons.
- Exercise caution when making connections and disconnections as if lines contain anhydrous ammonia.
- Stand upwind when connecting, disconnecting, bleeding lines, or transferring NH3.
- Close, bleed, disconnect, and secure valves and transfer lines when taking breaks or disconnecting lines, and be sure to handle hose end valve by the valve body.
- Position equipment away and downwind from homes, people, and livestock.

Safety is also key to those maintaining anhydrous ammonia equipment. Never assume NH3 lines are empty, always

wear proper protective equipment, and have access to safety water.

When towing a nurse tank down the road, drive sensibly. Do not go any faster than 30 miles per hour, display a slow-moving vehicle (SVM) emblem visible from the rear, and be sure the tank is secured to the tractor or truck with two separate, independent chains that supplement the hitch pin/clip.

If an accident or spill occurs, immediately call 911 and then the Minnesota Duty Officer at 1-800-422-0798 or 651-649-5451.

You can find more safety, storage, and transportation information on the MDA's website at www.mda.state.mn.us/nh3.

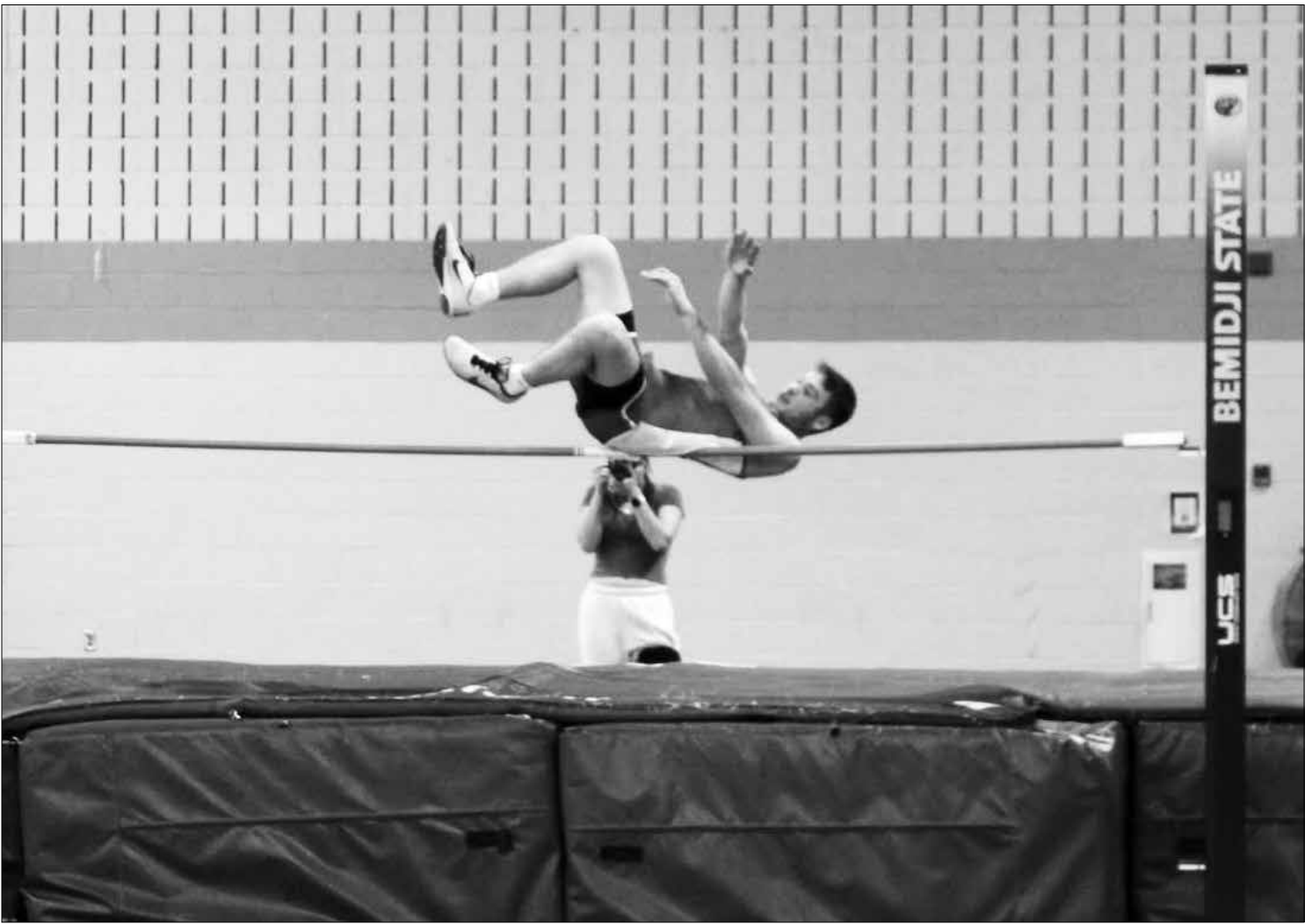


Shelby Mandt during the relay race. She and her teammates, Ustina Mametieff, Macie Hasket and Carolyn Janisch, finished in 3th place.

The Win-E-Mac Patriot Track and Field team participated in the Craig Hougen Relays held at Bemidji State University on Tuesday, March 25th. There were many highlights to the day with the participants who showed great improvement and look to continue to excel and improve throughout the season.

Left: Mihael Mameteiff in the pole vault.

Below: Bergen Howard finished 11th out of 89 in the 60 meter dash.



Win-E-Mac track and field participated in the Craig Hougen Relays at Bemidji State University on March 25th. Pictured are team members: Shelby Mandt, Caralina Janisch, Macie Haskett, Alex Molina and Tatiana Oliver.



Began Howard took 12th place in the shot put.

Win-E-Mac announces
3rd quarter Honor Roll

The following Win-E-Mac Junior High School and Senior High School students have attained either an “A” or “B” average in academic subjects for the third quarter of the 2024 – 2025 school year. Congratulations! To be eligible for the “A” Honor Roll, you need to have attained a 3.76 – 4.00 GPA (grade point average). To be eligible for the “B” Honor Roll, you need to have attained a 3.00 – 3.75 GPA.

Seniors
“A”:
Clay Below
Emelia Boianoff
Ariana Dickinson
Kaylee Dickinson
Hank Earls
Sava Erofeeff
Josie Fortman
Mason Halstad
Braylon Hamre
Calvin Hill
Livaeh Kiecker
Shelby Long
Colten Mandt
Shelby Mandt
Evelyn Ryan
Brayden Sander
Abigail Sauer
Danielle Winter
“B”:
Presley Haugen
Bergen Howard
Julian Janisch
Ericka Kramer
Ustina Mamitoeff
Destiny Molstad
Mariah Overgaard
Kassidi Qualey
Pamela Solis
Juniors
“A”:
Paige Breitbach
Joonhyuk Choi
Josie Johnson
Lauren Kaupang
Joy Neubert
Karlise Schow
Hudson Smeby
“B”:
Daniel Boianoff
Cambell Brown
Jordyn Halstad
Cody Johnson
Riley Kochmann
Klaudia Kutsev
Marissa Mayer
BayleeMay Riley

Adrian Ryan
Benjamin Tollefson
Hunter Westcoff
Sophomores
“A”:
Joe Courney
Carter Fortman
Chloe Howard
Austin Johnson
Hayden Johnson
Clara Kolden
Austin Langseth
Lillian Shimpa
Nathaniel Spry
Jareth Walk
“B”:
Ashton Anderson
Rian Bergh
Cora Earls
Macie Haskett
Caralina Janisch
Mihael Mametieff
Theordore Mortiz
Kalli Roy
Kolten Schow
Alex Soteras
Rodney Stephen
David Zarkoff
9th Grade
“A”:
Samantha Arme
Andrew Austin
Charles Carlson
Abraham Chermnov
Axel Fuglseth
Lukas Gensburger
Adlaide Hickman
Malania Jax
Stephen Kutsev
Ella Langemo
Khloe Luckow
Nickolas Schow
Krista Shimpa
Kale Smeby
Owen Strom
Ella Subbert
“B”:
Haylee Beckett
Julian Boianoff
Jayden Close
Addison Clow
Garett Davis
Cooper Gieseke
Grace Gunderson
Ensley Haskett
Callie Herriman
Cameron Holthusen
Georget Juve
Eleanor Kaiser
Elsii Kiecker
Adara Peterson
Alexis Peterson

Bella Senn
Peyton Solie
8th Grade
“A”:
Bennett Bailey
Carsen Boyd
Grady Breitbach
Stella Davis
Emma Determan
Dakota Hedlund
Ada Kolden
Megan McGlynn
Alexander McGlynn
Alexander Molina
Shelby Shimpa
Mya Strom
“B”:
Stephanida Anufriev
Aria Doyle
Carson Fortman
Ethan Geray
Levi Halstad
Jessa Jerome
Vasliy Kutsev
Larissa Martunshv
Kinsley Massmann
Madelyn McKinney
Corbin Moran
Tatiana Oliver
Liam Schow
Ashlynn Tatum
7th Grade
“A”:
LaShelle Johns
Jorgen Johnson
Ava Sharp
“B”:
Lynn Burd
Mariana Chaschin
Elizabeth Determan
Kaydence Determan
Stefan Erofeeff
Iris Howard
Karl Jax
Logan Johnson
Efrosia Kutsev
Clara Roed

WEM early childhood/preschool screening

Preschool/early childhood screening is a free and simple check of how your child is growing, developing, and learning. Win-E-Mac school readiness and Head Start will offer screening on Monday, April 7, 2025.

A trained professional will check: Vision and hearing; Height and weight; Immunizations; Large and small muscles; Thinking, language and communication skills; Social and emotional development.

Preschool/early childhood screening is open to all children, ages three years old and up, who have not been screened previously.

Children must be screened before entering preschool and kindergarten. The screening takes place on Monday, April 7 at the Polk County Public

Health office in at Bjella Building on Main Street in McIntosh.

Contact Heather Earls at Win-E-Mac to set up an appointment for your child to be screened. e-mail: hearls@wem-schools.org.

WEM kindergarten

Looking ahead to next fall, if your child turns 5 years old by September 1, 2025, they are eligible to enroll in kindergarten. Please contact the district office at 218 - 687 - 2236 to enroll your child.

Please do so by May 1, 2025 so your child can be included with our kindergarten and preschool transition activities. If your child attends pre-school at Win-E-Mac, they are already enrolled.



During the process of hanging the net during the Win-E-Mac batting cage refurbishing project, Owen Strom found a deer shed.



The Win-E-Mac baseball team works tirelessly to put up their new batting cage as the refurbishing project comes to a close. The project was able to happen because of donations from the Erskine Legion Post 596, Wild Rice Electric Co-op, Dave Kiecker, and Lee Tradewell.



Tips to throw a memorable graduation party

Each year, newly minted graduates proudly don their caps and gowns and walk across countless stages to receive their diplomas or degrees.

Graduation is a proud moment for students, and that pride is shared by family and close friends who have supported students throughout their academic careers.

Graduation is a milestone worth celebrating.

Planning a graduation party takes some effort to ensure an event worthy of this significant moment in a student's life.

Begin with a theme
Host can select a theme that aligns with the graduate's interests.

Consider themes that align with what a new high school graduate plans to study in college, or make the theme all about the career path a recent college grad plans to pursue. Additional potential themes include the grad's favorite movies, his or her musical interests, cherished hobbies, or travel.

Set a budget
Establish a clear budget to manage expenses and prioritize key aspects of the graduation celebration. Hosting a party away from home may seem like it would be the more expensive option, but when party hosts factor in rentals of tents, tables, chairs, catering, and other needs, booking a venue may be more affordable. Only by pricing out all expenses and comparing options can graduation party hosts identify their options and determine how much a party will cost and how to budget for the celebration.

Make the venue interesting
If possible, tailor the venue to the theme. For example, if the graduate is a fan of the ocean and beach, then a beach bonfire party can be a memorable celebration.

Graduates who are fans of attending concerts might appreciate a party that recreates the feeling of a performance. Hire a professional musician, set up stadium seating and create a stage where the performer can have all eyes on him or her. Afterwards, hire a DJ to play music or stream a playlist created by the guest of honor.

Create a grand entrance
Figure out a way that the graduate can make his or her big entrance to the party to add some drama to the event. Perhaps the lights can be dimmed before placing a spotlight on the graduate?

For a sports-themed graduation party, the graduate can run through a breakaway banner like a football team does when taking the field before the opening kickoff. Embrace your creative side to ensure the celebration is one to remember.

Include fun activities
Dancing, photo booth sessions, scavenger hunts, or even some special demonstration that pertains to the theme can be entertaining activities to keep guests busy.

Keep the food simple
Keep the graduate's culinary preferences in mind and offer fare that is familiar and tasty. There's no need to offer exotic foods; guests will remember tasty items, particularly if they're well fed. A signature cocktail (or mocktail) also can be a special touch for the party.

If the idea of planning a graduation party on one's own

seems daunting, particularly during a time of year when there is a lot of competition for dates and venues, a professional party planner can be an invaluable resource. Then everyone can celebrate the graduate in a way that is fitting and memorable.

Fly Zone Puzzle Mania

Fly Zone Puzzle Mania will take place on Friday, April 4, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the McIntosh Community Center. Reserve Teams of 2, 3 or 4. There is a fee of \$25 per person. Please RSVP by March 19th to Cassie Subbert via email: casubbert@gmail.com

Cash and raffle prizes. All funds raised support upcoming Youth Group trip to FLY.

Have a fun night with family or friends.

WEM Summer Rec sign-up night

Win-E-Mac will host a Summer Rec Registration Night on Wednesday, April 16th, in the Commons, from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Sign-up for T-Ball, 7 - 13 year old baseball and softball, along with swimming lessons. Lil Patriots Summer Program sign-up will take place in the Library.

Did you know?

Distracted driving is a major threat on the roadways. Anything that takes drivers' attention away from the road can be considered a distraction, and that includes phones, food, passengers, and even vehicle features like a GPS system. However, distracted driving is preventable.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says nine people in the United States are killed every day in crashes that involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says distracted driving claimed the lives of 3,308 people in 2022.

In addition, data from Transport Canada's National Collision Database indicates distracted driving contributed to an estimated 22.5 percent of fatal collisions and 25.5 percent of serious injury collisions in 2021.

These distracted driving numbers reflect a growing trend of distracted driving-related incidents.

FAQ about taxes as the filing deadline nears

Some people look forward to filing their tax returns, while others recoil at the thought of paying what they owe. Regardless of which camp taxpayers are in, come April most people have a question or two related to their returns.

As the deadline to file tax returns draws closer, taxpayers hoping to make the process as smooth as possible can consider these frequently asked questions and answers, courtesy of the Internal Revenue Service.

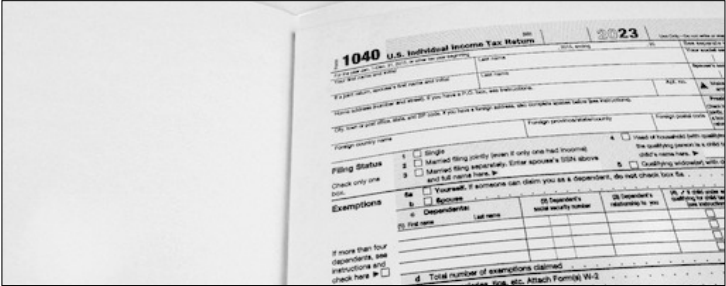
When is deadline day?

Though taxpayers periodically get an extra day or two to file their returns when April 15 coincides with a holiday or lands on a weekend, there's no such reprieve in 2025. This year all taxpayers who are not requesting an extension must file their income tax returns by April 15, 2025.

What if my address has changed?

The IRS urges all taxpayers to use their new address when filing their returns. Additional ways taxpayers can update their address with the IRS is through the filing of Form 8822, Change of Address or Form 8822-B, Change of Address or Responsible Party-Business. Written statements or oral notifications are additional ways to notify the IRS of an address change, and these methods must include personal information, including the old and new address as well as the taxpayer's Social Security number, Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) or Employer Identification Number (EIN).

Is there an age limit on claiming my child as a dependent?



A child must meet either the qualifying child test or the qualifying relative test in order to be claimed as a dependent. To meet the qualifying child test, your child must be younger than you or your spouse if filing jointly and either younger than 19-years-old or be a "student" younger than 24-years-old as of the end of the calendar year.

There is no age limit to claim a child as a dependent if a child is "permanently and totally disabled" or meets the qualifying relative test.

In addition to meeting the qualifying child or qualifying relative test, you can claim that person as a dependent only if these three tests are met:

- 1. Dependent taxpayer test
- 2. Citizen or resident test, and
- 3. Joint return test

Taxpayers who remain uncertain about their eligibility to claim a child as a dependent are urged to contact the IRS or a tax preparation professional for clarification before filing their returns.

What should I do if my W-2 is incorrect?

Employers must provide employees with a W-2 by January 31. If the W-2 is incorrect and has not been fixed by the end of February, taxpayers can contact the IRS and request to

initiate a Form W-2 complaint. When such a request is initiated, the IRS sends a letter to the employer and requests that they furnish a corrected W-2 within 10 days. The IRS also sends a letter to the taxpayer with instructions and Form 4852, which can be used to file a return if a corrected W-2 is not provided before the filing deadline.

How can I file for an extension?

There are three ways to request an automatic extension of time to file an income tax return.

1. You can pay all or part of your estimated income tax due and indicate that the payment is for an extension using your bank account; a digital wallet such as Click to Pay, PayPal, and Venmo; cash; or a credit or debit card.

2. You can file Form 4868 electronically by accessing IRS e-file using your tax software or by using a tax professional who uses e-file.

3. You can file a paper Form 4868 and enclose payment of your estimate of tax due (optional).

Tax day arrives on April 15. Taxpayers who have lingering questions about their returns are urged to contact the IRS via irs.gov or work with a certified tax professional