

\$1.00

McINTOSH

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

Since 1888

Times

McIntosh, Minnesota

In the New Year,
we wish you the best year you've
ever had, and that each New Year
will be better than the last.
May you realize your fondest dreams
and take time to recognize and enjoy
each and every blessing.

Happy New Year!

The McIntosh Times

563-3585



This year there were so many beautiful and fun Christmas displays around the town of McIntosh that the choices had to be difficult. The McIntosh Community Club would like to congratulate Scott Grove and Becky Boehrnsen, Larry and Melissa Finseth, and Pete Tranby for their fantastic Christmas Displays in this year's "contest". All three will receive \$25 McIntosh Thrift Bucks and the high esteem of such an award! McIntosh Community Club would like to thank the judges for participating on such a cold night. Happy New Year from McIntosh Community Club. See the pictures of the winners on page 4.

United Blood Services

Find the hero in you.

WEM Blood Drive a huge success

The The Student Council of Win-E-Mac High School has sponsored a very successful blood drive.

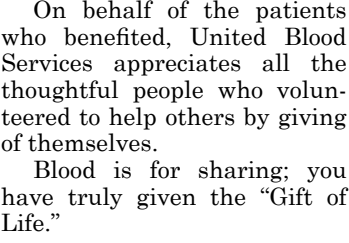
The drive held in Win-E-Mac High School on December 20th saw 36 people volunteer to donate blood and 32 were able to give. Eight people gave blood on the automated 2RBC machine that collects two units of red blood cells, and four people gave blood on the automated machine which resulted in 44 total products. Twelve people volunteered for the first time.

According to Katie Bartelson, Sr. Donor Recruitment Representative for United Blood Services, "Communities like Erskine, Winger and McIntosh make a regional blood program work. People volunteer to donate when there has been a well-organized campaign, informing the public of the need for blood."

The Student Council was also responsible for registering donors and providing refreshments. Space to hold the drive was provided by Win-E-Mac High School.

On behalf of the patients who benefited, United Blood Services appreciates all the thoughtful people who volunteered to help others by giving of themselves.

Blood is for sharing; you have truly given the "Gift of Life."



There are many beautiful sights to see around McIntosh this season. The lights and snow make for many beautiful scenes.

Christmas in McIntosh Open Houses at King Town, First National Bank and Neil's



There were a lot of visitors to McIntosh on Friday, December 16th as three businesses celebrated Christmas with Open Houses. There were goodies galore and lots of visiting happening at King Town Farmers Mutual Insurance, First National Bank, and Neil's Quality Meats & More.

Pictured left: Diane Boucher, her husband Dennis and Jan Galland welcomed visitors to King Town Insurance during the Christmas Open House. There were many goodies on hand including homemade lefse.



Celebrating Christmas with friends and customers during the First National Bank Open House on Friday, December 16th were Philip Lee, Sheree Breckel, Nikki Grande and Annie Schow.



The staff at Neil's Quality Meats and More offered yummy samples and coffee for the visitors during the Christmas in McIntosh Open House held on Friday, December 16th. Pictured (l-r): Bob Bursheim, Kelsey Perrine, Laurie Bursheim, Neil and Carol Bursheim and Donna Larson.

Celebrating New Year's around the world

Much of the world rings in the new year in grand fashion. Celebrations may include fireworks, concerts and, of course, champagne.

But while there might be common elements to New Year's celebrations regardless of geography, the parties can vary greatly depending on where celebrants happen to be.

The following are some of the more raucous places in the world to ring in the new year.

New York, NY
Times Square is in the heart of midtown Manhattan and is a sight to behold any time of year. But the New Year's celebration in Times Square is a truly unique event that many people insist they must experience at least once in their lifetimes.

Each year, roughly one million revelers gather at the intersection of Broadway and Seventh Avenue, so anyone planning to attend the celebration should aim to get there long before midnight if they want to see the famed ball drop.

Paris, France
Fireworks dominate the Parisians' celebration of the dawn of a new year.

The world renowned Champs-Élysées is lined with revelers who can't wait to catch a glimpse of the fireworks that explode from the Eiffel Tower at the stroke of midnight.

Sydney, Australia
Fireworks fanatics who can't make it to the City of Light might want to book a trip down under to Sydney. Each year, revelers in Sydney gather to witness awe-inspiring fireworks displays that explode from the Sydney Harbour Bridge and some surrounding buildings.

The Sydney waterfront adds to the celebratory ambiance.

London, England
New Year's waterfront celebrations are not exclusive to Sydney, as London also hosts celebratory fireworks displays along the River Thames.

When the fireworks are finished exploding from the tower around Big Ben, one of the world's most recognizable tourist attractions, the magic then continues at another of London's famous landmarks, the London Eye.

Fireworks explode from the famed ferris wheel as Londoners ring in the new year in style.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
New Year's revelers who want something slightly different might want to try Rio, where residents take to the beaches to celebrate the dawn of a new year.

Flowers are thrown into the waves at the stroke of midnight before the city erupts into parties loaded with dancing and music

Did you know?

Many people consider the Times Square section of midtown Manhattan the epicenter of North American New Year's Eve celebrations.

While there are plenty of places throughout North America to ring in the new year, few, if any, can compare to Times Square, where revelers have been celebrating the dawn of a new year for well over a century.

According to the Times Square Alliance, New Year's Eve was first celebrated in Times Square in 1904. But the New Year's Eve ball, an iconic symbol of the holiday across the globe, did not make an appearance until 1907, when it descended from a flagpole atop One Times Square. Made of

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Due to the New Years holiday,
The McIntosh Times
McIntosh
will be **CLOSED**
Monday, January 2.

AD DEADLINE will extend to Tuesday before noon on January 3rd.

Community Calendar

Wed. Dec. 28: McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Computer Class at McIntosh Library 1pm to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's

Thurs. Dec. 29: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

Sunday Jan. 1: Happy New Year!

Mon. Jan. 2: McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Tues. Jan. 3: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Wed. Jan. 4: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Computer Class at McIntosh Library 1pm to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

Fri. Jan. 6: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Mon. Jan. 9: McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

iron and wood, that first ball weighed 700 pounds and was outfitted with 100 25-watt light bulbs.

One hundred light bulbs might have seemed like a lot back in 1907, but a century later the special ball made to mark the centennial celebration was illuminated with more than 32,000 Philips Luxeon LED bulbs, which organizers felt greatly increased the brightness and color capabilities of the ball.



Neil Bursheim, Mick Evenson and Darrel Johnson enjoy some treats during the Christmas Open House at King Town Insurance.



Above: Norris Syverson and Mark Lee visit during the FNB Open House held on December 16th.

Right: Smiling and celebrating is Bob Quinlan during the Open House at the bank in McIntosh.



Janet Lee from Fosston won the Floating Bobber Cooler with Meat inside from Neil's Quality Meats & More.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

Sun. Jan. 1: 8:30am Mass at St., Mary's Fosston, 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Sun. Jan. 8: 8:30am Mass at St., Mary's Fosston, 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
If you have any questions please call 435-6484.

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

Sun. Jan. 1: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary
Sun. Jan. 8: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

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

Sun. Jan. 1: 11:15am Worship Service
Sun. Jan. 8: 11:15am Worship Service

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

Wed. Dec. 28: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place.
Fri. Dec. 30: 7:00pm Sunday School/Luther League Program (See article elsewhere in the paper)
Sat. Dec. 31: No Prayer Meeting
Sun. Jan. 1: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service;
Tues. Dec. 27: 10:00am Sunday Worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2
Wed. Jan. 3: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place
For information on free rides to any of the above activities call 218-268-4242 or 218-687-3461 Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Hwy. 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then ½ mile east on County Road 206.

MCINTOSH AFLC McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:

Pastor Karl Anderson
Mt. Carmel:
Wed. Dec. 28 7:30pm Bible Study
Thurs. Dec. 29: 7:00am Men's Breakfast
Sun. Jan. 1: 11:00am Sunday Worship Service
Wed. Jan. 4: 7:30pm Bible Study
Thurs. Jan. 5: 7:00am Men's Breakfast
Sun. Jan. 8: 9:45am Sunday School; 11:00am Sunday Worship Service
Trinity:
Sun. Jan. 1: 9:30am Worship Service
Sun. Jan. 8: 9:30am Worship Service; 10:45am Sunday School

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC) McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson
Sun. Jan. 1: 9am Worship
Sun. Jan. 8: 9am Worship

**DOVRE
FREE LUTHERAN
Pastor Don Edlund**
Wed. Dec. 28: 7:15pm Bible Study: Old Testament Tabernacles; No Confirmation
Sun. Jan. 1: 10:00am Worship Service
Wed. Jan. 4: 7:15pm Bible Study: Old Testament Tabernacles
Sun. Jan. 8: 10:00am Worship Service

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
McIntosh**
**Rev. John Anderson,
Pastor**
Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays



Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Dec. 28: Anita Roy
Thurs. Dec. 29: Preston Carlson
Fri. Dec. 30: *Rudy & Kathy Finseth
Sat. Dec. 31: *Bryce & Andrea Stordahl



Happy New Year

The holidays are a special time.

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

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

Warmest holiday wishes to you and your family.

First National Bank of McIntosh will be **CLOSED** on Monday, January 2nd in observance of New Year's Day.

260 Cleveland Ave. SW
PO Box 129
McIntosh, MN 56556
www.fnbmcintosh.com
Phone (218) 563-2865

There will be an
**Open House
Baby
Shower**
for
**Alyssa (Franky)
Nornes**

on **January 7, 2017**
from 1-3 pm at
**Grace Lutheran
Church** in Erskine

NOTICE Hill River Township Filing Notice

The filing dates for the township of Hill River, County of Polk, State of Minnesota will be from Tuesday, December 27, 2016 until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2017. Filing will be for one (1) Supervisor for a term of three (3) years. The filing fee is \$2.00. Filing is to be at the Clerk/Treasurer's home.

Raymond O. Sundrud, Clerk/Treasurer
Hill River Township

HILL RIVER TOWNSHIP "2016 ONE FUND DRIVE" RESULTS

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS.....	\$100
SALVATION ARMY.....	150
DIABETIC RESEARCH.....	155
HEART FUND.....	170
CANCER FUND.....	575
RED CROSS.....	140
DAC.....	120
LEUKEMIA SOCIETY.....	60
ST JUDE'S CHILDRENS HOSP.....	5
NORTHLAND RESCUE MISS.....	50
SAMARITAN'S PURSE.....	50
MN MEDICAL FOUNDATION... ..	35
NORTH COUNTRY.....	
FOOD SHELF.....	50
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOC.....	15
	\$ 1,675

Solicitors:
Norris Syverson Jeffrey Matson
Lorae Roed John Peterson
Chairperson: Betty Syverson

Raymond O. Sundrud,
Clerk/Treasurer
Hill River Township

Notice to King Township Residents

Filing for the township offices opens on January 3, 2017 and continues until January 17, 2017 at 5:00 pm. Offices to be elected are:

- 1 Supervisor for a 3 year term
- 1 Clerk for a 2 year term

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk. A \$2.00 filing fee is required.
Loren Gieseke,
King Township Clerk

FOR RENT

3 bedroom house in McIntosh. Easy to heat. Available March 1. No pets. Deposit and references required. \$575 per month.

218-556-7087

Notice to Residents of Sletten Township

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Sletten Township, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, at the Sletten Town Hall.

Filing for township offices opens on January 3, 2017, and continues to January 17, 2017, 5 p.m. Offices to be elected are:

- 1. Treasurer for a 2 year term
- 2. Supervisor for a 3 year term

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the clerk. There is a \$2 filing fee.
Terri Kaupang,
Township Clerk

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

McINTOSH Times

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

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MEMORABLE.

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Richards Publishing Co.

Winger News

Linda Pulskamp

Hello once again from Winger and the Union Lake areas where we came through the bitter cold temps and wind that we had last week and today (Thursday) was a very pleasant day for December. Sounds like we are in for more snow with a snow storm on the way. Hope every one gets to their destination before the storm moves in.

Judy Gieseke brought dinner to Milton Carlson and was a visitor at the Carlson home on the 15th.

Mark and Betty Syverson were visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home last Sunday afternoon.

Saturday December the 17th the family of Carol Stordahl gathered at the Winger Community Center for Christmas potluck dinner with 47 family members in attendance. There were lots of little kids and along with the kids a lot of noise. A wonderful time was had by all.

Friday the 16th Lonnie Gieseke was a visitor with Milton Carlson at his home and while he was there he cleaned off Milton's deck for him.

Last Saturday afternoon Butch and Linda Pulskamp were visitors at the Dean Johnson home, bringing him birthday greetings as his birthday was on Sunday.

Lindsay and Carol Wang of Billings, MT visited with Martha Henney on Tuesday at the Pioneer Home. They were on their way to spend the winter in Alabama.

Paul Carlson visited last Saturday with Milton Carlson at Milton's home and while there helped Milton with some small jobs around the house.

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

Last Sunday Paul and Donna Carlson picked up Milton Carlson and they attended the Christmas Concert at the New Hope Church in Fertile. After the concert they helped Marissa Carlson celebrate her birthday at the Chad and Michelle

Carlson home in Fosston.

Tanner and Erin Christianson left Sunday for Texas where they will spend Christmas with Erin's parents and sister.

Lucy Brtek visited on Tuesday afternoon with Sheldon Lee and Wilma Wang at the Cornerstone in Fosston.

Last Sunday Butch and Linda Pulskamp and Dan and Sharon Bogenreif of Big Stone City, SD attended the Christmas Program at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wahpeton. Granddaughters Sidnie and Skylie Pulskamp were in the program. After the program they were all dinner guests and visitors at the Brent and Jessie Pulskamp home.

Mark Lee of McIntosh was a visitor on Wednesday with Martha Henney at the Pioneer Home.

Paul Carlson was a Tuesday visitor with Milton Carlson at Milton's home. While there Paul cleaned out Milton's yard and also cleaned his deck for him.

A large group of "Seniors" were treated to a Christmas dinner of turkey with mashed potatoes and all the trimmings this week at Senior Meals. It was a delicious home cooked meal that was enjoyed by all and all appreciated the extra work Mike did in preparing it.

Until next week and safe travels to all.

Best wishes to you all for a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

USDA announces

CRP investments in MN

More than 50,000 acres in Minnesota can begin enrollment to protect water quality and improve wildlife habitat

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director Grant Herfindahl today announced that up to 50,000 acres can be enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in Minnesota for critical wildlife in addition to the 2,137 acres of CRP Grasslands announced earlier in the

month.

"Over the past 30 years, CRP has helped farmers to offset the costs of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees that improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and strengthen wildlife habitat," said Herfindahl. "Given the national cap of 24 million acres, it is more important than ever to pursue multiple benefits on each acre of CRP such that many acres are providing erosion prevention, water conservation, recreation for sportsman, habitat for pollinators, and protection of grazing land."

Nationwide, farmers and ranchers now can enroll up to 1.1 million acres to restore high-priority wildlife habitat through the CRP State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) program, wetlands restoration, or pollinator habitat improvements. In Minnesota, up to 50,000 acres are now available to enroll in the CP38E Rare and Declining Habitat Tall Grass Prairie SAFE that improves pheasant habitat, in addition to soil erosion prevention and water quality improvements.

With the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), high-priority regional conservation goals first are identified by local, state, or tribal governments or non-governmental organizations, after which the federal funds and resources of CRP are supplemented with the non-federal funds and resources to achieve those goals.

"In Minnesota, FSA is also in the final stages of partnering with the state to establish CREP that could protect up to 60,000 acres of a 54 county area to help protect water quality," said Herfindahl. "Additional details are expected to be announced early next year."

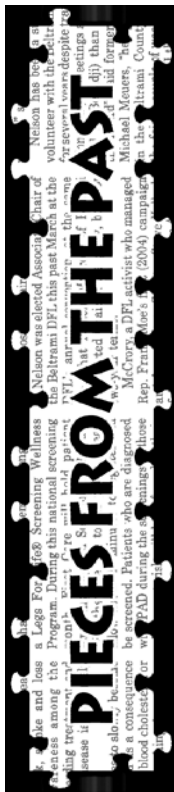
USDA recently accepted more than 504,000 acres into the CRP Grasslands program, bringing the total to more than 600,000 acres. In Minnesota, FSA accepted 2,137 acres in the program, providing participants with financial assistance for establishing approved grasses, trees and shrubs on

USDA...

Continued on page 4...



40 years ago...1976: The Schimanski Station Wagon is being loaded with camping supplies and equipment along with McIntosh Boy Scout Troop 89 headed for Camp Wilderness on Bad Axe Lake between Lake George and Park Rapids. They are planning on skating, ice fishing, tobogganing and working on their badges, in one of the many buildings at the camp. Scout Master, Scot Schimanski and assistant, Tom Bauer accompanied the boys.



30 years ago...1986: This nativity is seen in Sunday School Christmas programs the world over during this holiday season. (L-R) Joseph-Mark Sylstad, Angel-Christine Lee, and Mary-Megan Matson, from Salem Lutheran Church's Sunday School Program.

Regional Ag News

Ray Bisek,
Extension Educator

Consider a 2017 New Year's Resolution of Investing in Human Capital

This is the time of year when the New Year's resolutions flow freely. Some of those resolutions made will have an everlasting positive and profound effect on one's life or lifestyle. As we look to the New Year, especially when doing cash flow/financial planning, most enterprises of an agricultural nature, will more than likely project a return much lower than recent year's receipts.

With a projected shortage of cash, most producers will scrutinize the "needed" capital assets from the "would like to have" capital assets as they assess the 2016 year and plan for 2017 and beyond.

While farm financial planning takes place, producers might overlook the human capital and/or human capital skills needed to operate efficiently and or to move the farm business in a direction as desired.

I would encourage both operators and employees to evaluate their skill set, and maybe in a New Year's resolution form, set some educational goals. Then search, prioritize, and find continuing education opportunities. Follow through on selected educational opportunities that may add growth to the human capital segment of the business.

Education and training exist in various mediums and venues. Many read farm papers or magazines to stay up to date. Some go online or seek a consultant or another producer for the knowledge needed. Consider opportunities both close to home, a neighboring state, and/or if need be, an educational seminar in distant state or country. Many educational opportunities are basically at no or very limited cost to the producers except for the time one might invest.

Other opportunities might cost the business thousands of dollars. An educational oppor-

tunity provided by your Land Grant Universities, where education and information is based on scientific research, usually provides a return on investment.

Excellent and endless lists of educational opportunities are now much closer and available to the individual today via telecommunications in the home/local library/school. Some courses, seminars, and information is still available via the traditional method of hard paper copies available by snail mail or picked up at your local Extension office and library, or consist of the traditional face to face, warm blooded living body presentation in front of you format, but many are also available in electronic format.

Many courses of study might offer a hybrid of sorts, where you may get direct contact in a lecture/hands on lab, while also offering portions of the training via web casts, webinars, emails, videos, PowerPoints, etc.

I encourage you to make an active and discerning decision on what continuing education may be needed for the human capital working in the farm business. If a two hour night meeting fulfills your business goals, I would encourage you to attend, but I would also encourage you to look at and invest time and money into other potential continuing educational opportunities.

It might mean sending yourself or an employee to a week-long, multi week, or semester course(s). It also might mean scheduling time on a daily basis for an online course. On the other side of the spectrum it might also mean finding a new employee with skills that match your farm's needs.

Education of employees is also a major part in managing risk for the farm business. So as you also do risk management assessment and planning for the new year, consider the skills and knowledge of

the people involved with the business, and how training provided might lower disaster probabilities.

The economic success engine of many businesses, including the farm sector, along with our country as a whole, has always benefited from a talented and trained workforce.

As you plan, does the human capital component on your "success engine" need a tune-up, overhaul, or is it running smoothly. In the coming months, U of M Extension is providing opportunities for agricultural producers for those hoping to improve the human capital side of the business. I encourage you to attend one or more of the educational opportunities that may exist this winter.

Good luck on your New Year's resolution!

2017 Educational opportunities provided by U of M Extension and partners

Irrigators - Get Nitrogen Smart - January 4, 1:00 PM, Central Lakes College, Staples

Research Update for Ag Professionals - January 3-12th. Locally in NW MN it will be held at the NWROC in Crookston on January 12th, 12:30 pm

Small Grain Update Meetings - Wheat, Soybeans, Corn - January 16-20th - three meeting sites most closest to Polk/Clearwater Counties are Crookston(Amer. Legion 8:30 am) and Gary (Amer. Legion 9:00am) on Wed. January 18th and Red Lake Falls (City Hall 8:30am) on Fri. January 20th.

Best of the Best in Wheat and Soybean Research - Jan.31st - Feb. 1st, Moorhead and Grand forks

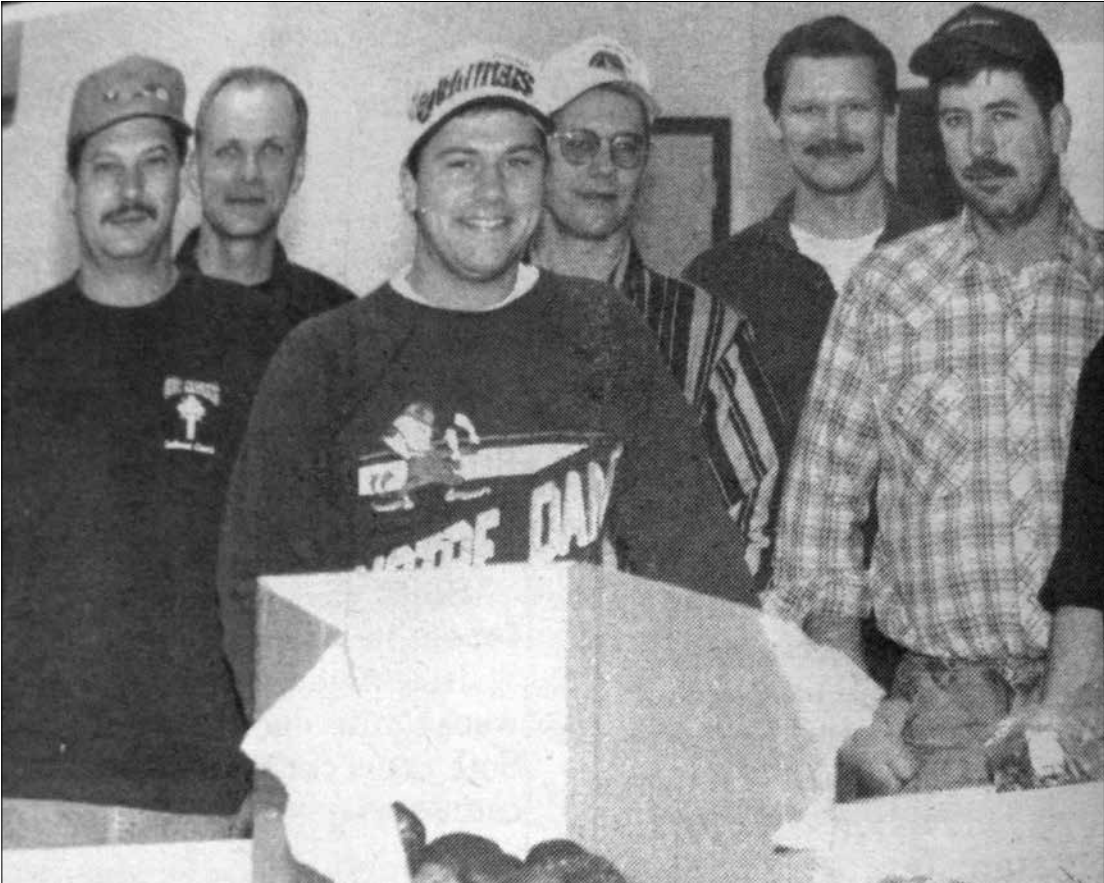
NW Farm Managers Assoc. Annual Meeting - Feb. 1st, Fargo

Sugarbeet Growers Seminar - Feb. 7th -14th, 4 locations

Int'l Crops Expo - Feb.

Bisek...

Continued on page 4...



20 years ago...1996: Members of the McIntosh Men's Action Club (MACS) were on hand to help with Santa Day activities and offer apples, cookies and cider to everyone in attendance. Gary Schommer, Ron LeMer, Clyde Kringlen, Mark Thompson, Bruce Haaven and Albert Plante.



10 years ago...2006: Win-E-Mac Boy Scouts toured the McIntosh Bakery where Kevin Barsch told them the workings of the bakery.

Bisek.....
Continued from page 3...

22nd – 23rd, Grand forks
Private Pesticide Applicator Training – Examination tests and packets available in most local offices and online. Trainings TBA at select northern MN locations late January / Feb.
Tour de Forage Winter Meetings – Jan.31 – Feb. 2nd, Rochester, Royalton, and Floodwood
MN Organic Conference – Jan. 12-13th, St. Cloud
Midwest Fruit and Vegetable Growers Annual Conference – Jan.19 – 20th, St. Cloud
Sustainable Farmers Assoc. An. Meeting - Feb. 11th, St. Joseph, MN
NDSU Advanced Crop Advisors Workshop – Feb.28th – Mar. 1st, Fargo
Tile Drainage Workshop – March 2nd and 3rd, Grand Forks
Beef Cow/Calf Days – Northern Tour Feb. 7th – Feb. 10th. Locally in Bagley, Amer. Legion, February 7th, 5:30 pm.
Beef Home Study Courses – “Introduction to Cattle Feeding”, “Health Management for the Cow/Calf Herd”,

and “Introduction to Cow/Calf Nutrition”. Register online by Jan. 17th at U of M Beef web site.
ND Bull-buying Workshops–Jan. 20th and Feb. 3rd, Dickenson Research Extension CenterNDSU Feedlot School – Jan. 18 and 19, Carrington Research Extension Center
SD Cattle Handling, Facility Evaluation Workshop, SD Ag Experiment Station, Beresford
U of M Dairy Days – March 7th, Community Center McIntosh
Local Foods College– On-line Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 pm from January 17th – March 7th. Register at local-foods.umn.edu
Farmers Market Gathering – March 8th, 9:00 – 3:00 at the UMC Bede Ballroom in Crookston
One Vegetable One Community Workshop – January 26th, Thief River Falls, time and location to be announced
RRV Emerging Leadership Class – Nov. – Mar. – Counties select candidates for future classes



Pete Tranby lights up his house with movie clips from classic Christmas movies. It was a show that could entertain you for quite some time.



Lights could be seen all over town, but no yard was quite as bright as the home of Scott Grove and Becky Boehrsen, whose yard was decorated with many scenes.



Festive and merry was the Larry and Melissa Finseth home. Decorated for the holidays with beautiful lights and check out the lighted spheres that Larry created for the yard!

New Years Eve Supper at

Ness Cafe

Saturday., Dec. 31

Serving will start at 5:00 pm

YOUR CHOICE OF:

- Prime Rib
- Walleye
- Butterfly Shrimp

Or try our buffet with chicken/ribs, potatoes, vegetable, pasta and more!

Served with fresh salad bar and dessert.

Please call for reservations

218-687-2101

Where Breakfast is served All Day...Every Day

103 Vance Ave. S., Erskine, MN 218-687-2101

Ness Cafe IS OPEN New Years Day 8 am-1 pm

USDA...
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pasture and rangeland that can continue to be grazed. Nationally, over 70 percent of the acres are from beginning farmers, veterans and underserved producers. About two-thirds of the acres are in counties with the highest threat for conversion. Additionally, nearly 60 percent of the acres are in wildlife priority areas and nearly three-fourths of the acres will have a wildlife-focused conser-

vation plan as part of the operation.
The previous offer period for CRP Grasslands ended Dec. 16. New offers to participate in CRP Grasslands would be considered in the next ranking period, plus offers submitted from previous ranking periods. Acres are ranked according to current and future use, new and underserved producer involvement, maximum grassland preservation, vegetative cover, pollinator habitat and

various other environmental factors. Also, small livestock operations with 100 or fewer head of grazing dairy cows (or the equivalent) can submit applications to enroll up to 200 acres of grasslands per farm.
Since 2009, USDA has invested more than \$29 billion to help producers make conservation improvements, working

with as many as 500,000 farmers, ranchers and landowners to protect land and water on over 400 million acres nationwide.
To learn more about FSA's conservation programs, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation or to find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov/>.



Festive lights from around town in McIntosh.



The staff at Win-E-Mac School celebrated the last day before Christmas Vacation with an Ugly Sweater Day.