

\$1.00

McINTOSH

Since 1888

Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota

A great year for Poplar Meadows

2016 turned out great for the City of McIntosh. It was the first year that the McIntosh Economic Development Authority, who oversees the management of Poplar Meadows was able to make all of the bond payments on the facility without using money from the City's General Fund.

This is a huge step for the assisted living facility that was built in 2003 as a municipally funded venture for the City of McIntosh. For many years there was difficulty with maintaining full residency of Poplar Meadows, making it impossible for MEDA to collect enough revenue to make the very lofty bond payments, and the remaining money owed for the bonds became the burden of

the City's taxpayers, thus the McIntosh Economic Development Authority Board became default to the City of McIntosh.

In 2013, the City Council and MEDA Board made a smart decision in the hiring of the current Poplar Meadows manager, Julie Christianson. With the help of her staff, Julie has made a huge transition at the assisted living facility. There is rarely a vacant apartment available, and low staff turnover. The resident's sing her praises and the facility has never been more profitable. There is no doubt that hiring the right management has helped Poplar Meadows make the upward transition that it has done during this past year.



Poplar Meadows manager, Julie Christianson (front) with (l-r) Ellen Burslie, Harald and Adella Thompson. The three residents have lived in Poplar Meadows since the facility opened its doors.

Looking back: 2016 in review

January: McIntosh held it's annual blood drive, hosted by the VFW Auxiliary #6891 at the Community Center and collected a total of 76 units of blood from volunteers; McIntosh Community Club elected their 2016 officers, including Philip Lee as President, Laurie and Bob Bursheim as co-vice-presidents and Robin Shimpas as Secretary/Treasurer; There was a photo presentation of long-time resident Franny Torgerson presented by the McIntosh Heritage and Arts Center; The Rising Starts Dance Show was presented in the new Win-E-Mac Arts and Event Center for the first time;

Also, for the first time Win-E-Mac and Fosston High School students presented their One-Act Plays on the new stage at Win-E-Mac School; The Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee presented their annual Bingo for Books where Win-E-Mac elementary kids played bingo to win their choice of books, at the end of the night, every student went home with a new book to read; Win-E-Mac graduate Madison McKeever was selected as the Triple A winner and went on the sub-section and section competition; the Win-E-Mac School District Spelling Bee was held where Kolton Crocker, a 7th grader was the

champion and moved on the regional Spelling Bee. Second place went to Anton Hickman, third place was Rylee Haugen and Luklya Kutsev who tied; the Quilts of Valor ladies began their sewing projects for the year; and McIntosh Senior Living with their amazing staff celebrated a deficiency free state survey.

February: McIntosh Heritage and Arts Center began their presentation about the history of the area, interesting facts, pictures and later added recipes to the mix; 11 Win-E-Mac Students on three teams qualified for the Minnesota V Robotics Tournament in St. Cloud. Members included, CeCe Peterson, Megan Espeseth, Indiana Nornes, Amanda Farrell, Mikey Reveir, Kyle Walters, Noah Klinkhammer, Alec Kiecker, Blake Glass, Emilian Kaya and Brekken Lindberg; Win-E-Mac Senior Madison McKeever scored her 3000th point during a basketball game played against Lake Park-Audubon; Win-E-Mac hosted a fun night of math with the second annual Family Math Night hosted by Jessica Strom making math fun for the whole family; The Win-E-Mac 3rd grade spent a day at Agassiz Environmental Learning Center learning about winter survival skills as well as animal survival skills and winter habitats; Students at Win-E-Mac also took place in the Read-Quest nationwide reading event.

March: Long-time Farm

Service agency employee Karen Plante retired in March; The Quilts of Valor ladies spent a Saturday sewing quilt tops to honor our veteran's; The Economic Development Board had a new president, Craig Espeseth took over the position; Win-E-Mac School made plans for the building of a new playground due to

safety concerns with the existing equipment; Win-E-Mac school held annual Staff and Student Basketball game, it was a lot of fun, and as always there were a lot of laughs; The first ever Junior High Play was presented on the Win-E-Mac

Year in review...
Continued on page 2 ...

Benefit for Kim Bjerke this Saturday at The Club



Kim Bjerke with her granddaughter, Shea. A benefit will be held this Saturday, January 7th for Kim at The Club Bar & Grill.

Many of you know Kim. She is a hardworking, kind and loving person. She is community oriented and a great friend to many in the area..

On November, 28, 2016, Kim went into surgery for a brain aneurysm, it was bigger than expected, yet they were

able to remove it successfully.

During her recovery, Kim then suffered a minor stroke, And continues to battle with headaches and pain.

The benefit for Kim will

Kim...
Continued on page 2 ...



Santa visited the residents, family and friends at McIntosh Senior Living for their party held on Friday, December 23rd. (Pictured here with Santa is Joyce Tessman.)



The residents of Poplar Meadows with the facility manager Julie Christianson. Julie has been the manager since 2013 and the residents of Poplar Meadows are like a family to her.



Performing during the Win-E-Mac High School Band and Choir program was a mixed group of the Men's and Woman's Choir groups.



Community Calendar

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 12pm to 5pm; 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

Wed. Jan. 11: 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. 12: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm; McIntosh City Council Meeting @ Community Center 5:30pm

Fri. Jan. 13: Christmas in McIntosh; McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Sat. Jan. 14: Sewing Day at the McIntosh Community Center 9:00am

Mon. Jan. 16: 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. 17: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm



Shared habits of organized people

The beginning of the year is an ideal time to get organized and set oneself up for productive months ahead. It's also a good opportunity to take inventory of seldom-used items and clear out as much clutter as possible.

The amount of stuff the average person owns can affect how easy or difficult it is for that person to get organized. In 2014, professional organizer Regina Lark estimated the average American home contains 300,000 items. And it's not just adults who love to collect and keep things, as kids contribute to the problem, too. British research, as published in The Telegraph, indicates the average 10-year-old owns 238 toys, playing with just 12 in a typical day.

All of these belongings contribute to disorganization and lost time. A study by Esure Home Insurance found looking for lost items accounts for 10 minutes of wasted time each day.

Getting organized can take perseverance. However, it is possible. Use these strategies to get organized in the months ahead.

• **Observe the "one-in, one-out" rule.** Practice the rule of giving away or discarding one item per each new item that comes into your home. This approach can keep a cap on the new things you own.

• **Skip the freebies.** Resist the temptation to accept items that are being given away by family, friends, retailers. etc. Politely refuse these unnecessary items, which will only pile up.

• **Rent items rather than buying them.** Renting rather than buying is another way to stay organized. Avid readers can rely on the public library for their weekly reads. Instead of purchasing new formal wear to wear to a wedding, rent tuxedos, suits or evening gowns.

• **Make lists of what needs to be done.** Writing down

tasks can help them become more manageable, and a list can also ensure a task is fully completed. Physically checking off a to-do list can be quite satisfying, providing motivation to finish the rest of the list.

• **Take a catch-up day.** Those who feel bogged down by a backlog of responsibilities can take a day off from work to catch up on chores and tasks. Fit a few things in over the course of the day.

• **Plan ahead for meals and other tasks.** Use the calendar to plan out the week or the month. When you know what to expect, instead of spending time figuring out what to make or which task to do each day, you can be more efficient about getting it done.

Getting organized is a common goal. It's entirely achievable with a positive attitude and some dedication.



I would like to thank the First National Bank in McIntosh for the socket set I won at the Christmas Open House.

Orlett Hedlund M41P

There will be an

Open House

Baby Shower

for

Alyssa (Tranby) Nornes



on **January 7, 2017**
from 1-3 pm at

Grace Lutheran Church in Erskine

Year in review... Continued from page 1....

Arts and Event Center Stage. Hosted by Andrew Hanson, the play, Fast Food Shakespeare was a huge hit and a lot of fun for the actors as well as the audience; The Win-E-Mac pep band made a trip to Thief River Falls to play for the Patriot Girls Basketball team during the Section playoffs; Due to the mild winter weather in the early months of 2016, locals were finding deer ticks on their pets and themselves; Pete Anderson was honored for his 12 years of service on the King-Town Board of Directors; The City of McIntosh was shown to an interested party during the contract listing with Marcus and Millichap; The kids got to spend a fun day at Erickson Park during the Annual Community Club Easter Egg Hunt; The Annual Ensemble Contest yielded an amazing 7 vocal and 2 instrumental Superior ratings for Win-E-Mac High School students; and The Bjella Building received a new roof from Dave Faldet and crew to start off the summer months.

Tips for realizing goals in the year ahead

The dawn of a new year represents a chance to start anew and set goals for the months ahead. New Year's resolutions are often made to provide the motivation people need to improve their lives and make a new year as productive and happy as possible.

While people who make New Year's resolutions fully intend to realize those goals, few actually stick to the game plan. According to researchers at the University of Scranton, just 8 percent of people who make their New Year's resolutions actually achieve those resolutions. While that might make it seem like the odds are against men and women who have resolved to improve their lives in the year ahead, the following tips can help adults realize their goals for the new year and beyond.

• **Emphasize time management.** Hectic schedules can quickly derail resolutions. Many people want to eat healthier and exercise more but find their time is stretched pretty thin, which can make it difficult to get to the gym or prepare healthy meals at home. Finding ways to manage time more effectively can make it easier to stay committed to New Year's resolutions. Right down your daily schedule and look for ways to free up time. If you routinely take an hour for lunch each day, use that time to exercise and eat at your desk when you return from your walk, workout or jog. Try to wake up 30 to 60 minutes earlier each morning to exercise, and make use of time before bed by preparing a healthy lunch for the following day.

• **Make your goals public.** By publicly declaring your intention to improve your life, you're putting some positive pressure on yourself to fully commit to your goal. Friends and loved ones can be great sources of support, and once they're aware of your efforts, you likely won't want to let



Sewing Day in McIntosh

Now is the time to start anew! Have you been saying you want to start sewing!

Well, Saturday, January 14 starting at 9:00am local ladies who love to gather and sew on their projects together will be gathering at the McIntosh Community Center, bring new and or old projects to work on!

If you are new to sewing there will be plenty of help available! You will need to bring your own machine, fabric, thread, scissors, iron and any other notions you may want!

We do a pot luck breakfast and dinner so bring a dish to share also.

We hope to see you there! And questions call Connie Strom at 563-266 or Lois Boehrnsen at 563-4977. Bring along a friend! All are WELCOME!

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

them down. Once you have decided on a resolution, post your short-term and long-term goals to your Facebook page or let your immediate family and closest friends know of your goals in person. Their encouragement can help you stay on track, and they may even offer to help you realize your goals.

• **Keep track of your progress.** Keep a resolutions journal or start a blog that allows you to write about your efforts. If your goal is to pay down debt, make a spreadsheet that tracks your progress. That spreadsheet might be more motivational than simply seeing a loan or credit card balance gradually reduce on your monthly statement. Writing about your trials and errors can help others and also provide a great way for you to explore your approach and tinker with it to ensure your ultimate success.

• **Expect setbacks.** If realizing resolutions was easy, the success rate would be greater than 8 percent. Setbacks are inevitable, so don't allow them to derail your efforts. Even if setbacks occur when you're well on your way to success, regroup and get back on track without getting down on yourself.

• **Reward yourself.** Don't hesitate to reward yourself as you realize your short-term goals and draw closer to making your long-term goal a reality. For example, if weight loss is your goal and you've adhered to your diet and lost some weight, reward yourself with a favorite meal eaten in moderation.

New Year's resolutions may be difficult to realize, but a few simple strategies can help you achieve your goals and enjoy the fruits of your hard work.

Did you know?

Many people make losing weight and/or getting fit their New Year's resolutions, and the dawn of a new calendar year is often a great time to find discounts on gym memberships. According to Consumer Reports, many gyms and fitness centers, recognizing the desire people have to start the year off on a healthy foot, will greatly discount the cost of memberships in January. But signing up for a discounted gym membership on the morning of January 1 is not the only way to save money and still get fit. Prospective members willing to commit to 12-month memberships may be able to get a gym with costly initiation fees to waive that fee. Rebates offered by some health insurance companies can save club members several hundred dollars per year, greatly reducing the overall cost of their gym memberships. Health insurance providers may reward policy holders who visit the gym a number of times in a specific time frame.

Bible Study: "Jesus The One And Only"

A Beth Moore DVD 11 week in-depth study filmed in Israel. Led by Debbie Gunderson.

This Bible study is for men and women of all denominations; Everyone welcome!

Held at Dove Free Lutheran Church, Winger, MN on Sunday Evenings; Beginning January 29th at 7:15 p.m.

Workbooks need to be ordered by JANUARY 15th Please call Debbie Gunderson @ 218-945-6288 if you plan to attend, to get your workbook ordered, and for more information

VFW Auxiliary
#6891 News

The McIntosh VFW Auxiliary #6891 will have their next meeting on January 9 at 5 p.m. at The Club.

Discussion will consist of the upcoming Blood Drive and memberships.

Anyone that chooses to become a member should contact Wanda Olson, Treasurer, or Patti Benson, Membership Chairman.

Thanks to so many members that continue to support the Auxiliary by volunteering, attending meetings, and pay their dues.

All members are encouraged to attend the first meeting of the new year.

YOUR SUPPORT FOR

LOCAL

merchants

's appreciated throughout the new year!



Kim... Continued from page 1 ...

take place this Saturday, January 7th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at The Club Bar & Grill.

A free will donation Spaghetti Dinner will start about 5pm and go until about 7pm.

Tickets will be sold for a fire pit made and donated by Adam Nelson, and Connie Strom will be selling tickets for a chance to win a handmade quilt and the drawing will be at 8 pm.

The silent auction drawings will also be at 8pm.

Live music by Blonde and George from 4 to 7-ish.

And then Sound Sensations will dj from 8 until midnight.

Come on out and have a great dinner and stay and dance the night away for a great cause!

There will also be "Team Kim" t-shirts available shortly so if your interested in purchasing one let us know how many and sizes!

All money will help Kim with medical and travel expenses.

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Jan. 4: Amanda Shultz

Thurs. Jan. 5: Daros Zahn, Sandy Salvhus, Corey Smeby, Mathea ore

Fri. Jan. 6: Robert Tangen, Winston Carlson

Sat. Jan. 7: Paul Jore, Leland Jore

Sun. Jan. 8: Katelynn Schulz, Alex Jacobson

Mon. Jan. 9: Paige Breckel, Jessica Shimpa

 Find us on Facebook

McINTOSH Times

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE HUB OF THE THIRTEEN TOWNSHIPS BY RICHARDS PUBLISHING CO., INC.

RICHARD D. RICHARDS, PUBLISHER
KIM HEDLUND, EDITOR

McIntosh • (218) 563-3585

"McIntosh Times" (USPS 336-020) is published weekly for \$25.00 per year (in county) and \$30.00 per year (out of county) by Richards Publishing Co., Inc., 1st & Main Ave., Gonvick, MN 56644. Periodicals postage paid at McIntosh, MN.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
McIntosh Times, PO Box 9, McIntosh, MN 56556.
mcintoshtimes@gmail.com

"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

PUBLISHER'S LIABILITY FOR ERROR: The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

Sun. Jan. 15: 8:00am Confession 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. 8: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

Sun. Jan. 15: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

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

Sun. Jan 8: 11:15am Worship Service

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

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

Wed. Jan. 3: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place.

Fri. Jan. 6: 10:00am Telecast of the Sunday School/Luther League program on Garden Valley Cable TV-Channel 2

Sat. Jan. 7: 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

Sun. Jan. 8: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service;

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

Wed. Jan. 11: 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. 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

Wed. Jan 11: 7:30pm Bible Study

Thurs. Jan. 12: 7:00am Men's Breakfast

Sun. Jan 15: 9:45am Sunday School; 11:00am Sunday Worship Service

Trinity:
Sun. Jan. 8: 9:30am Worship Service

Sun. Jan 15: 9:30am Worship Service; 10:45am Sunday School

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
Pastor Jill Torgerson
Sun. Jan. 8: 9am Worship
Sun. Jan 15: 9am Worship

DOVRE
FREE LUTHERAN
Pastor Don Edlund

Wed. Jan. 4: 6:00p Confirmation Class; 7:15pm Bible Study- Everyone Welcome!

Sun. Jan. 8: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School to follow worship service

Wed. Jan 11: 7:15pm Bible Study; Old Testament Tabernacles

Sun. Jan 15: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School to follow worship service

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Rev. John Anderson,
Pastor

Sun. Jan. 8: 8:45am Worship Service; 10:00am Council Meeting

Wed. Jan. 11: 3:30pm Confirmation

Sun. Jan. 15: 8:45am Divine Worship w/ Holy Communion

Wed. Jan. 18: 3:30pm Confirmation

Sun. Jan. 22: 8:45am Worship Service; 10:00am Annual Voter's Meeting

Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays



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 M40-41C



Heritage Recipe #8
Lessor Township has been home to three generations of family for Teresa (Eggers) Syverson. Teresa has shared a recipe for flatbread that has been passed down from her Grandma Romuld. Ella, Teresa's mother, made flatbread for Thanksgiving and for Christmas. She vividly remembers one occasion when her mom was baking flatbread, "my brother Curt and I sat at the table and ate it as fast as she took it out of the oven (dripping butter)."

Flatbread

- 1 cup Margarine
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 cup buttermilk
- ¼ tsp. soda
- 1 egg yolk-beaten
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. salt

Put in refrigerator overnight. Roll out and bake in 300° oven.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

This space for rent at \$127.40 for 6 months.

CALL 218-563-3585

Carlin Hoialmen
Funeral Service

"Our Family Serving Your Family For Three Generations"

John Carlin Tim Carlin
Gary Carlin Mark Carlin
Doug Hoialmen

435-1144



ANDERSON FAMILY
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE
TWIN VALLEY - MAHONMEN - WINGER

719 N. Main 644 Main St.
Mahonmen, MN Winger, MN

**Paige Ennen *Kelly Wotjer*
**Tim & Denise Anderson*
**Licensed Funeral Director*

218-935-9000
Toll free: **866-935-9009**



Is There A Wedding In Your Future?

We have the latest designs for wedding accessories - or, if you choose, we can assist with a design of your own.

LET US HELP MAKE YOUR WEDDING DAY MEMORABLE.

487-5225 Gonvick, MN

Richards Publishing Co.

Winger News

Linda Pulskamp

Greetings again from Winger and the Union Lake areas where we are in the final days of 2016. May you all have a blessed and prosperous New Year.

With the Christmas Holiday behind us, it is time to settle down into a slower pace of life and that may not be all bad. After the rain we had on Christmas Day and then the snow the roads have been very treacherous for those driving. Many families had their Christmas week end cut short with visitors leaving for their homes early due to the pending weather but so much better to be safe than sorry.

But, on the lighter side, I have received at least four seed catalog's in the mail, so think spring!

David Myhrum, Betty Lou Myhrum, Dakota and Kjerstie Poissant of Fertile and Kjelsie Haugen and Steven Cullen of Thief River Falls were all guests for Christmas at the Chris and Sue Eichens home in New Folden.

Wednesday the 21st Lonnie Gieseke was a visitor with Milton Carlson at the Carlson home, while there he cleaned the deck off for Milton, later that day Paul Carlson stopped in to visit with Milton and did some duties that needed tending to and Donna brought Christmas goodies for all. That evening Chris Benesh stopped in and plowed out Milton's yard.

Dean Henney of Austin, TX has spent a few days in the area during the Christmas Holiday visiting with his Mother, Martha Henney and with other family and friends.

Friday the 23rd Paul and Donna Carlson hosted a Christmas celebration for their families that found a houseful of about 30 guests enjoying the day together.

Christmas week end guests at the Pulskamp home were Steve Johnson of Coon Rapids and Brent, Jessie, Sidnie,

Skylie and Brylie Pulskamp of Wahpeton.

Rick, Sharon and Adam Carlson visited with Helmer Homme at the Homme home during the Christmas week end and also with Verlys at the Pioneer Home at Erskine.

Dick and Wanda Donovan of St. Francis arrived at the Milton Carlson home on Christmas Eve to spend the week end with their families. That evening Dick and Wanda along with Milton Carlson, James, Roxanne, Jayden and Joslyn Peterson of Minneapolis and Mark and Melinda Peterson of Now Then were all guests of Lonnie and Judy Gieseke at the Gieseke home.

David Myhrum and Betty Myhrum were supper guests of Sue and Orrie Flermoen at the Flermoen home Monday evening.

Christmas Eve dinner guests at the Pulskamp home were house guests, Steve Johnson and Brent and Jessie Pulskamp and girls and Kelly Johnson. Dean Johnson was a visitor with the family later in the day.

Michelle Gagner of Mentor was a visitor with her Mother, Lucy Brtek at the Brtek home during the Christmas week-end.

Mark and Melinda Peterson of Now Then left for their home on Christmas Day.

Manley and Vangie Hillestad of Mahanomen were visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home on Thursday.

Christmas Day Judy and Lonnie Gieseke, Paul and Donna Carlson and Dick and Wanda Donovan were all dinner guests at the Milton Carlson home.

Last Friday Steve Johnson and Butch and Linda Pulskamp were visitors at the Reha Sanstead home in Erskine.

Dick and Wanda Donovan left for their home in St. Francis on Tuesday the 27th.

In closing and until next

week, always keep learning it keeps you young!

From Bun Manor:

Last week Stue bought Lars and Bun to dinner at the Ness Café for an early Christmas present. While they were enjoying their lunch Bun ran into former Union Lake dwellers Ruth and Stimpert. They now reside in Devils Lake, N.D. Ruth is a sister to Bruce Solberg.

Tuesday evening Bun met Dale and Joyce at Morans and they celebrated her birthday. Dale offered Ole to join them and he would buy him dinner. Ole respectfully declined his offer. Bun thinks he declined because he would put his name in the paper for getting another free meal. Bun wouldn't do that during the holiday season.

Lindsey and Carol Wang were traveling through Winger heading down to Louisiana when they stopped in Winger and went to Moran's and ate with Jerry Wang and his daughter Laura.

Elmyrna told Bun that she along with about sixteen family members and friends helped Blanchard and Doris Krogstad celebrate 70 years of marriage at Moran's on Friday evening. CONGRATULATIONS to the happy couple! What an accomplishment. All married couples should take this to heart when things aren't going so peachy.

Saturday afternoon, Doug Schulz and his boys Chaez and Maxx came up to spend Christmas eve, with their uncle Tim. Judy and Lloyd sister Linda her husband Odney and son Tory were going to come also but the weather scared them off. They attended Christmas eve church service in Winger followed by a lutefisk and meatball supper at the manor. They got on the road the next Morning and made it to their parents in Moorhead for Christmas day. It was a little quiet this year at the manor with some of them not making it up for Christmas day.

Chris Wang came home from Gillete Wy. to spend Christmas with his mother L.J and Byron Kaupang. His visit was cut short by the storm so he took off for home on Christmas eve day.

He missed out on Christmas eve dinner that Terri Kaupang prepares every year. He told Bun that was the first year he missed Christmas with his Mama. He didn't spend it alone though. His friend Tami in Gillette spent the day with him.

Dale Balstad hosted Christmas eve supper at his home. Mother Joyce, brother David, his wife Shawnn and their boys Everett and Grant were his guests. Dale was a bit of a Scrooge this year as he had no lights hanging or a tree decorated.

Bob and Ann Vesledahl hosted Christmas at their home on Union Lake. All three of their daughters Kara, Kylie, Heidi, their husbands Arnie, Ryan, Jeff, their seven grandchildren and Ann's mom and dad Harold and Adella Thompson were there Christmas eve. Ann really got excited when the storm hit on Christmas night and she got to have her family home an extra night.

The Massmann's had quite a festive Christmas. Thursday, Steve, Lorri, Matthew, Brian and Elizabeth made their way to Fargo where they enjoyed supper at the Wurst Bier Hall and then went to see the cappella group "Home Free." It was a good display of talent and enjoyed by all. Brian and Elizabeth then came to Matthew's in Detroit Lakes and spent Friday, where they enjoyed a trip to the Disgruntled Brewery in Perham as well as supper at "Bleachers." Saturday, Steve and Lorri met the kids for breakfast in D.L. before venturing to Alexandria for Christmas with Lorri's family on Saturday and Steve's family on Sunday. Unfortunately, the weather became quite inclement on Sunday, so the group headed out earlier than planned and after a slow going, white knuckled trip on the skating rink like roads. Everyone made it home safely. It was certainly a splendid Christmas season.

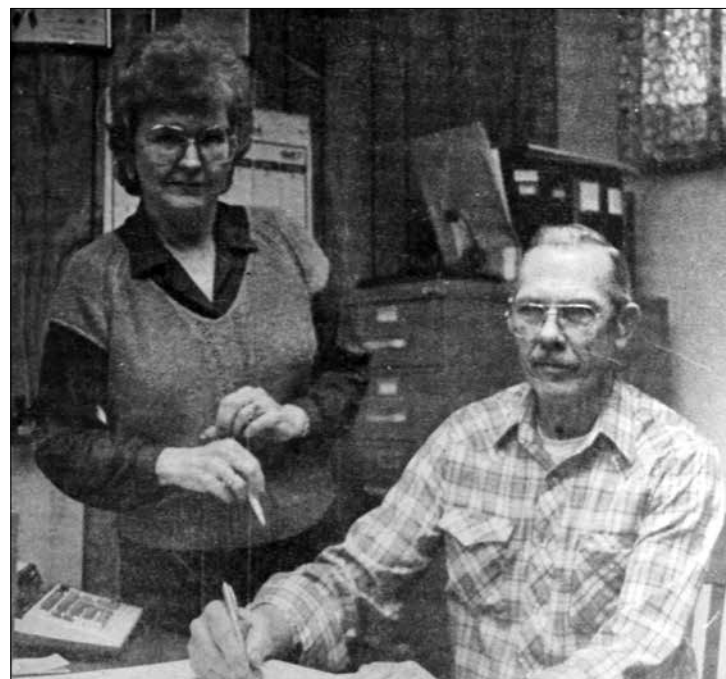
Condolences go out to Joanne, Tony and Barbara on the loss of their son and brother Art Stordahl.



50 years ago...1967: Polk County's First 1967 baby - Mrs. Philip Mork of Winger holds her infant son, David Allen, who has the distinction of being the 1967 New Year baby of Polk County. The infant was born at the Fosston Hospital on January 4th at 9:59 AM.



40 years ago...1977: The last Bicentennial Year baby born December 28, 1976 at 3:33 PM in the Fosston Hospital is Philip Jon Bjerken. Philip is the son of Jerry and Sue Bjerken of McIntosh.



30 years ago...1987: McIntosh Mayor, Roland Hebedank, signs the oath of office as he resumes the duties of the City of McIntosh. McIntosh Clerk, Ann Lohse looks on.



20 years ago...1997: Four year old, Derik Gieseke, tells Santa about his Christmas list during Santa's visit to McIntosh.

The County Line By Warren Strandell Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

We're going to miss them.

Who? Well, that's Craig Business and Nick Nicholas, the Polk County commissioners who will leave the board as we start 2017.

Always a commissioner, Craig did everything and anything that needed to be done, always did it well, did it by the book and did it 24/7. Nick, from his extensive experience in business and his previous time on the Crookston School Board, was the board's top financial and budgeting authority among his other assignments. No one else could make as much sense of the numbers as Nick.

Their departure leaves some big shoes to fill. But that's nothing new. It has happened before. Polk County has been blessed by having some really good commissioners. I won't begin to try to name any of them here, but you know them.

Better than before

The best thing when a commissioner leaves office comes from knowing that the organization is in better shape than when they were first elected. That's the goal of all of us and, for Craig and Nick, it is clear that they leave office with the county better off because of their time on the board.

Polk County has been fortunate to have had good leadership, management and performance all the way through the organization. As a result, the county is well prepared for the times ahead. Its finances are in good shape. And the infrastructure is in place for the years ahead.

On the financial end, repayment will occur in just 10 years for both the \$17.5 million in bonds that were sold in 2005 to build the jail and the \$3 million in bonds that were issued a little over a year ago to address building issues.

To be debt-free

At that point, the county would be debt-free. And, at this point there is nothing else currently on the radar as far as a building project or a major investment in infrastructure.

When the \$1.5 million that is currently required to service the two bond issues isn't needed any more, taxpayers can expect a bit of relief in their tax bills. Beyond a tax break, the commissioners who are in office then — that would be in 2026 — would have the opportunity to put some money away to ad-

County Line..

Continued on page 4 ...

Regional Ag News

Ray Bisek,
Extension Educator

Farm Pesticide Applicator Workshops Scheduled

Farmers with Private Pesticide Applicator (PPA) Permits that expire on March 1, 2017 should have received a postcard from the MN Department of Agriculture recently or will in early in January. U of M Extension will also be mailing flyers about renewal workshops that have been scheduled from the middle of January to the middle of February. Farmers can renew permits again this year by 1 of 3 options.

1) Attend a "Renewal Workshop" conducted by U of M Extension staff. Bring an official picture ID like a driver's license; and your current Permit Card if you have it. Bring a check to pay the \$75 permit fee. You must arrive on time and stay for the whole workshop. Attend any workshop that is convenient for you. Workshops are listed in mailed flyers and at the UMN Pesticide Safety website listed below.

2) Work through the written exam that is available now at County Extension Offices. Use the 19th Edition Manual that was new 5 years ago, as a reference. If needed, the cost of the manual is \$10. Mail the \$75 permit fee along with your test answer sheet in the addressed envelope provided. You can ask County Extension staff about mailing these items to you. They may ask you to prepay for the manual and postage.

3) Work through the exam on line by going to <http://z.umn.edu/ppatprogram>. The \$75 fee is paid by credit card. The manual can be viewed online. The online test should be running by mid-January of 2017.

People getting the Private Applicator's Permit for the first time, or those with permits that expired PRIOR to March 1, 2017, must use option 2) or 3) to be certified. The "Private" Applicator's Permit is for farm operators who are applying restricted use pesticide products on their own fields. This includes some herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and other pest control products that are

labeled "Restricted Use." Pesticide Safety Education programs are aimed at safety for applicators and their families along with the general public, the crop, the environment, the community and food supplies.

For questions about the PPAT process, call your County Extension Office. In Polk County call 218-563-2465. In Clearwater County call 218-694-6151. Cell phone contact is 218-280-1129. Please call ahead before picking up PPAT testing materials as both county offices have limited staffed hours of operation.

The Farm Information Line at 1-800-232-9077 has this information also. The Farm Information Line is answered from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm M-F and will record a message for weather related changes after hours when possible. Always use your best judgment with the weather. Listen to local radio stations or call the coordinating U of M Extension Office before getting on the road.

Renewal Workshops in NW Minnesota include:

Comstock – January 23rd – 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Community Center

New York Mills – January 26th – 10:30 am – 2:30 pm, Otertail Co. Offices Bldg

Gary – February 7th – 9:00 am – 12:30 pm, American Legion

Roseau – February 8th – 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, Roseau City Center

Crookston – February 9th – 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm, NWROC at UMC

Thief River Falls – February 15th – 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm, NCTC Auditorium

The Commercial and Non-Commercial Applicator certification and recertification process is different. For these licenses contact MN Dept. Ag. at 651-201-6615, search online for Minnesota Department of Agriculture, or call the County Ag Inspector. There are renewal workshops for these early in 2017. Most classes for commercial applicators are in southern part of the state this year as part of their normal rotation of class offerings.



10 years ago...2007: Former WAC's Reunite as many of the former members of the WACs met at Moran's in Winger for a reunion. Lots of old memories were discussed and it was decided to reorganize the group once again.

County Line...
Continued from page 3 ...

dress issues that could develop. Knowing that some major construction project was ahead, commissioners started doing that as the 2000's approached. They didn't exactly know what that project would be but they knew that there would be one. The end result was that the county had money in the bank to pay for the Justice Center portion of the jail project. That meant that some \$8 million didn't have to be financed. Without that money having been accumulated and available, the bonding could have topped out at over \$25.5 million rather than the \$17.5 million that was actually issued.

About those jail bonds:
The money needed to service those jail bonds is being generated by a combination of the revenue earned by housing prisoners for other county, state and federal agencies — this has amounted to \$1 million-plus in recent years — along with the fact that with the new jail, there is no longer the need to farm out any local inmates because there isn't room for them at the Northwest Regional Corrections Center.

In 2007, that was the last year in the old jail, the cost of housing local prisoners elsewhere when they couldn't be held locally had increased to a \$430,000 expense.

The best part of all of this is that the new jail isn't really costing taxpayers anything. Add in the fact the facility will provide many, many years of service after all debt is paid and it becomes a pretty good deal.

About the infrastructure:
On the infrastructure subject, suffice it to say that the projects done in 2016 with that \$3 million bonding package will pay for themselves, too. That's through the elimination of the cost for leasing space for Public Health Department, through greatly improved efficiencies in utility costs, and by making office moves that set the county up well for long into the future. All of that work, which will be wrapped up early in 2017, has come in under budget.

Solid Waste project
Another infrastructure project, the \$30 million Solid Waste Expansion Project is, however, in a state of flux. Phase I funding of \$8 million for that project was approved by the State of Minnesota in the 2015 legislative session but the \$9.25 million sought for Phase II in 2016 hasn't yet been approved. That request fell victim to some last-ditch maneuvering over the 2016 Bonding Bill, which died when it couldn't be acted upon before the regular session ended. It was hoped that the bill could have been approved during a special session of the legislature but that extra session didn't happen either.

While the Phase II issue will now be addressed during the 2017 legislative session, there is some uncertainty as to how things will proceed.

Not on your bill
So, if you have been comparing state funding to the estimated total cost of \$30 million, relax. The difference — the cost not covered by state funding — is to be paid for through the collection of tip fees when waste is dumped at the incinerator in Fosston and not by property taxes. In short, the cost of the Solid Waste Expansion Project isn't going to end

up on your tax bill. When completed, the project will give the six-county partners the solid waste program that is the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's preferred method of disposal.

The information above substantiates the point made earlier that Polk County is in good shape financially and infrastructure-wise. No one person can take credit for that, but the departing commissioners — and those unnamed public servants before them — can each be proud of their part.

Thought for the day:
No one party can fool all of the people all of the time; that's why we have two parties. — Bob Hope

Disclaimer: Thoughts expressed in this column are those of the author and are not necessarily a reflection of the opinions of the other members of the Polk County Board of Commissioners

Your Legal Rights: ATM and Gas Pump Skimmers

Criminals are constantly using new types of technology in order to steal consumers' credit and debit card information. It is important that consumers are aware of these methods so that they can better protect their money and credit. Recently, criminals are attaching credit or debit card readers, known as "skimmers," to ATMs and gas pumps.

So what are "skimmers?" And how can you protect yourself?

What are "skimmers?"
A skimmer is a small device, often smaller than a deck of cards, that can scan and store credit or debit card data from the card's magnetic stripe. Once a card is run through the skimmer, the data is stored, and the criminal can later use that information. Criminals often install a skimmer onto an ATM or gas pump and then collect it a day or two later.

For debit cards, criminals will also place a small camera in order to secretly record the cardholder enter their Personal Identification Number (PIN) onto the keypad. The cameras are usually a small "pinhole" camera that can be hidden in a manner that blends in with the machine.

Once the criminals retrieve the skimmer and camera, they can either sell the information over the internet or create counterfeit cards to use for shopping sprees. Often times, the card holder does not know about the theft until they get their card statement. The newer credit cards that have security chips installed still have information on the magnetic strips that can still be recorded by a skimmer.

Is this a crime?
Yes. Stealing the data stored on the magnetic strip of another person's credit or debit card is a crime under Minnesota law. Just possessing a skimmer or equipment to create counterfeit cards is a felony under Minnesota Statutes Section 609.527, subdivision 5b (2016).

How can you tell if a skimmer is attached to a gas pump or ATM?
One way is to look at other nearby gas pumps or ATM machines. They should all have the same set-up. If the card reader at the gas pump or ATM you are using looks different from the others or looks like it has been tampered with, do not use it.

Look for security tape. Many gas stations are now putting a piece of security tape over where the card reader is installed. The security tape is modified so that any tampering will be obvious to the casual observer.

Look for tampering. Some criminals have the time and expertise to break into the gas pump or ATM and install the skimmer inside the machine. However, there will usually be signs of the break-in: different colored parts that don't match the rest of the pump or ATM, graphics that are not lined up, or signs of tampering at keypad or card reader itself.

Wiggle everything. If you cannot see any visual differences, push at different parts of the machine, especially the card reader. ATMs and gas pumps are solidly constructed and should not have parts that are loose.

Use your best judgment. If you suspect that either an ATM or gas pump have been altered, do not use it. Then notify the bank that operates the ATM or the gas station employees of your concerns. When dealing with banks, it is best to ask for their Corporate Security Department as they



Anna Cymbaluk is one surprised elf during the Elementary Christmas program at Win-E-Mac School.

deal directly with the security of the ATMs.

How can I protect myself?
If you can, pay with cash inside the gas station to ensure any card information remains safe. If that is not an option, only use a credit card at the gas pump or choose the credit card option for your debit card. There is significantly more fraud protection for credit cards than debit cards. Also, by using the credit card option for your debit card, you will not have to enter in your PIN and that information will not be recorded.

When using your debit card at an ATM, use your other hand to cover the keypad as you enter PIN. That should block any cameras from recording your PIN.

If you believe your card information was stolen by a skimmer, report that immediately to your bank or credit

card company and the police. Since criminals act quickly with this type of stolen information, you need to report the matter as soon as possible so that you can limit your liability for any fraudulent transactions.

Regularly review your bank and credit card statements for any unauthorized charges to your account. If you think someone has fraudulently used your card information, contact your bank or credit card company as soon as possible. There are laws to protect you from certain unauthorized charges if you promptly report them.

For help with a consumer problem, contact the Attorney General's Office at:

Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1400, St. Paul, MN 55101; (651) 296-3353; 1-800-657-3787; www.ag.state.mn.us

Superintendents Notes

By Randy Bruer

Win-E-Mac Playground Committee

The Win-E-Mac Playground Committee has been working on a plan to replace the current playground equipment, but we need your help. We plan to have a number of fundraisers to help cover the cost of the new Win-E-Mac School playground which is projected to be built in the summer of 2017. Some fundraisers you may see in the next couple months will be Pizza sales, sucker sales and Potato Bar sales during after school activities. The committee has planned a large raffle/auction event with a meal in the Erskine Community Center on February 11, 2017. Ticket sales will begin when school is back in session on January 3rd. Cost of a ticket is \$30 for a meal and chances for the raffle of a number of items. We hope to advertise this on our web page and our local newspapers soon. If you are curious to see pictures of the proposed playground or just want more information on this project please stop into the school or call the district office @ 218-563-2900. Thank you for your support with this project.



would have on the shortage of day-care in our District. The option of providing a service to this extent requires a thorough study of how we would handle our site plan. Depending on how the Legislature works with this proposal, it will create stress on school districts to provide the room, resources, transportation, special service needs and staff to work with these kids. Our District is next on the priority list to begin this program. We will be setting up a childcare survey on our District Web site towards the end of January for our public to give input. Please take time to fill-out the survey and submit. Your input is valuable to our discussions.

Win-E-Mac Giving Tree

Thank you to all those people and businesses who stepped up to make a donation to the Giving Tree this year. The Giving Tree provided gifts to many children and families of our community this year. The number families was much bigger this year than before and everyone was able to receive gifts. This is an incredible event, so keep us in mind next year.

Have a Happy 2017!



Win-E-Mac Elementary presented a Pirate Christmas during the holiday season, and with that, a very happy and joyful elf conga line.



Pirates are always looking for treasure, even in Santa's bag!



The ladies group, part of the Win-E-Mac High School Choir performed during the High School Choir and Band Concert.

Random Things and Stuff



Thankful for Writing By:

Emily Ferden

For my first article of 2017, I decided to write an article about how thankful I am for the ability to write. I have always loved to write, whether it was short stories, journaling, or even papers for school. I love how sometimes when you just let your brain go and free write, your thoughts and feelings just fill up a page. I am thankful that writing can be an outlet for so many people to get their thoughts and feelings out, especially when some people (like me) do better expressing themselves through writing than actually speaking.

I encourage you to try to write something for yourself at least weekly. Whether it is a journal entry, blog, or sticky note, I want to encourage you to get your thoughts and feelings out on paper. You may be surprised what you can come up with!

"We write to taste life twice, in the moment and in retrospect." — Anaïs Nin