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McINTOSH

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Times

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McIntosh, Minnesota



Pictured are some of the staff members at McIntosh Senior Living, who together with the entire staff received a deficiency free review for the second year in a row from the Minnesota Department of Health State Survey team. Congratulations to all the staff at MSL!

Mac Senior Living receives a deficiency free survey for the 2nd year

McIntosh Senior Living nursing home was visited this week by the Minnesota Department of Health State Survey team out of Bemidji and received a deficiency free survey for the second year in a row.

A facility, such as McIntosh Senior Living depends on a quality staff and management team to be able to continuously maintain quality of life living for their residents. "I am so proud of each and every one of my staff members. They definitely provide quality care and our hard work has paid off", said Sharlene Knutson, Administrator at McIntosh Senior Living.

The survey is conducted as the Minnesota DHS comes into a managed facility to evaluate the quality of care and services provided to the residents. They also survey on the appropriateness of the facility's building, equipment, staffing, policies and procedures.

Some of the criteria for a survey includes:

- * Surveys are always un-announced and typically conducted over a period of several days. Surveys can be conducted

on weekdays, evenings and nights as well as on weekends and holidays.

- * Surveyors are health care professionals such as registered nurses, dietitians, and sanitarians.
- * A survey report is sent to the nursing home after each survey.
- * If standards are not met, then the nursing home must submit a plan of correction to the Division. This plan of correction must include information on how and when the problem was corrected, as well as how it will be prevented in the future. Facilities have the right to appeal any deficiencies found during a survey through an informal dispute resolution process.
- * In some cases, a follow-up survey is made to verify that corrections have been made.
- * Surveys look at the care provided to a sample of residents.
- * Surveys only reflect a snapshot in time.
- * Because surveys are conducted at different times, by different teams of surveyors for each nursing home, it represents just one source of information to use in choosing a nursing home. Always visit the nursing home to evaluate services first hand.

When choosing a nursing home, it is important to review the survey findings of the facilities that you are looking into, to help you make an informed choice when considering a nursing home.

However, it is important to use more than one piece of information to make the decision of which nursing home is right for the care of a family member or friend. Consumers should use this survey findings information as an aid to, and not a substitute for, an in person visit to the nursing home under consideration. Visits to nursing facilities being considered and discussion with friends, family and staff members prior to deciding which facility will best meet your needs are essential.

McIntosh Senior Living Staff should be congratulated on a great accomplishment as this is the 2nd deficiency free survey in a row.

Community Club

There will be no February meeting of the McIntosh Community Club. The next meeting will be held on March 7th at 7:00 pm at the McIntosh Community Center. See you there!

Chaput scores 1000 points

Win-E-Mac senior, Hunter Chaput (pictured below) scored his 1000th high school career point on Monday, January 23rd during the Win-E-Mac win over Groodridge/Grygla/Gatzke at WEM High School. Hunter is a forward for the Patriots boys basketball team. Congratulations Hunter!



Win-E-Mac Boys' Basketball Coach Vern Johnson scored another milestone last Tuesday as the Patriots won over Norman County West, making it Coach Johnson's 500th career win! Congratulations to Coach Vern Johnson and the Patriots Boys Basketball team.



Community Calendar

- Wed. Feb. 1:** 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; McIntosh Photography Club 7:00pm @ Community Center
- Thurs. Feb. 2:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Fri. Feb. 3:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. Feb. 6:** 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. Feb. 7:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm
- Wed. Feb. 8:** 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; McIntosh City Council Meeting 5:30pm @ Community Center
- Fri. Feb. 10:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. Feb. 13:** 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. Feb. 14:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm



The WEM 3rd grade classes spent Thursday, January 26th at the Agassiz Environmental Learning Center in Fertile, MN. While there they learned the art of cross country skiing to explore the winter trails of the Fertile Sand Hills. Students also spent time learning winter survival skills as well as animal survival skills and winter habitats. A special thank you to the Erskine American Legion for the monetary donation that made this experience possible.



Staff member, Lois Boehrnsen does a craft activity with some of the residents at Poplar Meadows.

The Origins of Groundhog's Day

Every year on February 2nd, people anxiously await the appearance of a medium-sized furry mammal who they believe can predict if winter weather will rage on or if spring will arrive sooner than later. Although it's a rather strange means of prognostication, millions of people celebrate Groundhog Day, a tradition that is older than many people may know.

The first official Groundhog Day took place on February 2, 1887 at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. In the ensuing 130 years, individuals have gathered in Pennsylvania and other areas around the United States to find out if the groundhog will see his shadow. If the groundhog sees his shadow, winter will continue for six more weeks. If the groundhog does

not see his shadow, then spring will arrive early.

Although the Groundhog Day of today is relatively new, the concept is actually quite old and dates back to the ancient Christian tradition of Candlemas. Candlemas is a Christian holiday commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. Candlemas falls on the 40th day of the Christmas/Epiphany period and is one of the oldest feasts of the Christian Church, celebrated since the 4th century in Jerusalem. Around the 14th century in Europe, Candlemas began to overshadow Pagan holidays like Lupercalia (Romans) and Imbolc (Celts). Rather than torches and blessings from goddesses, on Candlemas custom called for members of the clergy to bless candles and distribute them to the people to symbol-

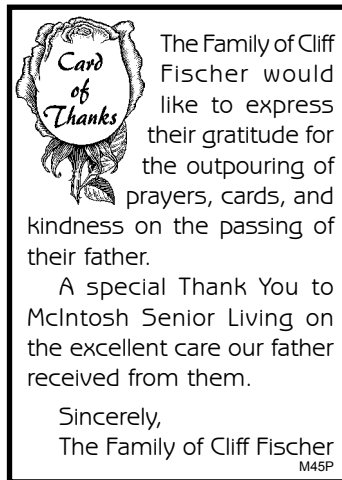
ize that Christ was the light of the world. Weather played a role in the celebration of Candlemas. Rainy, wet weather was preferable because it suggested spring's arrival was on the horizon.

Candlemas was celebrated in many parts of Europe and eventually spread to Germany, where animals were involved in the ceremony. Hedgehogs were plentiful in the area, and celebrants believed if they cast a shadow during fair weather on Candlemas, more bad weather was in store. Pennsylvania's earliest settlers were German, and these immigrants brought their Candlemas traditions with them. But hedgehogs were not common in Pennsylvania, so settlers used groundhogs instead. Thus, the groundhog was seen as a wise and suitable substitute for

prognostication.

Today's celebrations include tens of thousands of visitors from all around the world who travel to Pennsylvania to see Punxsutawney Phil in person.

Boasting a deeper history than many people may know, Groundhog Day will continue to delight revelers for years to come.



Grace Food Shelf Advisory Board

The Grace Community Food Shelf Advisory Board (serving Mentor, Erskine, McIntosh, & Winger) will hold it's quarterly meeting beginning at 7:00 PM on Thursday, February 9th at the Grace Lutheran Church, 332 Vance Ave S. in Erskine. We are also seeking additional advisory board members. If you are interested in assisting in this vital community service please contact Dave Hinkley at dchinkley@gmail.com for additional information

Plan ahead for home

purchases and repairs

USDA Rural Development, a federally funded agency, offers loans for very low and low income households to purchase or build single family dwellings, as well as home improvement loans for very-low income households who already own their homes. Applicants for both programs must meet established income guidelines, have an acceptable credit history and show repayment ability.

Our home loan program offers: no down payment; a current interest rate of 3.25 percent; and a 33 year term. Depending upon your income, your payment could be subsidized making homeownership more affordable.

Already own a home? Our home improvement program for very-low income households offers: an interest rate of 1 percent; up to a 20 year term; and a maximum loan amount of \$20,000. Grants up to \$7,500 may be available to those 62 and older who qualify to remove health and safety hazards from their homes.

To learn more about our requirements, please call the USDA Rural Development Office in Thief River Falls at (218) 681-2843 Extension 4, or write to USDA Rural Development, 201 Sherwood Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN 56701. You can also visit the website at <http://www.rd.usda.gov/mn>. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



The History of a Homestead

Situated south of McIntosh, in Sletten Township, sits 160 acres that is divided by the "S" curve of County Road 8. Its Abstract goes back to January 1890 when the land claimed by Bernhard O Narveson, after the fulfillment of the Homestead Requirements, a "Consideration" of \$5.53 paid, and the claim was filed; was deeded by the United States to Mr. Narveson.

In June of 1890, the Narveson Homestead went to Bernt Oppegard and his wife Bolet via War Deed for the consideration of \$75.00. January of 1892 the property was back in the hands of the original owners for the consideration of \$75.00 by War Deed.

On December 18 of 1899, War Deed as the type of instrument, the 160 acre parcel was sold to Ole Marnum (Marheim) and his wife Susanna. Ole was born in Norway, but left for America in 1870 at the age of 15, to join his eldest brother Peter. He married Susanna Overbo in 1880 and had six children. While making a living as a farmer and raising cattle, Ole constructed a beautiful two story white farm house and a barn. The barn remains standing today, although it has undergone some structural changes over the years.

The property went to Ole and Susanna's son Andrew Marnum in March 1920. At the time Andrew would have been around 23 years of age. Andrew owned the land for the next 41 years, but did not maintain residency, he rented the farm to Henry Bartz for a large portion of that time. In 1954 Henry



Ole Marum in the early 1900's working the field on the south side of his farm site. If this picture were taken to day, Ole and his team of horses would be standing on the pavement of County Rd 8.

added a wood 2000 bushel granary to the farm site.

Dwayne Carver purchased the homestead from Andrew in 1961, at the age of 23, and started his dairy farm. He married Gloria Covlin in 1963 and raised three children. The farm saw 2 extensions to the original barn and the addition of silos for the expanding dairy herd. In 1970 a new farm house was built and the Ole Marum house tore down. In 1983 the dairy herd was sold, but the farming continued. Dwayne and Gloria remain on the Narveson Homestead on the original farm site.

Note- the Narvesons' were charter members of the St. Luke's Menighed Norwegian Synod Lutheran Church that was organized in 1885. St. Luke's Church was built in 1898/1899. In 1922 St. Luke's and St. John's churches merged to form Our Saviors, at the sight of the former St. John's Church in McIntosh. Both Bernhard and his wife, Randine, are buried at St. Luke's Cemetery east of McIntosh, just off of Highway #2.

Ole Marum died in November 1943 in McIntosh and his wife Susanna in 1963 in Fosston.

Andrew Marum remained single all of his life and passed away in 1977, a resident of the

city of McIntosh.

Source:

•Abstract for the South half of the Southwest quarter of Section 4 and the North half of the Northwest quarter of section 9, Township 147, North of Range Forty-One, west of the Fifth Principal Meridian, containing 160 acres, more or less, according to the Government Survey thereof.

•<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/NORWAY/1999-08/0935553834>

•http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnpolk/churches/st_lukes_church.htm

•http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnpolk/churches_of_mn.htm#S

•<http://www.geni.com/people/Ole-arum/6000000019379168528>

•<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/NORWAY/1999-08/0935553834>

•<https://www.geni.com/people/Susanna-Perni-ru/6000000019378727762>

Polk County Public Health

To schedule an appointment at the McIntosh Office of Polk County Public Health, please call 218-563-2010. Please remember, foot care is by appointment only.

If you have any questions about foot care clinics or other services provided by PCPH, please call any of the offices: Crookston 218-281-3385; East Grand Forks 218-773-2431; or McIntosh 218-563-2010.

Our Savior's Men's Dinner

On Sunday, February 5th from 1200 pm - 2:00 pm; Serving: Chili, hot dogs & desert; Cost: Adults-\$8.00 and 12 and under \$5.00

The Our Savior's quilters will also be holding a Quilt Sale

Polar Beach Fun Run

The Polar Beach Snowmobile Club will be holding their annual Fun Run on Saturday, February 4th with registration beginning at 10 a.m. and the run beginning at 11 a.m.

Registration will be held at the Coop Bar and Grill in McIntosh with five stops before ending the run at the Club Bar and Grill in McIntosh. Riders will be due back by 6 p.m. with drawings and prizes at 7 p.m.

There will also be a taco salad bar after the run. Rules will be posted on the card.

Come join the fun with the Polar Beach Snowmobile Club on Saturday, February 4th.

Polk County Republican Convention

The Republican Party of Polk County will hold its annual Polk County Convention on Saturday morning, February 4, 2017, starting at 9:30 a.m. Registration (fee is \$5) starts at 9 a.m. The convention will be held at the Mentor Community Center located on the main street in Mentor, Minnesota. Everyone is welcome

Transit Workshop

The Northwest Regional Development Commission is hosting a public transit workshop to gather input on the transit system they utilize for getting to work, school, shopping, church, and appointments. The workshop is being held at Tri-valley Heartland Express, 524 Barzan Ave, Thief River Falls, MN 56701. A \$20 gift card will be drawn from the participants who attend. Comments can also be made via email to Troy Schroeder: tschroeder@nwrdc.org or via phone 218-745-9107 Date: February 1, 2017, Time: 12PM in Thief River Falls, MN

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Feb. 1: Todd Tranby, Dakota Hedlund, *Mark & Danette Strom

Thurs. Feb. 2: Scott Grove

Fri. Feb. 3: Felicity Address, Joe Brais, Jr., Katelyn Johnson

Sat. Feb. 4: Paul Schow

Sun. Feb. 5: Rebecca Lee, *Craig & Lynette Espeseth

Tues. Feb. 7: Mavis Finseth, Tori Lee Weber, Lydia Herem, *Ron & Nicole Grande

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Announcements • Photos • Community Updates

McIntosh Times

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH Fosston

Fr. John Suvakeen, Pastor
Sun. Feb. 5: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's Fosston, 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Sun. Feb. 12: 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. Feb. 5: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary
Sun. Feb. 12: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

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

Sun. Feb. 5: 11:15am Worship Service
Sun. Feb. 12: 11:15am Worship Service

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH Independent

Gary Johnson, Pastor
www.gosen-church.com
Face Book: Gosen Church
Wed. Feb. 1: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place.
Sat. Jan. 28: 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

Sun. Feb. 5: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service;

Tues. Feb. 7: 10:00am Sunday Worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2

Wed. Feb. 8: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place; 7:00pm Bible Study at Don & Sharon Ramberg's home

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. Feb. 1 7:30pm Bible Study; Youth Group 6:30pm
Thurs. Feb. 2: 7:00am Men's Breakfast

Sun. Feb. 5: 9:45am Sunday School; 11:00am Sunday Worship Service

Wed. Feb. 8: 7:30pm Bible Study; Youth Group 6:30pm

Thurs. Feb. 2: 7:00am Men's Breakfast

Sun. Feb. 12: 9:45am Sunday School; 11:00am Sunday Worship Service

Wed. Feb. 8: 7:30pm Bible Study; Youth Group 6:30pm

Trinity:
Sun. Feb. 5: 9:30am Worship Service; 10:45am Sunday School

Sun. Feb. 12: 9:30am Worship Service; 10:45am Sunday School

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC) McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson
Sun. Feb 5: 9am Worship
Sun. Feb. 12: 9am Worship

DOVRE FREE LUTHERAN Pastor Don Edlund

Wed. Feb. 1: 6:00p Confirmation Class; 7:15pm Bible Study- Everyone Welcome!

Sun.Feb. 5: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School to follow worship service

Wed. Feb. 8: 7:15pm Bible Study: Old Testament Tabernacles

Sun. Feb. 12 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School to follow worship service

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH McIntosh

Rev. John Anderson, Pastor
Wed. Feb. 1: 3:30pm Confirmation

Thurs. Feb. 2: 6:45pm Bible Study, Poplar Lake

Sun. Feb. 5: 8:45am Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion

Wed. Feb. 8: 5:30pm Confirmation, Immanuel

Thurs. Feb 9: 6:45pm Bible Study, Poplar Lake
Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays



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Winger News

Linda Pulskamp

Hello and greetings once again from Winger and the Union Lake areas where we have been having some rather pleasant weather. Must be our January thaw. Has been a pleasant relief from the bitter cold we had, and certainly have seen the snow disappear. It is still very icy out there tho, and there has been a lot of fog to deal with as of late. Snow-mobilers have been out and enjoying the warmer weather too.

There is still an awful lot of colds and flu making the rounds, hope you all stay well.

By this time next week we will be into a new month and will get a report from the ground hog as to how much winter we will still have ahead of us. Not to wish the time away but am always glad when January is behind us, seems like it is such a long cold month.

Apologies to you readers for missing a column, but will never pass up the chance to spend time with my Granddaughters which is what I did a couple of weeks ago while Brent and Jessie were on vacation, after which I had some surgery done and am now recovering at home.

Paul Carlson stopped in at Milton Carlson's home on Saturday the 14th and cleaned out his yard and off his deck, seems like that has been an every other day task there for awhile.

Miles Henney of St. Hilaire visited on Tuesday of this week with his Mother, Martha Henney at the Pioneer Home at Erskine.

Sunday the 15th Milton Carlson along with Mike, Kari, Terry and Oliviayah Keller were guests at the Lonnie and Judy Gieseke home where they all enjoyed fresh apple dumpings that Kari had made.

Last Wednesday while they were in Fargo, Boyd and Sylvia Bratager met Truman and Darlene Johnson for lunch.

Lucy Brtek visited last Friday with Sheldon Lee and Wilma Wang at their homes in Fosston. Lucy states that they were both doing good.

Friday the 20th Judy Gieseke was a visitor and coffee guest with Milton Carlson at the Carlson home.

Visiting Linda Pulskamp last Wednesday at Sanford Hospital in Fargo were Truman and Darlene Johnson of Dilworth, Donnie Johnson of Maple Lake, MN and Joan Helland of Fargo.

Visiting with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home both Saturday and Sunday of last week were Mark and Betty Syverson.

Lonnie and Judy Gieseke were visitors and had dinner with Milton Carlson at the Carlson home on the 23rd that had been prepared by both Milton and Judy.

Visitors last Saturday at the Pulskamp home were Donnie Johnson of Maple Lake, MN, Nola Abele of Fosston, Marv Engesether of Plummer, Reha Sanstead of Erskine and Kelly Johnson.

Last Sunday Great Grandma Helen London, Grandma Lucy Brtek, Grandma Becky Johnson and Grandpa Kelly Johnson and siblings Justis, Tyler and Tony Brtek of Bagley along with many other family and friends gathered at the Angie and Danny Brtek home to celebrate the birthdays of Lily Gustafson and Teegan Brtek, both little girls had just turned 3 years old. There was a lot of good food prepared by Danny and lots of excitement throughout the afternoon.

Dean Johnson was a visitor last Sunday at the Pulskamp home.

This is until next week my gatherings of news for our "Winger" page of the paper. Please help to keep it going!

May you all have a good week.

From Bun Manor:

Last week Dick and Karen Hagen came back to the home territory to visit with family and friends. They stayed with their nephew Dale at his place. While here they attended a eighth grade basketball game in Bagley. Their great nephew Everett plays for Fertile-Beltrami. Other spectators included grandma Joyce and Everett's parents David and Shawnn.

Awhile back Bun went to Mac and had lunch with his friend Laura Grant at the Club. Bun had some difficulty getting into the establishment because of snow blocking the path up to the door. The cook did come out and shovel the snow away so he could get in. Business owners please keep your entrance clear of all obstacles so people with disabilities can gain easy access. Bun took Laura back home as she had misplaced her car keys and had no extra key. She told him that if she didn't find them she would have to take the car to the dealer to make another key. Last Thursday Laura called him and told him she found her keys in the backyard on top of the snow bank. May this be a lesson for others to always have a spare key. She got lucky this time.

Saturday evening, Steve and Lorri picked up Mark and Karen Thompson in Mac and they headed to The Chop House in Bemidji. The Massmann boys gave them a gift certificate for Christmas. Aaron and Kathy Iverson thought they might have been asked to go since they took them out to eat last week with their certificate. But no!

Dr. Dougie and his son Chaez came to visit uncle Bun on Saturday after attending a Pow Wow in Mahnomen. They

told him there were over three hundred dancers and it was very educational and entertaining. They went home on Sunday. A short visit but it was nice to see them

The Winger fantasy football team held their super bowl party at the manor on Sunday afternoon. This year the champ was Aaron Iverson (The Winger Worms.)

Nine of the twelve managers were able to attend the event. Dale was a no show because he had to deal with a truckload of cattle. Steve grilled shrimp and steak for the victory party. Nice job Aaron!

I get a call from Tim Anderson, "John I'm short on News this week can you tell a little bit about your trip to Norway".

The trip was wonderful. My children Sterling and Katherine and I were able to go to Norway but unfortunately Sandy had a problem with her knee but with her blessings we took off on our adventure. Norway

is so pretty and we had such nice weather. We were able to see and walk on the land where our forefathers the Balstad's, Geldaker's, Olson's, & Bjella's came from. We met up with the Lurhus Family in Voss who showed us just how warm and friendly a Norwegian family can be. Hans Olaf showed us around Selbue, home of the Balstads. Hans opened up many doors to the area that we would not have seen on our own and we owe him many thanks. I must also say we had three beers, three burgers and one bowl of soup for \$90.00 and Katherine had a baked potato for \$14.00. Sterling did all the driving with the use of his gps on his cell phone. All in all it was a great trip with many good memories. - John Balstad

If anyone else would like to share a story or a bit of news get a hold of Bun. He is sure that the readers would like to hear about something different than what he does.

The County Line

By Warren Strandell
Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

The numbers that follow may startle you... about the same as when reported a year ago.

The amount of money spent on social services in Polk County during 2015 — the last year for which the information is available — totaled \$96,269,703. That was up about 5 percent from the 2014 total of \$93,120,710.

If you brushed over the numbers, they are in the millions.

Of that \$96 million total, the federal government provided \$46,334,353 (about 48 percent) and the State of Minnesota contributed \$43,782,379 (a little more than 45 percent).

Polk County property taxpayers contributed \$4,960,537 (or just over 5 percent). Most of this was collected to run the Social Services Department. The remaining \$1,192,434 came from miscellaneous sources.

For a county of 31,545 or so residents, the \$96 million amounts to almost \$3,000 per person.

The federal and state contributions basically pay for programs that they have created and mandated through legislation. Polk County's role centers on the distribution of that money to those determined eligible to receive them.

Of the \$96 million, \$58,309,059 (60 percent) was spent for "Medical Assistance" (M.A.) and \$29,395,929 (30 percent) went for "Social Service" programs. The remaining 9+ percent was spent on "Support Services."

These three areas of assistance cover:

M.A. includes care in nursing homes or immediate care facilities, health and dental care, child and teen check-up programs, and programs that assist clients in staying in their homes rather than in expensive medical facilities.

Social Service programs are those that address the well-being of children (adoption, protection, life skills training, and child welfare), childcare, chemical dependency, mental health, developmental disabilities, and adult services.

Support Services provide supplemental aid for the aged, blind or disabled. They also assist families in working out of poverty and fund cash assistance programs, employment training, child support enforcement collections, and group residential housing for persons who would normally be cared for in nursing homes.

While social services spending is often questioned, we all need to accept the fact that "there, but for the grace of God, go I."

Still a good outcome:

The County Board decided 20 years ago that something had to change concerning the cost of "out of home placements." Those costs had grown to \$2.4 million in 1997 with the warning that this was just the beginning.

Troubled and or abused juveniles are sent to "out of home placement" facilities because of their behavior or when their homes are determined to be unsafe and/or lacking appropriate parenting.

The cost out of these placements can be more than \$300 a day almost all of which is paid by property taxes.

In addressing the problem, the County Board directed the heads of the local agencies that have a role in working with these issues that something had to be done locally rather than through the costly "out of home" placements. The plan was to hire at county expense five family-based service providers (FBSPs) — not trained social workers, but just good, caring people — who were to would work directly with the kids and their parents in addressing the problems.

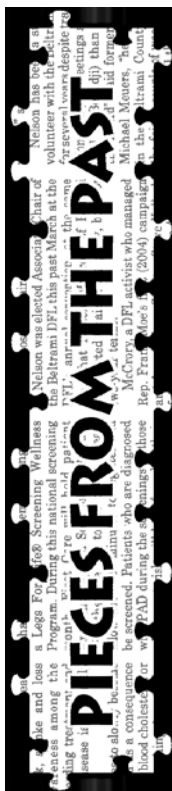
The strategy worked. The \$2.4 million cost in 1997 was more than cut in half in just four years. And, while it has regularly stayed in the \$1 million range for most of the 20 years since then, the effects of inflation and a few other things caused it to increase to \$1,390,997 a year ago and to top off at \$1,384,851 in 2016.

Sure, the cost has gone up — and hopefully it is just a spike — but it is still has been a very good outcome.

The best part of this story, though, is that through the FBSP program kids can usually remain in their homes while

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40 years ago...1977: Cheering the Scots BB team on to Conference Victory through the season have been the Scottish Cheerleaders. Here they pose on the bleachers (l-r) Pam Fullmer, Donna Knudson, Kris Bergman, Patty Strom, and Sherri Haugen.



30 years ago...1987: The younger set loved the miniature golf game at the 4-H Hawaiian Festival. With expert advice from his mother and game supervisor, Marne Berglund, Sterling Balstad sinks a hole in one.



20 years ago...1997: (L-R) Win-E-Mac Sixth Grade student, Skyler Hoas, was awarded a medal and also was presented the DARE Lion for her essay on her commitment to stay drug free. Four year old, Zachary Boehrnsen, son of Mike and Roxanne, took a closer look at the special mascot of the DARE class.



10 years ago...2007: Congratulations to the following Win-E-Mac science fair winners: (Right to Left) 6th grade - Marshall McKeever and Reed Klinkhammer; 2nd Zosim Kaya; 3rd Whitney Anderson, Jessica Schramm, and Bethany Manz.

Regional Ag News

Ed Gindele,
Extension Educator

U of M Beef Team to Host Cow/Calf Days Seminar Tour and Trade Show Bagley February 7, 2017

The University of Minnesota Beef Team is proud to host the annual Cow/Calf Days Seminar Tour and Trade Show at 10 locations across the state in January and February.

This event has been held for over 40 years and continues to be the leading information, technology, and research outlet for cow/calf producers in the state of Minnesota.

The 2017 event will feature information on managing scours in calves, results of a U of M study on the impact of different hay rake designs, grazing management, and results of a U of M study on the impact of hay feeder design on hay waste.

Updates from the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association will also highlight the event.

The corresponding trade-show will feature vendors with new information, technology, and products with a wide-array of practical uses for the operators in the cow-calf sector.

The program is directed at cow/calf producers, allied industry representatives, and is open to the public.

A meal will be served with

the program and a registration fee of \$10 will include the meal, proceedings book, and program materials.

More information can be found at the Cow/Calf Days Seminar Tour and Trade Show website: www.extension.umn.edu/beef/ or contact Eric Mousel at 218.398.1916, emmousel@umn.edu.

Northern Tour Cow/Calf Days

Feb 7 – Staples, MN, 9:30 AM, Central Lakes College, 1830 Airport Road

Feb 8 – Lancaster, MN, 5:30 PM, Community Center

Feb 9 – Roseau, MN, 5:30 PM, Gene's Bar Grill, 1095 3rd St. NW

Feb 10 – Iron Junction, MN, 5:30 PM, Clinton Community Center, 8907 MN-37

Best of Best in Wheat and Soy bean Research

Jan 31- Moorhead, MN, 8:25 AM, Courtyard by Marriott

Feb 1- Grand Forks, MN 8:25 AM, Alerus Center

Private Pesticide Application Recertification Workshop

Feb 7-Gary, MN, 9:00 AM, American Legion 122 1st Ave. East

Feb 8- Roseau, MN, 8:30 AM, Roseau City Center 121 Center St

Feb 9- Crookston, MN,

1:00 PM, Youngquist Auditorium, Northwest Research and Outreach Center, U of MN Crookston Campus

Feb 15- Thief River Falls, MN, 1:00 PM, Northland Community & Technical College located in the Theater / Auditorium 1101 Highway One East

Local Foods College On-line

Every Tuesday night at 6 PM until March 14

Sheep on a Small Farm - a Natural Fit, Soil Health, Cottage Food Law Simplified,

Accessing Capital for Growing your Commercial Scale Production, Seed Saving, Raising Poultry for Fun or Profit

Rewriting the Rural Narrative: the "Brain Gain" of Rural America

Feb 7- Thief River Falls, MN, 6:30 PM, Ralph Engelstad Arena Imperial Room

Feb 8- Crookston, MN, 10:00 AM, Crookston Inn Conference Room

As a side note,

Please visit/call me during office hours and get to know your new Extension Educator! Also, I thank Ray Bisek for his efforts as the interim of this transition.

Thank You to Jim Stordahl for his years of service to serve Polk/Clearwater County area!

Random Things and Stuff



Lice Infestation
By: Emily Lynne

I am sure every one of you have heard about lice or nits. Coming from personal experience, dealing with a lice infestation is a nightmare. Your head is itchy, you have little red bite marks behind your ears, and you generally feel like there are creepy-crawlies all over you.

Recently, there has been an increase in lice around the area; particularly in the school settings. It is important that you and your children know how to try and prevent getting lice and how to treat it right away. Here are three easy steps to reduce your risk of contracting lice from Healthline:

1. Avoid sharing head-touching items such as combs or brushes, hair clips and accessories, hats and bike helmets, scarves and coats, towels, and headsets and earbuds.

2. Minimize head-to-head contact: avoid games and activities that lead to head-to-head contact with others. This is important for adults as well, especially those that work with children. Put long hair in a ponytail or braid. A small amount of hair spray may help contain stray hair.

3. Separate personal belongings: closets, lockers, drawers, and common clothes hooks can create an easy opportunity for the lice to go from one person's things to another. Keep belongings out of common areas such as these.

Commonly, schools report a head lice infestation so that parents can take preventative measures with their families. If this happens, take action right away. Look in your child's hair for small white nits, the eggs of lice. Inspect the child's clothes that have been worn in the last 48 hours for lice or eggs. Educate your children about what lice are and what precautions to take as well.

Some studies have suggested that certain over the counter products may repel lice. These ingredients include rosemary, lemongrass, tea tree, citronella, and eucalyptus.

Here are some little known facts about lice from the Mayo Clinic:

1. One mature female louse can lay 3-4 eggs per day, adding up to 90-120 eggs per month.

2. A healthy adult louse can live for nearly three days without food.

3. Adult lice are commonly the size of a sesame seed.

4. The nit is approximately the size of the tip of a pencil lead.

5. The average speed of a louse is 3.75 inches per minute, which adds up to 450 feet per day (over the length of one football field).

6. Approximately 10-12 million Americans will become infested with lice each year.

7. You can maintain a healthy lifestyle and still become infected by lice.

8. Head lice are incapable of jumping, hopping, or flying.

County Line..

Continued from page 3...

they and their parents work on fixing the problems. That just works a lot better for everyone.

Thoughts for the day:

Wisdom from the seat of an old tractor —Don't name a pig that you plan to eat.

The reward of having something well done is having it done. — Emerson

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

Coaches Wanted

The Win-E-Mac School District is currently seeking a Head Football Coach and a Head Volleyball Coach. Please send letter of application or contact Aaron Cook: This position will stay open until filled.

Aaron Cook, Activities Director
Win-E-Mac School District #2609
23130 345th St SE
Erskine, MN 56535
218-563-2900
acook@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us
ISD#2609 is an equal opportunity employer. M44-45C



A superb job from the Win-E-Mac One-Act play cast and crew as they performed "He Said, She Said, or a Short History of Boy Meets Girl" by Reid Conrad, for the Sub-Section One-Act Play Competition. Pictured (in no particular order) are: Mr. Bruce McWilliam, Andrew Hanson, Clavdie Anfilofieff, Kolton Stuhau, Chris Kuznetsov, Mikah Olson, Joe Revier, Mackenzie Fuller, Katelyn Sanden, Olivia Simonson, Aries Qualy, Maci Hamre, Breanna Carroll, Hunder Chaput, and Jay Parenteau.

9. Home remedies including mayonnaise and olive oil are valid option for treatment.

10. A lice outbreak will occur in over 80% of all schools in the United States.

11. In treating head lice, it is essential to follow all directions to prevent future infestations due to improper use of treatment.

12. The best steps you can take toward the treatment and prevention of lice, is to educate yourself about the subject.

WEM ECFFE

Fun Family Events:

February 2017

Friday 2/3 Zoom Zoom!

Come out to enjoy our transportation themed stations: firetrucks, tractors, race cars, trains! Ages 0-5 yrs 10:30am Prek Rm

Tuesday 2/7 SPECIAL EVENT! Valentines Night! Bring grandpa and grandma along as special guests, make one of a kind valentines, enjoy a sweet treat, listen to stories, and sing a song! Ages 0-5 6-7pm Prek Rm

Friday 2/10 Little Chefs! Try your hand at "baking" a healthy treat! Pour, Mix, and Bake! Ages 0-5yrs 10:30am Prek Rm

Friday 2/17 Teddy Bear Check-up! Bring your bear to school and explore our healthy "check-up" stations! 0-5yrs 10:30am Prek Rm

Tuesday 2/21 SPECIAL EVENT! Health SMILES! Meet us at the McIntosh Library for healthy snacks and fun dental health activities! Children ages 0-12 yrs 6pm

WEM School Announcements

Win-E-Mac Playground Fundraising Fun Night!

Come out and support the playground on Saturday, February 11 at the Erskine Community Center. Social hour starting at 5pm and dinner served at 6pm. Tickets are available at the school office or by contacting a member of the playground committee. Cost is \$30 for the meal, beverage and a chance to win one of 6 grand prizes. Only 200 tickets will be sold so get yours today! There will also be many chances to win many different items throughout the night. Silent auction baskets, meat raffle and other mini games will be taking place. You only need a ticket if you plan on eating, otherwise you may also just come out for the games and raffle items! We look forward to a fun evening out to support a great cause! Must be 18 years or older. See you there!

Parent-Teacher Conferences at WEM

Win-E-Mac Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held at the Win-E-Mac School on Thursday, February 23, 2017 from 1:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Parents of students in grades K-6 should have made appointments to see their respective teachers. Parents of 7th-12th grade students, conferences will be self-led by the students, with their homeroom teachers. Signup sheets will be sent home with students to schedule a time. Also, the buses will run at

WEM Playground Fundraising Fun Night!

Come out and support the playground

Saturday, February 11

at the Erskine Community Center

• Social Hour starting at 5:00 pm

• Dinner served at 6:00 pm



Tickets are available at the school office or by contacting a member of the playground committee

Cost is \$30.00 for the meal, beverage & a chance to win 1 of 6 Grand Prizes - only 200 tickets will be sold - get yours today!

There will also be many chances to win many different items throughout the night with Silent Auction baskets, Meat Raffle and other mini-games will be taking place

• You only need a ticket if you plan on eating -- otherwise you may just come out for the games and raffle items!

We look forward to a fun evening out to support a great cause.

Must be 18 years or older to attend -- See you there!

R45C

WEM Bingo for Books

On Monday, February 6th from 5:30-7pm, the WEM Literacy Committee will be hosting a "Bingo for Books" night at the Win-E-Mac School for grades Pre-K through 6th. Students must be accompanied by an adult. We will be playing bingo, and if you call out BINGO, you will win a book!

Every student will receive a book by the end of the night!

A supper of hotdogs, chips, bars and lemonade will be served starting at 5:30 (and served until 6:00).



If you'd like to donate any gently used books, please drop them off in the box located in the office.

We have many new books available for BINGO too.

Please come out with your family and have a fun filled evening



Above: Coach Vern Johnson, WEM Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, received an autographed ball from his players as a remembrance of his 500th win.

Below: Patriot Brekken Lindberg shoots and scores during the Win-E-Mac Patriot win over Park Christian last Friday evening in Erskine.



Ready for a pass during the Win-E-Mac defeat over Park Christian was Brekken Lindberg and Hunter Chaput.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday