

\$1.00

McINTOSH

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

Since 1888

Times

McIntosh, Minnesota

BINGO for Books!



Everyone’s favorite Grandma, Dorothy Sandberg sat with Ella Strom during Bingo for Books last Monday night at WEM School.



Playing some bingo last Monday night was Hudson Smeby with his Grandpa, Ron Roed.



Holly Klawitter took her sons William and Zane to play bingo during the WEM Literacy Committee event at the School last Monday evening.



On Monday evening the Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee hosted a supper and Bingo for Books night at the School for students in the pre-school through 6th grade. Everyone went home with a book! Pictured is committee member Stephanie Frisk.

Washington inspired President's Day

President’s Day is an American holiday that is celebrated each year on the third Monday in February. School children typically get the day off from school, and many professionals also get the day off from work. Established in 1800, President’s Day once went by a different name. Known as Washington’s Birthday, which is still the legal name of the holiday, this day was meant to celebrate the first President of the United States, George Washington, whose birthday was February 22. Congress declared that day a federal holiday more than 200 years ago, and eventually the holiday grew to become a celebration of President Abraham Lincoln, who was born on February 12, as well. The holiday is now a celebration of the lives and accomplishments of every U.S. president. Few Americans would be hard pressed to identify George Washington’s visage, which is depicted on some American currency, including the \$1 bill. Born in 1732 to Virginia planters, Washington’s interests included western expansion, which he was able to take part as a teenager, helping to survey the Shenandoah lands at the age of 16. Washington was also interested in military arts, and he was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in 1754, eventually playing a role in what became the French and Indian War. In 1759, Washington was serving in the Virginia House of Burgesses, an assembly of elected representatives of



the English colonies in North America. Growing frustrated with and feeling exploited by British regulations, Washington voiced his resistance to restrictions placed on colonists, who were moving toward what would become the American Revolution. At the Second Continental Congress, which assembled in 1775, Washington was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, taking command of troops at Cambridge, Massachusetts on July 3, 1775. Under Washington’s command, the Continental Army would ultimately succeed, winning the colonists their independence from British rule. In 1787, Washington presided over the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, where the new Constitution was ratified. Within two years Washington was unanimously elected as the first President of the United States. Though the current two-term limit was not law at the end of Washington’s second term, he chose to retire from the Presidency anyway, leaving office in 1797. He would retire to his Virginia home at Mount Vernon, where he still engaged in various business dealings. Within three years of his retirement, however, Washington would fall ill of a

throat infection that ultimately took his life on December 14, 1799. In addition to providing the inspiration for President’s Day, Washington’s legacy is that of a hero who led an army of colonists to a victory over a dominant empire. The Washington Monument and Mount Rushmore are two of the more notable monuments honoring the first President of the United States. In addition, the nation’s capital of Washington, D.C. is so named in honor of George Washington. Little-known facts about Lincoln Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln both made their marks on American history, so much so that every year Americans celebrate their birth and influence with Presidents’ Day. Washington may have been the country’s first president, but Lincoln is perhaps more frequently celebrated for his profound efforts to abolish slavery. He is best known for presiding over the United States during the Civil War and signing the Emancipation Proclamation, which liberated slaves across the country. While much is widely known about Lincoln and his life, there are some lesser-known tidbits that only historians or history buffs seem to know. In honor of his birthday, here are 13 facts about the man that aren’t as widely known. 1. Towering over others at a height of 6 feet 4 inches President’s Day.. Continued on page 2 ...

Titan announces dealership restructuring plan

Titan Machinery Inc. (Nasdaq:TITN), a leading network of full-service agricultural and construction equipment dealerships, today announced the implementation of a restructuring plan to consolidate certain dealership locations and a reorganization of its operating structure. The restructuring plan is expected to result in a significant reduction of expenses while allowing the Company to continue to provide a leading level of service to its customers. The Company closed one construction location during the fourth quarter ended January 31, 2017 and expects to close 14 agriculture locations during the first half of the current fiscal year.

Expected Financial Results of Restructuring Plan The restructuring plan announced today is expected to be completed by the end of July 2017, the end of the Company’s second fiscal quarter. The Company is focused on retaining the majority of the revenue from the locations being closed by leveraging its footprint density and scale of the locations in a geographic proximity. The reduction in revenue is expected to be approximately \$40 million, or less than 4% of overall Company revenue, on an annual basis and \$30 million for the current fiscal year (fiscal 2018). The restructuring plan is expected to generate an annual expense reduction of approximately \$25 million. For fiscal 2018, the expense reduction is expected to be approximately \$20 million. The restructuring plan, excluding non-recurring costs described below, is expected to increase adjusted pre-tax income by approximately \$16 million (or \$0.44 per diluted share) on an annual basis and \$13 million (or \$0.37 per diluted share) for fiscal 2018.

The non-recurring pre-tax costs associated with this restructuring plan, consisting primarily of lease termination costs, asset impairment, and termination benefits are estimated to be approximately \$13 million, of which approximately \$3.5 million (or \$0.10 per diluted share) is expected to be recognized in fiscal 2018. The restructuring costs to be recognized during the fourth quarter ended January 31, 2017 will not impact the previously announced adjusted earnings per share estimates or modeling assumptions for fiscal year 2017. The Company expects to achieve its previously announced modeling assumptions for its adjusted diluted loss for fiscal year 2017.

Management Comments David Meyer, Titan Machinery’s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, stated, “As we built one of the largest equipment dealership networks in North America, we made a number of acquisitions, including smaller ones, in close proximity to other locations in our network. Although it’s a difficult decision to close a Titan location, by consolidating these adjacent locations, we will be able to achieve increased scale and efficiency to support our customers in those markets. We are committed to and focused on retaining the majority of our customers and

Titan’s decision at a glance:

- Company Expects \$25 million in Annual Cost Savings from Restructuring Plan .
- Consolidated Locations will be Merged into Adjacent Dealerships.
- Reorganized Operating Structure Expected to Increase Efficiency and Improve Customer Support.

many specialty trained employees from locations that will be consolidated. Employees displaced by the restructuring plan will be offered positions in nearby locations where possible or will be offered severance benefits. The Company is committed to transparency and to treating employees affected by the restructuring plan with respect and fairness.” Mr. Meyer continued, “In addition to location consolidation, we have reorganized our operating structure to increase our operating efficiency and provide additional focus on parts and service support.” Mr. Meyer concluded, “We believe the expected \$25 million in annual expense reduction from this restructuring plan, combined with our reduced inventory levels, better aligns our cost structure and balance sheet with current market conditions. As we begin fiscal 2018, we remain focused on managing the controllable aspects of our business and will continue to take the steps necessary to improve operational results, drive strong cash flow and better position our business for future profitable growth opportunities.”

About Titan Machinery Inc. Titan Machinery Inc., founded in 1980 and headquartered in West Fargo, North Dakota, is a multi-unit business with dealership locations. The Company owns and operates a network of full service agricultural and construction equipment locations in the United States and Europe. The Titan Machinery network consists of 89 North American locations in North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico, including one outlet store, and 20 European locations in Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Ukraine. The Titan Machinery locations represent one or more of the CNH Industrial Brands (CNHI), including CaseIH, New Holland Agriculture, Case Construction, New Holland Construction, and CNH Capital. Additional information about Titan Machinery Inc. can be found at www.titanmachinery.com. Except for historical information contained herein, the statements in this release are forward-looking and made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements made herein, which include statements regarding the number of locations expected to be closed as part of the restructuring plan, the timing for completion of the restructuring plan, the expected impact of the restructuring plan on our financial results and the operating structure reorganization involve known and un-



Community Calendar

- Wed. Feb. 15:** 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. 16:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Fri. Feb. 17:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. Feb. 20:** 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. 21:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm
- Wed. Feb. 22:** 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. Feb. 23:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Fri. Feb. 24:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. Feb. 27:** 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. 28:** McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm



known risks and uncertainties that may cause the Company’s actual results in current or future periods to differ materially from forecasted results. The Company’s risks and uncertainties include, among other Titan... Continued on page 3...



Late Thursday night, the Ultima Bank Minnesota’s Winger branch building was hit by a car driven by an intoxicated driver and sustained substantial damage. The building has been secured and the location is open for business.

President's Day..

Continued from page 1 ...

tall, Lincoln remains the tallest president to hold office. It is likely his stature helped to present an air of authority during his presidency.

2. Lincoln had two romantic interests before he married Mary Todd in 1842. Lincoln was in a relationship with Ann Rutledge, who died of typhoid fever. He also courted Mary Owens for some time before they ended their relationship.

3. Lincoln was notoriously messy. His law office was often cluttered, much to the chagrin of his partner William Herndon. It is said Lincoln kept an envelope on his desk marked, "When you can't find it anywhere else, look into this."

4. Lincoln was the first president to be photographed at his inauguration. His future assassin, John Wilkes Booth, can be seen in a photo standing close to the president.

5. In 1849, Lincoln obtained Patent No. 6,469 for a device that was designed to lift and keep boats afloat when they passed over a sandbar or entered shallow water. Lincoln served as a ferry operator and flatboat pilot prior to entering politics.

6. Lincoln took his dreams seriously and was purported to be interested in psychic research and activities. Before his election to the presidency, Lincoln said he was startled by a vision of a double image of himself. The second image was pale, according to accounts. His wife was led to believe the vision meant Lincoln would be elected to two terms as president and die during the second.

7. Lincoln's beard is almost as famous as the man. He was urged by advisors to grow a beard during his first term to soften some of his harsh fea-

tures.

8. Lincoln was born to Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks. Actor Tom Hanks is a distant relative of the former president.

9. Despite his stature, Lincoln apparently had a high-pitched voice and not a deep timbre.

10. Lincoln wore a size 14 shoe.

11. According to reports by his personal secretary John Hay, Lincoln would sometimes pace the White House because of insomnia. He would keep Hay up with funny stories or with readings of Shakespeare.

12. Lincoln accepted a challenge to a duel with James Shields, a state auditor. Lincoln chose a broadsword as the weapon, but Shields decided to work through his differences with Lincoln amicably rather than face him in the duel.

13. The contents of Lincoln's pockets on the night he was killed were not revealed until February 12, 1976.

Changes to

Full Retirement Age

By: *Patty Hoffman*
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Every worker's dream is having a secure retirement to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Social Security is here to help you secure today and tomorrow. Part of that commitment is ensuring you have the most up-to-date information when you make your retirement decisions.

"Full retirement age" refers to the age when a person can claim their Social Security benefits without any reduction, even if they are still working part or full time. In other words, you don't actually need to retire from your work to claim your full benefits. Also note that waiting until you're

70, if you can, will bring you a higher monthly benefit. The choices you make may affect benefits your spouse or children can receive on your record, too.

As the bells rang in a new year, they also rang in changes in 2017 for people considering claiming Social Security retirement benefits. For people who attain age 62 in 2017 (i.e., those born between January 2, 1955 and January 1, 1956), full retirement age is 66 and two months.

Full retirement age was age 65 for many years. However, due to a law passed by Congress in 1983, it has been gradually increasing, beginning with people born in 1938 or later, until it reaches 67 for people born after 1959.

You can learn more about the full retirement age and find out how to look up your own at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/retirechart.html.

There are some things you should remember when you're thinking about retirement.

You may start receiving Social Security benefits as early as age 62 or as late as age 70. The longer you wait, the higher your monthly benefit will be. Your monthly benefits will be reduced permanently if you start them any time before full retirement age. For example, if you start receiving benefits in 2017 at age 62, your monthly benefit amount will be reduced permanently by about 26 percent.

On the other hand, if you wait to start receiving your benefits until after your full retirement age, then your monthly benefits will be permanently increased. The amount of this increase is two-thirds of one percent for each month — or eight percent for each year — that you delay receiving them until you reach age 70.

If you decide to receive benefits before you reach full retirement age, you should also understand how continuing to work can affect your benefits. We may withhold or reduce your benefits if your annual earnings exceed a certain amount. However, every month we withhold or reduce increases your future benefits. That's because at your full retirement age we will recalculate your benefit amount to give you credit for the months in which we reduced or withheld benefits due to your excess earnings. In effect, it's as if you hadn't filed for those months. You can learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/whileworking.html.

If you pass away, your retirement date can affect the benefit amount your surviving loved ones receive. If you started receiving retirement benefits before full retirement age, we cannot pay the full amount to your survivors, it will be based on your reduced benefits.

Visit our Retirement Planner at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire.



90th Birthday
— for —
Ruth Bartz
at
Immanuel Lutheran Church
February 18th, 2017
from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
RSVP: 651-459-5536 or
ecbartz@msn.com

Polk Churches raise money to feed hungry children

*Twenty Polk churches and two schools raised \$43,684 over the past six years for the 'Feed My Starving Children' campaign, enough to pay for the ingredients for 292,827 meals and feed 8,022 children for a whole year.

*"This is a fabulous outpouring of Christian compassion that saved lives in starvation-impacted countries," Volunteer Co-Chair Jodie Storhaug of Grand Forks noted.

*The meals were sent to Haiti, The Philippines, Nicaragua and Honduras to ward off hunger caused by hurricanes and earthquakes.

*Participating over the six years in Polk county were churches in East Grand Forks, Fosston, Fertile, Erskine, McIntosh, Mentor, Fisher and Crookston.

*Figures for the large number of private contributors in Polk County were not included in the figures.

*The interdenominational coordinating committee is now raising \$88,000 in Northwest Minnesota and Northeast North Dakota to pack another 400,000 meals in the Grand Forks Public Works Building March 31-April 2.

Did you know?

Newspapers have helped shape the world for decades, serving as invaluable resources that highlight both national and local news, retail information, cultural events, and much more. Although several newspapers now offer online versions of their publications, many readers remain partial to print versions. Those who purchase printed newspapers daily or subscribe to home delivery should consider recycling the papers to protect the planet. According to the environmental resource EarthEcho International, recycling a single run of the Sunday issue of The New York Times - or a comparable paper's Sunday edition - would save 75,000 trees.

Snowshoe Lacing Workshop at RNWR

The Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuges Association (FRGRRA) will host a Snowshoe Lacing Workshop at the Rydell National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Visitor Center southwest of Erskine, MN, on Saturday, March 4th and Sunday, March 5th.

This is a day and a half course and will be held from 8:00am to 4:30pm on Saturday and 8:00am to noon on Sunday.

Class participants will learn how to lace their own pair of Ojibwa-style snowshoes. You'll be able to work at your own pace with provided instructions and friendly presenters to assist you along the way. The goal of the class is to send you home with at least one fully completed snowshoe! The class is limited to 15 participants; therefore, pre-registration is required. The appropriate number and sizes of snowshoe kits need to be ordered in advance of the class. There is a \$75 registration fee that includes the snowshoe kit and materials.

Snacks and lunch will be provided, courtesy of the FRGRRA.

The registration deadline is Monday, February 20th. For a registration form, which includes the necessary snowshoe sizing information, contact Lisa Wiersma at 218-687-2229 x10 or lisa_wiersma@fws.gov. You can also download a registration form at <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/rydell/>

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 bare 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.

Funds available through USDA

Rural Development

USDA Rural Development currently has funds available for very-low and low-income residents of rural Minnesota that are interested in purchasing a home or for current homeowners in need of essential repairs.

Interested in purchasing a home? Rural Development's single-family housing Section 502 program offers subsidized loans with affordable monthly payments in rural areas. Home loans may be used to purchase a new home, existing home or build a new home. To qualify, applicants must meet Rural Development's income limits, have adequate and dependable income, have an acceptable credit history, be unable to obtain sufficient credit from other sources, and show repayment ability.

Is your home in need of repairs? Rural Development's single-family housing Section 504 program assists local homeowner's complete essential repairs and removes health or safety hazards from their home. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy the home; applicants must meet Rural Development's income limits.

For loan eligibility, applicants must also have an acceptable credit history, show repayment ability, be unable to afford a conventional loan and live in a community with a population of 20,000 or less. The maximum loan is \$20,000, repayable over 20 years with a 1% interest rate.

Grants are limited to elderly homeowners over the age of 62, and grant funds can only be used to remove health or safety hazards or remodel dwellings to make them accessible to household members with disabilities. The maximum grant is \$7,500.

For more information, contact the local Rural Development office in Thief River Falls at (218) 681-2843, ext. 4.

More information is also available at www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Feb. 15: Bryce Stordahl, Parker Wirth, *Mike & Jane Aakhus
Thurs. Feb. 16: David Rolf, Adella Thompson, Kimberlee Mandt
Sat. Feb. 18: Taylor Schulz, Karen Olson
Sun. Feb. 19: Bruce Grundyson, Remy Goodwin
Mon. Feb. 20: Sunny Burslie, Kolten Schow, Kinlee Faldet, Katie Roed
Tues. Feb. 21: Mar- ea Schommer, Dave Erickson, Jason Svalen

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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

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. MARY'S CHURCH Fosston

Fr. John Suvakeen, Pastor

Sun. Feb. 19: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's Fosston, 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Sun. Feb. 26: 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. 19: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

Sun. Feb. 26: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

McIntosh Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson

Sun. Feb. 19: 11:15am Worship Service

Sun. Feb. 26: 11:15am Worship Service

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Independent
Gary Johnson, Pastor

www.gosen-church.com
Facebook: Gosen Church
Wed. Feb. 15: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place.

Sat. Feb. 18: 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

Sun. Feb. 19: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service;

Tues. Feb. 21: 10:00am Sunday Worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2

Wed. Feb. 22: 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

Wed. Feb. 15: 7:30pm Bible Study at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. Feb. 16: 7:00am Men's breakfast at Gerald Borud's

Sun. Feb. 19: Guest Speaker Mr. Loiell Dyrud; 9:30am Worship at Trinity; 10:45am Sunday School at Trinity; 9:45am Sunday School at Mt. Carmel; 11:00am Worship at Mt. Carmel

Wed. Feb. 22: 7:30am Bible Study at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. Feb. 23: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Gerald Borud

Sun. Feb. 26: Guest Speaker Mr. Nathan Dalager; 9:30am Worship at Trinity; 10:45am Sunday School at Trinity; 9:45am Sunday School at Mt. Carmel; 11:00am Worship at Mt. Carmel

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)

McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson

Sun. Feb. 19: 9am Worship

Sun. Feb. 26: 9am Worship

DOVRE FREE LUTHERAN

Pastor Don Edlund

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

Sun. Feb. 19: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School to follow worship service

Wed. Feb. 22: 7:15pm Bible Study: Old Testament Tabernacles

Sun. Feb. 26 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School to follow worship service

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

McIntosh

Rev. John Anderson, Pastor

Wed. Feb. 15: 5:30pm Confirmation, Immanuel

Thurs. Feb. 16: 6:45pm Bible Study, Poplar Lake

Sun. Feb. 19: 8:45am worship Service

Wed. Feb. 22: 5:30pm Confirmation, Immanuel

Thurs. Feb. 23: Bible Study, Poplar Lake

Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays



Shorts from the McIntosh Times

(As printed in The Saga of the Thirteen Towns)

• In November 1889, Henry T. Gilbertson was appointed first postmaster of Erskine

• July, 1889-The Fosston band came to McIntosh and gave an impromptu concert on the street.

• January 1890-The railroad company was erecting a one-stall roundhouse at Fertile

• March 23, 1899-The Fosston Woolen Mills have begun to put their products

on the market and they are said to be giving great satisfaction.

• March 30, 1899-The McIntosh council granted the Northwestern Telephone Company permission to put in its wires and poles, subject to the approval of the council. It is expected that connection with the outside world will be completed by May or June.

• The first mail service was by the Indian Beaulieu on horseback from Crookston. Later, mail was carried by stage—it is not known how often

• July 2, 1908 Notice is hereby given that the tying of cows on the village streets will no longer be tolerated—and that all cows found hereafter tied thereon will be taken care of by the Marshall. By order of the Village Council.

Source: *The Saga of the Thirteen Towns*

Presidents Day

Grover Cleveland was born March 18, 1837 in Caldwell, New Jersey. He went on to be elected the 22nd and 24th President of the United States.

President Cleveland was known for his honesty and common sense.

Each February, on Presidents Day, we pay tribute to all U.S. Presidents.



Presidents Day

First National Bank of McIntosh will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of Presidents Day.



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Winger News

Linda Pulskamp

Hello again from Winger and the Union Lake areas where the weather has been very unpredictable, snow, icy roads, blowing snow, frigid temps but alas according to predictions by the weekend we will be close to 40 degrees. All I can say is bring it on and hopefully it will melt some of the ice we are still dealing with.

With the Super Bowl behind us, all I can say is I hope your team didn't let you down. A game for the books that went into overtime. And the commercials, they seem to get bigger and more expensive every year.

News is sparse and if it continues to be this way, well I guess there is no point in keeping on. Your choice people!

Wednesday the first of February Gary and Maxine Walters were visitors at the Pioneer Home at Erskine with Helmer and Verlys Homme.

On the evening of February 1st, Kari and Oliviayah Keller of Bejou were visitors with Milton Carlson at Milton's home.

Last weekend Brent Pulskamp of Wahpeton, Harry Johnson and son Tim of Breckenridge stopped by and picked up Butch Pulskamp and all went on to Lake of the Woods where they met other friends of Brent's for a week end of socializing and fishing together. The socializing was great but the fishing not so, came home without.

Friday the 3rd Lonnie and Judy Gieseke brought bars, had coffee along with the bars and a good visit with Milton Carlson at Milton's home.

Last Friday Sheldon and Rita Trandem were visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home at Erskine.

Donna Carlson brought fresh cinnamon rolls last Saturday to the Milton Carlson home that she and Milton enjoyed with a cup of coffee and a visit together.

Lucy Brtek was a visitor last Sunday at the Greg and Michelle Gagner home at Mentor. Also visiting at the Gagner home were Lucy's granddaughter Samantha O'Bierne of Bemidji and Great Grandson Gideon O'Bierne.

Monday morning Paul Carlson stopped in at the Milton Carlson home on his way to work and helped Milton with some household chores and was rewarded with fresh coffee.

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

Marv Engesether of Plummer, Butch and Linda Pulskamp, Spencer and Rachel Anderson of Erskine and Gerry and Jamie Mattison of Plummer were visitors last Sunday night at the Reha Sanstead home in Erskine.

Chris Benesh stopped by the Milton Carlson home on Tuesday after the snow and the blowing and cleaned out the yard for Milton.

Once again this the little bit of "bits" I have managed to collect and hopefully next week will bring more? Need help!

From Bun Manor:

Monday evening Joyce treated her sons Paul and Dale along with Bun to Morans for supper. The occasion was to help Paul celebrate his 50th birthday and also celebrate an early birthday for Bun. Ole missed out on this one. However, Bun found out that David and Shawnn Balstad bought Ole lunch at the café in Winger.

David buying lunch for others is as rare as Joyce buying. Bun thanks you Joyce for supper and for remembering his birthday.

Stue reported that the playground fundraiser chicken dinner, silent auction and raffle they had at the Erskine community center on Saturday for the school was well attended and everyone had a fun time.

Andy came up to visit his brother Tim over the weekend. He took his van up to Crookston on Monday morning to get the remote starter fixed before heading back home. When he got to Service Pro they told him that the man who was going to install the new part was down in the cities and nobody else felt comfortable working on it. Bun made an appointment last week with them. One would think they could have been courteous enough to at least call. How poor is that? Andy and Tim also attended the Calvary Sunday school fundraiser dinner on Sunday at the church. The kids did a wonderful job decorating the church with a Valentines theme and Loren and Natalie made great hostesses and waitresses. Devra figured they served around a hundred head. Proceeds go towards Vacation Bible school and Bible camp.

Ann and Bob Vesledahl took a road trip to Milwaukee last weekend to watch their adolescent granddaughter Sydney compete in Gymnastics. They also visited with Ann's sister Naomi before returning home.

Next week Bun hopes to have a report from Jill and Gary Sonstlie's trip to Nevada and Steve and Lorri's trip to Texas.

Titan...

Continued from page 1....

things, the Company's ability to implement the restructuring plan efficiently and consistent with the current scope and plan, the impact of the restructuring plan on the Company's financial results, a substantial dependence on a single distributor, the continued availability of organic growth and acquisition opportunities, potential difficulties integrating acquired stores, industry supply levels, fluctuating agriculture and construction industry economic conditions, the success of recently implemented initiatives within the Company's Construction segment, the uncertainty and fluctuating conditions in the capital and credit markets, difficulties in conducting international operations, governmental agriculture policies, seasonal fluctuations, climate conditions, disruption in receiving ample inventory financing, and increased competition in the geographic areas served. These and other risks are more fully described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Company conducts its business in a highly competitive and rapidly changing environment. Accordingly, new risk factors may arise. It is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors, nor to assess the impact of all such risk factors on the Company's business or the extent to which any individual risk factor, or combination of factors, may cause results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. The Company disclaims, except as required by law, any obligation to update such factors or to publicly announce results of revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect future events or developments.



Fire deaths to second-lowest

Fire marshal urges Minnesotans to keep taking fire prevention seriously

The number of fire deaths in 2016 was the second-lowest since the Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Division (SFMD) began compiling those statistics in 1970, according to preliminary information released today.

Thirty-six people died in fires in 2016, a 37 percent decrease over the 57 fatalities in 2015. The lowest number of fire fatalities on record was 35 in 2009; the highest was 134 in 1976.

The leading cause of fatal fires last year in Minnesota was careless smoking (seven deaths) followed by combustibles too close (four) and suicide or arson (four), according to preliminary data. There were 13 fire deaths in which the fire's cause was undetermined.

Numbers become final once Minnesota hospital officials report their information to the Minnesota Department of Public Health in the spring.

State Fire Marshal Bruce West said he is pleased fire deaths plummeted to a near-record low but that even one fire death is too many.

"Nobody should ever have to suffer the pain of losing someone in a fire," West said. "Everyone must take fire prevention seriously so the number of deaths keeps falling."

West said it is difficult to pinpoint a reason for the drop in fire deaths. He is hopeful Minnesotans are realizing the danger and power of fire and taking fire prevention in their homes more seriously.

Fire deaths the past decade
2016: 36 (preliminary),
2015: 57; 2014: 44; 2013: 44;
2012: 50; 2011: 56; 2010: 39;
2009: 35; 2008: 52; 2007: 40.

Fire prevention tips

Minnesotans can keep themselves and their families safe by following these prevention tips:

Cooking

- Never leave a hot stovetop or oven unattended; stay and look while you cook.
- Keep anything flammable

Fire...

Continued on page 4 ...



50 years ago...1967: A new utility truck was added to present village equipment at McIntosh last week. Shown here, proudly claiming the new pickup from Birdeen Burslie of Burslie Chevrolet, is Olaf Grundyson.



40 years ago...1977: These are the boys who will help make the Mac-Winger Scots a winning team in 1978 when four of the 1977 Varsity Team will be missing due to their High School Graduation. 1977 Subs for the Varsity Scots 1st place in this year's Conference are as follows: Mark Molstre, Daryl Fladhammer, David Rolf, Peter Tranby, and Dave DeFrang.



30 years ago...1987: Gloria Carver, Dorothy Sandberg, Eva Rolf and Betty Walker are busy painting banners for the upcoming basketball tournaments.



20 years ago...1997: Seven members of the Win-E-Mac Choir volunteered to sing the Star Spangled Banner during the basketball game last Friday. Pictured are Kathleen Hegg, Kim Rock, Cameo Boucher, Amy Nelson, Holly Hammer, Mandi Hamre, and Kylie Kolstad.



10 years ago...2007: the Creative Foods class took on the project of "Valentine Cookie Sales" and it proved to be a huge hit with over 700 cookies being ordered. The cookies were made from scratch, baked and frosted and readied for delivery on Valentine's Day. The project was a cooperative effort finding each of the students working at all the stations from start to finish and a busy week of production as the class meets for only 45 minutes a day. The students were learning management production skills and will use the profits to fund visits to area food establishments and learn more about the food and restaurant industry.

Regional Ag News

Ed Gindele,
Extension Educator

Earthworms can spread gigan ragweed seed

Weed scientists have discovered that "UNDERGROUND GARDENING" by earthworms is contributing to the spread of giant ragweed, a plant that causes sneezes and sniffles and is one of the nation's most irritating weeds. This most "irritating" weed is frequently found in our area of Northwest Minnesota.

Earthworms help ragweed thrive by systematically collecting and burying its seeds in their burrows says Weed Scientist Emilie Regnier of Ohio State University. In fact, her research team has found that more than two thirds of all giant ragweed seedlings emerge from earthworm burrows! Though giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*) is best known for the prolific blanket of pollen it produces to plague hay fever sufferers, it also takes a costly toll on crops. Throughout the Midwest, the weed is especially a problem in corn and soybeans, causing yield losses of 50% to 75% when left unchecked.

Weed scientists have long been mystified by the rapid spread of giant ragweed since it produces relatively few seeds. Now research shows that the lowly earthworm is one of the culprits. In a study funded by the USDA's Cooperative Research, Education and Extension Service, Regnier and her research team examined the impact of earthworms on giant ragweed. The study focused on the earthworms *Lumbricus terrestris*, which is commonly known as night crawlers.

Until now, night crawlers have had a stellar reputation among growers since their burrows promote water filtration

and their eating habits help make nutrients available to crops. The worms feed on plant litter they collect from the soil surface and store inside their narrow, underground homes. As the litter softens and decays, it improves the availability of nutrients in the soil. Now, though, it appears there is also a dark side to the work of the night crawlers.

This Ohio State University research program shows that night crawlers are some of nature's most effective "weed farmers". They actively forage for weed seeds, pull them into their burrows and "plant" them under several inches of soil.

In fact, the researchers found that the earthworms collected and buried more than two thirds of the seeds dispersed by a stand of giant ragweed. Each burrow examined in the study contained an average of 127 ragweed seeds, or 450 seeds per square foot. While night crawlers collect seeds from other plants as well, giant ragweed is definitely on the preferred list!

Dr Regnier and her research team found that earthworms collect and bury 10 types of seeds in the same size range. But they have three special favorites-giant ragweed, bur cucumber, and sunflower. This research that has helped weed scientists understand the accumulation of weed seeds in the soil and how weeds are spread, is critical to the development of new effective management strategies, says Lee Wychen of the Weed Science Society of America. Giant ragweed should be vigorously controlled in fields and gardens in order to minimize further seed production and protect plant

growth and crop yields. For more information or to have questions answered, you can contact Weed Scientist, Dr. Emilie Regnier at Ohio State University by e mail at regnier.1@osu.edu.

Source: Press release by the "Weed Science of America," Dr. Emilie Regnier, Associate Professor, Ohio State University.

Random Things and Stuff



Coaching Beyond the Game

By: Emily Lynne

Whatever sport is involved, coaching is an important role. It is the coach's job to get the team ready for the game, but what other role do they have? Well, in my opinion, coaches should be getting their teams ready for life beyond the game.

It is my belief that coaching should go beyond the sport. I think that coaches should strive to instill good ethics and morals into the players. The coach should build up the morale of the team, and promote them to be their best. The coach should also be promoting teamwork amongst each of the players.

There are a few things I look for in a coach to determine if they are a good quality coach. I look for someone that believes in the team, and really wants what is best for them. Someone that will build up the team's character, and model that behavior for them to witness. I also think that a good coach is someone that is a good role model outside of the sport.

In my own life, I have had the opportunities to coach. I have helped with younger teams just learning the basics of the sports. I have also now been a Special Olympic coach for three years. I help coach basketball, bowling, and track and field. I love coaching because I love making a difference in the athlete's lives. I like seeing the impact I have on the athlete's by being a role model. My favorite thing about being a coach is seeing the athlete's succeed and show how each one of them are amazing and unique in their own ways.

Anyone who is looking to be a coach should have a few special qualities. They should

be compassionate as well as genuinely care for the athletes they coach. The coach should be a role model and leader in all aspects. When I look back at the various coaches I have had, my favorites were the ones that took the time to mold us into better people, beyond the sport.

"To be as good as it can be, a team has to buy into what you as the coach are doing. They have to feel you're a part of them and they're a part of you." – Bobby Knight

Fire...

Continued from page 3 ...

(oven mitts, aprons, paper towels) three feet from heat sources in the kitchen.

Smoking

- If you smoke, smoke outside.
- Use a deep, sturdy ashtray. Place it away from anything that can burn.
- Do not discard cigarettes in potted plants, leaves, mulch or other vegetation.
- Complete extinguish cigarettes. Use a metal container filled with water or sand.

Heating

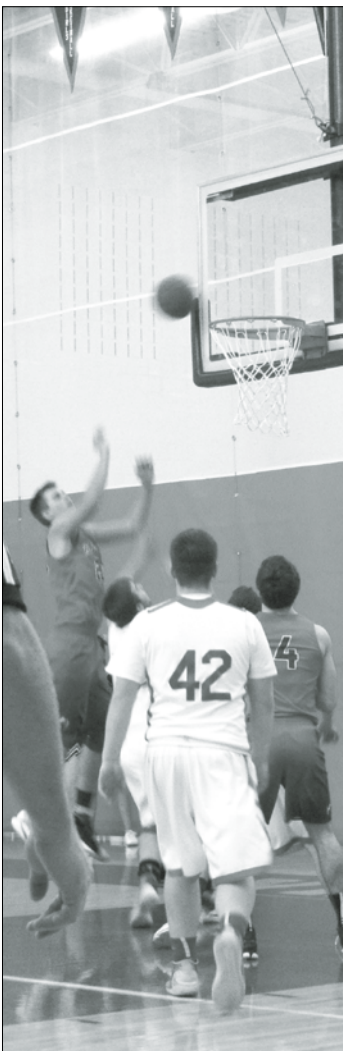
- Keep space heaters three feet from anything combustible.
- Do not leave space heaters unattended and turn them off while you're sleeping.
- Plug space heaters directly into the wall, not an extension cord or power strip.

Open flames

- Leave three feet between a candle and anything that can burn; use flameless candles.

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms

- Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms save lives — but only if they work. Test yours monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.
- Fire doubles in size every 60 seconds; a smoke alarm can give you the valuable time you need to escape.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.



Brekken Lindberg (23) shoots during the Win-E-Mac vs. Fertile game last Friday at WEM School.

- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping room or inside each sleeping room.

About MN Department of Public Safety

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) comprises 11 divisions where 2,100 employees operate programs in the areas of law enforcement, crime victim assistance, traffic safety, alcohol and gambling, emergency communications, fire safety, pipeline safety, driver licensing, vehicle registration and emergency management.

DPS activity is anchored by three core principles: education, enforcement



Taking it to the hoop during the Win-E-Mac 74-42 win over Fertile-Beltrami last Friday night at WEM School was Alec Kiecker (4).



Marcos Lopez (32) controlling the ball during the Win-E-Mac win over Fertile-Beltrami.



Kevin Subbert was one of the 3 participants in the half-time shootout during the Win-E-Mac Boy's Basketball game last Friday.

Wanted: Health Aide

The Win-E-Mac School District is currently accepting applications for a part time Health Aide.

This is a 9 month part-time position (approximately 15 hours per week) beginning March 1, 2017. Salary is dependent upon experience/qualifications.

For a complete job description and application email or call the school. Job application forms can also be accessed at www.win-e-mac.k12.mn.us.

Interested individuals should send a letter of application and resume to:

Win-E-Mac Public School
Randy Bruer, Superintendent
23130 345th St. SE
Erskine, MN 56535
Phone: 218-563-2900
e-mail: rbru@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us

The position is open until filled.
ISD #2609 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

M46-47C

COACH WANTED

The Win-E-Mac School District is currently seeking a JH Baseball 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
aco@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us

ISD#2609 is an equal opportunity employer. M46-47C

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 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2017.

Students interested in clay target league this spring, please sign up in the office. Students in grades 6-12 can participate as long they have their firearms safety completed.

Due to the storms and cancellation of school at Win-E-Mac for a couple of days there will be make up days, which will be April 17th, 2017 and May 30, 2017.

WEM Snowfest Week:

Snowfest is February 12-17. There will be a 7th-12th grade dance on Friday, February 17th from 9:00pm to 12:00pm. \$10 per person. We will be doing challenges for teams of 5 throughout the week during homeroom. You can sign up your team in the office. Your team can be of mixed ages and your name should be school appropriate.

Dress up Days:
Monday: Pajama Day
Tuesday: Valentine's Day
Wednesday: Wacky Wednesday
Thursday: Beach Day
Friday: Spirit Day

WEM ECFE

Fun Family Events:

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

Friday 2/24 Five Senses! Look Listen Touch Taste Smell! Explore your 5 senses in our themed classroom stations, listen to a story, and learn a fun song! Ages 0-5yrs 10:30am Prek Rm

WEM Early Childhood Family Education classes are

for ages 0-5 yrs old and families. Events are FREE and pre-registration is NOT required unless noted. For more information, contact ECFE Coordinator, Shannon Svalen 218-688-2170, ssvalen@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us, or LIKE us on Facebook: WEM Early Childhood Family Education.

Prom sign-up forms are available in Mrs. Winter's room. All couples must sign-up ahead of time for admittance and planning purposes. WEM seniors and juniors are invited to attend the prom with a guest who is a sophomore or older in or out of school but no older than 20 years of age. Prom will be held May 6th.



Jordan Gunufson and Dorothy Sandberg during the half-time shootout sponsored by Premier Signs and WEM Travel Center.

Below: The cheerleaders and ECFE kids, who learned some cheers, cheered during halftime last Friday at the Basketball game.