



Today	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Snow
H 6 L -5	H 21 L 10	H 29 L 21	H 31 L 22	H 32 L 25

In this issue ... Goodridge students were recently inducted into the Minnesota Honor Society.

Chargers basketball is underway

Chargers basketball is underway for the season with the girls already being 3-0 as of Monday, December 5th. The girls had a busy schedule last week with three games. However, all were wins so it was a great start to the season. Congratulations to the Varsity team on defeating Roseau last Friday night in Grygla. That was the first GBB Varsity win vs. Roseau since February 14th, 2013.

For this week, the only game is on the road. The girls travel up to Lancaster where they will play KCC on Friday, December 9th.

Also, just a general note that for basketball home games in Goodridge, all levels (7th through Varsity) will be streamed on GV Channel 38. For all home games in Grygla, just JV and V will stream on

GV Channel 36.

GBB vs. RLCC in Goodridge on Monday, November 28th

GG 47, RLCC 36

Ashlyn Nelson- 2 points, Brooklynn Kriel- 4 points, Molly Cullen- 1 point, Caitlyn Jacobson- 19 points, 9 reb., Sadie Anderson- 12 points, Kylie Delage- 9 points, 6 reb.

RLCC

Payton Rystad- 4 points; Paige Olson- 3 points; Carly Vettleson- 4 points; Quinn Graves- 6 points; Jamie Flatgard- 6 points; Shawna Majeres- 2 points; Carlee Whalen- 5 points; Marissa Thomas- 6 points

Coach's comments: "This was the first game of the season, but I think we did pretty

Charger Stats...
Continued on page 2



Stephanie Irlbeck had a successful muzzleloading season. She got this 11 pointer on the ground last Sunday, December 4th, in rural Grygla. Photo courtesy of Stephanie Irlbeck

Grygla JCC's Santa Day is fun for the whole family

The Grygla JCC's have been busy planning a festive day for all to enjoy! On Sunday, December 11th, there will be a full afternoon and evening of holiday cheer. The fun begins at 2pm at the Grygla Community Center. The scheduled list of events is as follows:

- 2-3pm: Bingo
- 3-5pm: Chili feed & hot chocolate, kids crafts & coloring, Christmas movies, (S)elfie Station. New this year includes face painting and LEFSE HOT OFF THE GRILL at \$2.50/ piece.
- 3:30-5pm: Santa visits & Sleigh rides (to be determined)

The entire community is invited to come out and enjoy all of these festive activities. Cost: free-will donation.

Goodridge Santa Day

The Goodridge Lions and Lion Tamers invite you to Goodridge Santa Days this Saturday, December 10th, from 12-3pm. Enjoy sleigh rides, coloring contests, cookie decorating, crafts, lunch, Mr. & Mrs. Claus and so much more!

Live Nativity hosted by Grace Lutheran Church Sunday School

On Sunday, December 18th, Grace Lutheran Church Sunday School will present a Live Nativity on State Street in Grygla. This will be from 5:30-6pm with live animals! The Christmas event begins at The Hound's parking lot at 5:30pm and will walk east down State Street, ending at the Christmas tree at the Veterans Memorial Gazebo.

Silent Night will be sang as the group walks down the street. Once at the tree, a short reading of the Christmas story will take place, along with singing Away in a Manger.

The public is invited to walk with the group, meeting at The Hound's parking lot, or park along the street and watch the processional, or meet the group at the tree!

Peer Helpers call on community members

Dear community members,

For the Grygla School Peer Helper's 4th Annual Christmas Fun Day, which will be held the afternoon of December 22nd, they will again be hosting a Christmas store along with other activities. The Peer Helpers believe this is a positive way to help students give back to their special family members. The store will offer new or slightly used items. For example, winter gloves, socks, small Christmas décor (or any season), playing cards, knick knacks, work gloves, coffee mugs, or anything else that could be used to be given to an adult figure in their life. Peer Helpers will assist the students with shopping, wrapping and card making.

They are asking staff members, along with community members, to donate any of these items. Here is your chance to pass on any items you have been wanting to regift. The Peer Helpers are in need of around 250 items; these need to be to the school by DECEMBER 13th. Please drop your items off in Ms. Dallager's room or Mrs. Severt's room.

Remember that this is the season for giving; any small donation is greatly appreciated. It's not so much about WHAT the students give to their loved ones, it's the THOUGHT they put behind it that counts, and this is one way of teaching our students ways to be kind and think of others.

Lastly, if anyone is willing to donate wrapping paper, gift bags, name tags, or tissue paper for the wrapping of the gifts, that would also be appreciated.

Visit American State Bank

The holiday season is a great time to express appreciation to friends and customers. American State Bank of Grygla invites you in during the month of December to sign up for the Christmas drawings. We will be giving away wagons full of toys to one girl and one boy, along with a \$150 cash card to one adult. The drawing will be held at 3pm on Thursday, December 22nd. Christmas goodies will be served in the bank lobby the week of December 19-23; you can also pick up your 2023 calendar at this time!

Merry Christmas from your friends at American State Bank of Grygla. Member FDIC.



Goodridge Senior Sadie Anderson in the game against RLCC last week in Goodridge (left) and in Grygla vs. Roseau (right). Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



Chesney Salo and Caitlyn Jacobson in the Varsity game against RLCC last week. Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



These three pictures are from the Chargers JV vs. RLCC JV game last week in Goodridge. Top: Nevaeh Kotrba and Sophia Beck on offense. Below: Norah Philipp goes for two. Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



• CHURCH CALENDARS

GRYGLA LUTHERAN PARISH
Grace and Our Savior's, Grygla
Vicar Marilyn Grafstrom
Recorded services will play on Garden Valley channel 36 on Wednesdays 7pm and Sundays 9am & 7pm.
Wednesday, Dec 7
11am Bible Study, 2:30pm Release Time, 3:30pm FFF Night; 6pm Grace Choir, 6:30pm Confirmation
Sunday, Dec 11
Grace: 9am Worship
OS: 9:30am SS, 10:30am Worship

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH, ELCA
Bethany, Ekelund, Faith
Pastor Kristin Dahlen Ostercamp
Wednesday, Dec 7
Faith WELCA 9am, Release Time 12:15pm, Bethany Ladies Group packing boxes 5:30pm, Bethany Council 6pm, Advent Worship at Bethany 7pm
Sunday, Dec 11
Faith: 9:30am Worship
Ekelund: 11am Sunday School Program
Bethany: 4pm Sunday School Program
Monday, Dec 12
Rachel Circle 10am, Christmas Gathering and Lunch

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF St. Clement's - Grygla; St. Ann's - Goodridge
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
Sundays: 10:15am Worship.
St. Clement's: 10:15am Worship.

St. Ann's: N/A
BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH
Skime
Pastor Steve Bliss
Sundays
9:30am Worship
UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH Gatzke
Pastor Tim Lundeen
Sundays
8:30am Worship
CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
St. Petri - Grygla; Mt. Olive, Nazareth - Trail; Oak Park - Oklee
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wednesday, Dec 7
Wed. School 5-7pm, 6:30pm Vespers, 7pm LYS
Saturday, Dec 10
Mt. Olive: 9am Worship, 2pm LYS Caroling
Sunday, Dec 11
St. Petri: 8am Worship, 9:15am SS
Oak Park: 8:45am SS, 9:45am Worship
Nazareth: 10am SS, 11am Worship

NOTICE OF MINNIE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Minnie Township Board will meet at the Minnie Town Hall 65964 Fourtown Road NW on December 13th, 2022. Meeting will start at 2:00 PM.
RAY HENDRICKSON
MINNIE TOWNSHIP CLERK

Community Calendar

Wed | Dec 7
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; Grygla Library open 2-6pm; BBB practice in Grygla/GBB practice in Goodridge; Grygla VB League 7pm
Thurs | Dec 8
BBB vs. LOW in Grygla (7th at 4:45pm, other levels to follow); GBB practice in Goodridge
Fri | Dec 9
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; GBB vs. KCC in Lancaster; BBB practice in Goodridge
Sat | Dec 10
GBB JH Tourney in Roseau 8:30am; BBB JH Tourney in Roseau 1pm; Goodridge Santa Days 12-3pm
Sun | Dec 11
Grygla JCC's Santa Day 2-5pm
Mon | Dec 12
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; GBB practice in Goodridge; BBB practice in Grygla; Grygla City Council Meeting 7pm
Tues | Dec 13
GBB at Blackduck; BBB practice in Goodridge

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39. Bank, usually
41. Driver's aid
42. Jalopy
44. Back of the neck, pl.
46. Finish line
47. Fur of the marten
49. Paul Bunyan story, e.g.
51. *Economic woe
55. Faultfinder
56. Tropical edible root
57. Soreness
58. Irretrievable loss
59. Gator's cousin
60. *Super Bowl winners
61. Undertaking
62. "For ____ a jolly good."
63. Archaic form of do, second person singular
DOWN
1. Eyelid affliction
2. Asian weight unit
3. Smoothie bowl flavor
4. Russian hunting sighthound
5. Chemistry lab measuring device
6. Parting words
7. New Year's Eve get-together, e.g.
8. Running competition
9. *Twitter's new proprietor
10. Western Samoan money

Charger Stats... Continued from front

good. We didn't box out in the 1st half very well, but the girls came out in the second half and did a good job. RLCC has some height compared to us, but I think the girls fought hard against them and were physical. It was a good first win for the season."
GBB at Stephen/Argyle on Tuesday, November 29th
GG 50, SAC 48
Ashlyn Nelson- 4 points; Brooklynn Kriel- 4 points; Chesney Salo- 11 points; Caitlyn Jacobson- 21 points; Sadie Anderson- 5 points; Kylie Delage- 5 points
SAC
Liv Efta- 5 points; Tessa Durand- 9 points; Charlotte Rogus- 2 points; Britni Kroll- 14 points; Regan Swanson- 14 points; Emma Evans- 2 points; Isabella Westman- 2 points
Coach's comments: "It was a hard fought battle for both teams tonight. It was close for most of the game. We got a good lead right before half, but then SAC made a big run on us. We excelled in some stat categories that we have lacked, which was good to see. We are at the beginning of the season and see what kinks we have to work out. It was a good win. It's hard to win in Argyle. SAC

U.S.P.S. No. 002330
Grygla Eagle
MEMBER NNA
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PUBLISHER - RICHARD D. RICHARDS
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—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—
\$30 per year in the trade area (Grygla, Gatzke, Goodridge & Wannaska addresses)
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The "Grygla Eagle" is published weekly by Richards Publishing Co., Inc., Box 159, Gornick, MN 56644. Periodical postage paid at Grygla, MN 56727.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Grygla Eagle, PO Box 17, Grygla, MN 56727.

11. " ____ you ready?"
13. Relating to shinbone
14. Asparagus unit
19. Amnion, pl.
22. Barely obtain
23. Erie or Suez
24. Port-au-Prince country
25. Like something vintage, usually
26. About to explode
27. Olfactory organs
28. Athos' or Porthos' weapon
29. Throw up
31. Lecherous look
32. Funeral container
35. *Tom Cruise's callsign
37. " ____ -la"
39. Type of Christmas lights
40. All together
43. T-shirt style
45. Small bomb
47. Rabbit trap
48. 1970s big dos
49. "Musical" constellation
50. Dollar bills
51. 7-year affliction
52. International Civil Aviation Org.
53. Electrical resistance units
54. Egg holder
55. 100 lbs.

plays well on their home court."
GBB vs. Roseau in Grygla on Friday, December 2nd
GG 64, Roseau 38
Ashlyn Nelson- 3 points; Brooklynn Kriel- 3 points; Morgan Underdahl- 3 points; Chesney Salo- 5 points; Caitlyn Jacobson- 38 points, 16 reb.; Sadie Anderson- 10 points, 8 reb.; Kylie Delage- 2 points, 7 reb.
Roseau
Kayla Bacheitner- 4 points; Sophia Olson- 4 points; Brooklynn Hulst- 10 points; Anya Severson- 14 points; Janna Preteau- 4 points; Chesney Lee- 2 points
Coach's comments: "The girls played very well tonight. It was close in the beginning, and it was a fight for both teams. Once we got the ball rolling, we were able to keep it rolling. The girls pushed the ball up well, rebounded well, and played good defense. We forced them into a lot of turnovers, but unfortunately they forced us into a lot also. This was a good win against a very good Roseau team."

BBB at Kelliher/Norhome on Friday, December 2nd
For the boys, it was the opening game of the season last Friday night. They hit the road and headed over to Kelliher where they came home with a 69-59 win!
For this week, they play RLC in Goodridge on Monday, December 5th. They have an-

other home game on Thursday, December 8th, where they will host Lake of the Woods in Grygla.
Blake Rychlock (14 pts, 8 reb, 3 asst, 2 blocks), Matt Busse (16 pts), Spencer Coan (2 reb, 2 steals), Carson Rubischko (5 pts, 5 reb, 3 asst), Lewis Jones (31 pts, 11 reb, 3 asst, 2 steals), Elliot Philipp (3 pts, 3 reb), Reece Sundberg (3 reb, 2 asst)
Coach's comments: "We made the long road trip to Kelliher for our opening game of the season. Unfortunately, one minute into the game our team suffered a major loss as Kaylor Torgerson suffered an apparent serious knee injury. Kaylor is a senior leader and our best defender. We all feel terrible for him because of all the hard work he has put into his senior year. We all look forward to Kaylor making a full recovery - we will definitely miss him on the floor!
We struggled to play to our standard against the Mustangs. Luckily, we shot the ball well in the first half as Lewis, Blake, and Matt combined to make seven 3s and we took a 45-29 lead into the half. We hung on in the second half as we struggled with careless passing and defensive breakdowns. Although we left with a victory, it was an emotionally tough night. We will have to adjust, and other players will get opportunities to step into new roles."



Charger Athletes receive numerous awards. The volleyball and football banquet was held last week in Goodridge with the fall sports athletes receiving numerous awards.
Above: VB coaches, Katelyn Larson, Megan Larson and Brenna Dallager.
Below, L-R: Kinsley Oslund: Most Improved; Chesney Salo: Northern Lights Honorable Mention, North Border Honorable Mention, 1,000 Assists; Kylie Delage; Caitlyn Jacobson: North Border Senior MVP, Northern Lights All Conference, North Border All Conference, Charger MVP, 1,000 Digs; Sadie Anderson: Northern Lights All Conference, North Border All Conference, Charger Server Award 100% serving record 264/264 with 18 aces.
Photo and award info courtesy of Jamie Lunsetter



All Sub-District: Matt Busse, Elliot Philipp, Blake Rychlock, Reece Sundberg
Sub-District Honorable Mention: Tre Alten, Kehan Nelson, Kaylor Torgerson
Sub-District Special Teams Player of the Year: Lewis Jones
MVP Offensive Line: Reece Sundberg; MVP Defensive Line: Tre Alten; Co Most Improved: Kehan Nelson & Carson Rubischko; MVP Defensive Linebacker: Elliot Philipp; Charger Award: Dane Arveson; Special Teams Award: Thor Henrikson; MVP End: Kaylor Torgerson; MVP Offensive Back: Matt Busse; Big Man Run Stopper Award: Anthony Englund; Co Charger Football "Play Maker of the Year": Lewis Jones & Blake Rychlock.
Photos courtesy of Shaunna Olson



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StatePoint Crossword Theme: Year-in-Review
ACROSS
1. Use a bayonet
5. *Late Saget
8. Greek salad staple
12. Meal in a shell
13. Lowest brass
14. Like daytime energy
15. *2022
16. Van Gogh's famous flower
17. Poodle minus d
18. *Late Queen
20. Volcano off Sicily coast
21. Leaves out
22. Elf's distinctive body part
23. *Olympic host
25. *Russia's target
29. Black sheep sound
30. Treat badly
33. Reason for Thanksgiving
34. Carl Jung's inner self
36. "But I heard him exclaim ' ____ he drove out of sight, 'Merry Christmas...'
37. Pick on
38. Pro ____

The Holiday Season is a great time to express appreciation to friends and customers. American State Bank of Grygla invites you in during the month of December to sign up for the Christmas drawings.
We will be giving away wagons full of toys to one girl and one boy, and a \$150 cash card to one adult. The drawing to be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, December 22nd.
Christmas goodies will be served in the bank lobby the week of December 19-23; you can also pick up you 2023 calendar at this time!
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Only in Minnesota: a weekly feature in the Eagle

The World's Largest Prairie Chicken statue is in Rothsay, Minnesota. The statue honors the booming birds Rothsay, Minnesota, is famous for. Prairie Chickens were once abundant in North America, with millions cluck-

ing and pecking their way across the prairies as the earliest European settlers arrived. But by the 1930s, hunting pressure and habitat loss had driven them almost to extinction. So when the tiny town of Rothsay (population 479) was

designated the "Prairie Chicken Capital of Minnesota," the local community decided to put up a statue. Prairie chickens are quirky birds. Among their peculiarities are their elongated head feathers, which when raised look like ears, and their tendency to dive into deep snow to keep warm in the winter. But by far their most famous trait is their mating ritual, known as booming, during which the males inflate the orange air sacs on the sides of their neck, snap their tails, and make a loud "who-who" booming sound as they try to impress the ladies while squabbling with rival males. The statue in Rothsay was unveiled on June 15, 1976, a year after Rothsay was declared (self-proclaimed?) the "Prairie Chicken Capital of Minnesota." Designed and built by Art Fosse with help and funding from the local

community, it shows a greater prairie chicken in the act of booming, its air sacs inflated and head thrust forward in a display of avian potency. It also happens to be the largest prairie chicken statue in the world. Whether it actually has any challengers to that particular title is unknown, but perhaps doubtful. Still, at 13 feet high, 18 feet long, and weighing 9,000 pounds, this is one chicken you wouldn't want to mess with. Know Before You Go The World's Largest Prairie Chicken is located in Rothsay on the west central plains of Minnesota. You'll find it on I-94 between Fergus Falls and Moorhead, about 200 miles northwest of Minneapolis. There's a small park with a view of the surrounding plains near the chicken, where people can picnic and read a few signs with information about the area.



The Jay Swanson Agency/Farmers Union Insurance, along with Secura Insurance, served hot lunch to members of the Goodridge Fire Department on Nov 30th at the Fire Hall in Goodridge and made a \$750 donation to the department. Representing Secura Insurance Company, based out of Appleton, Wisconsin, was Joe Smith, the Minnesota Representative for Secura, Jay Swanson, Brady Swanson, Steve Dahlen, Amy Levonhagen and Daylyn Kainz of the Jay Swanson Agency. The Jay Swanson Agency has an office in TRF and Argyle, and serves Northwest MN. Photo courtesy of Steve Dahlen

Iron Chargers compete in Thief River Falls

Written by Dustin Nelson, Club Advisor It was a very eventful day today. All three teams competed very well, and all made it to the elimination bracket. 4149C lost out in the round of 16, 4149G and 4149X teamed up to take on the bracket. They made it to the semifinals but lost out. If they

could've won, both teams would've received an invite to state. But we have to work hard and try our best at the next competition to receive the invites. We were able to bring home some hardware. 4149C was selected to receive the create award.



Goodridge Minnesota Honor Society: New members were inducted into the Minnesota Honor Society recently. Congratulations Goodridge students, pictured on the left: Ashlyn Nelson, Madelyn Thompson and Jorja Salo. The current Minesota Honor Society students are pictured above. Photos courtesy of Goodridge School

Word of the Week ...enhancing vocabularies one Grygla Eagle at a time.

Mansuetude Man-swi-tood, -tyood Noun Mildness; gentleness.

• SIMPLY DELICIOUS

By Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor "Simply Adorable" is what we'll call this week's column. These Christmas pancakes are too cute not to make for the little people in your life. I guess they don't have to be limited to little people because I'd certainly smile if someone made

them for me!? Make up your pancakes in various sizes, arrange in one of these cute ways and add the necessary toppings to make your creation. Get: bacon, bananas, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, cool whip and chocolate chips!



Join us for Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops 2023

By Liz Stahl, Extension Educator Pull up a chair and join in or bring the conversation with you as you go about your day. Whatever works best for you, join us this winter to discuss some of the key issues and questions around commodity crop production facing Minnesota farmers today through the "Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops" webinar series. This live, online program will provide up-to-date, research-based information to help optimize your crop management strategies for 2023. Sessions will be held over Zoom, which can be accessed via your computer, phone or other mobile device, and run from 9 to 10 am Wednesdays, January 11 through March 29, 2023. Sessions will be very informal and open to all interested. Each session will start with a brief presentation by the discussion leaders for the day, followed by discussion framed around farmer/participant questions on the topic. Topics and speakers: •January 11: Forecast for the season - Weather, economics & supply chains Ed Usset, Extension grain marketing economist and Pete Boulay, Assistant State Climatologist, DNR •January 18: What's bugging my corn? An outlook on corn rootworm and more Anthony Hanson, Extension educator -IPM, and other IPM specialists •January 25: Climate factors and nitrogen management Dan Kaiser, Extension nutrient management specialist, and Brad Carlson, Extension educator - water resources •February 1: Semi-Dwarf corn & SCN breeding efforts Rex Bernardo, Professor and Endowed Chair, Corn Breeding and Genetics, and Aaron Lorentz, Associate Professor, Soybean Breeding and Genetics •February 8: Are biologicals in corn & soybean logical? Seth Naeve, Extension soybean agronomist, and Dan Kaiser, Extension nutrient management specialist •February 15: Weed management in the era of increasing herbicide resistance Debalin Sarangi, Extension weed management specialist •February 22: "Can I take an N credit?" and other cover crop FAQs Anna Cates, State soil health specialist, and Matt Rurark, Extension soil scientist, University of Wisconsin-Madison •March 1: Expanding your rotation with small grains Jochum Wiersma, Extension small grains specialist •March 8: Corn Tar Spot: Distribution, development and management Dean Malvick, Extension plant pathologist, and Darcy Telenko, Extension field crop pathologist, Purdue University •March 15: Alfalfa weevil and other alfalfa management challenges Craig Shaeffer, Extension forage agronomist and Anthony Hanson, Extension educator - IPM •March 22: Soybean Pests - What's up with the new and old...are they a big deal? Bob Koch, Extension entomologist •March 29: Get your planters ready Extension researchers, educators and agronomists For more details and to register, go to https://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming. There is no charge to participate, thanks to generous sponsorship from the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council. Not able to attend a day? No problem. Sessions will be recorded and posted for viewing later at your convenience. We hope you will take this opportunity to join with U of MN Extension in discussing crop topics at our "Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops!" program in 2023.

There's no place like home for the holidays

Editor's Note: In case you missed it last week, we'll re-share the Christmas story about the festive Ostby home since we promised updated photos! Enjoy the look inside as Shannon, Denise and Marie were all busy decorating since last week's issue came out!

(From last week) We're spreading some holiday cheer this week by taking a peek at something truly magnificent. Well, the true magic comes next week when we show the finished product, but for now, let's take a little look-see.

The home of Shannon & Denise Ostby truly transforms around the holidays. For anyone who has been there, or is friends with Denise on social media, then you know just what holly, jolly Christmas spirit we're talking about. You'd agree that it feels like stepping right into a Hallmark Christmas movie or a home in Santa's village.

The wooden crates have gotten unloaded – the sleeves rolled up – and the decorating has begun. A brief interview with Denise is shared below, along with a few photos that were taken on Sunday and Monday as the transformation began. Christmas unfolds this week in the Ostby house - stay tuned for next week when we take a glimpse inside. It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Where do you store all those crates and how many do you have? "We keep them under the hay shed. I think there's 14 of them – we got the crates from Polaris."

How have you accumulated so many Christmas decorations over the years? "Either from family or buying. My mom and I also joined our stuff together once she moved in with us."

How long does it take you to decorate the whole house? "About a week! We do the entire house."

Where do you put all your other decorations? "At Christmas, we take everything off the walls in the house. Basically, everything goes out, even the towels. We unpack the Christmas

crates and make a swap. All of our regular house stuff goes in the crates and we replace it with everything Christmas – even bedding and pillows."

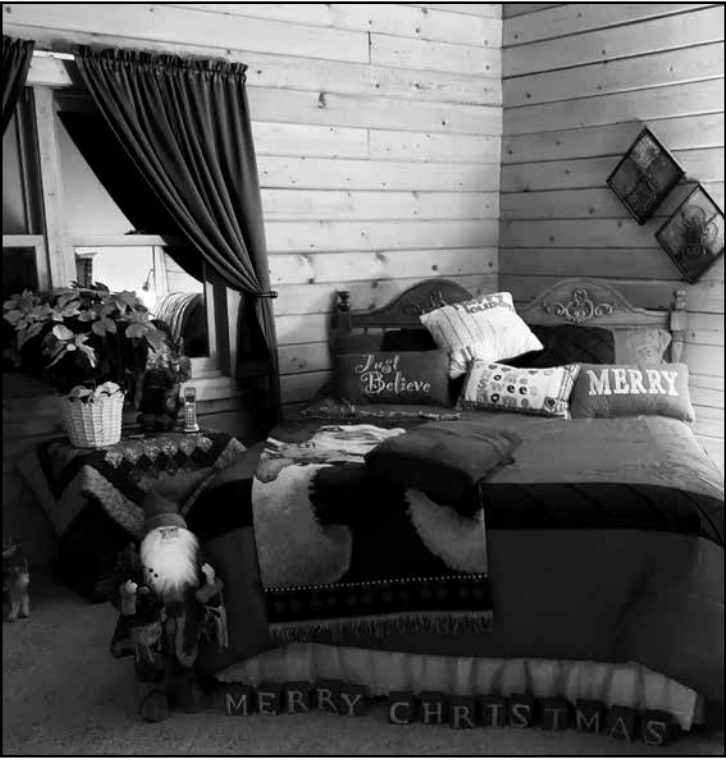
Do you always wait until right after Thanksgiving to decorate? "Yes, but one year during COVID, we decorated at hunting season. I said, "Why shouldn't we be happy." But otherwise, we usually always wait until after Thanksgiving. For many years, we would wait until after December 13th. That's Alex's birthday so when he was young I always wanted him to have his birthday separate from Christmas."

Who helps? "My mom and I do the inside – Shannon does the outside."

What is your favorite decoration to put up or display? "Well, usually it's a big wreath that my mom made me years ago. I also love a birch log centerpiece with holes carved into it for candles – I've used that for 15-18 years now. But this year, my favorite one is what Shannon did! (See picture below.) "What an ass!" Denise laughed. "That isn't him, but he called me and said his ladder fell. I sprinted (yes...ME!!) all the way out there! Thank God he couldn't get his video going!"

What events will you host this year to show it off? "For the last 4-5 years, we've been hosting the Red Hat Society. They all come after the Grygla Elementary School Christmas program. Family celebrations, of course. And we're thinking about hosting a Girl's Christmas Party this year with games, potluck and a gift exchange."

How long have you been transforming your entire house into part of Santa's village? "We've been doing it since forever. Mom's been here 9 years now, so a lot of her Christmas stuff and my Christmas stuff got mixed together. We have a lot of nice things that we just enjoy putting up!"



As you can see, everything in the Ostby home is truly transformed into Christmas! Pictured above, the grand-kids favorite part: a candy machine! On the right is one of many (over 60) Norwegian Ornaments hanging on the Christmas tree. Marie has been receiving them for years from her son Steve. *Photos courtesy of Denise Ostby*

