



McINTOSH

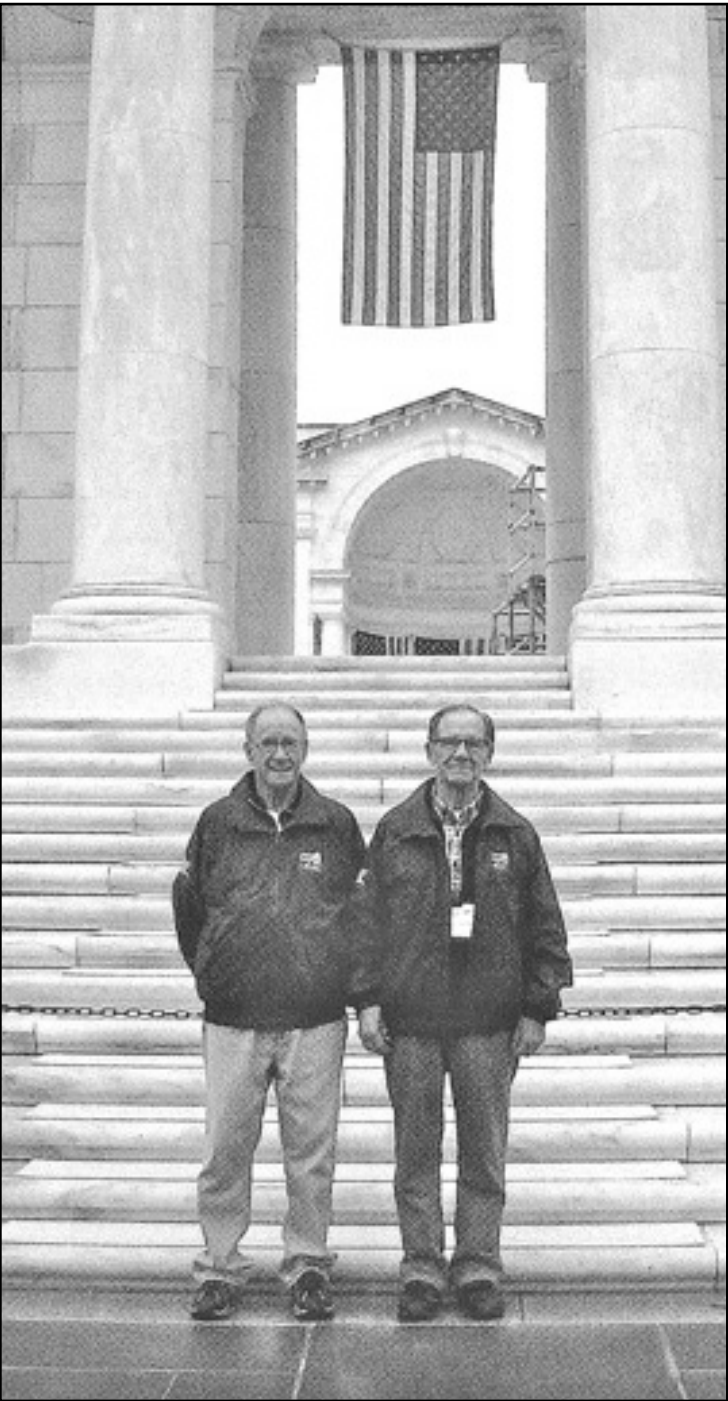
Since 1888

\$1.00

Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota



DeLano and Charles Svalen - WDAY Honor Flight pictured in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

Local veterans visit Historical sites during WDAY Honor Flight

Charles Svalen of McIntosh, MN along with his brother DeLano, from Braddock, ND were among the veterans on an Honor Flight to Washington D.C.

Charles had joined the US Army and was stationed to Korea, DeLano also joined the US Army and was stationed in Alaska, during their time of service.

On November 5, 2017, the WDAY Honor Flight left Fargo, ND Hector airport in route to Washington D.C. with a full plane of men and women aboard.

Upon their arrival, they visited many sites including Iwo Jima Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery - having the opportunity to view the changing of the Guard Ceremony at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier along with the FDR Memorial.

That evening they had a banquet held in their honor with a program that featured the singing of many of the nostalgic musical tunes of the era.

On the second day of the tour, the group boarded the bus and were transported to the National Archives, Lincoln and Korean Memorials. They were able to view the Vietnam Memorial from a distance as it was being cleaned.

The group gathered at the WWII Memorial and a group commemorative photo was taken memorializing the event.



The annual Alumni Basketball Tourney took place last Saturday at Win-E-Mac School Gymnasium with three teams competing for bragging rights. Here Jake Knutson takes the tip-off with no problem.

Becky Boehrsen becomes new housing manager at Poplar Meadows

The McIntosh Economic Development Board recently hired Becky Boehrsen to be the new, part time housing manger at the City owned Poplar Meadows Senior Living.

Residents and staff welcomed Becky with a small gathering for cake and coffee.

Becky is a resident of McIntosh and also sells real estate for Juve Realty in Fosston.

She will be available by phone or email at Poplar Meadows. You can reach her at 563-2436 or poplarmeadow@gvtel.com.

WEM Family Movie Night presents Coco

On Friday, March 2nd at 6:00 pm the Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee is hosting a movie night, in the Arts and Event Center, to celebrate Dr. Seuss week.

There will be treats and water for sale.

All ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Proceeds will be used to fund future Literacy events.



Poplar Meadows Senior Living recently welcomed Becky Boehrsen as the new, part time housing manager. She will also continue selling real estate at Juve Realty in Fosston.

McIntosh Public Library announces change in hours

The McIntosh Public Library is announcing a change in hours.

The library's new hours will begin March 1 and will be Mondays from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-7:00 p.m., and Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00-5:00 p.m.

While the library will be open earlier on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the overall number of hours open will remain unchanged.

The new hours will be evaluated after a six month period to ensure that this change is in the best interest of the community.

The library will still host Story Time on Monday mornings at 10:30 am. Computer class and assistance will remain from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm each Wednesday.

The McIntosh Public Library is located at 115 Broadway NW in McIntosh, Minnesota.

About Lake Agassiz Regional Library (LARL) Lake Agassiz Regional Library is a consolidated public library system comprised of 13 branch libraries and nine LINK Sites serving the residents of seven counties in northwest Minnesota.

More information is available at www.larl.org.

Come to the Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Win-E-Mac School! You are invited to join your child and help them find the books that they will enjoy reading. The book fair will run in the mornings of February 21st through the 28th in the school Library. It will also be open during Conferences on February 22nd, and located in the Commons! Come find some new books that your family will love!

Community Calendar

Wed. Feb. 21: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Computer Class at McIntosh Library 1pm to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Thurs. Feb. 22: Early Dismissal at Win-E-Mac 12:45pm; McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Fri. Feb. 23: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Mon. Feb. 26: 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. 27: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm

Wed. Feb. 28: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Computer Class at McIntosh Library 1pm to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

Fri. March 2: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Mon. March 5: No School at Win-E-Mac; 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. March 6: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm



Liz from Win-E-Mac Dental in McIntosh came to visit Mrs. Frisk's Kindergarten class on Friday Feb. 16th. February is Dental Health Month, so she came in and focused on brushing, flossing and caring for our teeth. Each child got a goody bag with flossers and a new toothbrush! Thank you Win-E-Mac Dental.



The History of Eden Township

"Several years before the turn of the century, many strong willed men, women and their families left their homeland, choosing to live a life in what they knew only as open land in America. Because of the scarcity of land in the Scandinavian countries where their fathers and mothers had farmed and theirs before them, they set out on a six week voyage across the Atlantic to become pioneers."

In 1893, Mr. Ole Edevold Sr., P.O. Dunrud and Andreas Engebretson, all from Norway, and John Erickson from Sweden, travelled to the area of Polk County now known as Eden Township. They traveled to the end of the railroad, got off the train, looked at the surroundings and then traveled the short distance to where they would homestead. It would be five years before Eden Township would be officially formed. The first three letters of Ole Edevold's name were used as the root of their

town Eden.

Several years prior to these men and their families came, with only a few settlers in the area, a great brush fire consumed much of the flora and fauna that made up the wilderness.

The fire was in the late 1870's, and in the few years between the consuming fire and homesteading, the soot had blown away. The grass had become green and the trees sprung from the enriched soil/ground. For those who had come to homestead, this fresh landscape that had undergone a new beginning after the fire, may indeed have looked like an Eden. The beauty of it had given them hope for their new beginning.

Olga Erickson, born to Mr. and Mrs. Jon Erickson in 1888, was the first baby born in Eden. To commemorate the significance of the birth, the town board decided to name the first building erected after the infant.

The post office constructed at the Ole Edevold farm became known as the Olga Post Office. The post office remained on the Edevold farm until it was moved and relocated in a new store built a short distance away.

The education of their children was of great importance to the pioneers of Eden. In 1888, Gertie Nelson was paid \$20.00 a month to instruct the

children. The first building to house the school children was a claim shanty in Section 19. Ever increasing attendance soon required the move to a larger structure. The school was located on a piece of property that would later be part of Carl Engebretson farm.

Hans and Knute Pladsen built and operated the first store and post office in 1896. The mail was carried to Olga from Fosston by Gary Motz. It was then carried from Olga to new store located at Windsor and Berner by oxcart. Hans later moved to Gully to start a new store. Mr. Espeseth took over the store and operated it until C.S. Bjella acquired the business. The Pladsen store remained in business until 1932.

A general store, meat locker, blacksmith shop, feed mill and creamery soon followed the opening of that first store/post office. The blacksmith shop was a must for the needs of the pioneers for shoeing horses to sharpening plowshares and other necessary repairs. The Olga creamery was organized in 1906 with 50 stockholders and \$3000 joint cooperation note. The creamery was built and equipped for \$2800 and went into operation in May of 1906. It remained in operation until 1945.

Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor from the RiverView Foundation: Thanks a Million for Record-Breaking Giving Hearts Day

Thank you a million times over for making Giving Hearts Day a record success for the RiverView Foundation and the communities and patients RiverView Health serves!

Thanks to the generous donors, the Feb. 8th event brought the Foundation beyond the million-dollar mark in donations for the 11 years Giving Hearts Day has been in existence. That's right, in 11, 24-hour periods donors have given \$1,002,437 in donations to start new programs, purchase life-saving equipment, help establish funds, attain expertise, and a list of other important initiatives that would not be possible without the patients, employees, and friends of RiverView Health and the Foundation.

Many records were set this year at the Foundation. A record-setting \$211,612 was donated by a record setting 381 donors during the 24-hour event. A record 183 RiverView employees gave a record \$29,000. The Foundation also ranked in the top 10 in its category for giving, earning it additional incentive grants. More than 400 non-profits participated in this year's event.

The RiverView Health Foundation Board of Directors would like to thank all of those giving hearts for making the 2018 Giving Hearts event a huge success!

A few of the projects touched during the 2018 Giving Hearts Day event include:

- Inpatient Replacement Project
- New furnishings for the North Clinic patient waiting area
- Décor and enhancements to the ER family room
- Humidifier/heaters for the Non-Invasive Ventilation (Bi-PAP) machines
- OT "Fast ForWord" licenses supporting children behind in their reading abilities
- 2018 Golf Classic sponsorships
- Activities Fund/Care Center residents
- Adult Day Services
- "Angel Fund" Patient Experience Support
- Auxiliary Donor Match Fund
- Baby Blanket Fund/Home Health Blanket Fund
- Cardiac Rehab

- Diabetes funds
- Glenmore Foundation Ad-diction Donor Match Fund
- Halo Sleepsacks for SIDS prevention
- Home Health Fund
- Inpatient Cross Family Support Fund
- Kiwanis Children's Fund
- Pulmonary Rehab
- Prostate Screening Program
- Reach Out and Read Program
- Recovery Services
- Rehab Services
- Scholarships
- Driving with Care addiction staff education
- Recovery Relapse Prevention
- Autism Program development materials
- Celiac Support Group resources
- ImPACT Concussion baseline support and OT staff education
- Infant CPR lifesaving kits
- Employee health and wellness

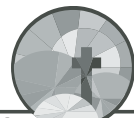
We are already planning and looking forward to Giving Hearts Day 2018, which will be held Feb. 14th.

As the Foundation Board of Directors, we assure you RiverView Foundation's operating expenses are supported by interest earned on Board designated endowments given to support and sustain the works of the Foundation. This allows contributions, including your Giving Hearts Day donation, to be completely dedicated to enhancing and growing medical services and not absorbed in the day to day operations of the Foundation.

Giving Hearts Day is a powerful movement of caring people coming together to help others by making an online donation to support projects that will provide the greatest benefits to the highest number of patients.

We thank you for being a part of this important program, and for your continued support of the RiverView Health Foundation.

Sincerely,
The RiverView Foundation Board of Directors
Kurt Heldstab – President
Sue Westrom
Amy Elingson
Ingrid Remick
Christian Kiel
Margaret (Maggie) Bryn
Jerry Lindsay
Marcia Schoenborn
Marilyn Wentzel



CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Fosston

Fr. John Suvaheen, Pastor

Wed. Feb. 21: 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 6:30p Stations of the Cross

Fri. Feb. 23: 8:30am Children's Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sun. Feb. 25: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Wed. Feb. 28: 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sun. Mar. 4: 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. 25 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

Sun. Mar. 4: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

McIntosh

Supply Pastor

Gordon Syverson

Sun. Feb. 25: 11:15am Worship Service.

Sun. Mar. 4: 11:15am Worship Service.

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Independent

Gary Johnson, Pastor

www.gosen-church.com

Face Book: Gosen Church

Wed. Feb. 21: 7:00pm Bible Study at Don and Sharon Ramberg's

Sun. Feb. 25: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service

Tues. Feb. 27: 10:00am Sunday worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV--Channel 2; 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place

Wed. Feb. 28: 7:00pm Bible Study at Don and Sharon Ramberg's

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. 21: 7:30pm Mount Carmel, Pastor Karl Anderson, Called to Follow, Matthew 4:19

Thurs. Feb. 22 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

Sun. Feb. 25: 9:30am Worship at Mt. Carmel 11:00am Worship at Trinity; 10:45am Mt. Carmel Sunday School for all ages at 10:45am; Trinity Sunday School for all ages at 9:45am

Wed. Feb. 28: 7:30pm Trinity, Pastor Alan Arneson, Called to Forgiveness, Matthew 9:13

Thurs. Mar. 1: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

Sun. Mar. 4: 9:30am Worship at Mt. Carmel 11:00am Mt. Carmel Sunday School for all ages at 10:45am; Trinity Sunday School for all ages at 9:45am

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)

McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson

Sun. Feb. 25: 9am Worship

Sun. Mar. 4: 9am Worship

DOVRE

FREE LUTHERAN

Pastor

Don Edlund

Wed. Feb. 21: 7:00pm Lenten Service

Sun. Feb. 25: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School Following; 7:00pm Bible Study on Hebrews

Wed. Feb. 28: 7:00pm Lenten Service

Sun. Mar. 4: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School following; 7:00pm Bible Study on Hebrews

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

McIntosh

Rev. Bruce Blocker, Pastor

Thurs. Feb. 22: 6:00pm Lenten Service

Sun. Feb. 25: 9:00am Divine Worship Service; 10:00am Fellowship Hour

Thurs. Mar. 1: 6:00pm Lenten Service

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

How to Report Public Health Care Fraud

From the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson

In southern Minnesota, a home care company billed for services that were not provided, and provided services without a nurse on staff to supervise patients' care. The owner was convicted of six felonies and ordered to pay back the money.

While her ex-husband was overseas, a woman forged his signature on timesheets stating that he provided her with home care services. She pled guilty to felony charges and was ordered to pay back almost \$45,000 in stolen funds.

A Twin Cities area woman claimed to provide medical interpreter services to patients during times when she was clocked in and working at another job. She was convicted of felony theft.

Public Health Care Programs

Medicaid and other public health care programs provide

important "safety net" health coverage to eligible low-income Minnesotans, including pregnant women, children, senior citizens, and individuals with disabilities.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office has estimated that nationwide fraud costs public health programs billions of dollars each year. Health care fraud bilks taxpayers. Every dollar diverted to fraud is a dollar not spent on patient care.

How to Report Public Health Care Fraud

Public health care fraud affects everyone. Tips from the public often help the authorities catch and stop fraudulent schemes. Health care fraud schemes may include, among other things:

- Billing for medical services that were not actually provided.
- Billing for more expensive services than provided.
- Giving or accepting cash

Assistance for ag producers through conservation through stewardship program

Agricultural producers wanting to enhance current conservation efforts are encouraged to apply for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Through CSP, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps private landowners build their business while implementing conservation practices that help ensure the sustainability of their entire operation. NRCS plans to enroll up to 10 million acres in CSP in 2018.

While applications for CSP are accepted year round, applications must be received by March 2, 2018 to be considered for this funding period.

Through CSP, agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities like cover crops, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator and beneficial insect habitat – all while maintaining active agriculture production on their land. CSP also encourages the adoption of cutting-edge technologies and new management techniques such as precision agriculture applications, on-site carbon storage and planting for high carbon sequestration rate, and new soil amendments to improve water quality.

Some of these benefits of CSP include:

- Improved cattle gains per acre;
- Increased crop yields;
- Decreased inputs;
- Wildlife population improvements; and
- Better resilience to weather extremes.

NRCS recently made several updates to the program to help producers better evaluate their conservation options and the benefits to their operations and natural resources.

New methods and software for evaluating applications help producers see up front why they are or are not meeting stewardship thresholds, and allow them to pick practices and enhancements that work for their conservation objectives.

These tools also enable producers to see potential payment scenarios for conservation early in the process.

Producers interested in CSP are recommended to contact their local USDA service center or visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

To file a complaint of discrimination, call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339.

King Township

Notice of Annual Election and Meeting

The annual meeting and election for King Township, Polk County, State of Minnesota will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at the McIntosh Community Center.

The annual meeting will take place at 3:00pm and voting will follow for one supervisor for a term of 3 years and one treasurer for a term of 2 years.

Loren Gieseke, Clerk

M48-49C

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. February 21:

Marea Schommer, Dave Erickson, Jason Svalen

Fri. February 23:

Matthew Klemer, Shawn Hedlund

Sat. February 24:

Anna Mandt, Alfred Smithling, Krosby Jore

Mon. February 26:

Ashton Anderson, Paul Hedlund

Tues. February 27:

*Jason & Leah Smeby



The Winner of the Surf & Turf Valentines Meal Basket from Neil's Quality Meats and More is Gabriel Schouville from Fosston.



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McINTOSH Times

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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THE WINGER ENTERPRISE

3

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Winger News

Linda Pulskamp

Hello again from Winger and the Union Lake areas, and after the beautiful day Wednesday was we are having a blustery cold day today. We have finally gotten some relief from the frigid cold and below temps we had been having. Guess we just have to think spring, after all it is right around the corner.

Yesterday was Valentine's day and also the first day of the Lent season with Easter being on April Fool's Day this year. We have already passed the middle of the month of February. Time doesn't slow down for anyone.

Thursday morning on his way to work Paul Carlson stopped in for a brief visit and a cup of coffee with Milton Carlson at Milton's home.

Sheldon and Rita Trandem were visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home last Sunday and they also visited with the Homme's on Valentine Day afternoon.

Butch and Linda Pulskamp were house guests at the Donnie Johnson home in Maple Lake, Minnesota from Monday until Wednesday of last week, visiting at the Johnson home Monday evening were Judy Boeckers of Buffalo, Craig Johnson of Monticello and Cassie Johnson of North Branch.

Visiting at the Milton Carlson home on Friday the 9th were Paul Carlson who stopped in to get his day started with a cup of coffee and a brief visit on his way to work. Later Lonnie and Judy Gieseke were visitors and dinner guests at the Carlson home an while there Lonnie cleaned off the deck for Milton.

Mark and Betty Syverson visited at the Pioneer Home at Erskine last Friday afternoon with Helmer and Verlys Homme.

Recent visitors at the Boyd and Sylvia Bratager home have been Truman and Darlene Johnson of Dilworth, Shirley Salvesson of Moorhead and her daughter Karen of Glyndon.

Last Saturday Paul Carlson visited with Milton Carlson at Milton's home and while he was there he helped Milton with some chores that needed done.

Lucy Brtek and Elly Gilbertson enjoyed an evening of bingo at the Coup in McIntosh after which they ate a wonderful meal before going home.

Tuesday the 13th Kari and Oliviayah Keller stopped in for a visit after work with Milton Carlson at his home, they brought with them some home made beef soup and orange slices as a treat for Milton.

Helmer and Verlys Homme along with many of the Paradis family gathered together at DiMaggio's on Saturday the 10th in honor of Lonnie Paradis birthday.

Lonnie and Judy Gieseke were visitors and dinner guests on Valentine's Day with Milton Carlson at Milton's home.

This again is the news I was able to put together for this week, please help to keep this column going by getting your news to me or Bunny. Speaking of Bunny, Happy Birthday today the 17th of February to Bunny!

In closing, everyday may not be good, but there is something good in every day.

From But Manior:

The other day Buns friend (who will remain nameless) drove over to Fosston to drop off some garbage at the recycle center and get some supplies. When he got back in his car from the recycle center and sat done it felt like his car seat was ripped. He got out of his car at Palubicki's and looked at his seat. There was no rip. He did some shopping and came back to the car and sat down. Again it felt like his seat was ripped. He discovered that the back of his pants had a big rip in them. It was a good thing he had long under pants on when he was in the store.

Tuesday afternoon Bun headed into Winger for Ladies Aid lunch. There were only four ladies present. They had lots of food. Six men showed up. Bun can remember back in the day when the church was full of women. It sounded like a bunch of cackling hens in the dining room.

Bun met Laura Grant for lunch on Valentines day. She has been busy making and selling quilts for folks.

Thursday, Bun went to

Ness Café to celebrate his 59th birthday with his friends Lars, Stue, Joyce and Dale. Bun got a real nice sweater from Joyce and the Ness crew made him a homemade birthday card. Dale was sporty enough to buy lunch for everyone. That evening he called Kay Strand to wish her a Happy birthday.

Saturday. Bun called Jerry Wang in the morning and asked him if he was going to be around for lunch in Winger. He told him he should be around. Bun drove to town and sure enough Jerry was a no show. He has done this to Bun before. There was a new Lunch King

in town on Saturday, Gerald Paulson was kind enough to buy Dave Myrum, Gary Sonstille and Bun lunch. The boys thank him a bunch.

Sunday morning the area received over ten inches of light snow. The snow caused some cancellations of events. The Lion's cancelled the pancake fundraiser for Lilly Brtek. They may have it on the 4th of March. Bun will let you know in next weeks news.



MDA grants fund Specialty Crop Projects

Applications Due March 15, 2018

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is accepting applications for Specialty Crop Grants to help improve the competitiveness of Minnesota's specialty crops through research, education and market development. Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. CDT on March 15, 2018.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines specialty crops as fruits and vegetables, dried fruits, tree nuts, horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture.

Eligible projects may include maple syrup, turf grass and even processed products. The USDA provides funding for these grants through the Farm Bill.

Non-profit organizations, producer organizations, government agencies, universities and other agricultural groups involved in specialty crop research and market development are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be reviewed, scored, selected and notified in April of 2018.

The earliest anticipated project start date is November 1, 2018.

Projects may take up to two-and-a-half years to complete and funding can range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

For more information, including the online application, funding priorities and a list of previously funded proposals, visit www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/grants/specialty.

Family Movie Night

WHERE: WEM Arts and Events Center

WHEN: Friday, March 2nd, 2018

TIME: Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Movie at 6:30 p.m.

COST: Free Will Donation. Proceeds will be used to fund future Literacy events.

The WEM Literacy Committee is hosting a movie night to celebrate Dr. Seuss Week. There will be treats and water for sale.
All ages are welcome.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Now Showing: Coco

Length: 1 hr. 49 min. M48-49C

The County Line

By Warren Strandell
Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

In the course of meeting people I often get asked, "So how are things going with the county?" My stock answer is something like, "Good... at least for the moment."

And that's true... especially the "for the moment" part. While things are going pretty good right now but that could change in a hurry and probably will at some point.

On the good side of things is the county's current solid financial position. Polk County has the means to pay the bills and we have a little cushion. That cushion is right about what the state auditor says we should have on hand, which is enough to operate for about six months without any new revenue.

By contrast, there have been some bad times starting with those that began in the mid 1990s when the County Board started dipping into its reserves quite significantly rather than raise property taxes during a period of depressed farm prices. Over a three-year period, the board limited levy increases to 1 and 2 percent after actually reducing the levy in one year.

Doesn't work

Deficit spending just doesn't work in government. Everything goes up.

Also in that time period, winter storms in 1995, 1996 and 1997 had required big expenditures for snow cleaning and for related storm damages... a \$1 million hit.

And, the cost of the Out of Home Placement program — the program in which juveniles are removed from home either because of troubles that they have gotten into or because of a bad living situation in that home — had gone up \$1.1 in three years to a high of \$2.4 million a year in 1998. Virtually all of that expense had to be absorbed by county taxpayers.

And at the same time the Northwest Regional Correction

Center jail had become over crowded to the point where it had to start using a "waiting list" to determine if sentences could be delayed for those whose crimes hadn't been a threat to society. There had been times when the 32-bed jail was holding up to 50 prisoners. Some were sleeping on the floor.

And the adjacent former Sunnyst Tuberculosis Sanitarium located across the street, which had been made into a 49-bed facility for housing low-risk offenders, was far less than a secure place for either offender or for staff. The State Department of Corrections was threatening to close the whole corrections operation down.

Valuation wiped out

Then came the flood of 1997 when some 2,300 homes in East Grand Forks were flooded, including 500 that were destroyed. Only 8 homes escaped flood damage. The flood wiped out virtually all of the property valuation in East Grand Forks.

With all of that and with the deficit spending that had gone on, the General Fund, which pays most of the county's operating bills, was depleted.

Twice, as I recall, the county had to borrow from the Social Services Fund just to pay the bills. Social Services was getting money in advance to fund programs that it administers for the state and federal governments.

With that borrowed money, the most immediate bills would be paid. We would then skip along until the next round of property tax collections came in so we could pay the money back.

In an attempt to get back on solid footing, the County Board ordered all departments to reduce their budgets by 10 percent. And employees, rather than see some of their colleagues lose their jobs, agreed to go without a pay raise for three years.

Better times ahead

Things turned around in the early 2000s spurred by the re-building of East Grand Forks. With that came the opportunity to restore some reserves and even to "rat hole" a few dollars in advance of what we knew was going to require a major building project of some kind. The old Pro Building in Crookston, which was housing two units of the Social Services Department, the County Attorney's Office, the probation department, and the public defender office was on its last leg. After all, the building was 107 years old and it no longer made sense to try to maintain it.

On top of that, something had to be done about the jail problem. And the Court System needed more space. So did Social Services. To try to address those needs, the county first considered purchasing and remodeling the old Central High School building. When that proved unworthy, an addition to the courthouse was considered.

Finally, because of jail overcrowding, it was decided that a new jail topped the list of needs and that the other space problems could be addressed at the same time by addressing a jail as a part of a Justice Center in a single building that could also hold the court system, the County Attorney's office, the public defenders and the offices of Tri-County Community Corrections and its Probation Department.

But that would take a lot of money... some \$17 million just for the jail portion of the building. By that time, because of the money that the board had been setting aside for the building project that was going to be needed, the county had a few bucks saved up.

Paid with cash

Actually, it had put away enough money to pay cash for the construction of the \$8.5 million Justice Center offices

portion of the \$25.5 million building project.

The only debt taken on for the project was for the jail and the jail is now is taking in more money in per diems for the housing of prisoners from other jurisdictions than is needed to pay the debt service on those \$17 million in jail bonds. So, consider building that 200-bed jail a good move.

In fact, the county's overall financial situation is good. Both the jail bonds and the \$3 million in bonds that were sold a couple of years ago to convert the old jail space in the Law Enforcement Center for use by the Sheriff's Department and for a new Dispatch Center, and to move Public Health into the Justice Center and to create new quarters there for the County Attorney's Office and the Public Defender's Office, and to accomplish a few other things, too, ... well, all of that debt will be paid off in less than eight years.

At that time the county will be debt free. And, with its overall building infrastructure currently in very good shape, nothing major is on the horizon.

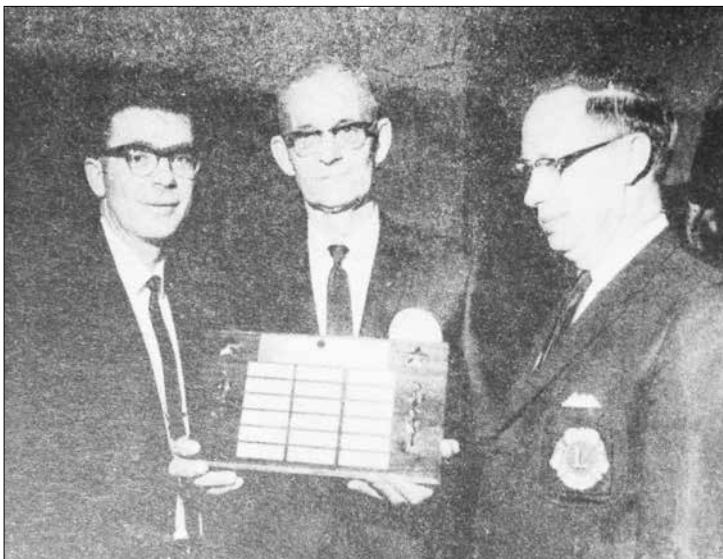
That's of course, unless there is another financial crisis or disaster in the years ahead. The Enbridge tax challenge could be a problem and there is always the possibility of a pipeline protest or something like that.

So, to repeat the response to the question about how things are going in the county, "Well, pretty good... for the moment."

Thoughts for the day:

You will never reach your destination if you stop to throw stones at every dog that barks. — Winston Churchill

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



50 years ago...1968: Athlete of the year award presentation was made of a plaque at the McIntosh Lions Club Charter night Saturday. The plaque was presented to Coach Lloyd Carlson and Superintendent of Schools, R.L. Edwards as a gift of the Lions Club. Names of the Athletes of the year will be inscribed on spaces provided. Armand Sannes, right, president of the local Club made the presentation.



40 years ago...1978: 8th grade basketball Champions for 1978 are the Scots who won the championship game over Gonvick Monday evening with a score of 34-29. Back: Jim Molstre (Most Valuable Player), Jeff Haugen (Most Improved Player), Bryon Kaupang; Tim Finseth, Bobby Bursheim, Coach Mr. Hill; Middle: Kevin Zahl, Blake Burslie, Mike Carver, Kevin Haugen, Steve Aanenson; Front: Wade Turner, David Balstad (with Trophy) and Tal Lucken. Congratulations Fellows!



30 years ago...1988: Five 4-Hers participated in the Communication Arts Contest held at the McIntosh Municipal Building January 30th. They are: Jennifer Wang, Meredith Hegg, Kylie Vesledahl, Kari Vesledahl and Emily Hegg.



20 years ago...1998: The Golden Anniversary of Moran's Supper club and Lounge is being celebrated by Moran family members who still operate the steakhouse in Winger. Mike and Danny Moran are sons of Tuffy and Betty Moran, and represent the third generation. Pat Moran and Margie Simonson are also children of Tuffy and Betty who continue to work at the steakhouse, but who were not available for the picture.



10 years ago...2008: The 9 & 3 Coffee Club held its annual breakfast at the B-B Cafe on Wednesday. The club started keeping records in 1989 and to date has consumed over 85,000 cups, not including refills. Leaders for the honor of buying for the year were Harald Thompson, 1st Blue Ribbon; Ken Jore, 2nd Red Ribbon; and Armond Sannes, 3rd White Ribbon. Although the attendance is up and down, with many of the original members no longer with us, new ones have joined the group and a lot of fun and enjoyment is had visiting, telling stories and of course, drinking coffee.

State survey shows disturbing rise in youth tobacco use

Youth tobacco use increased for the first time in 17 years, due to easy access to e-cigarettes, aggressive tobacco industry marketing and kid-friendly flavors

Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation, a coalition of 50 organizations working to reduce youth tobacco use, is urging action to counter trends revealed in the 2017 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey, released today by the Minnesota Department of Health. For the first time in 17 years, youth tobacco use in Minnesota has increased, according to the survey of more than 4,000 middle-school and high-school students. Findings show more than 26 percent of high-school students use tobacco products, up 7 percent since 2014. It's the first time since the survey began in 2000 that high-school tobacco use increased.

"For the first time in nearly two decades, more high-school students are using commercial tobacco – a frightening trend driven by a sharp rise in e-cigarette use and by Big Tobacco's marketing to our kids," said Molly Moilanen, Director of Public Affairs for ClearWay Minnesota and Co-Chair of Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation. "Nicotine harms the developing adolescent brain, whether in a cigarette, e-cigarette or other product. The explosion of e-cigarette use is no surprise, given their easy access, prolific advertising and kid-friendly flavors. Minnesota must take immediate action to keep our young people from getting hooked on commercial tobacco products in all forms."

Key findings from the 2017 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey include:

- Minnesota has seen a nearly 50 percent surge in high-school students using e-cigarettes (from 13 percent in 2014 to 19 percent in 2017).
- The vast majority of students – 88 percent – reported they have seen ads promoting

e-cigarettes. Nearly twice as many students who report seeing e-cigarette ads on social media "all the time" use e-cigarettes (37 percent) as those who see ads less often (19 percent).

- Youth have easy access to e-cigarettes, with 32 percent of underage high-school e-cigarette users and 20 percent of middle-school users reporting that they got or bought e-cigarettes from a retail outlet.

- 67 percent of high-school tobacco users and nearly 60 percent of middle-school tobacco users reported using flavored products.

- The number of high-school students who reported smoking cigars or cigarillos is up nearly 30 percent (from 8 percent in 2014 to 11 percent in 2017).

- Cigarette use among youth continues to decline. 9.6 percent of high-school students reported smoking cigarettes in the last 30 days, down from 10.5 percent in 2014.

"The Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey shows we need to step up our statewide tobacco prevention measures," Moilanen added. "The decrease in cigarette smoking is good news, but the overall rise in youth tobacco use should alarm parents, lawmakers and all Minnesotans. Raising the legal age for tobacco products to 21 and restricting the sale of kid-friendly flavored tobacco products are common-sense steps Minnesota should take to protect our kids from a lifetime of addiction."

Tobacco products flavored like candy, menthol and fruit are attractive to kids and can lead to a lifetime of tobacco addiction and disease. Most kids start using tobacco with flavored tobacco products, which may mask the harshness of tobacco, but are just as addictive and dangerous as other tobacco products.

The Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey points to the success of sustained efforts to lower youth cigarette smoking

rates. Since 2000, Minnesota has seen a 70 percent decrease in cigarette use by high-school students, due to high prices and decades of tobacco prevention efforts. Thanks to these efforts, high-school student cigarette smoking is at an all-time low, but that progress is threatened by tobacco industry tactics to target a new generation of customers.

Tobacco companies in Minnesota spend more than \$110.5 million annually on advertising and marketing. Nearly 95 percent of addicted adult smokers start before age 21, and the 2017 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey results should be a red flag that tobacco industry targeting of kids threatens the progress the state has made to reduce tobacco's harm.

About Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation

Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation supports policies that reduce youth smoking and help end the death and disease associated with tobacco use, including raising the tobacco age to 21, limiting youth access to menthol-, candy- and fruit- flavored tobacco, keeping tobacco prices high and funding future tobacco prevention and cessation efforts.

Find out more at: smoke-freegenmn.org.

Note: 'Tobacco' refers specifically to the use of manufactured, commercial tobacco products, and not to the sacred, medicinal and traditional use of tobacco by American Indians and other groups.

WEM School Announcements

The Midterm Quarter 3 report cards are now available on ParentVue/StudentVue

There is an After Prom Party sign-up sheet in the office. Please take note that there is one for seniors and one for juniors to sign up you and your guest, if not a WEM Student. All STUDENTS must be signed up and pay their \$25 per person fee to attend the AFTER PROM Party. If you are interested in being hypnotized there are also waiver forms to be signed and returned also. If you have any questions, please see Kristi. You must be signed up before March 15, 2018.

Drivers Education classroom will be offered on the following dates in March 5th, 6, 7 and 8th; March 12, 13, 14, 15, 16th from 3:15-6:15 p.m. with March 19th being the makeup day this class will complete the 30 hours of instruction. The cost per student for this class is \$50. Please pick up registration form in the office and bring to office by March 2 with your \$50 payment. The class size is limited to 35 with the oldest given first chance and the remaining openings will be filled on a first come first serve basis. A bill passed in 2014 by the legislature will require all driver education programs to offer a supplemental parental course for the primary driving supervisor. This class will take place on March 1st at 7:00 p.m. Please do not use the forms on the website – they are WRONG!!!

Get your pre-orders in for this year's yearbook. Cost is \$40. Yearbooks can be purchased during students' noon hours or from Mrs. Winter (room 51) before or after school. Order forms are available in the office. Complete the form and return it with your payment. Be sure to make your order so you are guaranteed a yearbook!



Win-E-Mac Alumni Tournament team 1: (in no particular order) Dave Kiecker, Mark Sylstead, Brady Langemo, Casey Carlson, Mark Sulstad, Aaron Cook, Joe Goulet, Kory Sonstelie, Danelle Schommer.



Win-E-Mac Alumni Tournament team 2: (in no particular order) Eric Parent, Tahlor Ose, Kyle Sonstelie, Muff Lisoff, Carson Stuhaug, Dakota Chaput, Jake Knutson, Kory Peterson.



Win-E-Mac Alumni Tournament team 3: (in no particular order) Hunter Plante, Travis Kaster, Austin Tadman, Chase Svalen, Zac Tradewell, Marea Schommer, Aaryk Neubert, Hunter Chaput. Not Pictured: Zach Plante.



Brady Langemo and Alec Kiecker watch to see if the ball will make the basket or if it will be a rebound during the Alumni Tournament last Saturday at the Win-E-Mac School.

How to encourage kids to take care of their teeth

Parents of young children know that getting kids to brush their teeth can sometimes feel like pulling teeth. Kids have a long history of disliking dental care, which can frustrate parents who know the importance and long-lasting benefits of proper dental hygiene.

While many youngsters may never excitedly run to the bathroom to brush their teeth, parents can try various approaches to get kids to embrace proper dental care.

Start early. Parents should not hesitate to begin cleaning kids' teeth once the first tooth appears. The earlier dental care is part of a child's routine, the more likely he or she is to accept it as part of everyday life. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends using a soft-bristled brush with a small head. Ideally, use a toothbrush designed for infants, brushing teeth once per day at bedtime. The AAPD advises taking kids to visit a pediatric dentist when the first tooth appears, or no later than the child's first birthday.

Make it a group effort. Young children love to imitate their parents' actions and behaviors, and moms and dads can use that adoration to their advantage when trying to get kids to brush their teeth. Brush teeth together as a family, making it seem like an enjoyable twice-daily activity. Get down on kids' level and show them how to brush. If kids are resistant, engage them in conversation while

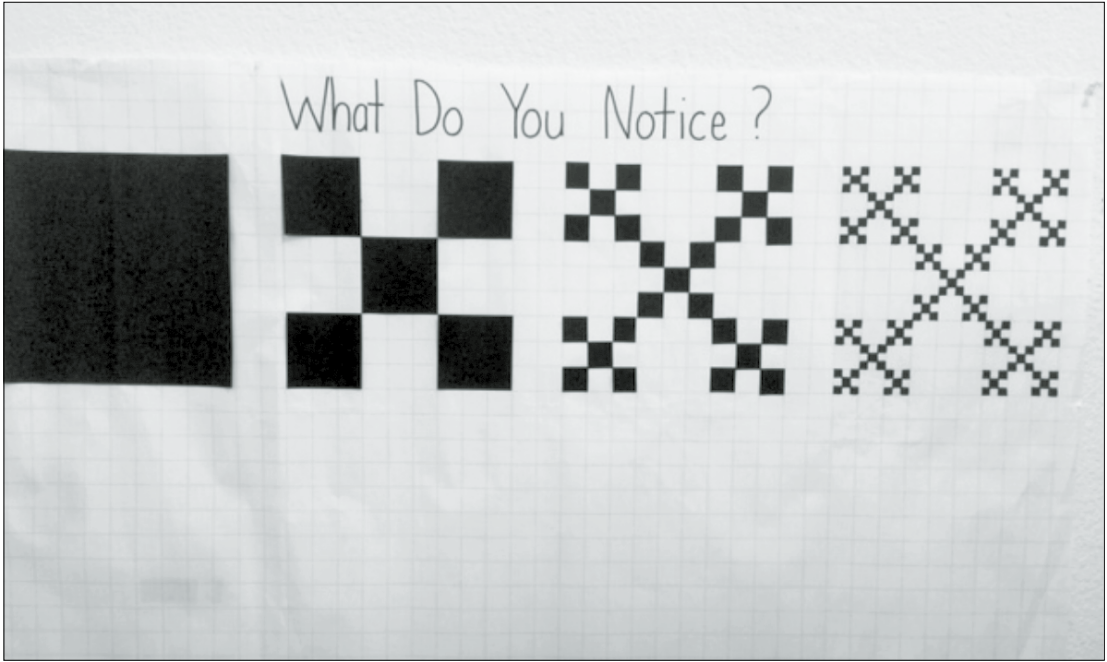
brushing so they don't even realize they're cleaning away.

Involve kids in choosing their dental care products. While parents should be mindful of the type of toothbrush their children use, always sticking with products recommended by their child's pediatric dentist, let youngsters choose their toothbrush and toothpaste. Kids might prefer a particular flavor of toothpaste, and a colorful toothbrush with a favorite film or television character might make kids more enthusiastic and less fussy about brushing.

Compliment kids after positive dental appointments. When pediatric dentist appointments go well, compliment children and express your pride in them for taking dental hygiene as seriously as they do.

Do you have a story to share?

If you have a story, a story idea or any photos you want to share, please send to: mcintoshtimes@gmail.com



Week 4: What do you Notice? Fractals: Skills: patterns, shapes, geometry and fractals. When you are tempted to just answer a question, you can instead ask "What do you notice?" or "What do you think?". When playing a game or helping with homework and your child gives you an answer quickly, you can ask, "How did you get that?", "What else could do?", or "Why?". But don't over do it, about half the time would be more than fine and you don't want to ruin the fun.