



McINTOSH Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

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McIntosh, Minnesota

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The Cook Family in front of the sign for their new daycare center opening soon in McIntosh. Aaron and Nicole Cook are both graduates of Win-E-Mac School, and hope to have the daycare open this spring. If you are interested in reserving a spot you can call Nicole at 218-280-3484.



Joy Neubert and Karlie Schow working on completing their books that will be published.

Win-E-Mac Elementary kidsbecome published authors

Students at Win-E-Mac Elementary are writing and illustrating their own books

Win-E-Mac has announced that all of its elementary students have become published authors through a national student publishing program. As part of the publishing process, students in grades K-5 planned, wrote and illustrated their own books using a free publishing kit provided by Studenttreasures Publishing.

The students have been working hard on their books. The Studenttreasures publishing program provides teachers an easy way to incorporate

any lesson plan – from math and science to history, art, and more – into a fun and memorable activity.

Publishing a book in the classroom engages students through hands-on learning and inspires a love of reading and writing.

The best part? A classroom full of proud, smiling young authors, with a memory that lasts a lifetime, plus, a full-color, deluxe hardcover book for the teacher or school library.

The students' parents also have an option to purchase copies of these unique, childhood keepsakes.



Students worked on creating their own written and illustrated books for publishing. Colten Mandt and Josie Fortman

Win-E-Mac Alumni Association looking for new leadership

After more than 20 years serving as President for the Win-E-Mac Alumni Association, Virgil Lerbald is looking to hand over the reins to a new leader. The duties of the Alumni Association President are to maintain the application process for scholarship applicants at Win-E-Mac School, select a committee to choose the scholarship recipients, award the scholarships to students at the annual banquet held each May at Win-E-Mac school, produce and mail an annual newsletter for donations to the association, and work with the McIntosh Heritage Center to maintain an accurate address list of Win-E-Mac graduates.

The Win-E-Mac Alumni Association was started in 1990 with the intent to assist graduates in their pursuit of academic advancement by helping to pay for tuition, books, school fees and other expenses of college. The awards have been based on the desire to achieve a goal. The application letter consisted of a letter to the alumni association, academic achievement and the involvement in activities and work experience. Since the start of the association, awards have

totalled over \$250,000.00. The number of awards has ranged from six to seventeen and the amounts ranged from \$300.00 to \$1500.00. These scholarships are made possible by the contributions of the alumnus of the Win-E-Mac school system.

Over the years, people have made contributions to the Win-E-Mac Alumni Association with specific guidelines about who should receive the money. This type of contribution has developed into several scholarships funded by the same people each year. The alumni association decides the recipients for these scholarships from the applications received. Following is a list and description of these scholarships:

In 1990 the Vesledahl family started a scholarship in memory of Jeanie Vesledahl. Jeannie was from the McIntosh High School Class of 1983. This scholarship is awarded to a graduate with an interest in the area of performing arts.

In 1993 the Ostenson family started a scholarship in memory of Jan Ostenson. Jan was from the McIntosh High School Class of 1971. This scholarship is awarded to

a graduate with an interest in the areas of communications, such as journalism, speech, broadcasting, or public relations.

In 1996 the Lerbald family started a scholarship in memory of Nick Lerbald. Nick was from the Win-E-Mac Class of 1996. This scholarship is awarded to a graduate to assist in continuing their education. On July 8, 1996, Mary and Virgil Lerbald's son Nick died. He was ready and excited about starting the fall quarter at Bemidji State University. He was to join his sister, Jennifer, who was going

Alumni... Continued on page 2 ...

WEM Spring Early Childhood Screening

FREE vision, hearing, health, and developmental screening for 3-5yrs old.

This screening is a requirement to start preschool or kindergarten in Minnesota. Meet our teachers and register for fall preschool 2018.

Children who are or will be 4 yrs old by Sept. 1st, 2018 can register for Win-E-Mac preschool.

Information about home-based programs for 3yrs olds will also be available.

Mark your calendars for Monday, March 26, 2018 for the screening and signup at Win-E-Mac School.

Contact Shannon Svalen for more information: 218-688-2170, ssvalen@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us, or LIKE us on Facebook: WEM Early Childhood Family Education.



Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 31, 2018
at 2:00 pm at Erickson Park
Hunt for Easter eggs, enjoy refreshments and a visit from the Easter Bunny.
Register to win a bike!

Sponsored by the McIntosh Community Club



Cooking competition contestants become murder suspects in the most recent play at Win-E-Mac School. Pictured: Savahanna Svalen, Paige Breckel, Jhana Saeland, Jayden Gensburger, Sidney Roed and Jadon Kangas. See page 4 for more pictures.



On Wednesday, December 20th, 2017, the Win-E-Mac Student Achievement Committee hosted the Students of the Quarter Breakfast for Second Quarter at Win-E-Mac School in the FACS room. The students were selected by various departments in the secondary school for overall performance and leadership in the classroom. Following a wonderful pancake and fruit breakfast, the students were introduced by nominating staff members and received certificates and gifts for their great work! The students selected for the first quarter are: (L to R, Front Row) Madyson Plante, Aries Qualey, Zachary Luckow, Maci Smeby. (L to R, Back Row) Mackenzie Fuller, Ryan Schaumberg, Brekken Lindberg. Congratulations!



Community Calendar

Wed. March 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. March 22: McIntosh Library 4pm to 7pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

Mon. March 26: McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am

Tues. March 27: McIntosh Library 4pm to 7pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm

Wed. March 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 29: McIntosh Library 4pm to 7pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

Sat. March 31: McIntosh Community Club Easter Egg Hunt @ Erickson Park 2:00pm

Alumni...

Continued on page 2

into her second year. In 1997, the couple started a scholarship as a way of remembering their son and to financially help other students who were going to college. Giving out his award each year is emotional for Virgil and Mary, but at the same time it was a good feeling knowing we are helping another young person to reach his or her dreams of college.

The amount and number of the scholarship has varied over the years. There have been twenty-nine graduates given \$16,100.00.

This year, 2017, was the final scholarship. The Lorfald's appreciate the contributions others have made in Nick's memory. "Thank you to those who have remembered our son."

In 1999 the Gunter family contributed money, which is invested by the alumni association. The scholarship amount is based on the interest earned each year. There are two scholarships given to the top two applicants.

In 2000 the Russel B and Luaina Hagen Foundation started two scholarships. Russel Hagen was from Erskine High School Class of 1959. These scholarships are awarded to a graduate pursuing a degree in science or math and a graduate attending a vocational-technical school.

In 2001 the children of Hazel B Hagen started a scholarship in her memory. Hazel Hagen was from the Erskine High School Class of 1921. The scholarship is awarded to a graduate interested in a career in education.

In 2002 Grant Oppegaard contributed money in memory of his Grandmother Louise Oppegaard. Grant was from the McIntosh High School Class of 1961. There are five scholarships given to graduates who have the desire to continue their education beyond high school.

In 2002 Floyd Uggen made a contribution to be used for scholarships until the funds were exhausted. The scholarships were given to graduates interested in the field of agriculture, an area of nursing or family care, or in education.

In 2005 Richard Hudrlik, along with matching funds from the Graco Foundation gave money, which is invested by the alumni association. There are three scholarships given to graduates interested in the areas of nursing or the medical field.

In 2008 the children of Harald and Adella Thompson started a scholarship in honor of their parents. Harald, a long time businessman in McIntosh, owned and managed the Abrahamson Hardware Store. Adella was a teacher in the school district for many years. There are two scholarships given for graduates interested in business and education.

In 2009 Liberty Lucken created a scholarship for the arts and music. Each year she contributes \$2500.00 for the scholarship.

In 2012 the McIntosh-Erskine Garden Club started a scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to a graduate interested in agriculture or related field.

In 2013 a scholarship was started in memory of Tori Sannes. This scholarship is awarded to a graduate who has participated on the Win-E-Mac golf team at some point during their high school career.

In 2013 The Arthur I and Jane B Snustad Education Fund was created. This was a \$2.5 million gift, which funds will provide scholarships to students who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and have been accepted to post-secondary education. The scholarships are renewed

able for up to four years. The yearly amount for scholarships is \$40,000.00. There is also a \$40,000.00 amount given for educational activities of the school. Snustad wanted to encourage, inspire and support student interest in education and help them be prepared for post-secondary education.

In 2014 a scholarship was started in memory of Cora Grove. Cora was a long time teacher in the McIntosh elementary school. This scholarship is awarded to a relative of a former student of Cora Grove or a graduate choosing a career in computer science or engineering.

Each year James and Nancy Benson give a scholarship to a graduate who is planning to attend Bemidji State University. James Benson and Nancy (Berge) Benson were Erskine High School Class of 1955. James Benson was the President of Bemidji State University for several years.

To make a donation to the Win-E-Mac Alumni Association, please mail the contribution to FarmChek, Inc. PO Box 338, McIntosh, MN 56556.

If you are interested in becoming the president of the Win-E-Mac Alumni Association, please contact Virgil Lorfald or a member of the administration at the school.

relationship is endangered. It requires diligence to maintain. Because I believe loyalty is an attitude based on faith. Faith makes up the bones of loyalty, so to speak. There can be no loyalty unless faith exists in some form. And the belief that faith stems from will shade loyalty favorably or taint it.

I wish thinking about loyalty and faith this way would make it easy to break down their concepts into bite-sized, digestible pieces.

But then my life enters the picture. My experiences, judgments and assumptions make for a very complex and complicated snarl to unravel. It's one thing for me to understand my behavior needs to be tempered by the wisdom of the Father.

It's another to actually manage my reaction to life and BEHAVE with the wisdom of the Father. It's a true statement: the more you know, the more you know what you don't know.

This is what being the mother of a toddler will teach you EVERY waking minute!

I have been listening to "My Revival" by Lauren Daigle lately. "I will run and not grow weary. I will walk, I will not faint. I will soar on wings like eagles.

"Find my rest in Your everlasting Name. You are my revival. Jesus on you I wait. And I'll lean on Your promise. You will renew my strength." And I've come to this understanding: I cannot physically run, walk or soar without bones. This paints a metaphorical understanding of a spiritual concept but I tend to forget to thoroughly apply it to my spiritual behavior.

What are the "bones" of my spiritual being? What creates tension around them? Where

are my answers?

I cannot rely on my physical stamina, my flesh will fail me. I cannot rely on my opinions, assumptions or feelings... they will change.

I MUST rely on the Word of God and His revelation of His Word to me. I must not focus on the desired outcome: running, walking, soaring but on the PROCESS.

Because in the process I can find the keys to exploring and beginning to understand what purpose each "bone" serves. The "bones" of my spiritual being can only be nourished in the presence of my Elohim. And that is relationship. It's all He asks of me.

And I will run, walk and soar not because I have strived but because I have leaned into Him. And that is REVIVAL. "...but they who wait for ADONAI will renew their strength. They will soar up with wings as eagles.

They will run, and not grow weary. They will walk, and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31 TLV. -a.m.opdahl

Luther League

The Gosen Luther League meets on Sunday evening, March 25th, at 7:30.

North Country Gospel will present a concert. They accompany themselves with a variety of stringed instruments.

Join us for an inspirational evening in honor of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Refreshments will be served following the program.

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206.

For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.



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

Wed. March 21: 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Fri. March, 23: 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. March 25: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Wed. March 28: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Thurs. March 29: 7:00pm Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
If you have any questions please call 435-6484.

CALVARY-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN PARISH
Winger/Bejou
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson

Sun. March 25 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary
Sun. April 1: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

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

Sun. March 25: 11:15am Worship Service.
Sun. April 1: 11:15am Worship Service.

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Independent

Gary Johnson, Pastor
www.gosen-church.com
Face Book: Gosen Church

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

Sun. March 25: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service; 7:30pm Luther League (see article elsewhere in the paper)

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

Wed. March 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. March 21: 7:30pm Trinity Pastor Arlo Feiock, Called to Fellowship, John 15:15

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

Thurs. Mar 29. : 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson
Sun. March 25: 9am Worship
Sun. April 1: 9am Worship

DOVRE
FREE LUTHERAN
Pastor Don Edlunds

Wed. March 21: 7:00pm Lenten Service
Sun. March 18: 10:00am Worship Service; Sunday School following; 7:00pm Bible Study on Hebrews
Thurs. March 29: Maundry Thursday - 7:00pm Services with Communion
Sunday, April 1: 10:00am Easter Services

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh

Rev. Bruce Blocker, Pastor

Thurs. March 22: 6:00pm Lenten Service
Sun. March 25: 9:00am Divine Worship Service; 10:00 Fellowship Hour
Sun. April 1: 7:30am Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion; 8:45am Congregation Easter Breakfast
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the Month



Harald Thompson is turning 90!

Please join Harald's family in celebrating his 90th Birthday on
Saturday, March 31,
from 2:30-4:00 pm at
Poplar Meadows in McIntosh.



Pestle & Vessel
by Alison Opdahl

Bones

One morning Dinah prayed, "Thank you God for my bones." I'm a Bodyworker. Nearly every day I work on soft tissue tension, which wouldn't exist unless we had bones.

A few days later the Ruach ha-Kodesh (Holy Spirit) started talking to me about loyalty and faith. What do they have to do with bones, I wondered?

It's evident "loyalty" is losing its integrity. For example, price and convenience often

undermine loyalty in consumers. We see small town businesses struggling or closing doors because big box stores and online shopping have taken over the consumer market. Local economy is the backbone of community and it's caving in many rural areas.

In a sense, this demonstrates how loyalty is easily bought and sold. Is that how it should be when it comes to relationship?

I think healthy loyalty in

NOTICE OF MEETING
OF STOCKHOLDERS OF
FOSSTON TRI-COOP
Fosston, Minnesota

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of stockholders of Fosston Tri-Coop will be held at Ventures Bar & Grill in Fosston, Minnesota on Tuesday, March 27, 2018. Meeting will start at 5 pm with a supper to follow.

The business meeting will include the presentation of the annual report and election of two directors, who will serve a term of three years.

Curtis Bartz
Secretary-Treasurer



John J. Alrick

John J. Alrick, a well-known citizen of McIntosh, was born in Vernon, Dodge County, Minnesota, on September 13, 1872. His parents, John and Mary (Tennefos) Alrick, were natives of Norway and came to this country in the spring of 1872, settling in Dodge County, where they made their home until 1898 when they moved to McIntosh.

They reared a family of ten children, of whom John J. Alrick was next to the youngest. He grew into manhood on the homestead in Dodge county and attended the common schools. Upon the families move to Polk County, young John J. relocated to Winger Township.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF STREET VACATION
HEARING
CITY OF MCINTOSH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of McIntosh, Minnesota will conduct a public hearing on the 12th day of April, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the McIntosh Community Center located at 115 Broadway NW, McIntosh, Minnesota for the purpose of considering and acting upon a resolution calling for the vacation of that portion of Lakeside Street described as follows:

All of that platted street lying between Lot One (1), Block One (1), of the South McIntosh Addition to McIntosh, according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the County Recorder in and for the County of Polk and State of Minnesota;

AND

Lot One (1), Block One (1), Kings Addition to the City of McIntosh according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the County Recorder in and for the County of Polk and State of Minnesota.

All persons interested in this matter are encouraged to attend the hearing.

Dated: 2-12-2018

Melissa Finseth
Melissa Finseth
City Clerk of McIntosh

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

Easter Buffet
at Ness Cafe

Sunday, April 1st - Serving 10-2 pm

BBQ Ribs, Meatballs, Ham, Deep Fried Shrimp,
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Au Gratin Potatoes,
Glazed Carrots, and Corn.
Full Salad Bar and Free Dessert!

\$17.95 ADULTS • \$9.95 KIDS 12 & UNDER

Easter Breakfast Buffet served from 8 am-1 pm. \$8.99

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EVERY DAY AT NESS CAFE!

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103 Vance Ave S, Erskine, MN

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Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-2:00pm

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Richards Publishing Co.

Winger News

by Linda Pulskamp

Hello again from Winger and the Union Lake areas where we have been having some rather pleasant days, mostly sunny and warm enough to see some melting going on. There is lots of ice as a result of this so walking is treacherous so be careful.

With spring officially starting on Tuesday we can now hope that old man winter is behind us and we will continue to see the snow melt, and then it will be time for the farmers to start thinking of spring planting and of course gardens and flower gardens also.

Last Friday Butch and Linda Pulskamp were visitors with Jim Wannebo at his home in Bagley.

Paul Carlson was a visitor on Thursday the 8th with Milton Carlson and had a cup of coffee to start his day as he headed for work. Later Judy Gieseke arrived at Milton's bringing with her lasagna which she and Milton enjoyed for dinner.

Tuesday the 13th Barry and Kay Malme of Fargo visited at the Pioneer Home at Erskine with Helmer and Verlys Homme. Barry is a nephew of Verlys.

Friday the 9th Chad and Marissa Carlson were visitors with Milton Carlson at the Carlson home, they brought dinner with them which they all enjoyed together.

Brent, Jessie, Sidnie, Skyli and Brylie Pulskamp of Wahpeton spent last Saturday in Winger at the Pulskamp home. It was the last ice race of the season at Erskine so they all headed to Erskine and enjoyed watching and participating in the races. My girls are hooked on ice racing, it was their first experience and are looking forward to next year's races.

David Myhrum returned to Mayo in Rochester last Thursday for a check up after his recent surgery, wish him well and that he has a good report.

Saturday morning the 10th Paul Carlson was a visitor and coffee with Milton Carlson at Milton's home.

Sheldon and Rita Trandem of Erskine were visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home at Erskine last Sunday.

Wednesday after attending the funeral for a Natalia Dahl in Fosston Linda Pulskamp visited briefly with Nola Abele at Nola's home in Fosston.

Sheila and Vincent Benesh were last Sunday morning visitors with Milton Carlson

at the Carlson home, Vincent and Milton had a most enjoyable visit as Vincent brought Grandpa up to date on his basketball games.

Lucy Brtek visited this past Monday with Sheldon Lee and Wilma Wang at their homes in Cornerstone Residence in Fosston and she says that they both are doing well.

Paul Carlson and Dusty Wayne Carlson took a snowmobile ride on Sunday and stopped in for a visit with Milton Carlson at Milton's home.

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

Tuesday the 13th Lonnie Gieseke stopped in for a visit and a cup of coffee with Milton Carlson on his way to work.

Craig Helgaas of Glenwood came to the Pulskamp home in Winger and is spending a few days, while he and Butch work on doing some logging while he is here, Bev went on her way to Gully to spend some time with Sister Cindy Johnson.

Chad Carlson was a Monday visitor with Milton Carlson at Milton's home and while there he helped Milton with a digital clock.

Last Thursday Linda Pulskamp met former co-workers Marie Scott and Sherry Largis for lunch at Joe DiMaggio's in Red Lake Falls. The girls had a good visit over lunch.

So we have it again and as Bunny stated we need more NEWS, PLEASE!

From Bun Manor:

Pam Wang spent February 1st to March 3rd visiting with her sister Idonna and her niece Tiffany Leines in Freemont, California. While there she also visited with Todd and Noni Leines and Steve and Tami Pricer. The sun shone everyday and the weather was perfect. She told Bun she could have stayed longer.

Bun's brother came up last week to spend a few days at the manor. They managed to find themselves getting down to the casino three times. It's a hard way to make money and not get into the fever stage where trouble sets in the pocket book and health issues arise.

Andy took Bun to Crookston on Monday to see the Doctor for an upcoming cataract eye surgery on his right eye. They got there ahead of the scheduled time of 1:30 and didn't get out of the clinic till around three. The Doctor finally came in and spent less than five min-

utes with him and sent him on his way. How many times has this happened to you when you go to the Doctor and you wait longer for the Doctor than the Doctor spends with you?

Thursday afternoon found them at the Coop in McIntosh having lunch with Joyce, Lois Ostenna, her sister Leta from Park Rapids and Mary Ellen Salveson. They had a nice conversation. They are sure some sweet gals.

Following lunch they stopped by the Pioneer home to visit with Joanne Zahl and Carsten. Other visitors during the week were Bev Helgaas, Denise Zahl, Dan Zahl, his daughter Erica and her two daughters. If you are in the area stop by and visit her for awhile. She would enjoy your company.

Friday thru Saturday evening Mark Thompson, Dale Balstad and Steve Massmann went up north to the big lake to go fishing.

They had a fun time but fishing was slow. The amateur Dale caught the first Walleye that was the only keeper and two non keepers. Steve (who thinks he is Babe Winkleman) was not impressed. He only caught a sager and a Tulaby. Mark got skunked. Bun was very impressed with Dale and a little disappointed in Mark and Steve letting Dale the amateur get the best of them

Ole returned home on Sunday after spending a couple of days in Devils Lake visiting with relatives. He rode out there with his sister Julie and her husband Paul Schow. While there Julie attended a baby shower for her cousin

National Ag Day celebrates American food and fiber production

A Special 2018 Agriculture Day Message from: Joe Martin, State Executive Director, MN Farm Service Agency.

March 20 was National Agriculture Day – a day designated each year by the Agriculture Council of America (ACA) to celebrate the accomplishments of agriculture. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) joins the council in thanking American agricultural producers, especially in Minnesota, for their contributions to the nation's outstanding quality of life.

This year's theme, Agriculture: Food for Life, spotlights the hard work of American farmers, ranchers and foresters who diligently work to provide food, fiber and more to the United States and countries around the world. To ensure a prosperous future for American agriculture, FSA provides continuous support to agriculturalists across the country.

FSA is rural America's en-



The F-M RedHawk's mascot visited with the elementary students recently at Win-E-Mac School. Hawkeye's BookWorms is a FREE reading program, sponsored by the F-M RedHawks, that runs from January to April. It is a four-week program in which Win-E-Mac students are participating this year, that is integrated into each classroom by the teacher. Each week of successful reading is rewarded with a prize from a BookWorm sponsor. At the conclusion of the program when the child has "hit a homerun" they receive a ticket to any RedHawks baseball game during the 2018 regular season.



gine for economic growth, job creation and development, offering local service to millions of rural producers. In fiscal year 2017, USDA Farm Loan programs provided \$6 billion in support to producers across America, the second highest total in FSA history. FSA also distributed \$1.6 billion in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments to over 375,000 Americans to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion and increase wildlife habitat.

For agricultural producers who suffered market downturns in 2016, USDA is issuing approximately \$8 billion in payments under the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. USDA also continues to provide extensive assistance in response to natural disas-

FSA...
Continued on page 4 ...



Pictured above and below: Students at Win-E-Mac School recently got to visit with the F-M RedHawks Mascot during the kickoff for the Hawkeye Bookworms reading program that is sponsored by the RedHawks and other sponsors each year.



confinement and after.

By the way, the jail meals are good, too. A few of us board members ate noon lunch there last week. On that day, the menu included barbecues with buns baked in the jail, American fries, whole kernel corn, a mixed fruit sauce, and milk. Good portions with some pretty good nutritional value, too.

Two members of an outside food service firm prepare the meals with help from a couple or more inmates who are working off time. The cost comes to about \$1.70 a meal. Prisoners are fed for about \$5.10 to \$5.20 a day. You can't eat at home for that. Bad food is said to be the root cause of almost all jail rioting. Rioting isn't likely to happen at our jail.

Summation: It was a really good jail visit but you don't want to ever have to stay there. For me, my claustrophobia would go out of control. It's still a jail. The cells are small and are double-bunked, and you are locked up.

Thoughts for the day:
The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible and achieves the impossible. — Winston Churchill

If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools. — Plato

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.

The County Line

By Warren Strandell
Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

In my time as a member of the Northwest Regional Corrections Board of Directors I've watched, heard and been involved with quite a few things on the business side of corrections. The thought of sharing some of this experience surfaced during a recent meeting of the board. The day also included a tour of the jail.

But first some background

For the counties of Polk, Norman and Red Lake, "corrections" involves operation of the Northwest Regional Corrections Center (that's the jail) and the Red River Valley Juvenile Center. Both are located in Crookston and are operated by Tri-County Community Corrections (TCCC).

The regional corrections board is made up of two county commissioners from each of the three member counties. This body governs Tri-County Corrections.

While the operational management structure might be a bit confusing, you can be assured that it is all a very well run system by some exceptional staff.

In the jail, the role of corrections amounts to either safely housing suspects prior to trial or holding those who are serving out a jail sentence lasting one year or less. The jail is licensed and staffed to hold up to 200 prisoners.

The Juvenile Center, located in the Polk County Law Enforcement Center building, has two areas for housing kids 18 and under. The "secure" area is for those who have violated

the law and might be a threat to others or to themselves. The "non-secure" area is for juveniles who have less serious issues or who are from homes where parenting is in disarray. The Juvenile Center can hold kids for up to 90 days.

Jail occupancy

At last week's meeting of the Corrections Board, we heard that daily jail occupancy for February averaged 174.61 inmates. That's down from most months but about normal for February's usually "slow time." The number included 144.11 males and 30.5 females.

The bed-count on meeting day was 170. Of that total, 45 were "per diem paying guests" who were being housed for other jurisdictions. Per-diem income for February totaled \$81,544, which is down from the about \$100,000 collected in most months but pretty much normal for the "short month" and slower time of year.

Per-diems pay the debt

Incidentally, per-diem income now more than covers the debt service on the \$17 million in bonds that were sold 12 years ago to finance construction of the jail. And the \$430,000 that was paid to other counties to keep the prisoners that we didn't have room to house during the last year of operating in the old jail... well, that expense no longer exists.

Consider, too, that the new jail (I keep calling it the "new one" even though it has already been in use for 10 years) will be around for many years after the bonds are paid off in 2026.

The high number of inmates in February was 188 on Feb. 5. The low number was 164 on Feb. 8. The average daily bed count for 2017 was 181.3. That number is right about where it should be when allowances are made for inmates who must remain separated, are a threat to others or who have physical or mental health issues. There has to be flexibility.

The jail had bed counts over 200 several times during the 2017 but those high numbers were for a very short periods of time as prisoners came and left throughout the day.

More than passes inspection

We also heard that the state jail inspector was very complimentary about jail operation after making a scheduled tour of the facility. With nothing in the way of a "must do" correction, the suggestion was made that a fulltime recreation person might be employed to keep corrections officers from having to fill that role. The suggestion didn't get a lot of traction with the board.

The Juvenile Center, with new director Kyle Allen in charge and reporting at the meeting, is doing well, too. For February, the secure side of the facility had an average of 5.29 kids and the non-secure side had 4.93 juveniles. There were 12 kids in the 16-bed center on that particular Monday. Most of them were from non-member "per-diem" paying counties.

Business included a report from Executive Director Andy Larson saying that the updat-

ing of the security system in both the jail and juvenile center had been completed under budget and a year ahead of schedule. That work has provided greatly expanded camera surveillance, improved electronic controls for the locking and unlocking doors, and more. The control center now has 32 different camera views in the jail. That's up four times from the 8 previously used. There are new cameras in the Juvenile Center, too. The cameras show and record a much more focused and otherwise improved view of any activity. People involved in incidents can be positively identified, which was always the case.

Currently in the final stages is the installation of equipment that will make video visitation possible via computers and/or smart phones rather than by having to come to the jail or juvenile center. This will make it much easier for inmates and their family members to communicate, which is very valuable in the "correction" process.

Catch and release

Corrections and its Probation Division are at the back end of law enforcement in Polk County. This effort begins with good investigative work done by deputies and police officers and goes through the County Attorney's Office and the courts before it gets to corrections.

In short, Polk County is not a "catch and release" county but one where if you do the crime, you can plan on doing the time. Still, it is a county where criminals get safe and humane treatment when in



Katelyn Vesledahl with her Mom Stacey and step-Dad Wayne Savig at Parents Night for Girls Basketball at Win-E-Mac School.



WEM School Announcements

Win-E-Mac Kindergarten Round-up Open House

For the 2018-19 School Year

When: Wednesday, March 28th from 4:00-6:00 PM

Where: Room #25 at the Win-E-Mac school.

If your child turns five years old before September 1st, 2018 and you plan to enroll them at Win-E-Mac, please plan to attend. You will be filling out registration forms.

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.

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!

Pictured above: Sharing a moment with their dogs before the tragedy is Jane Smith (Sidney Roed) and the victim (Jadon Kangas).

FSA..

Continued from page 3 ...

ters throughout the country, including last year's hurricanes in Florida, Texas, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, drought in the northern high plains, wildfires in the west and central plains, floods, tornadoes, freezes and other catastrophic weather events.

To support beginning farmers and ranchers, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue signed a Memorandum of Understanding with officials from SCORE, the nation's largest volunteer network of expert business mentors, to support new and beginning farmers. The agreement provides new help and resources for beginning ranchers, veterans, women, socially disadvantaged Americans and others, providing new tools to help them both grow and thrive in agribusiness.

I am honored to administer programs that enable our producers to manage their risks when the agriculture industry faces hardship. On behalf of the Farm Service Agency here in Minnesota, I would like to thank our agricultural producers for continuing to feed our nation and the world.

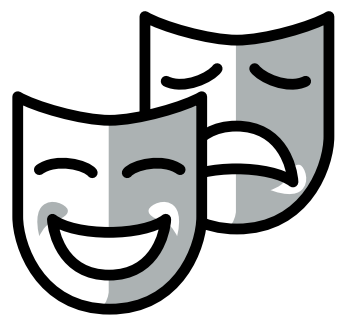
For more information about FSA programs and services, visit <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/>.

Joe Martin
State Executive Director

WEM Jr. High presents: Cooking Can be Murder



The Win-E-Mac Junior High cast of the play "Cooking Can Be Murder" performed the play at the Arts & Event Center on Friday, March 9th and Sunday, March 11th. The cast performed well and the play was a lot of fun for the audience. The story takes place at a cooking competition where all the contestants are suspects in the murder of the judge, and all have a valid reason to want him dead. A great who-done-it in a fun fashion.



Getting a big "F" on your forehead for cooking. Is that enough to murder, Ella Mentry (Grace Kaupang)?

Pictured above: A suspect with her blackmailer. Pictured: Savahanna Svalen, Jadon Kangas and Will Tofstad.



The detective questions an unsuspecting suspect. Pictured: Anton Hickman and Brock Trandum.



Suspect Howie Diddot (Tommy Revier) with his good and bad conscious (Bret DuChamp and Ethan Shimpa).



Finding out that not only the cooking competition contestants were who wanted James Casanove V. Bond (Jadon Kangas) dead. (with Ethan Shimpa)



Another suspect to be questioned. Detective Rufus Annette Biddle (Brock Trandum) and Paige Turner (Paige Breckel).



Not only was there one murder, but there were additional "accidental" deaths as well. Pictured: Paige Breckel, Jayden Gensburger, Sidney Roed, Jhana Saeland, Jadon Kangas and Grace Kaupang.



The cast and crew of the Win-E-Mac Junior High School presented the play "Cooking Can be Murder" the weekend of March 9th at the Arts & Event Center. The cast included, Anton Hickman, Brock Trandum, Bryce DuChamp, Jadon Kangas, Savahanna Svalen, Paige Breckel, Jhana Saeland, Jayden Gensburger, Sidney Roed, Grace Kaupang, Tommy Revier, Bret DuChamp, Laila Roragen, Ethan Shimpa, Kendyl Nelson and Will Tofstad. Behind the scenes were Delvin Morel, Anisha Saeland and Alecia Hancock-Fitzgerald. Andrew Hanson was the director and was assisted by Becky Schluter.