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McIntosh, Minnesota



McIntosh Christmas house and yard decorating contest

Judging is Saturday, December 22, 2018.

Sponsored by the McIntosh Community Club



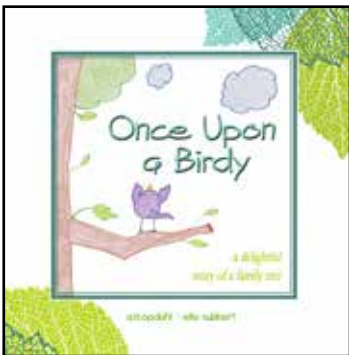
# Local author releases new book with young artist

Alison Mellgren Opdahl and her niece, Ella Subbert (Kevin & Cassie Mellgren Subbert) both of McIntosh, MN have released their first book: *Once Upon a Birdy*.

Alison wrote the story about the Mellgren family tree for her daughter, nieces and nephew. She found a willing and talented illustrator in her niece,

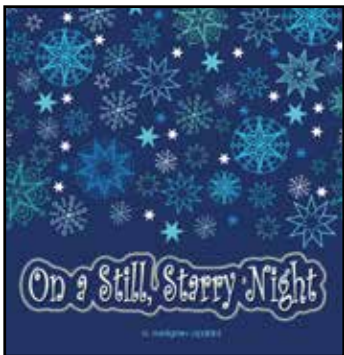
Ella breathes drawing. This is a delightful telling of the author and illustrator's family tree that comes close with: "Hey you little birdie, who are all the birdies in your family tree?"

This aunt and niece duo shine in their first collaborative effort. Original artwork paired with amusing tongue-twisters will be sure to find your little birdies asking to hear it again. Talk about your family tree and record your "Once Upon



a Birdy" history at the end to personalize this unique book! Look for it at Marial Harbor in McIntosh or The Red Poppy and Nord's in Fosston.

On a Still, Starry Night is a poignant re-telling of Messiah's birth written by Alison Mellgren Opdahl, first released as a hardcover in 2010. This book recounts the event with a simple poetic style allowing the truth of that night to shine



forth. The accompanying water-color backgrounds painted by Alison's friend, Esther Moberg, create a whimsical palette for the imagination.

This book was written to allow the presentation of the facts to stir discussion with families as they read it together. At the end is a "Dig Deeper" section. The 2018 edition is in paperback. Look for it at Marial Harbor or The Red Poppy

# MN offers drivers more fuel choices

Federal and state officials joined the Minnesota Corn Growers Association, American Lung Association in Minnesota, and other renewable fuel advocates today to celebrate surpassing more than 400 E85 fuel stations and 300 stations selling 88 octane gasoline in Minnesota.

The event highlighted the successful completion of the Biofuels Infrastructure Partnership (BIP), a national public-private effort to make cleaner-burning ethanol fuels available to more American motorists. Through BIP, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded Minnesota \$8 million for ethanol infrastructure development.

"USDA has been working closely with our 20 state grantees to make investments totaling \$210 million in Rural America's energy infrastructure," said Richard Fordyce, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Farm Service Agency. USDA partnered with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and local organizations, the Minnesota Corn Growers Association, American Lung Association in Minnesota, and gas station

operators. USDA awarded the Minnesota Department of Agriculture \$8 million in 2015 to add another 774 biofuel pumps and 47 tanks among 165 stations throughout the state. "Their success has provided more drivers a choice of affordable fuels at the pump and expanded the market for corn growers," Fordyce said.

To complement the federal funding, additional development funds were provided by more than \$3.5 million in state funds, \$2.5 million in private funds, and an investment of more than \$9.7 million from fuel station owners. The private grant funds were contributed by the Minnesota Corn Research and Promotion Council, many of Minnesota's 20 ethanol producers in partnership with the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association, and Growth Energy's "Prime the Pump" program.

Minnesota has more E85 stations than any other state, and the state has also been a leader in the growth of the new 88 octane gasoline, also known as E15. Under the BIP program, 137 Minnesota locations received funding for the installation of fuel pumps, fuel tanks, and related infrastructure. Project funding was used to install 809 fuel dispensers and 49 fuel storage tanks across the state, exceeding the program's infrastructure targets.

E85 is a high-ethanol fuel blend that can be used interchangeably with gasoline in Flex Fuel Vehicles. There are more than 350,000 flex fuel vehicles in Minnesota. The 88 octane gasoline is a 15 percent ethanol blend, which has been approved for use by the U.S. Environmental Protection



Lily Bretk stopped in to see Santa during Breakfast with Santa sponsored by the Winger Lions held on Saturday, December 8th at the Community Center.

# The man behind the beard

Every Christmas Eve, children go to bed eagerly anticipating a visit from Santa Claus. This merry gentleman is purported to visit the home of every good girl and boy, delivering gifts and cheer along the way.

Before the modern evolution of Santa Claus lived a very real and generous individual named Nicholas.

In the third century, Nicholas served as the Bishop of Myrna in present-day Turkey. He had a reputation for secret gift-giving, believing that giving should be done secretly and sacrificially in Jesus Christ's name rather than one's own.

Stories tell of Nicholas paying the dowry for poor daughters to enable them to get married. He reportedly put coins in the shoes of those who left them out for him.

It is believed Nicholas helped to restore the hope of hundreds of people in his community, making him a beloved and revered Bishop. Throughout his ministry, Nicholas fervently shared his life and fortune with others.

Nicholas continued to be revered and commemorated by many Christians even after his death. His charity and unselfish works helped inspire



generations of the faithful, and he eventually was named the patron saint of everyone from merchants to sailors to pawn-brokers.

No one really knows what St. Nicholas looked like. But in 2005, a forensic laboratory in England reviewed historical data and photographs of the remains taken from St. Nicholas' grave in the 1950s. Researchers concluded that he was a small man, perhaps no more than five feet in height, with a broken nose.

This image certainly does not fit with the robust frame

and other imagery awarded St. Nicholas in more modern years. St. Nicholas is believed to be the inspiration for Santa Claus, which was a name taken from the Dutch Sinterklaas, a contracted form of Sint Nicolass, or St. Nicholas.

Tales of the real St. Nicholas' giving spirit were blended with a fictional personification by New York-based newspaper writers who blended the St. Nicholas name with the appearance of a Dutch town citizen. The goal was to reach out to the primarily Dutch immigrants living in New York at the time. This jolly elf image was given a boost by the publication of "A Visit From St. Nicholas," which was published around the same time.

Eventually, the merry Santa Claus portrayal began to outshine the more accurate St. Nicholas version as a religious man, fostered by political drawings and caricatures that depicted Santa as a chubby sort in a red suit. That image prevails to this day.

Beneath the Christmas symbolism, the beard and the presents associated with Santa Claus lies a tale of generosity that originated with St. Nicholas.



William Klawitter was one of the two lucky winners of a WiFi Drone kit during Santa Claus Day in McIntosh on Saturday, December 8th. The drone was a part of the prize drawings for all the kids who were in attendance. The WiFi Drone was donated to the McIntosh Community Club by Jared's Grocery in McIntosh.



Win-E-Mac School Winter Break

Break will be from December 21st, 2018 through January 2, 2019. School will be dismissed at 12:30 on Friday, December 21st and school will resume on Thursday, January 3, 2019.



Community Calendar

Wed. Dec. 19:

McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Thurs. Dec. 20:

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

Fri. Dec. 21:

McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm; WEM School dismissed at 12:30pm

Mon. Dec. 24:

McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am;; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Tue Dec 25:

Merry Christmas!

Wed. Dec. 26:

McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Thurs. Dec. 27:

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

Fri. Dec. 28:

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

Mon. Dec.31:

McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am;; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Tue Jan. 1, 2019:

Happy New Year!

NOTICE

Newspaper will be delayed the week of Christmas & New Years. Available in stores & our shop on Wednesday afternoon & your mailbox on Dec. 27th & Jan 3rd

# Warm Weather and Deteriorating Ice Conditions



The Polk County Sheriff's Office would like to remind everyone enjoying sports time on the ice to be extremely careful. Ice depths can fluctuate in a short distance. With the recent warm weather and more to come, ice depths can deteriorate quickly. There have been numerous motor vehicles observed out on the ice on waters in Polk County. We urge all, to please check the ice depths before driving on the ice. Ice Depths can be checked quickly with and auger and tape measure. With the schools going to be on break soon, we know many will venture onto the ice and we want everyone to do it safely.





### Did you know?

The weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day are some of the most anticipated, jolly and busy moments of the year. People partake in all sorts of traditions in the name of holiday festivity. Trimming the tree or caroling with friends may be some of the more standard holiday protocol. However, there are always opportunities to bring new traditions into the mix.

People bitten by the travel bug may want to include visiting new towns and cities as part of their holiday plans. In fact, it can be fun to take in the sites at these festively named locales across North America.

- Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
- Christmas, Florida
- Christmas, Michigan
- Christmas Cove, Maine
- Evergreen, Alabama

- Hallelujah Junction, California
- Joy, Illinois
- Mistletoe, Kentucky
- Noel, Missouri
- North Pole, Alaska
- Rudolph, Wisconsin
- Santa, Idaho
- Santa Claus, Arizona
- Santa Claus, Georgia
- Santa Claus, Indiana
- Snowflake, Arizona
- Canadian travelers or those heading north of the border can explore these locales:
- Candyville, Ontario
- Christmas Island, Nova Scotia
- Cranberry Junction, BC
- Gift Lake, Ontario
- Noelville, Ontario
- Sled Lake, Saskatchewan
- Snowflake, Manitoba
- Snowfall, Ontario
- Winterland, Newfoundland and Labrador.

### Hill River Township Filing Notice

The filing dates for the Township of Hill River, County of Polk, State of Minnesota will be from Tuesday, January 1, 2019 until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. Filing will be for one

- (1) Supervisor for a term of three (3) years.

The filing fee is \$2.00. Filing is to be at the Clerk/Treasurer's home.

Raymond O. Sundrud, Clerk/Treasurer  
Hill River Township  
35563 300th Street SE  
Fosston, MN 56542  
(218) 435-1029

## New Years Eve Supper at Ness Cafe Monday, Dec. 31

Serving will start  
at 4:00 pm

### YOUR CHOICE OF:

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- Butterfly Shrimp

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chicken/ribs, potatoes,  
vegetable, pasta and more!

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### Notice to Residents of King Township

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of King township, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held On Tuesday March 12, 2019, at the McIntosh Community Center.

Filing for township offices opens on January 1, 2019 and continues to January 15, 2019 till 5 pm.

Offices to be Elected are:

Clerk of a Term of 2 years.

Supervisor for a Term of 3 years.

Affidavits of candidacy may be filled out with the interim clerk. There is a \$2 filing fee.

David Kiecker  
King Township Interim Clerk/Treasurer

M39-40C



Wed. Dec. 19: Clarissa Neste, Erik Roed  
Thurs. Dec. 20: Kalli Roy, Jim Klien, Marion Shimpa  
Fri. Dec. 21: Brooke Tofstad, Beth Hagen  
Sat. Dec. 22: Andy Smith, Cody Drewry, Jerry Shimpa, Camille Smeby, Tracy Juve, \*Robert & Sharon Hegland, \*Allen & Shirley Carver  
Mon. Dec. 24: Candace Haaven, Anthony Grande, Jered Agnes, Philip Lee, Cheryl Jore  
Tues. Dec. 25: Nicole Vettleson, Jordyn Thompson



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

Sun. Dec. 23: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Sun. Dec. 30: 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. Dec. 23: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

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

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

Sun. Dec. 23: 11:15am Worship Service.

Sun. Dec. 30: 11:15am Worship Service.

GOSEN LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Independent

Gary Johnson, Pastor

www.gosen-church.com

Face Book: Gosen Church

Wed. Dec. 19: 7:00pm Bible Study at Don and Sharon Ramberg's

Sun. Dec. 23: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00 a.m. Christmas Worship Service

Tues. Dec. 25: 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTN--30; 1:30 p.m. No Bible Study at The Country Place

Wed. Dec. 26: 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. Dec. 19: 7:30pm Bible Study at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. Dec. 20: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

Sun. Dec. 23: 9:30am Worship at Trinity; 9:45am Sunday School for all ages at Mt. Carmel; 10:45am Sunday School for all ages at Trinity; 11:00am Worship at Mt. Carmel

Wed. Dec. 26: 7:30pm Bible Study at Mt. Carmel

Thurs. Dec. 27: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

VERNES LUTHERAN  
CHURCH (LCMC)  
McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson

Sun. Dec. 23: 9am Worship

Sun. Dec. 30: 9am Worship

DOVRE

FREE LUTHERAN

Pastor Don Edlunds

Sun. Dec. 23: 10:00am Worship Services, no Sunday School

Mon. Dec. 24: 5:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wed. Dec. 26: No Bible Study will resume January 9th, 2019

Sun. Dec. 30: 10:00am Worship Service no Sunday School

Wed. Jan. 2: No Bible Study will resume Jan 9th

Sun. Jan. 6: 10:00am Worship Service, Adult and Children's Sunday School

Wed. Jan. 9: 7:00pm Bible Study on Romans Everyone Welcome

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
McIntosh

Pastor Bruce Blocker

Sun. Dec. 23: 9:00am Worship; 10:00 Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

Sun. Dec. 30: 9:00am Divine Worship Service; 10:00 Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

RODNES LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Erskine

Pastor Joel Smeby

Wed. Dec. 19: 10:00am Bible Study at Crossroads; 7:00pm Bible Study at Rodnes

Thursday, Dec. 20: 4:00pm Confirmation Class

Sat. Dec. 22: 8:00am Men's Prayer Group

Sun. Dec. 23: 10:00am Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of every month. Visit us on Facebook at RodnesLutheran.



## The Joy Of Christmas

As we enjoy the Christmas Season, we're reminded of the miraculous birth of Christ, in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS; for he shall save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21

We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas



first  
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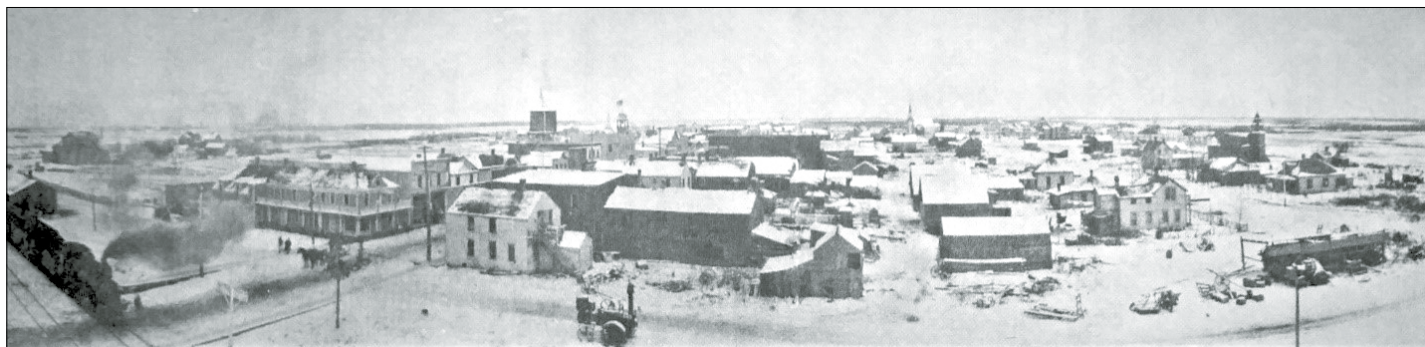
Phone

(218)

563-2865

M39C

## Merry Christmas



As winter settles in and the holidays are upon us, it is fun to imagine what Christmas time was like around 1906 when this picture was taken. A cold horse drawn buggy ride into town, the smell of wood fires in bot-bellied stoves to keep the residents and shoppers warm, and perhaps a penny peppermint stick from a glass jar at the mercantile. The sound of horses neighing as their hooves crunch on the snow-covered roads, the shrill tone of the train whistle blowing as it announces its arrival, church bells ringing as it calls the followers to meeting and neighbors joyfully greeting each other in passing.

The jubilant sounds of the hamlet may have changed with the times, but there is still an energy in the air this time of year as you head to main street to do business. The Christmas decorations that hang from the light poles greet you with the colors of the season. Festive music fills the streets with cheer, and neighbors still joyfully greet one another in passing.

The McIntosh Heritage and Arts Center would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. May your holiday be filled with the warmth and comfort of family and traditions that have been passed down for generations. May the joy and heritage that comes from being part of this community be with you in the coming year and always.

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## Winger News

by Linda Pulskamp

Greetings once again from Winger and the Union Lake areas where we have been having some mild temps, and some foggy mornings which make for some beautiful scenery when we look at the trees. There is something good about winter in Minnesota too.

We are all busy with the final preparations for Christmas. Christmas programs have been or are being held, Christmas concerts too, have been had and of course Santa has made his way to all the small towns to visit with the kids and listen to their wishes for Christmas. Santa Claus day in Winger was well attended by the kids and their parents and many grandparents attended also, they were served a delicious breakfast by the Lions members before Santa made his appearance.

### Milton Carlson's Corner

Thursday the 6th Paul Carlson picked Milton up and took him to Fosston where he took care of some business matters.

Friday morning the 7th Paul Carlson stopped in at Milton's briefly for a visit and grabbed a cup of coffee as he went on to work.

Saturday morning the 8th brought Paul Carlson back to Milton's where he took care of the garbage for Milton and also filled his water softener with salt. Later that day Sheila Benesh was a visitor and coffee guest at Milton's home and again resisted the urge to have a doughnut.

Monday the 10th Judy Gieseke was a visitor and brought along chili that she and Milton enjoyed for dinner.

Last Sunday Butch and Linda Pulskamp attended church services at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wahpeton. It was their Sunday School Christmas Program and their two Granddaughters Skyline and Brylie were in the program. After the services Butch and Linda along with Dan and Sharon Bogenreif of Big Stone City were dinner guests at the Pulskamp home.

Last Saturday Orris Moen of Fargo and Gary and Maxine

Walters visited with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home at Erskine.

Lucy Brtek along with Greg and Michelle Gagner of Mentor and Richard and Betty Brtek of Blaine enjoyed dinner together last Sunday at Ness Café in Erskine.

Craig Helgaas of Glenwood spent a few days last week as a house guest at the Pulskamp home, while here he and Butch did their final deer hunting for the season. They had a very successful hunt.

Tuesday the 11th Betty Myhrum was at Poplar Meadows in McIntosh where Craig and Roseanne Burslie provided the residents and guests with Christmas Carols and had a sing along for all.

Gary and Maxine Walters were Tuesday the 11th visitors with Helmer and Verlys Homme at the Pioneer Home.

Kelly Johnson and Granddaughter Lily Brtek along with Matt Balstad and Jamie Anderson were weekend visitors at the Pulskamp home.

Last Sunday afternoon Tony, Tyler and Justis Brtek were visitors with Grandma Lucy Brtek at her home.

Monday the 10th Helmer Homme attended the Alden Jallo funeral that was held in Fertile.

Last Thursday Lucy Brtek visited with Mike Moran and Sue Flermoen at the Pioneer Home, also visited briefly with Naomi Steinmetz as she made her way into the home.

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

Lucy Brtek attended Ladies Aid at Calvary Church on Tuesday afternoon but she made the remark that there were only two men that came for lunch that afternoon, she figured it was because Bunny wasn't out and about and cracking the whip.

As I close with this week's news I want to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas. For those traveling, safe travels and enjoy your families.

## On thin ice: teach kids the dangers of ice

Now is the time to talk with kids about the dangers of ice. Ice thickness varies greatly on lakes, ponds and rivers throughout the state. Some water bodies have none, while others have several inches, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

"Ice, especially early ice with snow cover, is extremely deceptive because you can't see dangerous cracks or the thickness of the ice under the snow," said DNR Conservation Officer Adam Block. "Parents need to teach their kids that ice is never 100 percent safe. If your child is near the ice, you should be near your child."

With many children out of school for holiday breaks, they may look toward newly forming ice for entertainment.

"In addition to checking conditions locally and being prepared with an ice safety kit, anyone recreating on ice should be wearing a life jacket or float coat," said Lisa Dugan, DNR recreation safety outreach coordinator. "A life jacket is the one piece of equipment that increases your odds of not drowning from cold water shock, hypothermia or exhaustion should you fall through the ice."

Ice safety guidelines No ice can ever be considered "safe ice," but following these guidelines can help minimize the risk:

- Always wear a life jacket on the ice (except when in a vehicle).
- Children should never be unsupervised around ice.
- Caution children to stay off ponds, streams, and other bodies of water.
- A thin coating of ice on a pond or lake does not mean it is safe.
- Check ice thickness at regular intervals – conditions can change quickly.
- Before heading out, inquire about conditions and known hazards with local experts.
- Avoid channels and rivers.

The minimum ice thickness guidelines for new, clear ice are:

- 4 inches for ice fishing or other activities on foot.
- 5-7 inches for a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle.
- 8-12 inches for a car or small pickup.
- 12-15 inches for a medium truck.
- Double these minimums for white or ice covered with heavy snow.

### Did you know?

Watchdog organizations like the Better Business Bureau warn against donating to charities over the telephone, but reports indicate that fraudsters are still utilizing robocalls to great effect as they prey on donors' generous natures.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, consumers report losing hundreds of millions of dollars a year to robocalls, a scam used by perpetrators of fraud in which donations to bogus charities are solicited over the phone.

While some people may be surprised to learn such scams are still effective, a report from YouMail, a free robocall-blocking service, sheds some light on just how common robocalls are.

According to YouMail, in July 2018, 1,591 robocalls were placed every second. That means roughly 137.5 million such calls are made every day. And the people behind these calls are very clever, sometimes using famous people's actual voices to convince innocent people of a bogus charity's legitimacy.

In 2017, the Connecticut Better Business Bureau issued a warning about robocalls using the voices of celebrities. The warning indicated that, after hearing the voice of a famous person, consumers were prompted to press a button to speak with a "donation agent."



Santa visited with Brody, Kolby, Sawyer Cook and Mom, Nicole during Breakfast with Santa held in Winger on December 8th.



Isabella Perrine had a chance to tell Santa what she was wishing for during Breakfast with Santa.



Happy to have a chance to visit with Santa during Breakfast with Santa in Winger was Levi Perrine.



Santa was able to hear what Jeremiah and Jackson Hagen wanted for Christmas when the boys' dad, George brought them to Winger for Breakfast with Santa.



Cheryl Wang had her hands full with her granddaughters during Breakfast with Santa in Winger on December 8th.



A little too old for Santa's lap, Kimberly Perrine still was willing to let him know what she is wishing for this Christmas.

## Gingerbread goodness

Gingerbread is a broad term that can describe anything from a firm and crispy cookie to a moist, soft cake. Traditionally, gingerbread is seasoned with ginger, cloves, nutmeg, and other aromatic spices. Molasses and brown sugar counteract the spice with sweetness. North Americans have been baking gingerbread in various

shapes or forms for more than 200 years, and the recipes even pre-date the American revolution. However, gingerbread dates back even further to the Shakespearean era, with The Bard having mentioned it in one of his plays. Gingerbread's name can be trace to medieval England and once referred to any kind of preserved ginger.

The term went on to reference ginger-flavored cakes in the 15th century, and gingerbread eventually became popular throughout the world. Even though gingerbread cakes and cookies have been made for centuries, Germans are often credited with creating gingerbread houses, according to Smithsonian. They were prob-

ably modeled after the witch's candy cottage in the German fairy tale, "Hansel and Gretel." Even though gingerbread can be made any time of year, it is particularly associated with the Christmas season, with gingerbread men and other fanciful shapes turning up on cookie platters.





Henry Swanson was able to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus during Santa Claus Day in McIntosh on December 8th.



Above: The Hedlund kids were happy to see Santa and Mrs. Claus during Santa Claus Day in McIntosh on Saturday, December 8th. The event was sponsored by the McIntosh Community Club. Pictured: Alex, Destiny, Dakota and Divinity Hedlund.

Left: Jens Stordahl was a bit nervous about seeing Santa this year, but Mrs. Claus seemed to get a smile from him. His sister, Adler, however, was nowhere to be seen.



Hayden and Emmett Rock stopped in for a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday, December 8th at the McIntosh Community Center.



Autumn Plante was much more interested in her new Teddy Bear than Santa and Mrs. Claus during Santa Claus Day in McIntosh.



Heidi Smeby was able to see Santa and Mrs. Claus and maybe let them know her wishes for Christmas on Saturday, December 8th in McIntosh.



Above: The Hedlund kids were happy to see Santa and Mrs. Claus during Santa Claus Day in McIntosh on Saturday, December 8th. The event was sponsored by the McIntosh Community Club. Pictured: Alex, Destiny, Dakota and Divinity Hedlund.

Left: Jens Stordahl was a bit nervous about seeing Santa this year, but Mrs. Claus seemed to get a smile from him. His sister, Adler, however, was nowhere to be seen.



Hawkin Roed's first visit with Santa seemed to go pretty well, and his sisters, Grace and Clara were happy to see Mrs. Claus as well.



Santa and Mrs. Claus were able to see Natiley Bring and her twin sisters, Amelia and Bristol during Santa Claus Day in McIntosh.

## The best things to buy in December and January

Oh the weather outside is frightful. Rather than succumb to cabin fever, people can use the winter months as the perfect time to visit area stores and score a few deals.

Savvy shoppers understand that key items go on sale at specific points throughout the year. Learning how to shop the sales can lead to considerable savings.

### December

**1. Toys:** Toys are perhaps the best items to purchase in December. Apart from Christmas gifts, it is a good time of year to stock up on toys children have coveted, which can be put away for birthday presents or other occasions. Retailers tend to lower toy prices as Christmas approaches.

**2. Holiday decor:** Decorative holiday items also tend to be heavily discounted in December. Stores slash prices on ornaments, gift wrap, artificial trees, holiday-themed baking items, and much, much more. If it has a passing connection to the holidays, chances are stores will cut prices by 50 percent or more once Christmas is over.

**3. Televisions:** It's possible to find discounted TVs even after the Black Friday sales

have come and gone. Keep eyes trained on the circulars and jump when sales are advertised, as inventory may be limited.

**4: Bubbly:** Competition in the market will help drive down the cost of champagne and other sparkling wines. According to the wine resource GuildSomm, 22 percent of all champagne sales are run during the month of December.

### January

**5. Winter apparel:** As the winter progresses, the amount of clothing stock in stores starts to dwindle to free up room for a new season's worth of attire. Starting in late December and continuing into the latter half of January, retailers are eager to liquidate their stock of scarves, sweaters, boots, and winter coats. This is a prime time to replenish wardrobes.

**6. Linens:** "White sales" are traditionally in January, with home goods retailers running discounts all month long. These sales generally encompass towels, bed sheets, curtains, and other linens.

**7. Fitness items:** January is the ideal time to purchase a new gym membership or fitness equipment since these purchases tie into New Year's

resolutions to get fit. Gyms may waive extra fees or offer discounted rates.

**8. Travel and entertainment:** Most people return home after the holidays, and that can generate a slow travel season afterward. The travel industry attracts new customers with discounted hotel rates and other deals. Tickets to Broadway shows and other theaters also may be discounted to encourage people to leave the house.

December and January are great times to grab steep deals on an array of products

**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](mailto:mcintoshtimes@gmail.com)



# Santa Claus Day prize winners in Mac



Alex Johnson



Autumn Neste (with mom, Clarissa)



Brooklyn Hedlund



Karli Schow



Paul Klawitter



Rosie Subbert



Hailey Hedlund



Della Baumann



Mya Strom



Charlie Subbert



Tristan Randklev with mom, Aleshia



Karsen Hedlund

## Fuel...

Continued on page 5....

Agency for any 2001 and newer on-road gasoline light-duty vehicle. Minnesota's regular 87 octane gasoline has been a 10 percent ethanol blend for more than 20 years now.

"Today we've proven that the USDA's \$8 million dollar grant award and the state's matching contribution were critical investments to expanding fuel choices for Minnesota consumers while also supporting our farmers," said Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson. "This is truly something to celebrate."

"The state's corn growers are proud to be part of the coalition that has helped make Minnesota a national leader in

ethanol infrastructure," Minnesota Corn Growers Association (MCGA) President Brian Thalmann said.

"The remarkable growth in retailers has provided more consumers than ever with a lower-priced, cleaner-burning option at the pump, and we look forward to continuing this momentum in the years ahead."

"The USDA's BIP program was a great driver in helping the expansion of ethanol-blended fuels into the marketplace and Prime the Pump is proud to have worked hand-in-hand with this program in achieving the incredible footprint in the state of Minnesota," said Growth Energy's vice president of market development Mike O'Brien. "Today,

there are 1,675 retail stations offering E15 across 30 states, which is a testament to the success of our partnership with the USDA and what allows Prime the Pump to continue to expand the availability of cleaner-burning, engine-smart biofuels across the nation."

Other ethanol advocates praised the success of the program in Minnesota. "BIP played a crucial role in expanding access to E15 in Minnesota and the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association participated by raising funds and bringing over 100 applicants to the program," said Tim Rudnicki, executive director of the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association.

"We hope the success of the BIP program will pave the way for another similar joint pro-

gram by the federal and state governments to bring E15 market penetration in Minnesota to 20 percent."

"The American Lung Association in Minnesota salutes Minnesota's progress in offering cleaner-burning, less polluting fuel choices across the state," said Robert Moffitt, a spokesperson for the American Lung Association in Minnesota.

"Vehicle exhaust is the single largest source of air pollution in the state and offering cleaner transportation options like ethanol blends is a vital step to ensure we all have clean, healthy air to breathe."

A full list of retail locations selling E85 or 88 octane gasoline in Minnesota is available at [www.mnfuels.com](http://www.mnfuels.com).



# Merry Christmas TO ALL...

## ...and to all a great year!

May your Christmas  
be filled with  
joyful noise!

**RICK'S REPAIR**  
McIntosh

Wishing you a  
Merry Christmas touched with  
wonder and filled with love.

*McIntosh Times*

**Peace on Earth  
and Joy to all**  
with love from  
**The Coop Bar & Grill**  
McIntosh

Warmest Wishes for a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year

**DAN'S STANDARD  
SERVICE**  
McIntosh

With Kind Remembrances  
and Best Wishes for a  
Bright and Special New Year

*City of McIntosh*

**The Gift of Christmas  
is a precious reminder  
that we are loved!**  
**FARM BUREAU  
FINANCIAL SERVICES.**  
McIntosh

May the coming year  
bless you with  
life's every wealth.  
**FIRST NATIONAL  
BANK & INSURANCE  
AGENCY**  
MCINTOSH

May you find peace,  
love, and the true spirit  
of the Holiday Season.

**Fosston Tri Co-Op**  
McIntosh

Wishing you every  
happiness this Holiday  
Season and throughout  
the coming.

**Jered's Grocery**  
McIntosh

Warmest thoughts and  
Best Wishes for a  
Wonderful Holiday and a very  
Happy New Year  
**King Town Farmers  
Mutual Insurance**  
McIntosh

Warmest greetings of the  
Season and best wishes for  
Happiness in the New Year  
with Christmas Blessings.  
**Minnesota Rust**  
McIntosh

Wishing you health and  
happiness this holiday season  
and in the year to come!

**Stordahl  
Construction**  
McIntosh

Hope, Health and  
Prosperity in 2017!  
Warm Holiday Wishes

*McIntosh Senior  
Living*  
McIntosh

**Celebrate the Wonder  
and the Joy  
of the Holiday Season.**

**Neil's Quality  
Meats & More**  
McIntosh

With every wish for  
a very Merry Christmas  
and the Happiest of New Years.

*North Country Lumber  
Jason & Chad's  
Plumbing and Heating*  
McIntosh

**Have a Magical  
Holiday!**

**Poplar Meadows  
Senior Living**  
McIntosh

May the Spirit of Christmas  
be with you  
throughout the New Year.

**Ron's Barber  
Shop**  
McIntosh

Glad Tidings for  
Christmas and a  
Happy New Year.

**C.B. AUTO  
REPAIR**  
McIntosh

Wishing you all the  
Special Blessings of  
this Glorious Season!

**The Clubhouse  
Childcare Center**  
McIntosh

May the Holiday Spirit be  
with your Family  
Today and Throughout the  
New Year

**Farmchek Services**  
McIntosh

These local businesses  
appreciate your  
friendship and support at the  
holiday season and year round!