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McIntosh, Minnesota



Ella Subbert, (10), passing on her memory of fishing to her siblings Rosie, (6) and Charlie, (5) in the very same Minnesota lake where she and Grandpa used to fish. She made the poles, fish and the crocodiles.

Fishin’ With Grandpa

By Alison Opdahl

-My niece, Ella Subbert, was four years old when my Dad told me his last “Ella & Grandpa” story.

This past winter the snow at the end of Grandma and Grandpa’s driveway was still high, higher than you were tall. You see, all winter long, snowplows had been pushing the snow from the road to the edges and it was piled up on both sides of the driveway. The weather had been cold, so the snow piles were not melting much.

Finally in April, just after Easter when you came to visit, the sun managed to melt enough snow to make a bit of a lake at the end of Grandma and Grandpa’s driveway. It was too wide to jump across, even for Grandpa’s grown-up legs. It was too deep to wade through in small Ella rain boots. But do you know what it was perfect for? It was the perfect place to go fishing!

So Ella, you and Grandpa would bundle up and go outside. You would wear your winter coat and stocking cap and mittens. Grandpa would put on his heavy coat and baseball cap and the two of you would sit at the end of the driveway and fish.

You would plunk down on an upside down milk crate and Grandpa would sit in a lawn chair. It wasn’t easy for you to stay sitting on the milk crate so eventually you would get up and start skipping around as you fished.

You would cast into the lake with the fishing pole Grandpa had made you from the stuff he found in his garage. Well, the two of you caught all kinds of fish. Big fish, small fish, spot-

ted fish, striped fish and then one day...

“Grandpa!” you exclaimed. “What?” Grandpa asked, a little indulgently. (That’s the tone adults use around the children they love. It says, ‘I am having so much fun spending time with you,’ and then they usually smile a smile that means they are glad to be reminded what it is like to be small and full of imagination like you.)

“Grandpa, I caught a crocodile!” you announced excitedly. “You did?” Grandpa said, his smile stretching a little wider. “Yes, Grandpa! I did!” Who knew there were crocodiles in the small lakes of Minnesota? You did!

“Grandpa!” you said again,

Grandpa...
Continued on page 3...

Polk County 4-H recognized with award for community leadership

Each year, AMC in partnership with the University of Minnesota Extension, awards Community Leadership Awards at the annual Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Legislative Conference. Each project is recognized based on responding to real community needs and demonstrating broad participation by youth in the design and implementation. Each winning club receives \$500 and a trophy.

The Polk County 4-H Livestock Project Development Committee was recognized for the Nebraska Drive “Truck to Truck, Trailer To Trailer. We are in it Together.” service project to support the farmers and ranchers of the Nebraska flood.

In roughly two short weeks over \$8,300 were raised for across the US to help support farmers and ranchers of Nebraska.

On February 27, two members of the Livestock PDC and the Fertile 4-H Club were present to receive their award at the Association of Minnesota Counties Awards Luncheon. 4-H members Catie Erickson and Sidney Erickson were able to present about their project and receive a trophy on stage from the Association of Minnesota Counties President Rich Sve.

In addition Adult Screened Volunteer and Adult Co-Chair of the Livestock PDC Patricia Erickson was present along with screened volunteer Matthew Erickson, 4-H Extension Education Katie Becker, University of Minnesota Regional Director Lisa Loegering, and Polk County Commissioners Joan Lee and Gerald Jacobson were excited to congratulate and celebrate with the group.

Thank you to AMC for recognizing the accomplishments of our Polk County 4-H youth leaders.

A Special Thank you to our local county commissioners for supporting our 4-H Programs.

To find out more information about 4-H, or to locate a 4-H club in your area, visit Polk County 4-H website, local.extension.umn.edu/local-polk, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PolkCountyMN4H/> or contact Polk County 4-H at the Polk County Extension Office at 218-563-2465 or mnext-polk@umn.edu.



Recently the Polk County 4-H was recognized for their service project with a Community Leadership award. Pictured, from left to right front row, 4-H member and Livestock PDC youth co-chair Catie Erickson and 4-H member Sidney Erickson; left to right back row, Polk County Commissioner Gerald Jacobson, Polk County Commissioner Joan Lee, University of Minnesota Extension Regional Director Lisa Loegering & 4-H Extension Educator Katie Becker.

Left: The staff at the office store in the recent Win-E-mac Junior High School Play, “We Loathe Our Customers”. (L-R) Campbell (Sydney Svalen), Bailey (Ella Strom) and Joe (Erich Gensburger).



Community Calendar

- Wed. March 11:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Thurs. March 12:** Library 4pm to 7pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Fri. March 13:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. March 16:** 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 March 17:** Library 4pm to 7pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm
- Wed. March 18:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Thurs. March 19:** Library 4pm to 7pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Fri March 20:** McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran’s 11:30am to 1:30pm
- Mon. March 23:** McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children’s Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am



The Cast and crew of the recent Win-E-Mac Junior High School Play, “We Loathe Our Customers”, which was performed for the community during 2 shows this past weekend. The play was a fun look at the life of 2 clerks at an office supply store who, besides having a bad attitude about work they deal with some extreme customers all while thinking that their manager is about to show up to the store. (Back, l-r) Evie Ryan, Laila Roragen, Jayden Gensburger, Brooklyn Gunderson, Caleb Green, Carter Knutson; (Front) Jadon Kangas (Lights & Stage Manager), Kianna Tadman, Bret DuChamp, Sydney Svalen, Ella Strom, Alyssa Morberg, Erich Gensburger and Director, Andrew Hanson.

Local Work meeting scheduled for East Polk County

The East Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will convene a local work group (LWG) meeting to provide guidance and discuss local resource conservation concerns and NRCS programs in East Polk County.

The local work group includes representatives from cooperating federal, state and local agencies, conservation organizations, and the public to provide localized information on natural resource priorities in the East Polk County SWCD.

"I would encourage participation from local farmers, forestland owners and other land users to attend this meeting because the local work group

values the knowledge that our local land users can bring to the table," said Jim Schwab, and District Conservationist. "NRCS has always been a locally led conservation agency working in cooperation with SWCDs to provide services to local land users on a voluntary basis."

The local work groups are the foundation of the Focused Conservation Approach. The local work group can define conservation needs and help localize efforts to address specific resource concerns, Schwab added.

The East Polk County SWCD local work group will meet at the USDA Service Center, McIntosh, MN, 10:00-11:00, April 25, 2018th. For more information contact Schwab (218)-563-3615.

Local Working Group meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in becoming a member and participating in LWGs should contact the NRCS District Conservationist in their county and submit an application for LWG membership.

For information on local work groups in Minnesota, see the Schedule of Meetings.

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Alyssa Morberg play a customer in the recent Win-E-Mac Junior High production of "We Loathe Our Customers" when Campbell (Sydney Svalen) is trying to be courteous to her customers knowing her manager may show up at anytime.



Caleb Green, who plays a customer in the recent play at Win-E-Mac school has some unusual requests from store clerk Bailey (Ella Strom).

How North America shaped St. Patrick's Day

Each March 17, towns and cities are awash in Kelly green as pints of Guinness are lifted in the name of St. Patrick. Even though St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and credited with bringing Christianity to the Emerald Isle, many of the traditions associated with St. Patrick's Day revelry actually originated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean.

The familiar traditions of St. Patrick's Day, such as parades of pipers, drinking green milk shakes and dining on green bagels, did not originate in the Irish countryside. Many were the product of the prosperity of North America. In fact, the original St. Patrick's Day celebrations of old in Ireland were much more modest and centered on religion rather than revelry. History.com indicates that, since 1631, St. Patrick's Day had been a religious feast day commemorating the death of St. Patrick, a missionary who brought religious teachings to a then-pagan nation. Celebrations were solemn and focused on church and family.

Across the pond, as the numbers of Irish immigrants grew, so did the merrymaking. In cities throughout America and Canada, St. Patrick's Day took on a more celebratory air.

Various cities claim to have hosted the first St. Patrick's Day parades and celebrations, with Boston and New York long claiming to be the originators of these traditions. However, according to research discovered by historian Dr. J. Michael Francis in 2017, gunpowder expenditures logs in Spain's Archivo General de Indias indicate artillery was fired for a feast day of San Patricio (St. Patrick) in 1600 in St. Augustine, Florida. In fact, St. Patrick would go on to become the official "protector" of the city's maize fields in this



Spanish garrison town. This seems to have been more of a festival than a parade, though it certainly predates celebrations and parades that took place in Boston and New York in 1737 and 1762, respectively, and oddly links St. Patrick with both Irish and Spanish immigrants.

Even still, St. Patrick's Day has evolved to be celebrated in tiny towns and major metropolises all across North America. Boston, New York, Savannah, Chicago, Vancouver, and Toronto all have notable celebrations. Even the famed "corned beef and cabbage" was an American invention. Ham and cabbage was eaten in Ireland, but corned beef proved a cheap-

er substitute for impoverished Irish immigrants in the United States. It was the cheapest meat to be found at the time, and was soon a staple of the holiday.

St. Patrick's Day remained solemn in Ireland (laws prohibited pubs from opening on holy days until 1973) even as merry-making grew elsewhere. However, with the invention of television, the Irish could see the revelry taking place in America. Eventually, the country took note and started celebrating in a similar fashion.

St. Patrick may have been the patron saint of Ireland, but the fanfare of St. Patrick's Day traces its roots to North America.

A saint who's not a saint

St. Patrick is a man revered in Ireland and around the world. Despite being an influential figure in the history of Ireland and Christianity, St. Patrick is a saint in name only.

Millions of people around the world celebrate whom they believe to be an official saint each year on March 17. However, according to Irish Central and writer Ken Concanon, the formal canonization process in the Roman Catholic Church was not in place during its first millennium, a period of time in which Patrick was active. The official process for canonization was not instituted until around the 12th century, long after Patrick died. St. Patrick joins two other

Irish saints who were never formally canonized. The only Irish saint to be canonized is Fergal, also known as St. Virgil of Salzburg. He was canonized by Pope Gregory IX in 1233.

St. Patrick became a "saint" by popular opinion. In the early years of the Church, many martyrs and those whose lives were especially holy were considered saints, even if they were not canonized. It is probable, with the approval of a bishop, that St. Patrick was considered a saint for these reasons.

The concept of St. Patrick not being an official saint adds

MPCA's draft permit, certification comment period for Enbridge Line 3

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) comment period for the draft 401 water quality certification, draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System wastewater permit, and draft capped air emission permit application for Enbridge's Line 3 project started March 2, 2020. Public comment runs through Friday, April 3, 2020.

The MPCA will hold three public open houses and five comment forums during the comment period.

The public is invited to attend and learn more about the project, as well as give feedback on the draft documents that will be part of the official record.

March 17, 2020
Sanford Center in Bemidji
• Open house 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm

• Comment forum 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
• Comment forum 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

March 18, 2020
Timberlake Lodge in Grand Rapids
• Open house 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm

• Comment forum 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
• Comment forum 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

April 1, 2020

St. Patty's Day lunch

McIntosh Senior Living will host a traditional Irish meal for St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday, March 17th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. There will be corned beef and cabbage with green punch and dessert. A \$5 donation will go to quality improvement projects benefitting McIntosh Senior Living residents.

NOTICE

The McIntosh City Council must postpone its March meeting, due to Council member scheduling conflicts. The City Clerk will post the new date and time, of the meeting, at the McIntosh Community Center no later than March 11th. M51C

LSS Meals Menu 687-2262

Tues. March 17: Liver and Onions OR Poor Man's Steak CALL W/CHOICE-Boiled Potatoes - Stewed Tomatoes - Rolls - Pistachio Cake - Milk

Wed., March 18: Chicken Wild Rice Hotdish - Winter Blend Vegies - Pears - Bread - Jello Cake - Milk

Tues., March 24: Roast Beef - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Corn - Bread - Cinnamon Apples - Milk

Wed., March 25: Ginger Citrus Chicken Breast - Rice Pilaf - Carrots - Peaches - Wheat Rolls - Pineapple Coconut Bar - Milk

Ad deadline: Noon Friday



Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. March 11: Albert Plante, Karen Thompson

Thurs. March 12: Sheldon Burslie, Rebecca Schommer, Kris Rue, Rachel Carlson, Cindy Lecy

Fri. March 13: Sylvie Strom, Christian Widman, Henry Swanson

Sat. March 14: Barbara Rolf

Sun. March 15: Ashlee Lee, Ray Catahan

Mon., March 16: Lee Narum

Tues. March 17: Leslie Finseth, Jens Stordahl, Amie Erickson

McINTOSH Times

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

Sun. March 15: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fossston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Sun. March 22: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fossston; 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. March 15: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary
Sun. March 22: 8:30am Worship at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship at Calvary

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

Sun. March 15: 11:15am Worship Service.
Sun. March 22: 11:15am Worship Service.

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH Independent Gary Johnson, Pastor www.gosen-church.com Face Book: Gosen Church

Wed. March 11: 6:30pm Bible Study at Sharon Ramberg's

Sun., March 15: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service

Tues. March 17: 10:00am Sunday worship service telecast on GVTv--30; 1:30pm Bible Study at The Pioneer Memorial Care Center

Wed. March 18: 6:30pm Bible Study at 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
Thurs. March 12: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel
Sun. March 15: 9:30 Mt. Carmel Worship; 9:45 Trinity Sunday School for all ages; 10:45 Mt Carmel Sunday School for all ages; 11:00 Trinity Worship;

Thurs. March 19: 7:00am Men's Breakfast at Mt. Carmel

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC) McIntosh

Pastor Jill Torgerson
Sun. March 15: 9am Worship; fellowship coffee following worship
Sun. March 22: 9am Worship; fellowship coffee following worship

DOVRE FREE LUTHERAN Pastor Don Edlunds

Sun. March 15: 10:00am Worship Service and Children's Sunday School
Sun. March 22: 10:00am Worship Service and Children's Sunday School

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH McIntosh

Pastor Bruce Blocker,
Sun. March 15: 9:00am Worship; 10:00 Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School
Sun. March 22: 9:00am Worship; 10:00 Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH NALC Erskine, Minnesota

Pr. Mike Sletto
Sun. March 15: 10:30am Adult Bible Study; 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship
Sun. March 22: 10:300am Adult Bible Study; 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship

RODNES LUTHERAN CHURCH Erskine

Pastor Joel Smeby
Wed. March 11: 10:00am Bible Study at Crossroads; 7:00pm Bible Study at Rodnes
Sat. March 14: 8:00am Men's Prayer Group
Sun. March 15: 10:00am Worship
Wed. March 18: 10:00am Bible Study at Crossroads; 7:00pm Bible Study at Rodnes
Sat. March 21: 8:00am Men's Prayer Group
Sun. March 22: 10:00am Worship

PMCC Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Pioneer Memorial Care Center

23028 347th St SE • Erskine, MN.

will be held on

Thursday, March 26 at 2:00 pm

Please join us to meet the new administrator, Lisa Frey, and to hear about new renovations and ongoing projects at PMCC!

The agenda will include

- Election of new Board members
- Administrator's report
- Golf course update
- Employee service awards

20 Years - Virginia Farrell. **10 Years** - Robert Sinland, Elizabeth Toupin, & Kathy Walters. **5 Years** - Deliah Moran, Candace Brouse, Erika Holmvik, Jenny Haugen & Andrew Bryant.

Social with *coffee and cake*, as well as a tour of The Country Place, will be held afterwards. *All are welcome!*

M51C

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The County Line

By Warren Strandell
Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

Following are some interesting numbers from the Presidential Primary Election... numbers that weren't generally reported in the news:

- Of Polk County's 16,508 registered voters (including the 134 who registered on election day), 3,746 actually voted. That was 22.69%.

- Of the 3,746 ballots cast, 2,196 were by absentee or mail ballot.

- The mail ballot total (the 2,196) represented 58.62% percent of that group of voters. This was the highest percentage for the past 8 years.

- More ballots were cast by mail than in any polling place.

- The mail ballot total (that 2,196 number again) was far less than the 5,138 mail ballot votes that were cast in the 2018 mid-term General Election. But they were more than the 1,765 mail ballots cast in that year's Primary Election.

- There were 19 precincts in which 20 or less ballots were cast and 3 precincts in which 10 or less ballots were cast.

- The highest percentage of voting occurred in the General Elections in 2012 (92.24%) and 2016 (90.59%). Both were presidential elections.

- Of the 3,746 ballots cast, 2,085 were by voters who identified themselves as Democrats (55.66%) and 1,661 were by Republicans (44.34%).

- Democrats split their votes between 15 candidates, including those who had withdrawn the candidacies. Of that group, Joseph Biden received

796 votes, Amy Klobuchar (who withdrew the day before the election) had 422 votes, Bernie Sanders had 400 and Michael Bloomberg had 171. Of Amy Klobuchar's vote total of 422, those that had been cast prior to election day numbered 401.

- Of Polk County's 82 voting precincts, the voters in 57 of them now cast ballots by mail.

- The 2020 Primary Election, which will include local positions when there are three or more candidates, will be held on Aug. 11. The General Election will be held on Nov. 3.

What do the numbers mean?

With the Primary and General Elections upcoming this year, you can determine what the numbers might mean, if anything. They were just kind of fun to look at.

One thing the numbers show is the growth and popularity of mail balloting, which is available to non-metro townships of any size and to cities that have less than 400 registered voters.

Besides usually resulting in greater participation in the election process, advantages for precincts that use mail voting are that the costs of training election judges and staffing the polling place on Election Day are eliminated. Using mail ballots also eliminates the expense of updating election equipment.

By contrast, the cost of a mail ballot (including the

postage of mailing about 5,000 ballots for each election) is approximately \$2 per ballot.

A personal opinion

I have always had a problem with the inability for voters to jump from one side of the ballot to the other.

In primary elections, what difference does it make if someone supports candidates from different political parties? If the "party people" are afraid that voters from the other side will decide their candidate for office, then they better get out and campaign for that personal favorite.

The top two vote-getters should end up on the General Election ballot regardless of political party. Then let the winner take office.

If there is one thing that can be certain about elections in Polk County it is that neither the Ruskies nor anyone else is going have any effect on their accuracy and validity, not if Michelle Cote and her staff have anything to say about it.

Thoughts for the day:

If voting made any difference, they wouldn't let us do it. — Mark Twain

Your mind is a garden. Your thoughts are the seeds. You can grow flowers or you can grow weeds. — Anonymous

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.

USDA to open signup for CRP grasslands

Farmers and ranchers may apply to enroll grasslands in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Grasslands signup beginning March 16. The signup runs through May 15.

"Through this CRP Grasslands signup, farmers and ranchers can protect grasslands, rangelands and pastures, while maintaining the land as working grazing lands," said State Executive Director Joe Martin. "The program emphasizes support for grazing operations and plant and animal biodiversity, while protecting land under the greatest threat of conversion

or development."

Through CRP Grasslands, participants retain the right to conduct common grazing practices, such as haying, mowing or harvesting seed from the enrolled land.

Timing of some activities may be restricted by the primary nesting season of birds.

Participants will receive an annual rental payment and may receive up to 50 percent cost-share for establishing approved conservation practices.

The duration of the CRP contract is either 10 or 15 years. FSA will rank applications using a number of factors

including existence of expiring CRP land, threat of conversion or development, existing grassland, and predominance of native species cover, and cost.

The 2018 Farm Bill set aside 2 million acres for CRP Grassland enrollment. CRP is one of the largest conservation programs at USDA. CRP marks its 35-year anniversary in 2020 with 22 million acres currently enrolled.

For more information or to enroll in CRP Grasslands, contact your local FSA county office or visit fsa.usda.gov/crp. To locate your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.

Serve braised pork for an Irish-inspired dinner

Items like stew made of mutton, beef or lamb, cod fish cakes and potato dishes are notably associated with Irish cuisine.

However, many may be surprised to learn that pork has been a key part of the Irish diet for centuries. In fact, dating back to Neolithic times, large amounts of pig bones have been found near ancient habitations in what is now Ireland, likely indicating that wild boar, and eventually domesticated pigs from farms, were a prime source of food.

In the 18th century, Ireland was a major exporter of pork, butter and cheese. Irish cured bacon and ham were coveted, as were pork sausages, which are staples of traditional Irish fare.

That is why "Cider-Braised Pork With Apples, Onions, and Thyme" can be the perfect recipe for St. Patrick's Day or Irish-American Heritage Month. Enjoy this recipe, courtesy of "Edible Seattle: The Cookbook" (Sterling Epicure), edited by Jill Lightner.

Cider-Braised Pork With Apples, Onions, and Thyme

Serves 6

2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

Salt

Freshly ground black pepper

1 (23/4-pound) tied pork shoulder roast, netting or string intact

1 tablespoon peanut or vegetable oil, plus more, if needed

1 tablespoon olive oil

2 medium leeks, halved lengthwise and cut into half-moons

2 cloves garlic, finely chopped

1/2 pound small yellow pearl onions, peeled

1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme

3 to 4 cups hard apple cider

1 tart apple, peeled, cored

and cubed

1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

1 tablespoon chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

1. Preheat oven to 325 F. Heat a large, heavy, ovenproof soup pot or Dutch oven (with a tight-fitting lid) over medium-high heat. Place the flour on a small plate. Season the flour liberally with salt and pepper. Pat the pork dry; then coat it on all sides with the flour mixture.

2. When the pot is hot, add the peanut oil and sear the pork (leaving the string on) until nicely browned on all sides, 3-4 minutes per side. Transfer the pork to a plate, and carefully wipe the pot clean with paper towels. Reduce the heat to medium.

3. Add the olive oil to the pot, then the leeks, and cook, stirring, for 3 minutes. Add the garlic, onions and thyme, and season with salt and pepper. Cook and stir for 2 minutes,

Grandpa...

Continued from page 1

to make sure you had his attention. "What, Ella?" Grandpa asked with a twinkle in his eyes. You swung your fishing pole toward him. "Grandpa, you take it off."

Grandpa was always willing to help you out with anything you asked but just then he was caught up in your game of imagination. Instead of reaching for you fishing pole, he asked, "You want me to take the crocodile off of your line?"

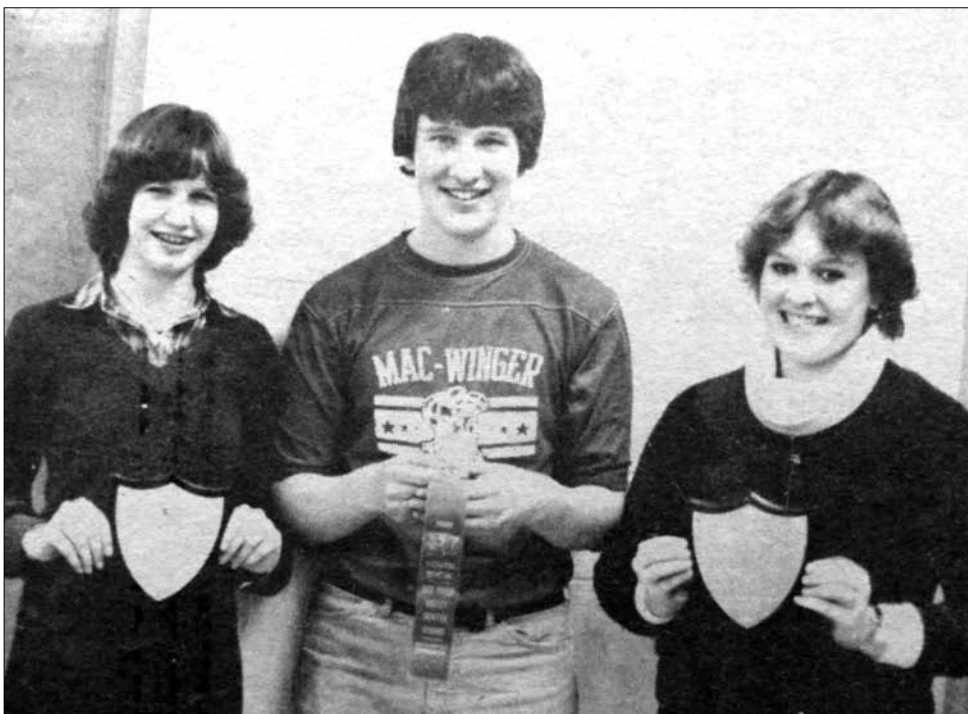
"Yes, Grandpa, you take it off." You kept your fishing pole outstretched to him. "But," Grandpa said thoughtfully, "what if it bites me?" Right away you reassured him, "It's a friendly crocodile, Grandpa." "Oh," Grandpa said, and his eyes were crinkling around the edges because he was smiling so big, and the twinkle in his eyes now meant he was

chuckling inside. "Well, if it's a friendly crocodile maybe you should take it off, Ella." You shook your head and your blue, blue eyes were earnest, "No, Grandpa. You take it off." And Grandpa reached out with his big strong hands and took the friendly crocodile off the end of your line so you could try more fishing.

When Grandpa told me that story, Ella, we chuckled. Because we both knew your imagination was vivid.

We thought it was very "Ella" that you would imagine a crocodile so real that even though he was "friendly" you still wanted Grandpa to take it off the line, just in case he bit you.

-edited excerpt from Fishin' with Grandpa, privately published December 2013.



40 years ago...1980: Fifteen teams registered for the 4-H FFA Meats Judging Contest at the Red River Valley Winter Shows. Top team was East Polk County 4-H with all team members from King 4-H club. Top individual judge was Susan Oseth (left) daughter of Gordon and Barb Oseth of McIntosh who is displaying a plaque awarded by NW Stockman's Association. Steven Aanenson holds his purple ribbon awarded each team member, and Becky Bursheim displays the top team plaque to King 4-H by the MN Sheep Producer's Association.



30 years ago...1990: Students of the month for February in Win-E-Mac grades K - 3 are (back, l-r) Amber Solheim, daughter of William and Debi Solheim; Kristen Hole, daughter of Rob and Lori Hole; Sara Hamre, Daughter of Shawn and Ann Hamre; Jordan Bjerke, Daughter of Jeff and Kim Bjerke; Nikki Quam, daughter of Donald and Marlys Quam; (front) Darren Kringlen, son of Clyde and Paulette Kringlen; David Jensen, son of Curt and Nancy Jensen; Jeremy Fritz, son of Randy and Bernita Fritz; Nick Ostenaa, son of Gordy and Cindy Ostenaa. Not present for photo: Amber Breckel, daughter of Michael and Sheree Breckel.



20 years ago...2000: McIntosh Scout Troop #89 attended Winger Camp at Camp Wilderness north of Park Rapids. Attending the Camp were Russell Bly, Brady Lee, Tony Hand, Robert Jenson, Michael Brinkman, Skyler Schimanski and Scoutmaster Scott Schminski and Assistant Scoutmaster Victor Bly.



10 years ago...2010: The board and administrator of McIntosh Senior Living accepted the official award of funding by the USDA. (L to R) Steve Haaven, Colleen Landkamer, USDA, Sharlene Knutson, Administrator, Joan Kasprzak, Roxanne Stordahl, Russ Horacek, Darrel Johnson, and Bernie Marshall.



Taking a shot for the Win-E-Mac Patriots was Remy Goodwin during the win over Clearbrook-Gonvick.



Parker Gerber puts the ball up for the Win-E-Mac Patriots during last weeks playoff game against the Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears.



If you have ever worked in a retail setting, you could have related to the clerks in the recent Win-E-Mac Junior High play "We Loathe Our Customers". In this scene, Bret DuChamp plays an overly picky customer who Bailey (Ella Strom) is trying to help.



Kianna Tadman looking for paper at the office supply store and receives some help and support from Campbell (Sydney Svalen) during the Win-E-Mac Junior High play.



Sydney Svalen plays a store clerk in the recent Win-E-Mac Junior High School play where she is helping customer Erich Gensburger with office supplies that are relevant to Star Wars.



Not wanting to purchase, but still looking to see if the store carries coffee presses is customer Jayden Gensburger with store clerk Campbell (Sydney Svalen).



Brooklyn Gunderson is in need of some help from store clerk Campbell (Sydney Svalen).

Laural Capistran Murphy Scholarship accepting applications

The Laural Capistran Murphy Scholarship was established by the family and friends of Laural to recognize her commitment to Minnesota's 4-H program and her belief in self-education, co-operative volunteering, and helping others through community involvement.

Through Laural's scholarship, people 16 years of age and older are encouraged to pursue post-secondary education through a college, university, trade school, tech school, or other accredited technical or vocational education/training institution or program.

Preference will be given to past or present 4-H members or other similar organizations, people who are adopted or from a family that adopts; home-schooled; non-traditional and returning students; those attending UMC as a post-sec-

ondary enrollment option; and contributors to their community who are pursuing post-secondary education or training in programs or activities that have been supported by 4-H. Applicants must be from one of the following counties: Norman, Mahnomen, Red Lake or Polk.

The deadline to submit an application is April 20, 2020. Applications are available online at www.nwmf.org under "Scholarships" on the homepage.

The Northwest Minnesota Foundation is a public charitable nonprofit community foundation serving 12 northwestern Minnesota counties with a mission to invest resources, facilitate collaboration, and promote philanthropy to make the region a better place to live and work. Learn more at www.nwmf.org.



Gavin Walker for 2 points during the Win-E-Mac Patriot win over the Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears during the Section playoffs last week.

Below: Another customer who Bailey (Ella Strom) was trying to assist with a rather strange request.



Customer Laila Roragen could not be any more of a difficult customer when looking to buy an eraser.



The Win-E-Mac Junior High play cast of "We Loathe Our Customers" had a fun time while showing the audience the reasons why they loathe their customers with some fun scenes that were relatable to anyone who has ever worked in a retail setting.



WEM School Announcements

Prom is May 2nd! Complete sign-up by April 15, 2020 ~ all prom attendees and their guests must be sign-up and pay attendance fee ahead of time.

Win-E-Mac seniors/juniors are invited to attend the prom with a guest who is a sophomore or older in school or out of school but no older than 20 years of age.

Each individual attendee's \$15 cover fee needs to accompany sign-up. Fee is to offset costs (food and beverages included). All prom grand march attendees are expected to wear formal attire. Sign-up sheets available in Mrs. Winter's room.

WEM

Kindergarten Round Up

What: Win-E-Mac Kindergarten Round up Open House

When: Wednesday March 25th 4:00-6:00

Where: Room #25 at the WEM school

If your child turns 5 before September 1st, 2020 please plan to attend and enroll for the 2020-21 school year.

WEM ECFE

Preschool Screening

Win-E-Mac preschool screening will be held Monday, April 6 in the Bjella Building in McIntosh. Preschool Screening is open to all children who are three years old and up who have not been screened. Children must be screened before entering Kindergarten. You must make an appointment to be screened. You can make an appointment by calling Heather Earls at the school 218-563-2900 or cell 218-689-0605.