

\$1.00

McINTOSH

Since 1888

Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota



(l-r) Christopher Roragen, Jennifer Wang, Kallie Hand and Laila Roragen enjoy a muffin and a book during Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee's Muffins for Moms on Thursday, November 12th.



Dawson Olson and his dad, Sam, enjoy a doughnut last Thursday, November 19th at Win-E-Mac during Doughnuts for Dads.



The Winger Lions recently donated \$500 to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program that is part of the Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee program. Pictured (l-r) Vasily Kutsev, Winger Lion, Karl Erickson, Stella Davis.

WEM Literacy Committee receives a donation

The Winger Lions recently donated \$500 to the Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee that will go toward the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program was developed in 1995 by Dolly for her native Sevier County, Tennessee. Dolly wanted every preschool child to have his or her own collection of books. After much thought, Dolly decided to offer her Imagination Library for replication in any community that would financially support it.

Each month, from the day the child is born until his/her fifth birthday, a carefully selected book arrives at the mailbox. Kids across the country have shared the excitement of running to the mailbox to retrieve their book. More often than not, the child wants the book read to them right away!

More than 6,000 children across the U.S.A., Canada and the United Kingdom each month receive a book through the generosity of local sponsors and the Dollywood Foundation.

Glacial Ridge NWR is site of Tree Cutting

The Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuge Association will again be hosting a "cut your own" tree cutting event for the upcoming holiday season. This year's event will be held on Saturday and Sunday, December 5th and 6th at Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge. Trees can be cut from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm each day.

The location of this event is at the site of the former Lee Nursery. To get there, head west of Mentor on Highway 45 for 5.5 miles. Turn left (south) on Highway 32 and go approximately 4 miles. Turn right (west) on 360th Street SE and go approximately 0.5 mile. The Rydell and Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge's Facebook page shows the site on a map, and we will have signs on site to direct you.

It is important to remember to dress for the weather. We will have an unheated shelter available so that participants may get out of the wind and enjoy a cup of hot cider. Trees can be cut with hand saws only (no chain saws). Bring your own or we will have some available.

As with past holiday tree cutting events at Rydell NWR, the purpose of this activity is habitat-based. As a part of a prairie-restoration emphasis, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Staff work to remove non-native trees on Glacial Ridge NWR, including conifers we love to decorate each December!

Free-will donations are accepted by Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuge Association. This is also an excellent opportunity to renew your family membership to the Friends group, and learn more about volunteering for various projects at the refuges!

For more information call 218-687-2229.

Santa Claus Day is Saturday, December 12th!

Delinquent utilities to be assessed to taxes

The McIntosh City Council met in regular session on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at the Community Center. All members of the Council were present.

Gene Haugom with Salem Lutheran Church was present to ask the Council if the City would have an interest in the lot where the church stood. Should they be unable to sell the property before the end of the year, they would be willing to donate it to the City. The Council agreed to accept the donation.

The Council passed a resolution to approve the assessment of delinquent utility bills and mowing charged to property taxes for the year 2015, payable in 2016.

There were liquor licenses approved for The Coop, formerly LB's Office and The Club Bar & Grill for the year 2016.

Marvin Neste applied for a building permit to tear down a shed and the council passed the permit unopposed.

The road on the south side of the Elevator has been a problem for a few years, and Toby Strom informed the council that Fortman's Grading will be coming to town as soon as possible to try and fix the potholes and problems on the road, and to grade other roads that need to be fixed as well.

The Council passed a resolution to accept a donation of \$5,000 from the Fireman's Relief Fund to use for updating or purchasing new equipment for the City Parks.

Councilmember Ann Lian inquired about an update on the status of the sale of Poplar Meadows. The Clerk, Elaina Boianoff, told the council that there have been some inquiries on the facility with Marcus & Millichap. Discussion arose on not seeing the listing on the website and unanimously the Council agreed to have Marcus & Millichap list the facility on their website so that is available to all the public, not keeping it contained to Health Care Facilities. The Realtors will be contacted and told to change the listing.

The garden plot deposits were a topic of Councilmember Wanda Stordahl's, who asked that they be returned during the month of December to

those who rented the spaces this summer.

Mayor Toby Strom told the Council that a business in town is hoping to expand and build a storage shop on a vacant lot. The building is planned to cover about 85% of the lot. He also informed the council that he has received a lot of positive feedback about Rocky, the newest maintenance man.

The Clerk, Elaina Boianoff told the Council that the employee health insurance premium is being raised for 2016. She also inquired if the Council would allow family coverage along with single coverage if the employee would prefer. The Council would allow family coverage if an employee is interested.

The Council was adjourned. The next meeting of the McIntosh City Council is scheduled for Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 5:30pm at the Community Center.

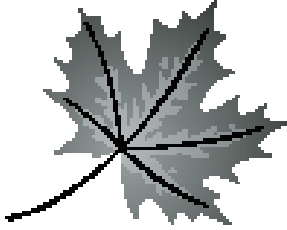
Our Saviors Advent Program

On December 2 will be our Annual Advent Program for women of the churches.

TIME WILL BE CHANGED TO 2:00 IN THE AFTERNOON instead of 7 in the evening.

The program is by the Ruth Circle and they will serve a lunch furnished by all members of Our Savior's women as they share their Christmas baking and goodies. The theme of our program is "SPECIAL DELIVERY". We will have devotions, singing, special music by Rachel Roggenbuck, and Lorraine Rustad, along with responsive readings to emphasize the "Glory" of this season and why it is to be celebrated with one focus - on the One who came from Heaven to give His life a ransom for everyone who will believe in Him.

He is the greatest gift EVER! "Mary, did you know?"



Sitting atop a hill in rural McIntosh is the Salem steeple. Helping to preserve the past by placing it here is Norris Syverson.

Win-E-Mac Giving Tree

Win-E-Mac School will once again be having their annual Giving Tree. We will anonymously display "ornaments" for children in the Win-E-Mac School District that may have a need this holiday season for clothes, toys, or other items. Their wish list will be printed

Community Calendar

Wed. Nov. 25: 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; McIntosh Community Thanksgiving Worship Service @ Our Savior's Lutheran Church 7:30pm

Thurs. Nov. 26: Happy Thanksgiving!

Fri. Nov. 27: McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

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

Wed. Dec. 2: 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. Dec. 3: McIntosh Library 5pm to 8pm; McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center 10am to 2pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm; Bingo at The Club Bar & Grill 6:30pm

Fri. Dec. 4: City of McIntosh office closed; McIntosh Library 12pm to 5pm; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

Mon. Dec. 7: McIntosh Library 10am to 3pm; Children's Story Time at McIntosh Library 10:30am; Winger Senior Meals @ Moran's 11:30am to 1:30pm

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

on the "ornament". Beginning the last week of November and continuing throughout the month of December, Win-E-Mac School will have the tree available to those who would like to donate gifts. The Giving Tree will be placed in the commons area of School. Please choose an "ornament" and write your name on the one you choose to provide for.

At this time we are looking for names of children and/or families that may be in need this year. If you need some assistance or you know of a child or family that may be in need this holiday season, please contact Amy Bartz at the school, 563-2900 or 687-2236. The Giving Tree also accepts monetary donations. The donations go toward food gift certificates for families to use over the holidays. If you are interested or have questions about donating, please contact Amy Bartz.



Congratulations to Breanna Carroll, Olivia Simonson, Shayley Espeseth, Bailee Burcham, Alayna Espeseth, Noah Klinkhammer, Hunter Chaput, Alec Kiecker, Jessica Thompson as you have been selected as new members of the Win-E-Mac National Honor Society. Selection is based on your outstanding achievements and motivation to continue demonstrating Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character in school and in the community. A formal induction ceremony was held on November 17th at the Win-E-Mac School.



Pestle & Vessel

By Alison Opdahl

Surrender

Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." John 19:30

I have always known that Jesus is in my heart and that I am saved. Recently, I had the chance to hear a perspective on God which was different than mine. Through various circumstances, he had become an agnostic. The open discussion which followed was enlightening. As he shared, he contested the description of a loving God, citing the suffering of those he cared deeply about. How could a loving God allow such circumstances? Life should be better, should it not? These were continuing themes in his conversation.

As the discussion came to a close, I asked him to define "better." I expected—like many others might say and sometimes even myself—that "better" would mean the disappearance of his difficulties. Instead, his reply surprised me. He wished he had the faith to believe in God again, he wanted his faith restored. His startling admission remained with me. I began to think about it, not only from his perspective as an agnostic, but from mine as a believer.

We—none of us—have enough faith to come to the Lord Jesus Christ on our own. It is the work of the Holy Spirit and it does not cease when we become believers, it continues and grows. Each time the Holy Spirit prompts us, whether it is for the first time or the one thousandth time, we are faced with a choice; to deny or surrender.

Surrender brings to mind capitulating in a situation which finds someone at such a disadvantage they have no other choice. In literature and movies, the common circumstance seems to be someone wielding a weapon while demanding that another give-up. The one at a disadvantage usually raises their hands slowly in the air.

Is that surrender? A physical reaction to a physical circumstance or is it more? The physical reaction is the visible response of an emotional decision. For many of us that spiritually emotional decision usually comes at the end of a long struggle between ourselves and the Lord.

Why is it so hard for us to relinquish our wills to the Lord? He knows best yet we persist in deluding ourselves. We act as though He has not quite understood us or missed some important detail. Readily, we step out in misguided judgment and give our wills free reign.

We instinctually act in our

own best interest, regardless of others and regardless of the Lord. Put simply, this is a result of pride. Pride works like a poison in our spiritual life, hindering the Holy Spirit from continuing His perfect work in us. We need His will at work in our lives because we are sinful man and for our sin a price must be paid. One we can never pay, a price which could only be paid by surrendering.

Under the immeasurable burden of our sin Jesus put His hands up, stretched them wide, gave up His spirit and died. Our sin was not His to bear yet He relinquished His will and life to obey the will of His Father. Not to give us a perfect life free of struggle or pain but to ensure those who call Him Lord a perfect eternity.

Every time we sin we effectively demand our Lord's death, confirming the need of His sacrifice. Yet Christ did not die because of our sin but in spite of it. He could have chosen to leave us as we were yet in His great mercy the Lord still longs for the communion we forsook in the Garden of Eden.

Carrying the burden of our sin—even as He knows we cannot help but continue to act out our very nature—our Savior walks beside His redeemed with joy. Joy in our fellowship, joy that in our suffering we turn to Him. The Lord delights in us as we lay our frustrations, our burdens and even our unbelief at His feet and ask Him for the faith to go where we cannot see.

Surrendering to our Heavenly Father allows Him to work in us what we can never achieve on our own; repentance, enabling the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to drive us to the foot of the cross. There is no shame as we come broken to the foot of the cross. Whether it is for the first time or for the one thousandth time, for when we look up we are reminded of the Christ who makes us whole and holy in the sight of our Heavenly Father. Believer, we have only to surrender.

McIntosh Community Thanksgiving Service

Start out the Holiday season by celebrating everything you are thankful for at the Annual McIntosh Community Thanksgiving Service. Each year this service is open to all community members and their friends and family. This years service is Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church Offerings of Non-perishable food and/or money will be collected for Erskine, Oklee and Fosston Food Shelves. Everyone is welcome.

There will be refreshments after the service.

Rep. Fabian and Kiel push for better screening of refugees

Rep. Dan Fabian (R-Roseau) and Rep. Deb Kiel (R-Crookston) issued the following statements in support of a letter sent by House Speaker Kurt Daudt (R-Crown) calling on Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton to urge President Obama to suspend relocation efforts for Syrian refugees until the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has completed a full review of security and screening procedures for refugees entering the country.

A copy of the letter is attached and can be found here.

"In the wake of recent terrorist attacks around the world, it's clear that the safety and well-being of Minnesotans must continue to be our first priority," said Rep. Fabian. "The federal government should suspend its relocation program until it can assure us it has done its due diligence to implement a pro-

gram that screens out terrorists and those wishing to enter the country to do us harm."

"The crisis in Syria is truly heartbreaking, and I know Minnesotans are sending their thoughts and prayers on behalf of the innocent families and refugees caught up in this crisis," said Rep. Kiel. "However, keeping Americans safe is the government's main concern always, and in light of the most recent terrorist attack in France, we must ensure that the screening process for refugees is adequate and thorough."

In 2015, Representatives Fabian and Kiel, along with other House Republicans, championed an initiative to help the Department of Public Safety combat the recruitment of Minnesotans by terrorist organizations like ISIS.

USDA Helps Rural Businesses Opportunities

USDA Rural Development State Director today awarded nearly \$750,000 through 7 grants to help support the start-up or expansion of rural Minnesota small businesses.

"These investments are meant to support the development of rural small businesses to revitalize our rural small towns and communities through capital and technical assistance," Landkammer said. "This will help rural and Tribal communities throughout the state maintain their current workforce and create new job opportunities."

USDA is awarding the grants through the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program. Recipients may use the funds to provide technical assistance, training and job-creation activities.

For example, the City of Appleton located in southwestern, M.N., is receiving a \$99,000 grant to establish a revolving loan fund, in order to provide loans to small local businesses and assist with financing for operations and development.

USDA is also working to expand economic opportunities for Native Americans and rural residents throughout the state. For example, the Red Lake Band of Chippewa is receiving a \$91,340 grant to identify, train, and provide technical assistance to existing and prospective rural entrepreneurs. This funding will assist nine businesses and create 21 new jobs.

Other RBDG recipients include Region Five Develop-

ment Commission in Staples, Minn., which has been selected to receive a \$98,000 grant to provide training and technical assistance on crowdfunding to small and medium rural enterprises.

Nearly \$20 million through 385 grants were awarded nationwide through the RBDG program, including those announced in Minnesota.

USDA's Rural Business Development Grant program is one of several that support rural economic development. Since 2009, USDA's Rural Business-Cooperative Service has helped 85,000 rural businesses.

The City of Luverne, Minn., population 4,800, is an example of a small town USDA has helped. Luverne used a \$99,000 USDA grant in FY 2013 to establish a revolving loan fund to provide affordable financing for downtown businesses. City leaders wanted to help downtown merchants upgrade their shops and eateries so they could attract more visitors and economic activity. Like many cities across the country, Luverne had lost shoppers to the region's larger towns and big box stores. So far, 13 businesses have been helped as a result of USDA's grant.

For more information on RBDG or any USDA Rural Development program, visit www.rd.usda.gov/mn and contact your local Area Office.

Story to Share?

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

NOTICE

The City of McIntosh would like to remind and encourage residents, businesses and property owners not to park on City streets both for public and private safety reasons and to assist in the prompt expedition of snow removal efforts.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Thank you,

The City of McIntosh M35-36C

Truth in Taxation Hearing

The City of McIntosh will be holding the annual Truth in Taxation Hearing for the public for 2015 taxes payable in 2016 on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the McIntosh Community Center. M35-37C

The McIntosh Times Office Hours

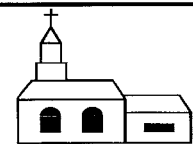
Wednesday 9:00 am to Noon
Friday 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Call or fax: (218) 563-3585

Ad deadline is Noon on Friday prior to publication



Church News



ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Fosston
Fr. John Suvaeken,
Pastor

Sun. Nov. 29: 8:00am Confession; 8:15am Rosary; 8:30am Holy Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Holy Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Sun. Dec. 6: 8:00am Confession; 8:15am Rosary; 8:30am Holy Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Holy Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

If you have any questions about the schedule please call 435-6484.

CALVARY-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN PARISH

Winger/Bejou
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson

Sun. Nov. 29: 8:30am Worship Service at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship Service at Calvary

Sat. Dec. 5: 4:00pm to 7:00pm Lutefisk, Lefse and Meatball Supper @ Immanuel

Sun. Dec. 6: 8:30am Worship Service at Immanuel; 9:45am Worship Service at Calvary

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

McIntosh
Supply Pastor
Gordon Syverson

Wed. Nov. 25: 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Community Service

Sun. Nov. 29: 10:00am Sunday School; 11:15am Worship Service

Sun. Dec. 6: 10:00am Sunday School; 11:15am Worship Service

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH Independent

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

Wed. Nov. 25: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place

Fri. Nov. 27: 10:00am Telecast of the Luther League program on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2

Sat. Nov. 28: 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

Sun. Nov. 29: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 10:45am Worship Service; Ladies Aid special offering during Worship Service

Tues. Dec. 1: 10:00am Sunday Worship service telecast on Garden Valley Cable TV - Channel 2

Wed. Dec. 2: 1:30pm Bible Study at The Country Place;

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.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH McIntosh

Rev. Mark Peske, Pastor
Sun. Nov. 29: 9:30 am Advent Worship Service;

11:00am Sunday School & Confirmation

Wed. Dec. 2: 6:00pm Advent Service

Sun. Dec. 6: 9:30am Divine Worship with Holy Communion; 11:00am Sunday School & Confirmation

Wed. Dec. 9: 6:00pm Advent Service

Sun. Dec. 13: 9:30am Divine Worship with Holy Communion; 11:00am Sunday School & Confirmation

Service Broadcast, TV Channel 12 Wednesdays at 10am - Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays

McINTOSH Times

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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A Time To Give Thanks

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good." -PSALM 106:1

Thanksgiving, what a wonderful time of year.

It's a time to give thanks for our many blessings, and a time to celebrate with family and friends.

We hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

260 Cleveland Ave. SW

PO Box 129

McIntosh, MN 56556

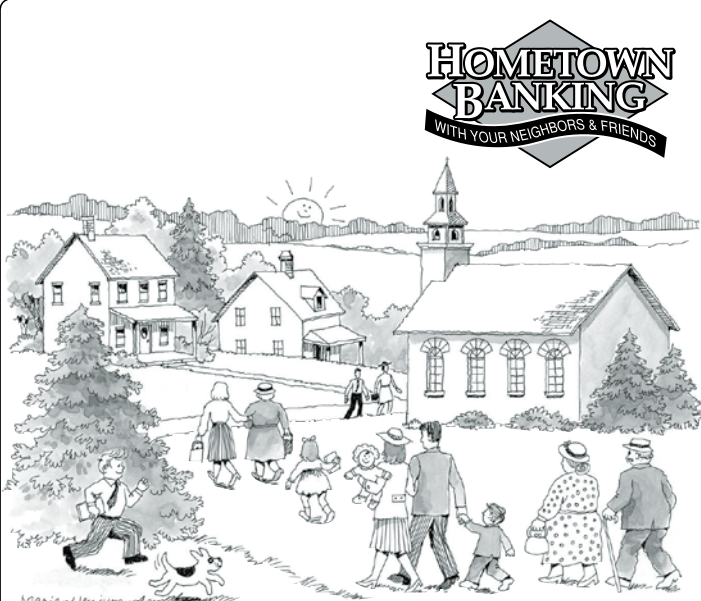
www.fnbmcintosh.com

Phone

(218)

563-2865

M35C



First National Bank of McIntosh will be closed on Thursday, November 26th in observance of Thanksgiving Day.



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M3-28C



Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Thurs. Nov. 26: Pat Tranby, Raquel Lindseth, Karen Rolf, Krist Tofstad
Fri. Nov. 27: Shelley Quinlan, Susannah Roed
Sat. Nov. 28: Jacob Roue
Sun. Nov. 29: *Gary & Ginny Frisk
Mon. Nov. 30: Dan Salvhus, Harriet Rolf
Tues. Dec. 1: Linda Jorganson

Winger News

by Linda Pulskamp

Hello again from Winger and the Union Lake areas. What a week and week end of weather we have had but it has changed and I can't say I like it either, guess we have been spoiled. Tonight, Wednesday, the wind is howling and it has been raining, can only guess that by morning we will probably see some of the white stuff. But the week end coming up looks like we will get a break again.

Hope you are all staying well with all the colds and flu circulating, especially with the Thanksgiving holiday right around the corner no one wants to be sick.

With all the mild weather we have been having, I can't help but notice all the Christmas lights and decorations that are being put up and out.

My apology to Martha Henney in an article that I submitted in last week's column. Martha received a telephone call from Eugene Dahlgren of CA to wish her a Happy Birthday. Now to correct what I had wrong, it was Eugene's father J. Elmer that had been a pastor here and had confirmed Martha and also married Myren and Martha. Not only that but Eugene's sister Margaret who was 5 years old at the time was Myren and Martha's flower girl. Sorry Martha for the mistake.

Saturday the 14th Donna Carlson stopped in at the Fern and Miton Carlson's bringing them home made soup and sandwiches for supper.

Last Sunday Mark and Betty Syverson were visitors at the Pioneer Home with Helmer

and Verlys Homme.

Lucy Brtek made a trip over to Fosston last week to visit with Wilma Wang. Lucy stated that Wilma is doing much better and is keeping busy with her "Buddy" a beta that her grandson had brought to her.

Monday the 16th Paul Carlson stopped in at the Fern and Milton Carlson home for a "roadie"(a cup of coffee) on his way to work.

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

Tuesday Myles Henney and his daughter in law, Jacqueline Henney (Adam's wife) of Fargo were visitors with Martha Henney at her home in McIntosh.

Back for the second week end of deer hunting and house guests at the Pulskamp home were Terry Johnson of Newport, Steve Johnson of Coon Rapids, Craig Helgaas of Glenwood and Brent and Skyli Pulskamp of Wahpeton.

Tyler Brtek visited with Grandma Lucy Brtek last Saturday. It was Tyler's 17th birthday so Grandma whipped up a birthday cake for him.

Paul Carlson stopped in briefly on Tuesday morning the 17th as he made his way to work to help Milton with some household duties that needed doing. That afternoon Judy Gieseke was a visitor with Fern and Milton.

Last Friday Lucy Brtek made a trip to Park Rapids. She commented that there was no wild life at all that she saw during her drive.

I want to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving, for those

of you traveling, may you have safe travels.

While we are all enjoying our families and the Thanksgiving feast, let's not forget those who are in our military and unable to be with family, the people in France that are dealing with the tragedy that struck them and also the sick and shut ins.

Until then have a wonderful week and holiday.

Guest submission by Ole:

Denise Schultz of Fargo came to Winger on Wednesday, November 11th to stay with her mother, Joanna Zahl while Carten went to their log cabin up near Big Fork deer hunting, along with Steve Massmann and Sonny Balstad. While in Winger, Denise and Joanne visited Darla (Gulbranson) in Bemidji on Friday and went to Gully on Saturday to visit Cindy Johnson (Tangen). They had a great time both days. Carsten returned Saturday, and Denise went home to Fargo. Carsten reports that they are still eatin (store bought) beef. On Sunday evening, Joanne went with Carsten to their farm looking for deer and watched a black bear for nearly 1/2 hour.

From Bun Manor:

Brother Andy returned home to his lonely wife Linda after spending ten days at the manor hunting deer. He went home deerless.

Steve Massmann went to Riverview Hospital in Crookston on Tues. to have surgery on his shoulder. Dr. Seelan did the procedure. Matthew told Steve that he was the best of the best in his field. He was let out of the hospital the next day and is recovering nicely.

Bun ran into Dick Minor, his daughter Michelle from Idaho and his friend Marge Berger on Weds. evening while they were dining at Moran's. Dick is now living in Fertile at the assisted living place. He welcomes visitors.

The Calvary group from Winger served around 200 people on Sun at the potato klub dinner. Everybody enjoyed the meal and conversing with each other. There were people from all over the area who showed up. There is a lot of work involved in making the klub and the fixings. Good job Calvary folks!

Farm Service Agency Farm Program Update

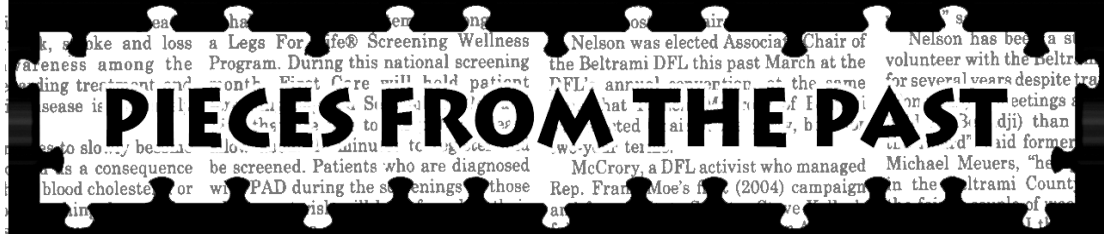
By Mike Philipp, CED, East Polk/Red Lake Counties

ARC-PLC Program and Payments- In our October FSA News Release which was published in most of the local newspapers we were waiting for more details regarding the approved county yields that would be used to determine if 2014 ARC-County payments would be issued for those producers who took that option. We already knew that there were no PLC (Price Loss Coverage) payments because the 2014 Market Year Average (MYA) prices were above the reference prices.

Under the ARC-CO option the final MYA price for each crop (same MYA prices apply nation-wide) is multiplied by the specific "county yield" to determine if payments are earned. Basically payments are earned if the calculated revenue per acre is less than the pre-determined benchmark revenue, which is a 5-year average. Keep in mind that under ARC-CO all producers in a specific county earn the same payments.

So shortly after the October news release and in early November, USDA released the final 2014 yields that were needed for ARC-CO payment calculations. For some counties (like Polk) we already had a pretty good idea what the yield would be because the National Ag Statistics Service (NASS) had already determined a 2014 yield, but other counties like Red Lake did not get NASS yields, apparently because of a lack of participation by producers, so we had to wait for yields to be assigned based on other counties yield data.

When the dust settled Polk County producers with corn or barley base acres enrolled in the ARC-CO option received payments of approximately \$50 and \$31 respectively, after the 7.8% sequestration was taken out. For Red Lake payments were generated for corn (\$51), barley (\$22) and soybean (\$11) base acres enrolled in the ARC-



30 years ago...1985: The First Grade and Kindergarten shared a special Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 27th. Each student brought a vegetable from home to put in the Friendship Soup. Many lessons were learned as they prepared the soup and talked of the ways of the Pilgrims and Indians may have shared their meal.



20 years ago...1995: The First Grade Class taught by Karen Olson worked on Thanksgiving decorations to bring home for the holiday. Each student finished a small turkey with a potato for a body with a colorful tail fan. (Front L-R) Kyle Kaupang, Rainee Haaven, Nicole Gieseke, Kelsey Thompson and Ashley Morem. (Back L-R) Nick Omang, Rebecca Lee, Dylan Sherer, John Krogstad and Logan Bauer.



10 years ago...2005: Win-E-Mac Vocalists receiving a Superior (**) or Excellent (*) rating at Solo Contest include: Front row (L to R) Rachel Jorde**, Nicole Sandberg*, and Jenny Shaver*. Seated (L to R) Ami Hoiland*, Rebecca Lee*, Lisa Buchholz*, Hionia Kutsev*, Casey Hyde (accompanist), and Siri Jore** (and accompanist for both instrumental and vocal soloists). Standing (L to R) Casey Norness**, Jacob Hertwig*, Joseph Lee**, Brittany Stennes*, and Brittani Dargus*.

CO option. Like mentioned above it was more difficult to estimate things in Red Lake because of the lack of NASS yields early on. Producers should have received a disbursement statement for any ARC-CO payments made.

Under the PLC (Price Loss Coverage) option, no 2014 payments were issued regionally except for the few that had a canola base. The PLC option is based only on MYA prices and actual yields are not part of the calculation. As a reminder for those that are in PLC on one or more crops, the reference prices in effect for the remainder of the farm bill (2018) for some of the crops are: wheat-\$5.50, soybeans-\$8.40, corn-\$3.70, and barley-\$4.95. In general if the 12-month Market Year Average price for a crop is below the above prices, payments may be earned under PLC. So although there were no PLC payments for the

recent 2014 cycle, PLC could still prove to be a good option during low markets, such as what we are in right now.

2015 County Committee Elections- County Committee (COC) elections are again underway in County FSA offices- each year an election is held in every county for one member of the three-member COC, on a revolving schedule. This year in East Polk County the election is being held in Local Administrative Area Two (LAA-2) which consists of the central townships of Lessor, Knute, King, Winger, Sletten, Rosebud, and Columbia. In Red Lake County, the western townships of Wylie, Browns Creek, Louisville, Red Lake Falls, and Lake Pleasant (LAA-1) will also have their election. The election ballots are coordinated through a national data-base and publisher, and eligible voters may expect to receive ballots in early

November, and they must be returned to the local office or postmarked by December 7, 2015.

In East Polk County, LAA-2 COC representative Dave Kiecker is eligible to serve one more term and has indicated his willingness to do so if elected. Dave lives near McIntosh, where at the family farm they raise corn, wheat, and soybeans. During the off season Dave stays busy assisting coaching with the Win-E-mac boys' basketball team.

For Red Lake County, LAA-1 incumbent Duane Knott has already served one term on the COC and has agreed to serve again if elected. Duane and his wife Faith live near Red Lake Falls where he also produces wheat, soybeans, and corn. Farmers who receive ballots should vote for the candidate of their choice and please return the completed ballots prior to the above deadline.



Enjoying a book with their muffins is (l-r) Hank Alterpeter, Heather Earls and Cora Alterpeter.



(l-r) Brock Trandem, Brandie Trandem and Hunter Trandem enjoy a muffin before school during the WEM Literacy Committee event Muffins for Moms on Thursday, November 12th.



There is nothing more fun than having breakfast at school with mom! (l-r) Holly, Joe and Ruby Breckel.



Having a muffin breakfast with her kids Jayden, Lucas and Erich Gensburger is mom, Mae Mero.

Time to talk turkey

Though turkey is enjoyed throughout the year, it is most popular during the holiday season. Some celebrants may want to know more about this beloved bird before sinking their teeth into their next holiday meal. The following turkey tidbits may surprise you.

Few foods receive the fanfare of turkey come the holiday season. The National Turkey Federation says Americans eat 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving and another 22 million on Christmas. An additional 19 million enjoy turkey as part of their Easter celebrations.

Though turkey is enjoyed throughout the year, it is most popular during the holiday season. Some celebrants may want to know more about this beloved bird before sinking their teeth into their next holiday meal. The following turkey tidbits may surprise you.

- Turkeys are large game

- birds that are closely related to chickens, pheasants and quail.
- The turkey's scientific name is "meleagris gallopavo," which is the wild turkey from which the domesticated turkey many people eat descends. There is another species of turkey known as the ocellated turkey, which is native to the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico.
- By the early 1900s, the wild turkey neared extinction. Restoration projects have increased the number of turkeys from approximately 30,000 birds back then to nearly seven million now.
- Despite their size, turkeys can fly in the wild. They often perch in trees to sleep to protect themselves from predators. Some domesticated turkeys may not fly because they have been bred to be overly large to produce more breast meat.
- The heaviest turkey ever

raised was 86 pounds.

- A male turkey is called a "tom" or a "gobbler," while female turkeys are referred to as "hens." Only the male will make the familiar gobbling sound, which is used to attract mates.
- A hen is smaller than a gobbler and does not have the distinctive beard of modified feathers that gobblers have on their breasts. Males also have sharp spurs on their legs for fighting.
- Male and female turkeys also can be differentiated by their droppings. Male droppings are spiral-shaped, while females' look like the letter J.
- Both genders of turkey have snoods (the dangling appendage on the face) as well as red wattles under their chins.
- A hen can lay about 10 to 12 eggs over a period of two weeks. The eggs will incubate for 28 days before hatching. Baby turkeys are called

Muffins for Moms & Doughnuts for Dads



Doughnuts for Dads, a WEM Literacy Committee event on Thursday November, 19th, was a great time for Lauren Kaupang to have breakfast with her dad, Vance.



Happiness is a kiss from Dad during the Doughnuts for Dads event at WEM School on Thursday, November 19th. Pictured is Sammi Army and her dad, Eugene.



Shawn Hedlund enjoyed a doughnut with his girls, Dakota and Destiny .



Muffins for Moms and Doughnuts for Dads were hosted by a great group Win-E-Mac Literacy Committee volunteers like (l-r) Melanie Nelson, Carol Longtin and Stephanie Frisk.

"poult."

- Turkeys and peacocks may look similar, but they are not closely related.
- Turkeys have excellent vision due to their eyes being located on the sides of their head. This gives the birds periscopic vision.
- The gizzard is a part of the turkey's stomach that contains tiny stones that the bird has swallowed. The stones facilitate the digestion process.
- Benjamin Franklin did not support the bald eagle as the nation's symbol, feeling the turkey would be a better choice. In a letter to his

daughter, he wrote, "He [bald eagle] is a rank coward; the little king-bird, not bigger than a sparrow, attacks him boldly and drives him out of the district. For in truth, the turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America. Eagles have been found in all countries, but the turkey was peculiar to ours."

- Turkeys will have 3,500 feathers at maturity. Rumor has it the costume worn by the "Sesame Street" character "Big Bird" is made of turkey feathers.
- The turkey shares its

name with a country. But why? A turkey bears some resemblance to the guinea fowl. Though it is native to eastern Africa, the guinea fowl was imported to Europe through the Ottoman Empire and came to be called the "turkey-cock" or "turkey-hen." When settlers in the New World began to send similar-looking fowl back to Europe, they were mistakenly called "turkeys."

- Despite an abundance of turkeys being eaten between November and January, June is National Turkey Month

TLC for your PET

I have seen so many sad posts on Facebook of people that have had their pets stolen, only to be found on Craig's list, to be sold.

We live in such a small community, that we are protected from such happenings....or are we?

One of my customers, Julie Goldsmith, who cares very much for her dogs, and takes the best care to see that they are groomed, has had such a thing happen. Her husband John was in Fosston, and had his faithful companion Dodger (Dugger) in his truck with him. Dugger LOVED to go with John for rides in the truck. When John came out of the store, Dugger was gone! Julie went from house to house looking for Dugger, asking questions, but came up empty handed. They offered a \$500 reward, and yet... they never had their beloved pet returned to them. People that do this have absolutely NO regard for the bond that the pet had to the owners, or the bond that the owners have for their fur baby.

This still grieves them both to wonder what happened to him, is he ok? Are the new people taking good care of him? All of these heartbreaking thoughts continue to run through someone's mind who as lost a pet.

Personally.... I would rather have my car stolen then a pet! I believe that there should be stronger laws against this, as it seems to be something on the up rise, as people look for ways to attain easy cash!!

I myself of late, have also been experiencing my cat Syrinka not coming home for a couple of day's at a time. The first few times it happened, I paced the floor most the night... looking out the back door, hoping and praying that she was there, and that she was ok. This now has happened several times, and I am

so grateful, she always does return home, but I wonder at what is going on with this.

When things like this happen, the pet parent naturally is upset. I can't say for sure that someone is trying to keep Syrinka, but it is very unusual for her to not come when I call, and even the more unusual for her to not come home for a couple of days!

I know that fall can bring in strays, that have been able to survive the summer, but now may be looking for shelter, and a full belly. I would ask people to make sure that the cat or dog, they may be thinking of taking in, is a stray, and not a pet that belongs to someone in the surrounding community.

I know we all have seen the posts of lost kitties and dogs posted on bill boards, and it always makes one feel a little bit of that loss for the searching owner.

Just because we live in a small community does not mean these things do not happen, as we see with my friends and customer the Goldsmith's. I do suggest for people to keep their car doors locked if they have their pet in the car, as they run into a shop quick. This way you know that your pet is going to be protected.

It is a very good idea to make sure that the animal you may be taking in, (especially with cats), is a stray and not someone else's pet.

So, I want to open up my email for people to send pictures or emails of lost or found pets. I will do my best to help in this matter, as it is close to my heart.

Dugger is a cream colored neutered male, short wire haired Terrier cross, maybe 15 pounds. Syrinka is a grey spayed female, with slight orange splashes in her coat, called Tortious markings. She has a round shaped head.

Please feel free to email me or call me if you have lost, found or stolen pets and I will do my best to help in the matter.

DeAnna Haagenson
218-431-1019
crownpetspa@gmail.com

A Thanksgiving Day quiz

It is once again time to talk turkey, stuffing and all of the trimmings. Thanksgiving is celebrated in both Canada and the United States with similar parades and fanfare. Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for the blessings in one's life and enjoy the company of family and friends during a special meal.

Although people celebrate Thanksgiving each and every year, they may not be aware of some of its interesting history. Test your knowledge of gobblers and general trivia with this quiz.

1. Despite competing historical claims, the story most people associate with the first American Thanksgiving took place in a colony in this modern-day state?
a. Pennsylvania
b. New Jersey
c. Massachusetts
d. Delaware

2. Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on which day of the week in Canada?
a. Monday
b. Tuesday
c. Wednesday
d. Thursday
3. Pilgrims from Europe associated with Thanksgiving are purported to have sailed across the Atlantic to reach North American on which ship?
a. Daisy
b. Mayflower
c. Santa Maria
d. Roseflower
4. Which tribe of Native Americans taught Pilgrims how to cultivate the land, contributing to the first Thanksgiving?
a. Algonquin
b. Lenape
c. Shoshone
d. Wampanoag
5. Fossil evidence shows that turkeys roamed the Americas how long ago?
a. 10 million years ago

- b. 15 million years ago
c. 20 million years ago
d. 25 million years ago
6. Three different deboned types of poultry go into this Thanksgiving meal alternative?
a. Orange duck
b. Turducken
c. Turkey chowmein
d. Chixturck
7. In what year did Congress make Thanksgiving an official national holiday in the United States?
a. 1932
b. 1939
c. 1941
d. 1946
8. Twenty percent of the overall consumption of this type of fruit is done on Thanksgiving.
a. apples
b. cranberries
c. cherries
d. grapes
9. The first Canadian



Thanksgiving was a welcome-home celebration for Sir Martin Frobisher when he returned to which area of the country?
a. Albert
b. Manitoba
c. British Columbia
d. Newfoundland

10. Canadians sometimes call the Thanksgiving holiday in the United States by this name to distinguish it from their own Thanksgiving celebration.
a. Yanksgiving
b. Amerigiving
c. Turmerica
d. USthanks

Answers: 1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. b 7. c 8. b 9. d 10. a

Protect your home this holiday season

Many families travel during the holiday season, when gatherings with family and friends require individuals to pack up their vehicles and hit the open road to reconnect with loved ones. Such get-togethers are great ways to make an already festive season even more joyous, but being away for extended periods of time may leave your home vulnerable to criminals.

Alarm systems and neighborhood watch programs can provide some peace of mind to homeowners, but there are additional ways to protect your home when traveling this holiday season.

Use timers to make it appear as though you are home. Entertainment systems and even certain home lighting products allow homeowners to make it seem as though they are home even when they aren't. Criminals are likely to be deterred from burglarizing homes that are well-lit, and noise inside the home can give burglars the impression that someone is inside. Use the timing device on your entertainment or sound system to play music at night, and make sure lights come on at the same time and stay on until the time you would ordinarily go to bed.

Don't allow mail to stockpile in your mailbox. A telltale sign that no one is home is mail that begins to stockpile in a mailbox. A mailbox overflowing with mail indicates to burglars that you're not home and also makes you vulnerable to potential identity thieves looking to peruse your mailbox for sensitive information. Whether you suspend mail delivery while you're away or ask a neighbor to pick up your mail each day, make sure letters are not allowed to accumulate in your mailbox while you are out of town.

Install motion detecting lights around your property. Families who routinely leave home for extended periods of time should install motion-detection devices around their properties. Such devices will immediately illuminate yards or areas around the home when movement is detected within their range. Lights flashing in the dark of night can deter burglars and may even earn homeowners discounts on their insurance policies.

Be cautious with social media. Today's criminals are tech-savvy, and some may turn to social media to look for potential victims. When leaving home for an extended holiday vacation, do not broadcast your plans on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter. Though you might be tempted to post photos of you



Local Veteran's line up during the November 11th program at Win-E-Mac. Many community members gathered to pay respect to those who served.A

and your family hitting the ski slopes or sitting poolside with grandma and grandpa, wait until you return from your trip to share such photos.

Hire a plowing service before leaving your home. Families who live in areas that are prone to heavy snowfall should hire a snow plow service before leaving. A driveway buried in snow for several days is another telltale sign that no one is home, so make sure you hire a plow service to remove snow from your driveway even when you are not home.

Travel is commonplace during the holiday season. Homeowners must take steps to protect their homes while they are away on vacation or visiting family and friends.

Safety should be a holiday tradition

Celebrants and shoppers annually spend billions of dollars during the holiday season. With so much money exchanging hands, it is imperative for shoppers and revelers to use caution to avoid incidents that can put a damper on such a festive time of year.

Though many people who look forward to the holiday season for all the right reasons, there are some who see this time of year as a prime opportunity to prey on the generosity or distraction Christmas brings. Thieves know that the holidays can be hectic, and they use this to their advantage, knowing full well people tend to store high-priced items in their homes during this time of the year. Heeding certain safety tips during the holidays can help keep you and your loved ones safe.

Stagger shopping times
Being a creature of habit may not be advantageous come the holidays. Oftentimes, po-



Charles Svalen and Clifford Bartz were two of the Veteran's honored at the McIntosh Senior Living Program on Wednesday, November 11th.

tential burglars monitor neighborhoods to see when residents come and go. It can take mere minutes for a thief to get into a home and then abscond with valuables.

Creating a situation where there is always someone home or at least the appearance that someone is home might dissuade a thief from targeting your home. When you venture out to shop, do so at different times so you're not establishing a recognizable pattern that gives a thief a sense of security and a perfect window of time to break in.

Triple-check your home
Security experts warn that most burglaries occur during daytime hours when homes are empty. The main point of entry is on the ground floor via a rear or a side door. Access through a garage door is another common way thieves gain access to a home.

Before leaving the house,

make sure that all doors and windows are locked and that the garage door cannot be opened. Many times thieves are able to simply enter a home through an unlocked window. The key is to make it as difficult as possible for a burglar to get inside your home.

Running out of the home for parties, shopping and other social events could derail safety precautions. If need be, leave a checklist by the front door to remind you to safeguard the home before exiting.

Park in well-lit areas
Cars are prime targets for burglaries. Many times shoppers visit the car frequently during shopping excursions and store gifts in the trunk, only to return for more shopping. Thieves recognize there may be a bounty of merchandise inside.

First and foremost, all items

Safety...
Continued on page 6



Veteran Craig Espeseth presents a flag to Win-E-Mac Principal Kevin McKeever during the Veteran's Day program at WEM on Wednesday, November 11th.



The Win-E-Mac 5th and 6th grade Choir performed during the Veteran's Day Program on Wednesday, November 11th.

Random Things and Stuff



Hallogive-mas

By: Emily L. Ferden

Hallogive-mas...the name we should really start calling this time of year it seems. What ever happened to Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas all getting their own recognition and time in stores? This year I seemed to notice it even more, that Thanksgiving items were starting go up at least a week before Halloween, and now a week before Thanksgiving there are a bunch of Christmas items out. Doesn't each holiday deserve to have its allotted place in time to itself?

Doing some research beyond my own thoughts, I found this on nws.merriam-webster.com/pendictionary-newword:

Hallothankmas (noun): A three month celebration that is a combination of Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hallothankmas is a product of retailers selling items for all these holidays at once, usually at the beginning of October, effectively combining them together.

I further went on to read other people's opinions on various sites about how this three month combination of holidays seem to get jumbled together. There are some that say it is a nice thing to do, since it keeps everyone busy. Others argue that each should remain its own holiday, and there should be restrictions as to when stores can start putting things out for the next holiday.

As for me, I like to focus on one holiday at a time, they all seem to come up faster and faster each year! Either way you look at it, I hope that you spend these times with your loved ones and stay safe. With Thanksgiving coming up, I also hope that you remember the things you are thankful for and spend the time with loved ones.

WEM ECFE

Friday Playdates 10-11:30am at the WEM Pre-k Room located at the Win-E-Mac School. December Dates: 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

Come out to explore our themed learning stations, enjoy a snack, sing songs and listen to a story! Children Ages 0-5 invited. Pre-registration not required. Free!

Special Events!

Tues 12/8 Annual Grandparents Night! Bring out grandpa and grandma from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm for some holiday fun! Make easy crafts, listen to holiday music and enjoy a delicious snack together! Ages 0-5.

WEM Early Childhood Family Education classes are for children 0-5yrs old unless noted. Pre-registration is not required.

WEM School Menu

Wed. Nov. 25: Breakfast: Assorted Cereal, Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Choice, Apple, Grape or Orange Juice, Skim or 1% Milk **Lunch:** Chicken Kiev, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Pumpkin Bar, Dinner Roll, Fruit Choice, Milk Choice

Mon. Nov. 30: Breakfast: Assorted Cereal, Breakfast Bites, Fruit Choice, Apple, Grape or Orange Juice, Skim or 1% Milk **Lunch:** Chicken Fajitas (lettuce, chesse, black olives, tomatoes, salsa, and sour cream), Fresh Vegetables, Fruit Choice, Milk Choice

Tues. Dec. 1: Breakfast: Assorted Cereal, Mini Pancakes, Fruit Choice, Apple, Grape or Orange Juice, Skim or 1% Milk **Lunch:** Beef Stew, Biscuit, Cheese Stick, Frosted Cake, Fresh Vegetables, Fruit Choice, Milk Choice

Wed. Dec. 2: Breakfast: Assorted Cereal, Sausage Gravy over Biscuit, Fruit Choice, Apple, Grape or Orange Juice, Skim or 1% Milk **Lunch:** Chicken Alfredo Hot Dish, Lettuce Salad w/ Dressing, Garlic Toast, Fresh Vegetables, Fruit Choice, Milk Choice

Thur. Dec. 3: Breakfast: Assorted Cereal, Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Choice, Apple, Grape or Orange Juice, Skim or 1% Milk **Lunch:** Philly Steak Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Baked Beans, Peppers and Onions, Fruit Choice, Milk Choice

Fri. Dec. 4: Breakfast: Assorted Cereal, Assorted Muffins, Fruit Choice, Apple, Grape or Orange Juice, Skim or 1% Milk **Lunch:** Pizza, Corn, Carrots & Celery, Granola Bar, Fruit Choice, Milk Choice



Win-E-Mac National Honor Society members for 2015-2016 school year.

Win-E-Mac musicians hard work pays off at solo contest

Monday, November 19, 2015 was a very successful day for Win-E-Mac musicians! Solo Contest was held at Fertile, MN. 11 vocalists and 11 instrumentalists participated in this contest. Win-E-Mac received 11** (Superior) and 11* (Excellent) ratings! Every participant starred this year!

Vocalists receiving Superior (**) ratings were as follows: Tanya Kulikov (At The Ball), Mackenzie Fuller (Dreams That Children Dream), Katelyn Johnson (Night Noises), Madison McKeever (Time Is Precious), Josh Young (Danny Boy), Mariah McKeever (If Only You Believe) and Mikayla Vesledahl (Du Bist die Ruh: Peace).

Instrumentalists receiving Superior (**) ratings were as follows: Alaina Juve (Flute), Amanda Farrell (Clarinet), Katelyn Sanden (Bass Clarinet), and Mikayla Vesledahl (French Horn).

Vocalists receiving Excellent (*) ratings were as follows: Clarissa Neste (Take These Wings), Tyra Wilson (A La Nanita Nana), Bailee Burcham (Alma del Core), and

Hailey Balstad (Poor Wayfaring Stranger).

Instrumentalists receiving Excellent (*) ratings were as follows: Bailee Burcham (Flute), Lily Breckel (Flute), Clarissa Neste (Clarinet), Cece Peterson (Bass Clarinet), Tyra Wilson (Alto Sax), Anne Weik (Bass Guitar) and Aries Qualley (Tuba).

Outstanding event

Win-E-Mac was once again honored with an Outstanding Event this year! Tanya Kulikov was selected as one of the Vocal Outstanding Events in her room for her solo "At the Ball" which she sang in Russian. Congratulations, Tanya!

Accompanists for the soloists were: Andrew Hanson, Charity Salmonson and Amanda Shultz

All our musicians represented our school very well, and we are proud of them! Congratulations on a job well done!

Safety...

Continued from page 5

in the car should be stored out of sight to deter interest in your vehicle. Secondly, make sure that the car is locked and that the security system (if there is one) is engaged, as merchandise in a car is not often covered by standard auto insurance policies. In addition, park as close as you can to the store entrance or beneath a bright light. Poor visibility encourages thieves.

Watch your wallet

Cash is a very attractive prospect for thieves because it is largely untraceable and easily spent. While shoppers who want to curb high credit card bills might favor cash, it is important not to carry too much around. Spread out purchases over a few days so that you do not have to carry large quantities of cash.

When using an ATM at the mall or at the bank, always be aware of your surroundings, including fellow customers. It may be worth paying multiple service fees to withdraw small amounts of cash rather than withdrawing a large amount of money that thieves can target.

Remove extraneous credit cards when shopping. Should your wallet be stolen or go missing, this will eliminate the number of accounts that



Vocal soloists taking part in the contest held recently were (front, l-r) Clarissa Neste, Mariah McKeever, Madison McKeever, Tyra Wilson and Mikayla Vesledahl. (front, l-r) Mackenzie Fuller, Katelyn Johnson, Bailee Burcham, Josh Young, Hailey Balstad, and Tanya Kulikov. Courtesy The Erskine Echo



Instrumental soloists taking part in the contest held recently were (front, l-r) Katelyn Sanden, Amanda Farrell, Aries Qualley, Clarissa Neste and Cece Peterson. (back, l-r) Anne Weik, Mikayla Vesledahl, Lily Breckel, Bailee Burcham, Alaina Juve and Tyra Wilson. Courtesy The Erskine Echo

thieves can use and also cuts down on the number of accounts that need to be closed out. You should never carry your social security card in your wallet because this increases your risk of being victimized by identity theft.

Request to sign for packages

Many shipping carriers have eliminated the need for package recipients to sign for

merchandise. Recipients can now choose to have boxes and bags left outside the front door. To decrease the risk of theft,

always choose to sign for packages, regardless of how safe your neighborhood may be



Save the Date!



SANTA CLAUS DAY!
SATURDAY, DEC 12TH
10AM-1PM

MCINTOSH COMMUNITY CENTER

Hayrides! Crafts! Music!
Treat bags! Prizes!

Santa Arrives at
11:00am!

Free Will Donation Lunch