



McINTOSH

Since 1888

\$1.00

Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota

McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad: 134 years of serving the McIntosh community



The McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad recently held a Steak and Fries supper at the fire hall to celebrate 134 years of serving the City of McIntosh and the surrounding community. Members of the Squad pictured here: (l-r) Seth Senn, David Conley, Brook Simonson, Dave Erickson, Ron Lemer, Fire Chief, Justin Shultz, Assistant Fire Chief, Toby Strom, Matt Thompson, Luke Syverson, Mark Simonson, and Nick Drellack. Members of the Squad that are not pictured include: Mark Strom, Ken Kasprzak, Rick Grove, Dave Senn, Kyle Klein, Davin Swanson, Lucas Thom, and Hunter Smeby.

The City of McIntosh announces
Clean Up Week from April 22nd to April 28th

The City of McIntosh Council would like to promote a clean and healthy community by designating the flast week of April 2024 as the City of McIntosh Clean-up Week.

Property owners within city limits may bring items to the lift station site on 1st St SE (area south of the baseball field).

Please throw items in the proper bins. This service is free of charge, but donations would be greatly appreciated to help defray costs.

Be prepared to show proof you own property or reside within the city limits of McIntosh. Having a McIntosh mailing address does not necessarily mean you live within city limits. This service is provided solely to McIntosh City taxpayers. If you are unsure, please call the city clerk's office at 218.563.3043.

Pick-up service is available for those unable to bring in their own items.

Items must be piled near the street no later than 8a.m. on May 1st. If further help is needed with removing items from property, please call the city office and help will be scheduled.

If interested in volunteer-



ing to pick up items and/or use of your truck and/or trailer, please call the City Office.

Acceptable Items:

- Small Amounts of Demolition Material (Wood, Metal, Shingles, Windows, Sheet Rock)
- Dry Paint Cans
- Mattresses, Box Springs, Couches, Chairs
- Other Miscellaneous Household Items

Non-acceptable Items:

- Tires
- Small Appliances
- TV's
- Computers or Monitors
- Railroad Ties
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Cement
- Hazardous Materials

*Please note that we are not accepting yard waste: branches, leaves, grass clippings, etc. These items can be taken to the green dump on the south end of town. If you need assistance,

please contact the City Office.

Don't let this happen to you!

It's that time of year when folks are doing extra cleaning around the house and trying new products to make those jobs easier. We strive to make sure the sewer system stays clear and doesn't back up into buildings. You can help us (and your neighbors) by not flushing:

- **Grease or oil down drains.** Grease such as cooking oils, tallow, bacon grease, etc. will harden in the lines, and on the float switches, causing the pumps not to work;
- **Non-biodegradable items down drains.** Items such as cigarette butts, dental floss, Q-tips, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, tampons or condoms can clog the pump and pipes;
- **Flushable manufactured wipes.** Even if product

states it is flushable it does not disintegrate like toilet paper, so it clogs and tangles in the rotors of the pumps and lines;

- **Rigid or gritty materials down drains** such as cat litter, coffee grounds, chicken bones, eggshells, fish scales, etc. Limit the materials you put through a garbage disposal to edible food products only;
- **Flammable or volatile liquids down drains** such as gas, waste oil and thinners. It is illegal to dispose of these items in the sewer system;
- **Household chemicals down drains,** such as paint, pesticides, herbicides, strong cleaning products, or other toxic chemicals.

Manufacturers list many things as flushable, but the only thing that belongs in a toilet is toilet paper and human waste.

On behalf of your neighbors and friends, thank you for helping to keep clogged sewer lines at a minimum!

Water Line Flushing

Water lines will be flushed every Thursday throughout the summer.

If you notice water is rusty and discolored discontinue use during this time and let water run until clean in lines.



WEM presents
Anne of Green Gables

Perhaps you've read the book. Maybe you've seen the recent Netflix series "Anne with an E". Either way, Anne of Green Gables is recognized as a timeless classic. Set on Canada's Prince Edward Island, Green Gables is the home of siblings Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert. As they are getting up in years, they decide to adopt an orphan boy to help on the farm.

However, due to a miscommunication, the orphanage sends Anne Shirley instead, a girl with fiery red hair and an independent personality to match. Marilla (played by Evie Ryan) must decide whether Anne (played by Sydney Svalen) will be any good to them if they keep her. Matthew (played by Cameron Svalen) reminds his sister: they may be of some good to her.

Do the Cuthberts keep Anne in the end? You'll have to come see the show and find



Win-E-Mac Senior Sydney Svalen will star as Anne in the High School production this weekend.

out! Doors at the Arts & Event Center open at 6:30 for the 7:00 performance on Saturday, April 27th. Doors open at 2:30 for the 3:00 performance on Sunday, April 28th. Admission is free will, though the suggested donation is \$5. Snacks will be served at intermission. Hope to see you there!



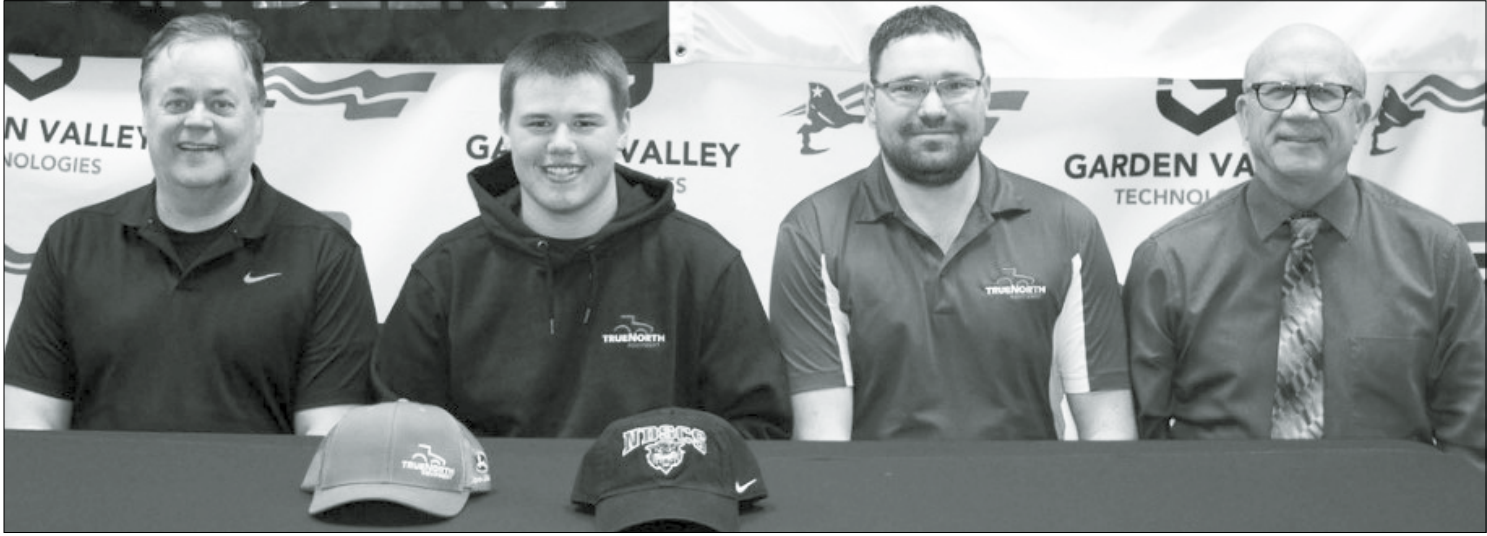
Connie Strom was the winner of the flat-top grill during the 2024 McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad supper held on Saturday, April 13th. Picture with Connie are Brook and Mark Simonson, Fire & Rescue Squad members.



Winning the Pellet Grill during the McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad supper was Joel Strom. The summer will be full of some outdoor suppers at the Stroms.



Virgil Lerfald was a winner of one of the many guns raffled during the McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad Steak Supper held at the Fire Hall on Saturday, April 13th.



Chris Roragen celebrated his signing day to the John Deere Tech Program. Chris will graduate from Win-E-Mac High School in May 2024 and then off to North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton for training as a John Deere Diesel Technician. Chris starts his sponsorship this summer at the True North Equipment shop in Mahnomen. Pictured with Chris is Win-E-Mac Principal, Kevin McKeever, Mahnomen True North Service Manager, Michael Askelson, and Win-E-Mac Superintendent, Randy Bruer.

SECURE A SPOT AT CAMP TODAY!



SUMMER LEADERSHIP CAMP

- Monday, June 17th - Friday, June 21st
- MFU Lake Sarah Campground near Erskine, MN
- \$170 registration fee - discounts available
- Additional Questions call 651-639-1223

Learn more & register at www.mfu.org/camp

M4,6C

AGES
9-12!



Help is available for MN
producers facing times of stress

MDA offers free, confidential tools to navigate farm challenges.

For Minnesota farmers and livestock producers experiencing times of stress due to business and financial challenges, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) offers a reminder of free, confidential tools that are available to help.

"From low commodity prices and extreme weather to continued threats like highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), Minnesota's farmers and their families face a wide range of unique stressors that can have ripple effects in all areas of life," said Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. "You do not have to navigate times of hardship on your own. I encourage farmers and their families to make use of the MDA's resources designed to support you."

The Minnesota Farm and Rural Helpline is open to anyone who is struggling with stress, anxiety, or depression. Calls are answered 24/7 by

trained counselors who can lend a listening ear or connect you with help for business, financial, or legal problems. Call 833-600-2670 or text "FARM-STRESS" to 898211 to get started.

If you or someone you know is dealing with a crisis caused by either a natural disaster or financial problems, contact one of the MDA's nine Farm Advocates. They know all about agricultural lending practices, mediation, lender negotiation, farm programs, crisis counseling, disaster programs, and to recognize the need for legal and/or social services.

Minnesota also has Ted Matthews and Monica McConkey, experienced, ag-focused mental health providers who offer confidential counseling services at no cost to farm individuals, couples, or families anywhere in the state. Sessions can take place in person, on Zoom, or over the phone, and insurance is not needed. They have helped hundreds of Minnesota farmers and farm

family members over the years.

For financial assistance, the Rural Finance Authority (RFA) provides a variety of low-interest loans, including one for disaster relief. The MDA also posts a number of grant opportunities throughout the year, such as the AGRI Livestock Investment Grant, which can help improve, update, and modernize livestock operation infrastructure and equipment.

Specific to dairy farms, Dairy Business Planning Grants cover 50% of your cost to hire a qualified, independent third party to create a business plan for your operation or test for stray voltage. Dairy Profit Teams provide planning and problem-solving services throughout Minnesota.

To learn more about all of the state resources that are available to help in times of stress, visit www.minnesota-farmstress.com, or contact the Minnesota Farm and Rural Helpline at 833-600-2670 or by texting "FARMSTRESS" to 898211.

Protecting
yourself
from QR
code fraud

Quick Response codes, better known as QR codes, are a very popular way to get information. QR codes are scannable barcodes that will direct you to a website. However, scammers can create QR codes to trick people into visiting a fraudulent website or downloading malware that compromises their personal information.

For example, scammers may:

- Cover official QR codes with fake ones on parking meters, menus, or magazines.
- Send QR codes via email or text message pretending to be from delivery companies.
- Request that you confirm your information due to suspicious activity on your account using imposter QR codes.
- Place harmful codes on social media advertisements.

Here are some tips to avoid related scams.

Verify the Source
Before scanning a QR code, make sure it comes from a trusted and reliable source. Legitimate QR codes from Social Security will always send you to a safe and secure webpage at www.ssa.gov.

Inspect the Code
Scammers may use tactics that mirror a legitimate QR code. Take a moment to examine the QR code closely. Look for any signs of tampering, unusual colors, or misspellings. If something seems suspicious, it's best to avoid scanning the QR code.

Be Cautious of Unsolicited QR Codes
Avoid scanning unsolicited QR codes received via email or text message. Be aware of codes from unknown sources. We will never send a QR code via text or email asking you to confirm your information.

Be Aware of Urgent Requests Using QR Codes

Fraudsters often pretend to be government officials and use fake QR codes to defraud people. For example, a scammer may pose as a Social Security employee claiming that you have an outstanding debt or there's a problem with your account and demanding immediate payment. A scammer may send fake QR codes via text or email requesting the payment. Remember, Social Security will never request

POLK COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

Name of County Polk County, Minnesota	Administrator Minutes
Date of Meeting March 19, 2024, Convened at 8:00 A.M. -Adjourned at 9:20 A.M.	A motion was made by Board Member Waters, seconded by Board Member Gutterud, and adopted unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Minutes from the February 20, 2024, Polk County Social Service Board Meeting.
Board Members Present Mark Holy - Vice Chair, Joan Lee - Commissioner Warren Strandell - Commissioner Paul Reese, Commissioner Paula Waters - Secretary Cathy Gutterud - Board Member	Agenda A motion was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Strandell, and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the meeting Agenda for March 19, 2024, Polk County Social Service Board Meeting.
Board Members Absence Board Members Absence Gary Willhite -Chair	Review of the Cases and Claims A motion was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Holy, and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Cases and Claims as follows:
Staff Present Karen Warmack, Director Betty Solie, Support Services Supervisor Marni Kelly, Social Services Supervisor Trisha Schuler, Social Worker Angela Thompson, Social Worker Team Leader	
Others Present Chuck Whiting, County	

Admin	
Medicare Part B	\$7,337.40
Employee & Board Administration	\$2,350.29
	\$73,934.17

Non-Public	
Special Run 2-28-24	\$187.67
POS 2-29-24	\$53,265.08
Payroll Pay Date 3-1-24	\$376,231.12
Special Run 3-05-24	\$30.00
1 st of the Month	\$30,890.57
POS Special Run	\$8,901.82
Payroll Pay Date 3-15-24	\$382,179.16
POS Special Run 3-14-24	\$20,034.56
POS 3-22-24	\$280,433.14
POS ACH 3-22-24	\$3,943.78
MA Insurance	\$11,498.70
Medical Transportation	\$3,982.35

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 03/19/2024 for Payment 03/22/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
Anderson Family Funeral Home	\$2,650.00
Cease Family Funeral Home-Bagley	\$2,650.00
Crookston Hospitality Management	\$2,129.37
Dahl Funeral Home	\$2,650.00
DHS-SWIFT	\$20,979.99
Erikson-Vik-Ganje Funeral Homes	\$2,650.00
Interum Inc	\$5,962.56
Polk County, MN	\$2,946.40
Stenshoel-Houske	\$7,950.00
Verizon Wireless	\$4,737.17
White/Ricky	\$2,120.60
25 Payments less than 2000	\$16,508.08
Final Total:	\$ 73,934.17

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 03/19/2024 for Payment 03/08/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
Alluma	\$2,775.00
Enterprise FM Trust	\$3,101.03
Hugo's #4	\$2,198.00
Mahnomen County Human Services	\$5,880.00
Pennington County Human Services	\$6,072.00
10 Payment less than 2000	\$10,864.54
Final Total:	\$30,890.57

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 03/19/2024 for Payment 03/01/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
1 Payments less than 2000	\$187.67
Final Total:	\$ 187.67

Warrants for Publication	
Warrants Approved on 03/19/2024 for Payment 03/05/2024	
Vendor Name	Amount
2 Payments less than 2000	\$ 30.00
Final Total:	\$ 30.00

Personnel

The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Paul Duckstad, Social Worker, effective March 11, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the Probationary Appointment of Jazmine Dickmann, Social Worker, effective March 25, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the Resignation of Karli Wilson, Social Worker CPS, effective April 2, 2024. Request for replacement was referred to County Board on March 19, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the Status Change of Kimberly Mix, Fiscal Officer, effective March 11, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the End of Probationary period of Kalab Thompson, Eligibility Worker, effective February 28, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the End of Probationary period of Marna Kelly, Social Services Supervisor, effective March 20, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the End of Probationary period of Victoria Ramirez, Social Services Manager, effective March 27, 2024.

The Director informed the Board regarding the End of Probationary period of Chandra Selzier, Lead Eligibility Worker, effective March 25, 2024.

The Director reviewed with the Board the Personnel Organizational Chart dated March 20, 2024.

Budget

The Director reviewed with the

Board the following Budget Reports:

Social Services Budget Report - February 2024.

Social Services Month End Fund Balance Summary - 2002 through February 2024.

Out-of-Home Placement Cost Expenditures Report- 2022 through February 2024.

Out of Home Placement Report - February 2024.

Program Information

Screened in Child Protection Report - February 2024.

Screened in Vulnerable Adult Report - February 2024.

Marni Kelly, Social Services Supervisor, shared with the Board regarding March is National Social Work month.

Marni Kelly, Social Services Supervisor, and Trisha Schuler, Social Worker, shared with the Board regarding the process for MN Choice assessment. Program information was shared with the Board.

Marni Kelly, Social Services Supervisor, and Angela Thompson, Social Worker Team Leader, shared with the Board regarding Personal Care Assistance (PCA). Program information was shared with the Board.

Karen Warmack, Director
Polk County Social Service Center

Gary Willhite
Chairman, County Social Service Board

Attest: Paula Waters
Secretary County Social Service Board

M6C

any form of payment using a QR code.

Stay Informed

Stay up to date on the latest QR code fraud and scams. Follow trusted sources such as cybersecurity blogs, news outlets, and official government websites for updates.

QR codes are an easy and convenient way to get infor-

mation, but it's important to remain vigilant when using them.

For more information, you can review the Federal Trade Commission Consumer Alert at www.consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts/2023/12/scammers-hide-harmful-links-qr-codes-steal-your-information

DUST CONTROL - POLK COUNTY ROADS

The Polk County Highway Department is accepting requests for application of calcium chloride for dust control in front of residences that lie along County or Township gravel roads. The cost will be approximately \$250.00 or 7.5 cents per square foot, whichever cost is higher. County & Township Roads: the cost will be the responsibility of the homeowner on all roads. Invoices will be sent via our Permitting site. Polk County requires Township approval/permission documentation prior to chloride application on township roads. The cost will be for a one-time application only. The size and cost of each application may vary. The application site must be flagged from start to finish by residents. Polk County requires all individuals requesting Calcium Chloride to complete and submit application forms. Forms are to be filled out online at <https://mn-co-polk.onegov.rtvision.com/>. Please contact our office at 218-281-3952 with any questions.
Application deadline is May 18, 2024.
There will be added fees for late applicants.

Calcium Chloride Chart

APPROXIMATE COST
Early Bird End May 18, 2024

Length of Application								
Width	150'	200'	250'	300'	350'	400'	450'	500'
16'	\$250	\$250	\$300	\$360	\$420	\$480	\$540	\$600
20'	\$250	\$300	\$375	\$450	\$525	\$600	\$675	\$750

May 19, 2024 – June 2, 2024

Length of Application								
Width	150'	200'	250'	300'	350'	400'	450'	500'
16'	\$300	\$300	\$350	\$410	\$470	\$530	\$590	\$650
20'	\$300	\$350	\$425	\$500	\$575	\$650	\$725	\$800

After June 2, 2024

Length of Application								
Width	150'	200'	250'	300'	350'	400'	450'	500'
16'	\$350	\$350	\$400	\$460	\$520	\$580	\$640	\$700
20'	\$350	\$400	\$475	\$550	\$625	\$700	\$775	\$850

Township roads will be sprayed at 16 ft and county roads will be sprayed at 20 ft.

M5-7C

BULLY BREW

coffee

Coming Soon!



Grand Opening Date Coming Soon!
We look forward to welcoming you at
150 SW Cleveland Ave, McIntosh, MN 56556.

M6C

Immunizations protect children from serious diseases, including measles

Get back on track during National Infant Immunization Week, April 22-29

Childhood immunization rates dropped during the COVID-19 pandemic when many families were unable to keep up with well-child check-ups. Due to this drop in immunizations, health officials have been urging families to get their children back on track. National Infant Immunization Week, April 22-29, is the perfect time to remind families to get children caught up on the vaccines they missed during the pandemic.

In 2019, 69.2% of Minnesota's 2-year-olds were up to date for recommended immunizations, but by 2023, that rate had fallen to 63%, according to data from the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) on the Public Health Data Portal. Data from Childhood Immunization Coverage shows vaccination rates are also down throughout the U.S., a troubling trend, particularly as cases of measles, a highly contagious vaccine-preventable disease, have recently occurred in numerous states, including Minnesota.

"Getting babies recommended immunizations by 2 years of age is the best way to protect them," said Jessica Hancock-Allen, director of the Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Prevention and Control Division at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). "We know families are busy, but we also know they want what's best for their children, so this is a reminder that it's never too late to get children caught up on the vaccines they need for protection against serious and potentially life-



threatening diseases."

National Infant Immunization Week highlights the importance of protecting infants from serious diseases by keeping them up to date with their well-child visits and recommended immunizations. Vaccines help reduce the spread of infectious diseases. Without that protection, children are more likely to get measles, RSV, whooping cough and other diseases prevented by vaccines.

"As adults who care deeply for our children, we understand that we want to set our children up for success in all aspects of life – including their health," said Dr. Andrea Singh, chair of pediatrics at Park Nicollet and co-lead of Children's Health Initiative. "Vaccines help our children's immune systems recognize and fight infectious diseases that have the potential to cause serious bodily harm and even death. We all want to do right by our children and when it comes to their health, getting

them fully vaccinated is a key piece of that puzzle for parents."

Health officials are encouraging parents to take these action steps during National Infant Immunization Week:

Check your child's immunization record to see what vaccines your child has received and what vaccines they may need. Go to Find My Immunization Record to request it from MDH or learn about using the free, secure app called Docket.

Contact your child's health care provider to schedule a well-child visit and immunization.

Find a clinic that offers free or low-cost shots for children if your child does not have health insurance or insurance may not cover all the costs.

Learn more about the importance of childhood immunization and find additional resources at Immunization: Me and My Family. (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/index.html>)

The principles of defensive driving

Defensive driving can prevent accidents and save lives. Defensive driving also could save drivers money on car insurance. With so much to gain from driving defensively, a refresher on the principles of defensive driving could benefit drivers of all ages.

What is defensive driving?

Drivers undoubtedly have heard the term "defensive driving," but may not fully understand what it means. In the simplest sense, defensive driving is an approach to driving that focuses on anticipating and reacting to potential hazards when behind the wheel. Defensive drivers apply various skills and techniques to defend against potential accidents caused by reckless drivers.

Who can benefit from defensive driving?

Anyone can benefit from a defensive driving course. New drivers may benefit the most because it gives them a strong foundation for safe driving. A defensive driving course also may help drivers remove tickets from their driving record or remove points from a license for first-time offenders, indicates DefensiveDriving.org. Defensive driving courses also may help prevent high insurance premiums or rate hikes following a ticket or accident.

The principles of defensive driving

Defensive driving courses differ, but the following are some of the basic principles of driving defensively.

Be alert to surroundings. This is one of the most important aspects of defensive driving. Paying attention to



the road and avoiding distractions prevents accidents. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says removing one's eyes from the road for five seconds while driving 55 miles per hour is like driving the length of a football field with your eyes closed. Drivers should scan the horizon, check blind spots and know what's going on around their vehicles.

Employ the three-second rule. Leave sufficient distance between your vehicle and the one in front of you. A driver should pass a stationary object on the side of the road no earlier than three seconds after the vehicle driving ahead of them has passed it.

Don't drive impaired. Drugs, alcohol and fatigue can adversely affect performance behind the wheel. Precise movements, fast-thinking and focus are adversely affected when driving tired or under the influence.

Leave yourself an out. Figure out a way to avoid collisions at all times while driv-

ing. This includes not being boxed in by other drivers or barriers. This can be achieved by leaving significant distance between your vehicle and the one in front of you, by obeying the speed limit and ensuring there's a lane to move into that's free and clear.

Avoid bad drivers. Steer clear of drivers who are acting recklessly, and give them a wide berth. Move over, slow down and keep an eye on these drivers to avoid a collision. Similarly, move over for tailgaters and avoid succumbing to road rage.

Be courteous and follow the rules. Respect the rules of the road that you learned in drivers' education classes. This includes wearing a seat belt, obeying the speed limit, slowing down for bad weather, and giving over the right of way to a reckless driver if it means staying safe.

Defensive driving is a strategy that can help reduce accidents and save lives.



Nick Drellek, Toby Strom and Mark Simonson, all members of the McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad helped with selling chances for a variety of prizes at the McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad supper held on Saturday, April 13th.



David Conley manned the grill as members of the McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad served the community a steak supper on Saturday, April 13th at the McIntosh Fire Hall.

Tips for safe driving

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Distracted driving is a leading factor in crashes each year in Minnesota. Let's all pitch in to ensure everyone gets safely to their destinations by implementing these tips for safe driving:

- The hands-free law means that drivers cannot hold the phone in their hands while driving and even when at a stop light.
- If you have to text, pull over to a safe location and park your car.
- Before heading out, do what you can to eliminate distractions — set your music, put your phone out of reach or go hands-free and figure out your directions.
- Appoint your passenger as the "designated texter" to respond to calls or messages.
- Activate your phone's "Do Not Disturb" feature, silence notifications, or your put phone away so you won't be tempted to respond.
- Limit food intake that requires taking your attention off the road.
- Take a moment to clear your head before starting your journey.



Community members gathered at the McIntosh Fire Hall to celebrate 134 years of the McIntosh Fire & Rescue Squad and to enjoy a steak and fries supper on Saturday, April 13th.