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McIntosh, Minnesota

The 123rd annual Polk County Fair is July 10th - 14th in Fertile

Beginning on Wednesday, July 10th and continuing through Sunday, July 14th, the 123rd Annual Polk County Fair will be in full swing at the Fertile Fair Grounds.

The Polk County Fair has been entertaining families for over 120 years and this year will be no different. There are so many exciting events taking place at the fair this year.

On Wednesday, July 10th the fair kicks off with the Midway opening at 5:00 pm. There will be Open Class Judging of Agriculture and flowers happening at 7:00 pm along with the start of the PRCA Rodeo.

The ever-popular Chocolate contest will be judged at 7:00 pm as well with entries due to the Hanson Free Stage by 6:30 pm. There will be 2 classes of entries, adult chocolate dessert contest and kids cookie/cake/bar contest. For more information and contest rules please visit www.polkcountyfairfertilemn.com or call Zina at 612-710-1558.

There will be All-Star karaoke at the Hanson Memorial Free Stage from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm that is free for all ages.

Thursday, July 11th starts with Open Class judging at 9:00 am. There will be 4-H Demonstrations and Performing Arts on the Hanson Memorial Free Stage from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Midway opens at 4:00 pm and the PRCA Rodeo is at 7:00 pm.

The Polk County Fair Talent Contest will have singers, musicians, comedians, and entertainers of every age and their talents will be on stage at 7:00 pm on the Hanson Memorial Free Stage. There will be pre-teen, teen and adult divisions.

Friday, July 12th is Senior Citizens Day at the Fair! The Midway opens at 1:00 pm with a Kid's Pedal Pull at 4:15 pm and at 6:30 pm Baja Racing will be taking place.

Hypnotist Randy Bukar has a new show every time he takes the stage. Stop over at the Hanson Free Stage on Friday, July 12th at 2:00 pm and 5:30 pm and experience the power of suggestion. "The Mixed Nuts" a comedy and children's show will take place on the Free Stage at 1:00 pm and again at 3:00 pm. At 4:00 pm the Free Stage will have the F-M Accordion Band and the music will continue at 7:00 pm with the Woodpicks playing Bluegrass music.

On Saturday, July 13th the day will start with a 5K

walk/run at 9:00 am. Registration: 8:00 - 8:45 am on the fairgrounds near the Hanson Free Stage.

The Midway will open at noon along with the ever-popular Dock Dogs National Sportsmen's Series registration and practice time taking place.

On the Hanson Memorial Free Stage, the day will start with dancing by The Lord's Army at 11:30 am and continuing with Just for Kix dancers at 12:15 pm. At 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm a family comedy show, George of the Juggle will entertain and the Dollipops, A Children's Music Show will perform at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm. At 5:00 pm A cappella music by the Overtones and at 7:00 pm, Country Western band, Radio Stars will perform.

There will be a Kiddie Live-

stock Show at 1:00 pm. There is no entry fee and is open to youth who want to show a baby lamb, calf, goat or a pig on a leash. Exhibitors only need to bring their animals to the fair on Saturday. They may wash and prepare their animal at the fairgrounds. Open to youth kindergarten and younger. Please call Patricia Erickson 218-289-0908 or Al Grunhoyd at 218-556-0259 as all entries must be pre-registered by Thursday, July 11th.

Bingo at 2:00 pm at the Grandstand with \$1,000 in cash prizes. Advance tickets are sold throughout select Fertile businesses.

There will be several Dock Dogs events throughout the day times on Saturday are 1:00 pm, 2:30 pm, and 4:30 pm.

State Championship Baja

Racing starts at 6:30 pm.

A church service at 10:00 am will start the day on Sunday, July 14th.

At noon the Midway and Free Stage opens with 4-H awards. Musical entertainment from The Snowman band will end the day starting at 7:15 pm.

Dock Dogs will continue Sunday starting with registration and practice at noon. With shows at 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm. The shows feature different classes of competitors.

The Polk County Community Fair parade will make its way through town starting at 2:00 pm.

The day winds down with a Super Demo Derby at 6:00 pm with three classes, Limited Weld, Full sized stocks and compacts. Trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Fireworks will follow the show at 10:30 pm.

There will be bike drawings Thursday through Sunday with a girl's and a boy's bike given away daily to kids 12 years of age or younger. The drawing takes place each day at 4:00 pm and you must be present to win.

New this year will be the Rorring Entertainment remote control stock car racing. It will take place Friday, July 11th through Sunday, July 14th starting at 2:00. Participants will have 2 races for \$5 and the fun is in the old horse barn.

This year you can purchase advance ride tickets online only. A one-day ride pass is \$25 and a 5-day mega pass is \$75. For more information, please visit www.polkcountyfairfertilemn.com/midway.



Annual Independence Day gathering this Thursday, July 4th

You are invited once again to motor out to the home of Dan & Darlene Dierkes, 28891 350th St SE, McIntosh, on Thursday, July 4th. At 10:00 am.

Ben Ramsey will read the grievances against King George III that caused our forefathers to say, "Enough!". That document, the Declaration of Independence, is as important today as it was in 1776:

It reminds us why those brave souls were willing to fight for freedom, and that we need to continue that fight for the next generations.

We will begin precisely at 10:00 am and will be done by 10:15 am, but you are welcome to stay for coffee and lemonade, great conversation, and treats provided by the neighbors. (Thank you to everyone who contributes!)

We will hold it in the garage, rain or shine; some seating is provided, but feel free to bring your own lawn chairs. If you need directions or have questions, please call 320-250-5711 or email darlene1978@gmail.com.

We hope to celebrate our country's independence with you!

Essentia parts ways with local Hospital Administrator, First Care Task Force responds

Last week, First Care Medical Services Board Chair Bob Overmoe was informed that Callen Weispfennig, Essentia Health Fosston Administrator since April 2022, will no longer be employed by Essentia Health effective June 28, 2024. The details behind this decision were not disclosed. Essentia has communicated that plans for appointing an interim administrator are in progress.

When contacted for comment, Weispfennig responded, "Unfortunately, I cannot provide a statement at the moment."

Weispfennig's Contributions to Essentia Health Fosston

During his tenure, Weispfennig has made a significant positive impact on Essentia Health Fosston. Over the past two years, he and his family have become deeply integrated

and highly visible within the community.

Weispfennig actively participates in various local organizations, including the Fosston Economic Development Authority, Prairie Pines Child-care Center, Rotary Club, First Care Foundation, and the Aluma Board in Crookston. He

Hospital.....
Continued on page 2 ...

Mac Library hosting Star Lab Planetary Program on July 8th

The local library will host StarLab programs as part of Lake Agassiz Regional Library's outer space-themed Summer Library Experience, inviting area youth to learn about stars, constellations and how planets appear in the night sky. The visits are geared for youth ages 5+ but open to all and are offered free-of-charge. The StarLab is a portable planetarium brought to you by the Bemidji Science Center.

The program is scheduled Monday, July 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the McIntosh Public Library. Registration is not required, but those interested can call the library at 218-563-4555 to learn more.

The Summer Library Experience is offered from June 1 - July 31 at libraries and



LINK Sites. A number of fun programs will be held in connection with the reading challenge, including Magic Shows, theater productions, craft events and much more. All programs are offered free-of-charge. More information is available at larl.org and a full list of programs can be found at larl.org/explore.



The Headwaters Science Center in Bemidji visited the McIntosh Library to share some exciting animals, including a bearded dragon, with local kids.

Farewell Service and Social: Pastor Joel Smeby to depart Rodnes Church

With a mix of gratitude and sadness, the congregation of Rodnes Lutheran Church prepares to bid farewell to their beloved Pastor, Joel Smeby, who will be leaving next month after years of dedicated service. Pastor Joel's announcement made during June 23rd's Sunday service brought forth a wave of emotions among parishioners who have come to cherish his leadership, compassion, and unwavering faith. His tenure has been marked by profound spiritual growth and community outreach initiatives that have left an enduring impression on the lives of many. The congregation reflects on the profound impact

he has had and the legacy he leaves behind, expressing both gratitude for his leadership and sadness at his leaving. "Pastor Joel has been a guiding light for us", remarked longtime members of the congregation. "His teachings and presence will be deeply missed." Plans are underway to ensure a smooth transition and to continue building upon the foundation of faith and service that Pastor Joel has helped to establish. As we prepare to say our goodbyes to Pastor Joel, we are holding a Farewell Service and Social on July 21st. Service will begin at 10:00 am with ice cream and sandwich social to follow. We ask the community

to flood Rodnes with their presence in appreciation of Pastor Joel's dedicated time to our congregation and communities. The congregants of Rodnes hope that his journey ahead will be filled with continued blessings and opportunities to touch lives as profoundly as he has touched ours. May God continue to guide and bless Pastor Joel and his wife, Cynthia as they embark on their new adventure. Farewell, Pastor Joel. Your legacy of faith, love, and service will forever be cherished within the walls of Rodnes Lutheran Church and in the hearts of those you have touched.

Property line disputes on the rise

by Senator Steve Green
Some of you may have heard of recent land surveys being done, resulting in the loss of property – the corner of a building, well or sewer, or maybe even a house. What's going on? In the late 1800s Minnesota was surveyed and monuments were set. This survey included set boundary lines, which were the foundations from which people have bought and sold property for over 100 years. Over time monuments have deteriorated and it has affected many property and boundary lines. This is causing heartburn for many.

Property line disputes have been increasing over the last decade, so to solve the problem, last year the legislature approved funding to re-establish property line markers. In recent years, the increase in technology has allowed surveyors to draw straight lines for longer distances. But because of the deteriorating of monuments combined with the new technology for drawing these property lines, many surveyors have bypassed corner monuments and boarders that have been in place for 100 years. This had led to many original and existing boundaries being moved and the lines between properties have been brought into question. I have received many complaints across different counties. This is cause for concern.

Despite the money that was

appropriated is for reestablishing these original monuments and property lines, there is a danger that you need to be aware of: if county commissioners choose to set new markers based on the new GIS lines, many landowners will lose property. People are already experiencing this now and feel like they have no recourse for losing their land. Landowners should always be on sight when these surveys are being done, so they can ensure their lines are not moved. It would be wise for landowners to proactively contact their County Commissioners and I would also advise folks to attend local meetings and stay informed as this process continues in counties and communities throughout the state.

We know that a process like this should involve all local landowners, yet the government has gotten comfortable with circumventing the public. Because of the way these things are being done, people

Flooding facts & safety

Did you know that only 6 inches of fast-moving water can knock over and carry away an adult? Twelve inches of fast-moving water can carry away a car and 18-24 inches can carry away SUVs, vans and trucks. That's why you should never try to drive through flood waters.

Flooding has left parts of communities across the state underwater. The water continues to rise in some spots while cleanup has begun in other areas.

- If there's flooding in your area:
- **Stay out of floodwater,** even if it is in your house. Floodwater may contain dangerous debris and could be contaminated with sewage, insects or animals. Water that covers outlets, appliances or cords may contain an active

are left fighting for their homes and properties. And the worst part is they feel like they have no recourse – they can either cede their land or pay the state for it. Those affected by these new lines are losing power over their own land that they have owned for years, some even longer.

All of these issues have combined to affect property ownership, and it's something we need to address immediately on all fronts.

5 fun facts about the month of July

July is synonymous with fun in the sun. In the northern hemisphere, July is typically characterized by sunny days, warm weather and long hours of daylight, making it an ideal month to enjoy a little rest and relaxation. Though it might be a great time for some R&R, July also boasts an interesting history. As revelers soak up some sun this summer, they can ponder these fun facts

- 1. July is named after a person whose been famous for thousands of years. According to the Farmer's Almanac, Roman dictator Julius Caesar developed the precursor to the Gregorian calendar used today. Though that made him worthy of a month named in his honor, it didn't do much to protect him during his life, as Caesar was famously assassinated in 44 B.C.
- 2. July is a celebratory month for fans of revolution. American Independence Day (July 4) and Bastille Day (July 14), which commemorates the storming of the Bastille and the dawn of the French Revolution in 1789, are among the notable revolutionary moments celebrated in July.
- 3. Baseball historians know that many significant events in the game have taken place in July, and some records set in the month have withstood longer than others. On July 12,

electrical current.

- **Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream on foot.** When it's moving fast, even water only six inches deep can knock you off your feet.
- **Remember, "Turn Around, Don't Drown!"** Never drive through flooded areas or standing water. Shallow, swiftly flowing water can wash a car from a roadway. Also, the roadbed may not be intact under the water.
- **If the vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately** and seek higher ground. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants.
- If you see a road closed for flooding, never try to drive through it.

Hospital...
Continued on page 3 ... also serves as a board member for Minnesota's Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

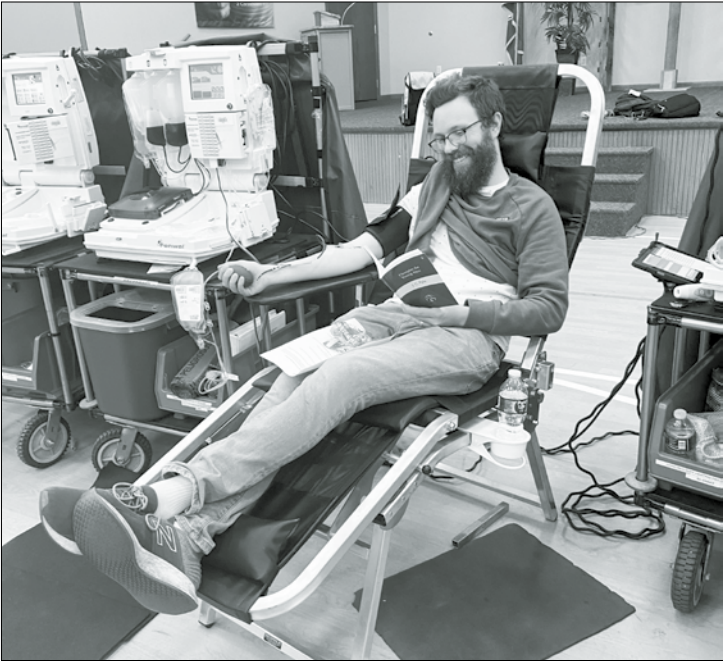
Under his leadership, Essentia Health Fosston has seen improved performance indicators and stability on the medical campus. Employee engagement and feedback regarding Weispennig's leadership have been notably positive. His dedication to the Community Engagement Committee (CEC) has strengthened support for local schools and organizations through both financial contributions and volunteer efforts.

First Care Task Force Reaction
Weispennig has been a key figure in the efforts to restart obstetric (OB) services in the area since 2022.

Initially, he was the primary representative of Essentia Health in this endeavor and a strong advocate for the re-establishment of local OB services. As the project progressed, executives from Detroit Lakes and Fargo took on more prominent roles, though Weispennig remained committed to rural healthcare, local staff, and community support.

First Care Task Force Chairman Bob Overmoe expressed his appreciation for Weispennig's efforts on behalf of the community. "Callen is unwavering in his advocacy for restarting OB services in Fosston. Our community has, and will, greatly benefit from his integrity, dedication and leadership."

Weispennig and his family, who reside locally and have two children attending Fosston public schools, have expressed a desire to remain in the area.



Tyler Stynsberg, the associate Pastor at New Journey Church in Fosston gave blood at the Rotary / American Legion Blood Drive held recently at the Church.

NOTICE ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING VERNES CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The annual election and meeting of the Vernes Cemetery Association will be held on Monday, July 8, 2024 at the Vernes Lutheran Church. The meeting shall start at 7:00 p.m. and all association members are invited to attend. Association members are all members of Vernes Lutheran Church and anyone else who has relatives or friends buried in the cemetery. Again, all members are encouraged to attend.

Raymond O. Sundrud
Secretary/Treasurer
Vernes Cemetery Association
19 June 2024

M15-16C



about the month of July.

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2. July is a celebratory month for fans of revolution. American Independence Day (July 4) and Bastille Day (July 14), which commemorates the storming of the Bastille and the dawn of the French Revolution in 1789, are among the notable revolutionary moments celebrated in July.
3. Baseball historians know that many significant events in the game have taken place in July, and some records set in the month have withstood longer than others. On July 12,

1931, Mel Ott of the New York Giants hit his 100th career homerun, becoming the youngest player to reach that milestone. Ott was 22 years and 132 days old when he set the mark, which still stands today.

4. One of the more famous statements in United States history was uttered in July, though it wasn't within American borders or even on the planet Earth. On July 20, 1969, American astronaut Neil Armstrong, after stepping onto the surface of the moon, declared, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."
5. Two men who played integral roles in the American colonies gaining their independence from Great Britain both passed away on July 4th, the day that celebrates that very independence. On July 4th, 1826, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who were once friends, then political rivals and, finally, friends again, passed away within hours of each other.

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. July 3:
Chase Svalen, Beth (Brekke) Rominski

Thurs. July 4:
Josh Bartz, Barb Urness

Fri. July 5: Ron Roed

Sat. July 6 : Timothy Perreault, Ella Strom

Sun, July 7: Karol Langemo

Mon. July 8:
Davra Carlson, Colleen Borud, Macey Lee, Greg Strand

Tues. July 9: Virgil Lerfald, *Cameron & Christy Burslie



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

Wed. July 3: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Fri. July 5: 11:30am Adoration and Benediction; 12:00 Noon Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. July 7: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley; 3:00pm Divine merch Sunday, St. Mary's, Fosston
Wed. July 10: 6:00pm Mass and Joint Parish Potluck at Lengby Lake
Fri. July 12: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. July 14: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley; 3:00pm Divine merch Sunday, St. Mary's, Fosston
Wed. July 17: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

**OURS SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
(ELCA)
McIntosh
Pastor Rene Mehlberg
Synodical Authorized
Minister Katie DeMarais**

Sun. July 7: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services
Su. July 14: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, McIntosh will run church services on Channel 30 on Garden Valley Channel 30. They will also be available on YouTube on channel One in Spirit - The Journey. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sunday until further notice.

**MCINTOSH AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Pastor:
Jerry Moan**

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am
Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 11:00am
Lutheran Parish YouTube Channel

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

Sun, July 7: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)

Tues, July 9: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed, July 10: 6:30pm Bible Study at Sharon Ramberg's home

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

**VERNES LUTHERAN
CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
PastorLee Laaveg**

Sun. July 7: 9:00am Worship

Sun. July 14: 9:00am Worship

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker,**

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

**CALVARY LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Winger**

Sundays: 10:30am Coffee Fellowship; 11:00am Worship

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH- NALC
Erskine
Rev. Pam Thorson**

Sundays: 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship

Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

**Thriving Life Church
Erskine, MN**

Sunday servie at 10:00 am
Call or visit us at: 22722 350th Street; 218-687-2343

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Calling artists for the
NWMNAC exhibit "Around the Farm"

The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council is announcing a Call for Art on the theme "Around the Farm." Around the Farm will feature Hallock Artist Beau Bakken and is open to entries from our region. Farming is more than a job or a career. It is fundamental to our community's way of life, part of our region's cultural identity and history, and deeply rooted in where and how we live, work, and play. This art exhibit will celebrate farm life and farming and will highlight the importance of agriculture in the lives of residents of our northwest Minnesota region through art. The exhibit will be held in January and February of 2025 at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls. The featured artist is

Beau Bakken of Hallock. Art will be around the theme of farms, farming, farm machinery, harvest, farmland, agricultural heritage, farm animals, and farm life. Artwork must be original from any art medium including painting, mixed medium, drawing, mosaic, fiber arts, writing, sculpture, photography, printmaking, and more. Submission deadline is December 2, 2024 and is limited to two submissions. Send dimensions, medium, title, sale price, and where you are from, along with a photo of the artwork to treyeverettcreates@gmail.com. We welcome submissions from our seven county Minnesota service area including Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau counties. Physical

artwork will be dropped off at the gallery in Thief River Falls in mid-December. Date to be determined. For more information, contact Trey at treyeverettcreates@gmail.com or 218-280-4917. Visit our website at nwartscouncil.org or northwestminnesotaartscouncil.org/blog/call-for-art-for-around-the-farm-art-exhibit.

Story to Share?

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



Hallock Artist Beau Bakken's Row of Rust painting will be featured at the NWMNAC "Around the Farm" exhibit.

5 athletes to keep an eye on at
this summer's Olympic Games

Sports fans across the globe will be glued to their televisions this summer, when the historic city of Paris hosts the Olympic Games. Beginning with the Opening Ceremony on July 26, the 2024 Olympic Games is sure to feature awe-inspiring athletic accomplishments that mark the culmination of years of hard work on the part of competitors. Once the games commence, fans can keep an eye out for these five notable athletes who figure to put their stamp on this summer's competitions. 1. **Simone Biles:** Few athletes at this summer's Games are as recognizable as American gymnast Simone Biles. Biles's accomplishments are already too numerous to mention, but the 27-year-old can pad her legacy even further by earning just one more medal this summer in Paris. Should she accomplish that feat, Biles will have earned more Olympic medals than any American gymnast in the history of the Games. 2. **Daiki Hashimoto:** A two-time gold medal winner at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo (which were held in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic), Hashimoto, who will turn 23 during this summer's games, will be seen as the athlete to beat in men's gymnastics. Hashimoto is a four-time world champion, and NBC Sports notes three of those titles were earned in 2023. 3. **LeBron James:** The National Basketball Association's all-time leading scorer is no stranger to the Olympic Games, but the 39-year-old James has not played on the Olympic



stage since 2012. Over the last several years, James made no secret of his desire to return to Olympic competition, suggesting this summer's games will be the last time to see arguably the greatest player of all time compete at this level. 4. **Léon Marchand:** Born in Toulouse, France, in 2002, Marchand figures to be the center of attention this summer. Some suggest Marchand could put on a performance not unlike his fellow swimmer Michael Phelps' efforts in the pool years ago, as the Frenchman is coached by Bob Bowman at Ar-

izona State University. Bowman famously coached Phelps during his time at the University of Michigan and beyond, and swimming fans will be curious to see how the hometown hero Marchand performs in the pools of Paris this summer. 5. **Summer McIntosh:** The pride of Canada made a name for herself at the tender age of 14 during the 2020 Games, where she was the youngest athlete named to the Canadian team. McIntosh finished fourth in the 400-meter freestyle in Tokyo, narrowly missing a medal in that event but still breaking the Canadian national record. Now a seasoned 17-year-old, McIntosh returns to the Olympic stage this summer. The Summer Olympics return this summer in Paris, and many talented, exciting athletes figure to make this year's competitions as exciting as ever. in winter, that disparity could be a result of an uneven air distribution through the ducts in the home. In such instances, duct balancing might be a solution. Duct balancing involves adjusting the dampers or registers to correct issues such as uneven distribution of air, poor airflow and pressure imbalances with the heating and cooling system. Duct balancing is a relatively inexpensive fix, but it's best left to HVAC professionals, as the job requires unique knowledge of heating and cooling systems and special tools to adjust the dampers or registers.

What is duct balancing?

Homes can sometimes be an enigma, with problems arising that seemingly make little sense. One example of a problem that might not add up is when certain areas of a home feel much warmer or cooler than others, even when a heating and cooling system is running and operating efficiently. The culprit in such instances may be an imbalance in a home's HVAC system. When an HVAC system is running yet there's a noticeable temperature difference in certain rooms of a home, such as one room being particularly warm in summer or especially chilly

Preventing Common Buckthorn
reinvasion a CoverItUp! Project update

By: Monika Chandler & Maya Sarkar, Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Common buckthorn, *Rhamnus cathartica*, is an invasive shrub native to Europe, North Africa, and western Asia. Outside its native range, it overtakes forest understories by reducing species diversity and limiting forest regeneration. Common buckthorn also hosts agricultural pests including soybean aphid and oat crown rust, which can significantly decrease crop yields. Unfortunately, common buckthorn is abundant in wooded areas of central and southern Minnesota, creating dense infestations that inhibit the growth of other plant species. Landowners who cut back these infestations face innumerable buckthorn seedlings in the following years. Fortunately, planting a carefully designed mix of native plant species after buckthorn removal can help limit new buckthorn saplings and restore native vegetation. Researchers with the University of Minnesota's Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center created the CoverItUp! project to develop new guidance on what to plant after removing buckthorn stems. This work is supported by the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The CoverItUp! project looked at what native species and seeding techniques reduced the regrowth of buckthorn at multiple sites across Minnesota. Here is their native plant species list. Some species performed better than others depending on the site. mature buckthorn plants were recently removed. The CoverItUp! project found that almost all of the seedbank emerged as seedlings in the first and second year following removal of the mature buckthorn stands, contrary to popular belief of a long-lived seed bank. To work toward successful management of buckthorn and establishment of other species, land stewards will have to control the buckthorn for a couple of years post-removal while the native plantings establish. The native plantings need this help until they are large enough to shade out subsequent buckthorn seedlings. Private landowners with forest or woodlots can contact their local Natural Resource Conservation Service office and ask about assistance.



Common buckthorn seedlings often carpet the ground after large buckthorn stems are removed. After native plantings establish, the native plants will shade out most subsequent buckthorn seedlings.



A park naturalist from Itasca State Park shared stories about the stars with local kids from Win-E-Mac School summer program, The Clubhouse Childcare Center, and area DAC clients on Wednesday, June 12th at the McIntosh Community Center as part of the McIntosh Library's summer reading program.

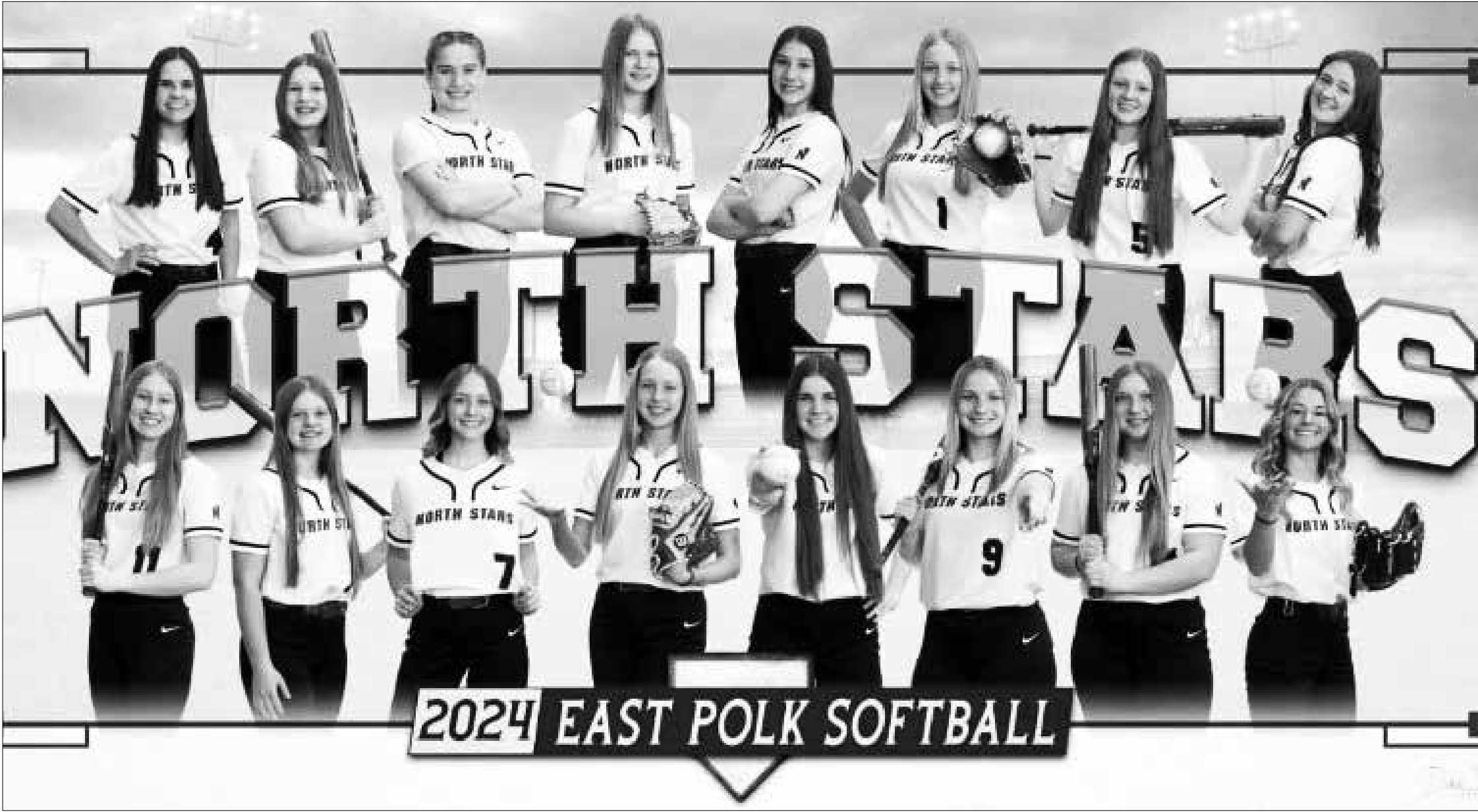


The Win-E-Mac track and field team participated in the Section 8A Track & Field meet in Glydon. Ryan Kangas, Cameron Bergman, Mihael Mametieff, and Bergen Howard participated in the 4 x 100 Meter Relay where they took 4th place. Ryan Kangas qualified for the State Track & Field Meet at St. Michael/ Albersville School on June 6th, as the 8A champion for the 100 Meter and the Long Jump where he finished as runner-up (2nd place) in the Class A Long Jump.



Swimming lessons are Monday through Thursday during June and July. Here are the bus times:
Bus times will be 2:30 at WEM School, 2:45 at Mentor C-Store, 3:00 at Winger Depot, and 3:15 at McIntosh Cenex. Drop off points will be at the same locations at approximately the following times: McIntosh at 5:45, Winger at 6:00, Mentor at 6:15, and WEM School at 6:30. Times may be adjusted!
Swimming Lesson Dates: 2nd session: June 24-July 11th. (Please note: there is no swimming on July 4th. Monday, July 15th will be added instead.)
Win-E-Mac is excited to offer an arts opportunity

this summer for students going into third through ninth grades. "Summer Arts Stages," a group out of East Grand Forks, will be in residence from Monday, July 29th through Friday, August 2nd to direct Disney's The Aristocats KIDS! Rehearsals will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm every day that week. The performance will be at 7pm on Friday, August 2nd.
If your child is interested in participating, please visit the Win-E-Mac school website at www.wemschools.org.
If you have any questions (or if you might be interested in crew rather than cast), please email Andrew Hanson at ahanson@wemschools.org.
The Fitness Center access has now been changed to summer hours. (The Fitness Center is closed during the school day during the school year.) You are now able to get into the fitness center 24/7. If you have any questions, please call Kristi at the school.



The East Polk North Stars are the 2024 Pine to Prairie conference Champions. Congratulations! The team consists of students from both Fosston High School and win-E-Mac High School.



Win-E-Mac staff, and school board members celebrated the retirement of Superintendent Randy Bruer. Superintendent Bruer has been at Win-E-Mac School for 13 years.