



SNOW MUCH FUN



Taking part in the fun at the Cardboard Sled Competition held on Saturday, December 7th, as a part of A Very Merry McIntosh events was Bridger Huschle in his custom sled.



Dawson Gunufson hit the hill at the old football field in McIntosh with his cardboard sled on Saturday, December 7th to take part in the Cardboard Sled Competition sponsored by The Clubhouse Childcare Center and Icesaw.com and a part of the festivities that took place during A Very Merry McIntosh.

Reports of Whooping Cough in the WEM community

Pertussis (also called whooping cough) has been reported among students at Win-E-Mac School and in the community.

What is pertussis?
Pertussis, or whooping cough, is a persistent cough illness. Anyone of any age can get pertussis.

What are the symptoms of pertussis?

The first symptoms of pertussis are similar to a cold. After a week or two, the cough worsens and may occur in sudden, uncontrollable bursts. Sometimes coughing will lead to vomiting or a high-pitched whoop sound when breathing in. Persons with pertussis may seem well between coughing spells. These spells become less frequent over time, but may continue for several weeks or months until the lungs heal.

How is pertussis spread?
Pertussis bacteria are spread through droplets produced during coughing or sneezing. These droplets don't travel very far through the air and usually only infect persons nearby.

When and for how long can a person spread pertussis?

Persons with pertussis can spread it to others for the first 3 weeks of coughing or until



they complete 5 days of antibiotic treatment, whichever occurs first. The person is no longer contagious after the third week. The cough can continue for up to 3 months.

How can pertussis be prevented?

Vaccination is the best way to prevent pertussis. Vaccination against pertussis is part of the regularly recommended childhood vaccines. A pertussis vaccine booster is also recommended for adolescents and adults. Ask your health care provider for more information.

Persons who have been vaccinated for pertussis may still get pertussis disease, but will generally have a milder illness.

Antibiotics are sometimes recommended to prevent pertussis in close contacts of someone with pertussis, such as household members.

Is there a

lab test for pertussis?

Yes, but only if someone has symptoms. Most commonly, the nasal passage is swabbed and the swab is examined for the presence of pertussis bacteria. Sometimes a test using blood will be done to look for an immune response.

How long should someone with pertussis stay home from child care, school, work, etc.?

Persons with pertussis should stay home from child care, school, work, and other activities until they have finished 5 days of antibiotics, unless they have already been coughing for 3 or more weeks.

More tips

- Wash your hands often.
- Stay at home if you are ill.
- When coughing, cover your mouth with a tissue or cough into your sleeve.

Pertussis can be less severe in adults and older children and when not recognized and treated, can be easily passed on to infants, who can become very ill.

If you or a family member have a cough and have had contact with someone with pertussis or has been coughing for 7 days or longer, discuss pertussis with your healthcare provider.



The Win-E-Mac Quilters met on December 12, 2024 at Erickson Smokehouse in Fertile for their Christmas party. Seven members were present on this cold day. The group had lunch, visited, played the Saran Wrap game and exchanged homemade gifts. Pictured is front row Val Brekke, Ilene Reiersen, Ann Pederson and Denise Disrud. Back row Kathy Finstad, Lois Boehrnsen and Deb Winjum.



Kids and adults alike loved the fun time that was had at the hill near the old football field in McIntosh on Saturday, December 7th. There were dozens of kids, and adults who took their turns sliding own the hill on their homemade cardboard and tape sleds at part of the Cardboard Sled Competition.

McIntosh City Council minutes for November 2024

Minutes November 7, 2024
The meeting of the McIntosh City Council was called to order by Mayor Toby Strom at 5:30 PM on Thursday November 7, 2024.

Present: Toby Strom Luke Burd Luke Syverson Beth Hagen Adam Strutz

Poplar Meadows Committee Member: Rebecca Boehrsen – Licensed Director for Poplar Meadows of McIntosh

Guests: Mark Simonson
1) Adam Strutz was sworn in to fill the vacant Council seat. Council member Strutz will fill out the term of 2 years until the 2026 election at which time he can either run as a candidate or retire his seat.

2) Motion by Council member Hagen and seconded by Council member Syverson to approve the October 10, 2024 minutes. Passed and carried.

3) MEDA and Poplar Meadows Committee Reports:

Poplar Meadows Committee member Boehrsen reported there are currently 24 residents at Poplar Meadows with 2 open apartments.

Motion by Council member Syverson to approve the submitted claims for Poplar Meadows in the amount of \$81,984.92. Motion seconded by Councilmember Burd and

carried.
Ms. Boehrsen requested additional time to research whether group residential housing assistance (GRH) is a good fit for Poplar Meadows. Item was tabled.

4) The City Clerk discussed issues with the Minnesota Department of Health Lead Service Line Survey. Mrs. Finseth stated that letters were sent to McIntosh residents and businesses to complete their service line survey. The Department of Health is asking all residents and businesses to report what type of material feeds water to their homes and businesses, from the curb stop to their water meter: copper, PVC, galvanized steel, or lead to the City Clerk or Maintenance Supervisor, Peter Tranby so that records can be updated. The City will continue to send letters out to the public until all records are updated.

4) Council member Burd presented the resolution to canvass the 2024 Election results. A coin toss was conducted to determine the winner of the tied race between Mark Simonson and Lexie Peterson, for Council, with Mark Simonson winning the contest. Council member Simonson will start his 4-year term January 9, 2025. Toby Strom won the Mayoral seat with 176 votes. Luke Syverson remains on

Council with 55 write-in votes. With results duly canvassed, the votes in the affirmative: Hagen, Burd, Strutz and Syverson Votes in the negative: None.

5) Council member Syverson presented the resolution to accept the pass-through grant, from the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, of \$15,000.00 on behalf of The Clubhouse Child-care Center. Votes in the affirmative: Syverson, Hagen, Burd and Strutz. Votes in the negative: None.

6) Motion by Council member Burd to approve increasing the rent to \$225.00 per month for Tri County Community Corrections. Motion passed and carried.

7) A building permit for Pamela Aanenson for a handicap accessible storefront porch was approved.

8) Motion by Council member Syverson to approve the submitted claims, for the City and MEDA, in the amount of \$219,013.44. Motion seconded by Council member Bud and carried.

9) Motion by Council member Syverson to adjourn at 6:26. Motion seconded by Council member Burd and carried.

Toby Strom – Mayor Melissa Finseth – City Clerk/Treasurer.

One week until key deadline for 2025 health insurance plan

Sign up by December 18 for coverage starting January 1, 2025.

Minnesotans who need health insurance have just one week left to enroll in a full year of coverage through MNsure, Minnesota's official health insurance marketplace.

Wednesday, December 18 is the deadline to enroll for coverage starting January 1. For Minnesotans who sign up December 19th – January 15th, 2025, coverage will start on February 1st instead.

"Shopping for a health insurance plan at MNsure.org is the best way to ensure you get all the savings you're eligible for and high-quality, comprehensive coverage for 2025," said MNsure CEO Libby Caulum. "We're here to serve Minnesotans. Plans sold elsewhere may not cover the same health benefits or include the important consumer protections that are guaranteed with all plans sold through the MNsure marketplace."

MNsure is the only place



Minnesotans can access savings to lower the cost of health insurance.

In 2025, eligible households are expected to save \$561 per month, on average, thanks to advanced premium tax credits available through MNsure. These tax credits work like an instant discount to lower the cost of monthly premiums.

Additional savings that reduce out-of-pocket costs for health care are available for those who qualify and select a silver plan.

And all Minnesotans can continue to find a plan with premiums that cost no more than 8.5% of their annual household income, thanks to federal laws that improve affordability.

Free help is available
The MNsure Contact Center will be open extended hours

to help Minnesotans get covered ahead of the December 18 deadline:

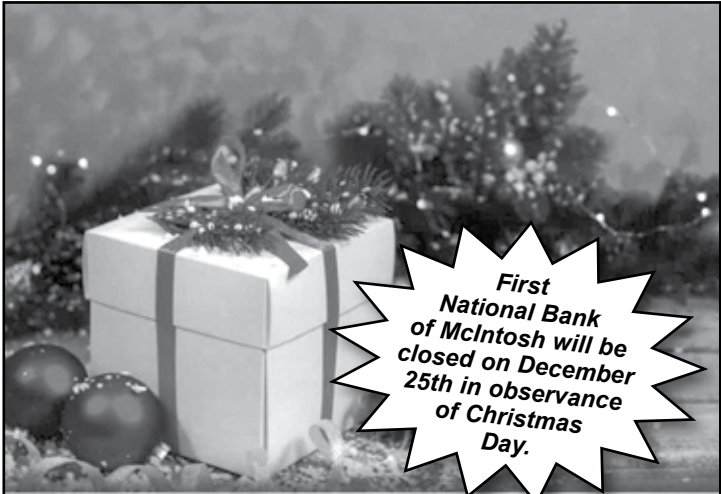
Monday – Wednesday, December 16th-18th: open 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Minnesotans can get personalized help with their MNsure application and enrollment from a trained expert at no cost.

MNsure-certified brokers are health plan experts who can answer questions, give advice, and help choose the right private plan. Navigators work at local, trusted community organizations and specialize in helping Minnesotans with lower incomes enroll in free or low-cost insurance through Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare.

Both types of assisters are ready to help in person, over the phone or by virtual meeting.

Consumers can connect with a local, trusted broker or navigator by searching MNsure's Assister Directory (mn-sure.org/free-help).



Merry Christmas

Lo, the star which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. - Matthew 2:9

Amidst the warmth and excitement of the holiday season, it's important to remember the true meaning of Christmas. The birth of Christ.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas season.



BANKING
On a First Name Basis



first national bank of McIntosh

260 Cleveland Ave. SW
PO Box 129
McIntosh, MN 56556
www.fnbmcintosh.com
218-563-2865



Winner of the Very Merry McIntosh Drawing from The Hen House Thrift Room & Seams Like Home is Julie Malmanger from Fosston.

Ad deadline: Noon Friday



Winner of the Very Merry McIntosh Drawing from Neil's Meats & More is Juanita Hepburn of McIntosh.



Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Dec. 18:

Jenny Howard

Thurs. Dec. 19:

Clarissa Plante, Erik

Roed, Addisen Haas

Fri. Dec. 20: Kal-

li Roy

Sat. Dec. 21:

Brooke Tofstad, Beth

Hagen

Sun. Dec. 22:

Andy Smith, Jerry

Shimpa, Camille

Smeby, *Robert &

Sharon Hegland, *Al-

len & Shirley Carver

Tues. Dec. 24:

Candace Haaven,

Anthony Grande,

Jered Agnes, Philip

Lee, Cheryl Jore



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

Wed. Dec. 18: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Fri. Dec. 20: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sun. Dec. 22: 8:00am Con-

fession at St. Mary's, Fosston; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's,

Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley; 5:30 pm

Advent Penance Service, St. Mary's, Fosston

Tues. Dec. 24: 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Wed. Dec. 25: 8:30am Christmas Day Mass. All are

welcome to join in the joyful celebration of the birth of our

Savior, Jesus Christ.

OURS SAVIOR'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

(ELCA)

McIntosh

Pastor Rene Mehlberg

Synodical Authorized

Rachel Roggenbuck,

SAM

Sun. Dec. 22: 10:00am Cof-

ftee 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 Sav-

iors service will be available by

8:30 am each Sunday until fur-

ther notice.

MCINTOSH FREE LU-

THERAN AFLC

McIntosh Trinity / Mount

Carmel:

Pastor:

Jerry Moan

Trinity: (27262 315th St.

SE, McIntosh) Sunday Wor-

ship: 9:30am; 10:45am Sunday

School

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St.

NE, McIntosh) 9:45am Sun-

day School; Sunday Worship:

11:00am

Wednesdays: 6:30pm Con-

firmation; 7:15pm Free Lu-

theran Youth meets at Pastor

Moan's home

GOSEN LUTHERAN

CHURCH

Independent

Gary Johnson, Pastor

www.gosen-church.com

Face Book: Gosen

Church

Fri. Dec. 20: 10:00am Tele-

cast of the Christmas Concert

with the Jores on GVTV-30

Sun. Dec. 22: 9:30am Sun-

day School and Adult Bible

Study; 11:00am Worship Ser-

vice (also on Facebook and gos-

enchurch.com))

Tues. Dec. 24: 10:00am.

Sunday worship service tele-

cast on GVTV--30

Wed. Dec. 25: No Bible

Study

Sun. Dec. 29: 7:00pm Lu-

ther League/Sunday School

Christmas Program (article

next week)

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

Pastor Lee Laaveg

Sun. Dec. 22: 9:00am Wor-

ship

IMMANUEL LUTHE7AN

CHURCH

McIntosh

Pastor Bruce Blocker,

Sundays: 9:00am Worship;

10:00am Fellowship Hour;

10:15am Sunday School

DOVRE LUTHERAN

CHURCH

Winger, MN

Sundays: 9:00am Adult

and Children's Sunday School;

10:00am Worship Service

Wednesdays: 7:00pm Bible

Study

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 fel-

lowship and a good cup of cof-

fee. It will also be available at

the same time on Garden Val-

ley Channel 30, Facebook and

YouTube.



A Very Merry McIntosh would not be possible without the help of these members of the McIntosh Community Club. Pictured with Santa and Mrs. Clause is: Phil Lee, Megan Rock, Katie Roed and Andrea Stordahl.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

This space for rent at \$127.40 for 6 months.

CALL 218-563-3585

Carlin
FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE

"Caring service for three generations"

(218) 435-1144

Funeral Home ~ Cremation Service ~ Granite Memorials

ANDERSON FAMILY
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE

719 N. Main 644 Main St.
Mahnomen, MN Winger, MN

**Taige Ennen *Kelly Woltjer*
**Tim & Denise Anderson*
**Licensed Funeral Director*

218-935-9000
Toll free: **866-935-9009**

Is There A Wedding In Your Future?

We have the latest designs for wedding accessories - or, if you choose, we can assist with a design of your own.

LET US HELP MAKE YOUR WEDDING DAY MEMORABLE.

487-5225 Gonvick, MN

Richards Publishing Co.

McINTOSH Times

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE HUB OF THE THIRTEEN TOWNSHIPS BY RICHARDS PUBLISHING CO., INC.

RICHARD D. RICHARDS, PUBLISHER
KIM HEDLUND, EDITOR

McIntosh (218) 563-3585
Cell: (218) 280-1684
Gonvick (218) 487-5225

"McIntosh Times" (USPS 336-020) is published weekly for \$35.00 per year (in county) and \$45.00 per year (out of county) by Richards Publishing Co., Inc., 1st & Main Ave., Gonvick, MN 56644. Periodicals postage paid at McIntosh, MN.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: McIntosh Times, PO Box 9, McIntosh, MN 56556. mcintoshtimes@gmail.com

"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

PUBLISHER'S LIABILITY FOR ERROR: The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.

New marketing assistance
now available for specialty crop producers

Makes \$2 Billion Available to Support Expansion of Current and Development of New Markets.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency's (FSA) \$2 billion Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) program, aimed at helping specialty crop producers expand markets and manage higher costs, is now accepting applications from Dec. 10, 2024 through Jan. 8, 2025. Funded by the Commodity Credit Corporation, MASC was announced in November alongside the \$140 million Commodity Storage Assistance Program for facilities impacted by 2024 natural disasters.

"Specialty crop growers have typically faced higher marketing and handling costs relative to non-specialty crop producers due to the perishability of fruits, vegetables, floriculture, nursery crops and herbs," said FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "Through this marketing assistance program, we can expand U.S. specialty crop consumption and markets by providing specialty crop producers the financial support needed to help them engage in activities that broaden and enhance strategies and opportunities for marketing their commodities."

MASC helps specialty crop producers meet higher marketing costs related to:

- Perishability of specialty crops like fruits, vegetables, floriculture, nursey crops and herbs;

- Specialized handling and transport equipment with temperature and humidity control;
- Packaging to prevent damage;

- Moving perishables to market quickly; and
- Higher labor costs.

MASC Eligibility

To be eligible for MASC, a producer must be in business at the time of application, maintain an ownership share and share in the risk of producing a specialty crop that will be sold in calendar year 2025.

MASC covers the following commercially marketed specialty crops:

- Fruits (fresh, dried);
- Vegetables (including dry edible beans and peas, mushrooms, and vegetable seed);
- Tree nuts;
- Nursery crops, Christmas trees, and floriculture;
- Culinary and medicinal herbs and spices; and
- Honey, hops, maple sap, tea, turfgrass and grass seed.

Applying for MASC

Eligible established specialty crop producers can apply for MASC benefits by completing the FSA-1140, Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) Program Application, and submitting the form to any FSA county office by Jan. 8, 2025. When applying, eligible specialty crop producers must certify their specialty crop sales for calendar year 2023 or 2024.

New specialty crop producers are required to certify 2025 expected sales, submit an FSA-1141 application and provide certain documentation to support reported sales i.e., receipts, contracts, acreage reports, input receipts, etc. New producers are those who began producing specialty crops in 2023 or 2024 but did not have sales due to the immaturity of the crop, began producing specialty crops in 2024 but did not have a complete year of sales or will begin growing specialty crops in 2025.

MASC applicants, established and new, must also submit the following information to FSA if not already on file at the time of application:

- Form AD-2047, Customer Data Worksheet.
- Form CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan for an individual or legal entity.
- Form CCC-941, Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information.
- Form FSA-942, Certification of Income from Farming, Ranching and Forestry Operations, if applicable, for the producer and members of entities.
- A highly erodible land conservation (sometimes referred to as HELC) and wetland con-

servation certification (Form AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification) for the ERP producer and applicable affiliates.

- Other Documentation if requested by FSA to support reported specialty crop sales.

Most producers, especially those who have previously participated in FSA programs, will likely have these required forms on file. However, those who are uncertain or want to confirm the status of their forms or producers who may be new to conducting business with FSA, can contact their local FSA county office.

For MASC program participation, eligible specialty crop sales only include sales of commercially marketed raw specialty crops grown in the United States by the producer. The portion of sales derived from adding value to a specialty crop (such as sorting, processing, or packaging) is not included when determining eligible sales. Further explanation of what is considered by FSA for specialty crop sales as well as an online MASC decision tool and applicable program forms, are available on the MASC program webpage.

MASC Payments

For established specialty crop growers, those who certify crop sales in 2023 or 2024, FSA will calculate MASC payments based on the producer's total specialty crop sales for the calendar year elected by the producer. Payments for new producers will be based on their expected 2025 calendar year sales. Payment calculation details and examples are available on the MASC webpage or related questions can be directed to local FSA county office staff.

FSA will issue MASC payments after the end of the application period. If demand for MASC payments exceeds available funding, MASC payments may be prorated, and the payment limitation of

\$125,000 may be lowered. If additional funding is available after MASC payments are issued, FSA may issue an additional payment.

Specialty crop producers interested in applying for MASC benefits, are encouraged to review the program fact sheet for detailed information on program eligibility, required documentation, payment calculations and more.

More Information

Additional information on MASC is available in the Notice of Funding Availability, which went on public inspection in the Federal Register on Dec. 9, 2024.

FSA helps America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners invest in, improve, protect and expand their agricultural operations through the delivery of agricultural programs for all Americans. FSA implements agricultural policy, administers credit and loan programs, and manages conservation, commodity, disaster recovery and marketing programs through a national network of state and county offices and locally elected county committees. For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

Women in Ag
Conference hosted by
U of M Extension and MN FSA

"Farming Your Way, Creating Balance" is the theme for the 2025 Extension Women in Ag Conference, hosted by the U of M Women in Ag Network, in partnership with the Minnesota Farm Service Agency.

The Women in Ag Conference will be 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at The Park Event Center, Waite Park, Minnesota. In an industry where every farm and role is unique, finding your place means discovering the balance that works best for you, your farm, your family, and your goals. This conference will help farmers and ranchers explore and define what agriculture means to each person, finding ways to navigate both the family and the operation, as well as making your distinct mark in agriculture. Whether you're a beginner, future, mid-career or seasoned farmer, industry professional, or agriculture enthusiast, this conference is for you. All people are welcome.

Susanne Hinrichs, agricultural business management

educator with U of M Extension works with a planning team and the advisory committee to plan this conference. She says, "The conference will focus on farm business management and production, including topics such as farm finances, healthy soils, pasture management, balancing it all, goal setting, integration of crops and livestock, including childcare planning into business planning, MDA grant information, ag product marketing, managing social presence, and well-being and resilience. There's something for everyone."

New this year, two microgrants are available through an application process from the Minnesota Chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier (LDEI). As the conference grows each year, the goal is to offer more scholarships with additional sponsorship funding.

For more information on the scholarship, the conference, and to register, follow this link: z.umn.edu/WomenInAg2025. Early bird rates are available through January 27, 2025.

You can help MnDOT name more
snowplows; the deadline is Friday

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is excited to invite the public to submit creative snowplow names for the agency's fifth Name a Snowplow contest. Past winners have included names like Taylor Drift, Plowy McPlowFace, and The Big Leplowski.

MnDOT encourages people to submit their most witty, unique and Minnesota or winter-themed snowplow name ideas through the agency's website. Submissions will be accepted through noon on Friday, December 20th.

This year's contest includes a few basic rules:

- Each person may only submit one name.
- Submissions are limited to no more than 30 characters

(including letters and spaces).

- Gosh darn it, nothing vulgar please. Any submissions that include profanity or other inappropriate language will not be considered.

- Politically inspired names (including phrases, slogans or plays on politicians' names) will not be considered. Naming snowplows is meant to be fun and lighthearted, so we're going to keep this contest non-partisan and nonpolitical.

- Past winners will also will not be considered. You can find a full list of past winners on our Name a Snowplow website.

MnDOT staff will review all the submissions, advance submissions that meet the guidelines above, and invite the public to vote on their fa-



Snow much fun during the Cardboard Sled Competition held on Saturday, December 7th in McIntosh.

Craft an edible holiday
classic from the comforts of home

Symbolism features prominently throughout the holiday season. When walking around in December, or even earlier, individuals can't help but notice lighting displays, decked out Christmas trees in town centers and other symbols that are synonymous with the holiday season.

Gingerbread houses may or may not be on public display, but these impressive constructions are yet another notable sign that the holiday season has arrived. As families prepare to celebrate the holiday season, they can work together to create this impressive, and edible, "Gingerbread House" courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Gingerbread House

Makes 8 servings or 1 house

For the house:

- 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra as needed
 - 3 tablespoons cornstarch
 - 1 tablespoon ground ginger
 - 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - 3/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 3/4 cup molasses, warmed
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- For the frosting:**
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar, plus extra as needed
 - 1 1/2 tablespoons meringue powder
 - 1 to 2 tablespoons warm water

To decorate:

Assorted colorful candies, sugared chocolate candies, round peppermint candies, candy canes, etc.

1. For the gingerbread: Combine the flour, cornstarch, spices, and salt in a large mixing bowl. Stir well and set aside.

2. Beat the softened butter with the molasses and vanilla in a separate mixing bowl until pale and creamy, about 2 to 3 minutes.

3. Beat in the flour mixture in 4 additions, mixing well between additions until you have a rough dough; add more flour as needed to form a stiff dough.

4. Turn out and knead briefly. Shape into a round, wrap in parchment paper, and chill for



2 hours.

5. After chilling, preheat the oven to 325 F. Grease and line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper.

6. Remove the dough from the refrigerator. Roll out to about 0.333" thickness on a lightly floured surface.

7. Cut out two rectangles approximately 4.5" x 4" for the roof. Cut out 2 pointed rectangles approximately 5" at their tallest points and 3.5" wide at the base; these will be the front and back of the house as per the image. Make sure that one side has a round window cut out.

8. Using some of the remaining dough, cut out the 2 rectangles to be the sides of the house, approximately 3" x 1.5", to shape the chimney.

9. Arrange the pieces across the baking sheets. Bake for about 25 minutes until browned and dry to the touch. Remove to cooling racks to cool.

10. For the frosting: Combine the confectioners' sugar, meringue powder and 2 tablespoons warm water in a large mixing bowl.

11. Beat with an electric mixer until the frosting is thick and glossy, about 4 to 5 minutes; beat in more confectioners' sugar if too thin and more water if too thick.

12. Spoon into a piping bag

fitted with a thin, round nozzle. Chill for 15 minutes.

13. To decorate: Using the frosting as 'glue,' assemble the chimney using the 4 even rectangles of gingerbread. Let dry and set.

14. Start to assemble the rest of the house by glueing the pieces together as per the image, attaching the front and back of the house to the sides before attaching the roof in place. Let set dry and set at each building interval.

15. Once the sections are dry, pipe more frosting onto the edges of the roof and down their sides, shaped as icicles.

16. When the chimney is set, attach it to the top, cutting the pieces to fit if necessary, and decorating the outside with frosting.

17. To decorate: Attach the assorted candies to the house, decorating the roof with a tiled pattern using the frosting.

18. Let the house dry and set until ready to serve.

Preparation time: 2 hours
Cooling time: 2 hours, 15 minutes

Total time: 4 hours, 15 minutes

Difficulty: Difficult

Tip:

Some of the gingerbread pieces will bake quicker than others depending on their size; keep an eye on them and remove from the oven when ready.

Did you know?

What do Bingo® and pizza have in common? It appears each originated in Italy. Bingo is derived from the Lo Giuoco del Lotto d'Italia, which is the Italian national lottery that has been played since 1530. It is still played every Saturday in Italy. The game was later introduced to France, where it was known as Le Lotto, and Germany, where it was a child's game to help students learn key subjects. Bingo soon found itself on American soil, and originally was called "Beano." Players at country fairs would mark their numbered cards

with beans after dealers selected numbered discs from cigar boxes. When players won the game, they'd yell out "beano." A New York salesman named Edwin S. Lowe came across the game and overheard someone accidentally yell "bingo" in stead of "beano" upon winning. Lowe renamed the game and hired a Columbia University math professor to come up with a higher number of combinations for playing cards so there would be fewer non-repeating groups. Lowe ultimately marketed the redeveloped game as "Bingo."



Win-E-Mac Patriot Football held their awards Night on Monday, December 9th. Many players were recognized with Letter presentations along with other awards. Bergen Howard, Braylon Hamre, and Jayden Haugen were all presented their All-District Awards. Also, Bergen Howard received the District Defensive Player of the Year award.



We want to hear from you!

Win-E-Mac families and community members, your input is essential as we shape the future of our school's community education programs. Please take a few minutes to complete our Community Education Survey and share your thoughts, ideas, and feedback. Scan the QR code to participate or go to wemschools.org

and click on the article link.
Story to Share?
If you have a story or photos you want to share, please send to: mcintoshtimes@gmail.com



The Cardboard Sled Competition held on Saturday, December 7th as a part of A Very Merry McIntosh had young and old seeing how fast and far they could go on a homemade cardboard sled. Here, Ryan Breitbach helps get Aaron Cook going down the hill.



Mrs. Frisk's 6th grade STEM class has completed a jukebox for the 4th - 6th grade Elementary Music Program on Friday, December 13th at Win-E-Mac School. They learned how to connect copper circuits that work via battery, to light up the lights. It was a fun project that used a lot of teamwork, precision, and determination to get it done in time for the program.



Recently at Win-E-Mac School, Ms. Salmonson's 6th grade students collaborated with the preschool class to make turkey headbands and spoon turkeys during their weekly Friday time together. They also enjoyed reading picture books during their time together.