Vol. 135 Number 52

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

$1.00

McINTOSH Times

Since 1888

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota

Joyce Boulet-Jensen and Mike Jensen are the great-grandchildren of Anton and Nicoline Jensen.

McIntosh Tractor Day is this Saturday

McIntosh will hold it's Annual Tractor Day on Saturday, August 24th.

Grab those antique tractors and take a break from the fields to make your way to McIntosh for the annual McIntosh Tractor Day on Saturday, August 24th.

The tractors with the parade, will make it's way through downtown along Main Street.

The day will begin with a pancake breakfast by the McIntosh Fire Department at the Fire Hall on Main Street starting at 8:00 am and serving until 10:00 am. The breakfast will inclued pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice.

The antique tractor parade will start promptly at 11:00 am. Tractors will begin to line up at Erickson Park, on the east side of McIntosh beginning at 9:00 am.

After the parade there will be the Kiddie Tractor Pull sponsored by the Polar Beach Snowmobile Club who supplies and maintains the pedal tractor and pulling sled that are used at each years kiddie pull event. The kiddie pedal pull will again take place in front of the fire hall and registration will be set up to immediately follow the parade. There are several age/weight classes for kids ages 4 years to 12 years old, though younger kids, able to pedal are welcome to come and give it a try.

There will be a tractor pull at the old football field at 1:00 pm. Tractors must register and pay fees to participate.

There will be food vendors featuring hot dogs, hamburgers, candy, popcorn, pop and water on Main Street and the Shoppes of McIntosh will be open for visitors to browse and shop and look for special deals for the day.

Make plans to bring your family to the annual McIntosh Tractor Day this Saturday, August 27th starting at 9:00 am. See you there!

For questions about the parade or the tractor pull, please call Roy Ostenaa at 218-280-1572 or Steve Urness at 218-280-0399.

The line-up for the antique tractor parade starts at 9:00 am this Saturday in McIntosh.

Great grandchildren of McIntosh pioneer, Anton Jensen, visit McIntosh

On Saturday, August 10, two great-grandchildren of Anton and Nicoline (Hendricks) Jensen, a well-known 13-Towns pioneer and businessman, visited McIntosh.

Michael Ernest Jensen, Vancouver, WA and Joyce (Jensen) Boulet, Winnipeg, Canada, both great-grandchildren of Anton and Nicoline Jensen met at Bully Brew Coffee in McIntosh. Garnet Aanenson also accompanied them and stopped at a few of the shops in McIntosh, as well as a visit to the McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center where Toni Epema had prepared a small display of Jensen family history items. Michael also brought some documents, including a letter from Anton to his son Clarence Ernest Jensen, Michael's grandfather, a marriage certificate and a record of important family birth, marriage and death dates. Joyce brought a photo album of the Arthur and Mabel Jensen family which outlined some of the history of the Jensen family in McIntosh.

Michael's father was Ernest Ronald Jensen (1942-2016) and his grandparents were Clarence Ernest Jensen (1897-1984) and Vernessa Bakken (1906-1969). Michael (Mike) Ernest Jensen was born in 1980 in Indianapolis, IN, to Ernest Ronald Jensen and Tracey Ann Jensen (née Scott). He was raised in both Indiana and Georgia and later attended Georgia Southern University. After college, Mike pursued a 10-year career as a musician with the Christian hard rock band Showbread. Currently, he owns a small business in Vancouver, WA. Mike enjoys spending most of his time with his wife, Lindsi, originally from Alexandria, MN, and their two children, Ida (9) and Whit (5). While this was Mike's first visit to McIntosh, he said "it certainly won't be my last!"

Joyce's father was Harvey Alrick Jensen (1915-1996) and her grandfather was Arthur Colby Jensen (1887-1955), who was a brother of Clarence Ernest Jensen. Joyce grew up in the house built by her great-grandfather in McIntosh, attended school in McIntosh with the class of 1970, although she spent her senior year in San Antonio, Texas where she started studying French. After graduating from high school, she attended Concordia College in Moorhead and majored in French.

Anton and Nicoline Jensen.

She graduated from Concordia in 1974 and then moved to Canada where she taught French as a second language at St. Boniface College (now the Université de St-Boniface). She visited McIntosh on Saturday with her husband Denis Boulet. She said there have been many, many visits to McIntosh over the years, but getting together with Michael at the Heritage Center was very special. They were both very impressed with the work of the McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center.

Garnet continued the tour of McIntosh with Mike to see the Anton Jensen house that was built in 1900 just west of McIntosh, and is also where Harvey and Clara (Evenson Evenmo) Jensen lived and raised their family.

They also visited the site of where the Jensen roller mill, brick and electric plant was located until 1916. The visit continued to Jensen Ave, south of McIntosh and to St. John's Cemetery north of McIntosh and then lunch at Little Bobby's.

The McIntosh Heritage & Arts Center would like to thank Mike Jensen and Joyce and Denis Boulet-Jensen for coming to McIntosh and also to Toni Epema and Garnet Aanenson for volunteering their time and providing some additional McIntosh and Jensen family history.

There is more information about Antone Jensen not on this page we have that outlines some of his contributions to McIntosh back in the day: https://mcintoshhac.com/home/f/anton-jensen-nicoline-pernille-hendricks

Joyce Jensen-Boulet and Garnet Aanenson stop for a refresher during the tour at Bully Brew Coffee discussing the Jensen family history.

Fosston Heritage Days will be September 6th & 7th

September 6th - 7th, 2024, will mark the 29th Annual Heritage Days for the East Polk Heritage Center. The event has evolved over the years, bringing the traditions of our region to visitors through music, food, and art. The buildings on the heritage grounds capture the history of those who settled and lived here during the late 1800's. The L.W. Larson House, Moen School, Heritage Cabin and the Stardig Cabin will all be open for tours and demonstrations.

This year, festivities will begin on Friday, September 6 with a concert featuring Pier Country, a regional band featuring "Music of the Grand Ole Opry. The free concert will be held at the Aurora Center for the Arts beginning at 7:00 PM.

Activities begin Saturday the 7th at 9:00 am. until 2:00 pm at the heritage grounds on Highway 2 East in Fosston. Highlights will include rosmaling by the Norda Gonvick Rosmalers, a Krumkake demo and tasting featuring Al and Vicky Olson, Kransekake with Lynnette Bakke and Lynn Sundrud and Roz Watnemo's Hardanger exhibit in the Moen School. New this year, several regional artisans will be demonstrating traditional skills in spinning, soap making, and spoon carving throughout the Heritage grounds. The Sons of Norway will once again have its large tent filled with artifacts, photos, documents and textiles.

The ever popular Snowmen will perform on the back porch beginning at 11:30 am. Our favorite Sloppy Joe lunch $5 buck deal, will be served beginning at 11:30 am. The Fosston Farmer's Market is open from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm with an amazing array of vendors.

Thanks to grant funding, EPHC is able to offer all events at no charge, making this a great area event. All are welcome! The popular Pier Country band is sure to draw a huge crowd, so we are asking that folks RSVP at www.eastpolkheritage.org so we are assured of seating for everyone.

Morris Hendrickson's granddaughter, Lola and great grand daughter Ellie along with their friends, all from RLCC had a Lemonade stand at Oklee Market Days, donating half of their proceeds to the Poplar Meadows Resident Funds. The residents at Poplar Meadows want to say a HUGE Thank you to these sweet girls for thinking of them. Poplar Meadows Resident Funds is strictly donations and is used for activities for the residents. Thank you Girls!

"Grand Ole Opry" themed concert in Fosston

As part of its 2024 Heritage Days, The East Polk Heritage Center is sponsoring Pier Country in concert Friday, August 6th at the Aurora Center for the Arts in Fosston. The music theme for the event is "Celebrating the Music of the Grand Ole Opry". Pier Country, a Minnesota based band, was formed in 1999, the brainchild of "Curtis Wayne" Takkunen (former recent resident of Wadena).

The original vision of Curtis, was to create a showband that would simulate what a Branson theater such as the Presley's Country Jubilee might deliver, as well as Nashville's Grand Ole Opry, from years past.

Country music fans have noticed the change in what the industry calls country music today…as we now hear on Top 40 country radio. Curtis says, "Don't get me wrong, there's plenty of great music on today's radio. But the traditional core of "country" is missing". Curtis has heard many times after a "Pier Country" concert, how much the audience appreciated the songs they heard, and being brought back to life as though they might be watching the Grand Ole Opry from the 60's,70's and 80's. That goal of keeping traditional country music alive and well, has been active for 25 years according to Curtis. Pier Country is a "special concert event" type band, and has had the privilege of performing "concert style" productions throughout the state of Minnesota. The concert will feature their traditional core of standard country signature tunes. You can look forward to hearing songs by past legends such as George Jones, Merle Haggard, Glen Campbell, Buck Owens, Charley Pride, and Patsy Cline. A couple of guest surprises are also in store.

Pier Country will perform beginning at 7 PM, on Friday August 6th, at the Aurora Center for the Arts, 403 North Foss Avenue. The show will last for two hours and will include an intermission with light refreshments served.

There is no charge for this concert, but EPHC requests an RSVP on its website www.eastpolkheritage.org An event has been set up for registration, we want to make sure we have seating for everyone, so RSVP early!

A chicken dish fit for a crowd

Now that lively celebrations have found their way back onto millions of people's social schedules, party hosts and hostesses who like to cook and entertain can brighten up their recipe repertoires with dishes that are easily expanded for a crowd. Feeding a houseful of people isn't difficult when simple and tasty recipes are chosen for large gatherings.

This recipe for "Sweet and Salty Chicken" courtesy of "Throw a Great Party: Inspired by Evenings in Paris With Jim Haynes" (iUniverse) by Mary Bartlett, Antonia Hoogewerf and Catherine Monnet, is ideal for hosts. Select white or dark meat chicken depending on your preference, and enjoy the Mediterranean flavor that the capers, olives and oregano offer. Apricots or prunes provide a sweet bite that's balanced by the wine and vinegar in the recipe. This dish will fill guests up, especially when paired with rice or potatoes.

Sweet and Salty Chicken

Serves 25

2 tablespoons garlic, chopped finely
6 tablespoons dried oregano
8 ounces red wine vinegar
9 bay leaves
2 cups olive oil
8 pounds boneless chicken, cubed
4 ounces capers and their juice
8 ounces apricots or pitted prunes
4 ounces green olives, pitted
1 cup brown sugar
2 cups white wine

In a large 3-gallon bowl, combine the garlic, oregano, vinegar, bay leaves, caper juice, olive oil, and vinegar.

Add the chicken, apricots or prunes, olives, capers, and stir. Cover with plastic wrap and let marinate for 24 hours in the refrigerator.

About 2 hours before serving, divide the chicken and the marinade between 2 9x13-inch baking pans or a large roasting pan. Sprinkle 1/2 cup brown sugar over each pan, followed by 1 cup of the white wine over each pan.

Bake in a moderately hot oven (350 F) for 1 hour. Serve with rice or parsley potatoes.

Did you know?

Interest in career and technical education (CTE) programs continues to grow as students look for alternatives to the high tuition costs and rising student loan debt associated with four-year degree programs.

CTE certifications and degrees typically do not cost as much as four-year degrees, but still provide students with a valuable education in fields that are in high demand. In fact, certain trades are among the highest-paid occupations. According to the United States Bureau of Labor

Statistics, here is the average salary expected and grow rate of these five high-paying trade jobs expected from 2022 to 2032.

1. Ultrasonographer: $131,161 per year; 10 percent job growth rate
2. Respiratory therapist: $104,437 per year; 13 percent job growth rate
3. Dental hygienist: $99,013 per year; 7 percent job growth rate
4. Construction manager: $88,319 per year; 5 percent job growth rate
5. Aircraft mechanic: $82,476 per year; 4 percent job growth rate

The Gosen Luther League meets on Sunday evening, August 25th, at 7:00 pm. The Rusty Chords will be in concert singing mainly traditional old Gospel hymns and newer traditional type of Gospel songs but they sing in a Southern Gospel style full of reverence but with joy. Join us for an inspirational evening in honor of our Lord Jesus Christ. Refreshments will be served following the program. 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 791-0797 or 280-0821.

Morris Hendrickson's granddaughter, Lola and great grand daughter Ellie and friends with their lemonade stand at Oklee Market Day. The girls donated the proceeds of their sales to the Poplar Meadow Senior Living resident fund.

In the matter of the petition by Clarence & Dianne Gagner, for the use of joint County Ditch 3, as an outlet for drainage of lands, located in the N1/2NW1/4 Section 35 North Equality Township. This area consists of approximately 80 acres. This would outlet into Joint County Ditch 3, as tile drainage, with the use of a pump.

Notice is Hereby given, that a petition has been filed in the office of the County Auditor, of Red Lake County, for consideration to outlet water, from the N1/2NW1/4 Section 35 North Equality Township, into Joint County Ditch 3.

Benefitted Red Lake County Property Owners of said ditch are as follows to, Wit:

Alex, Kelly & Kevin Brekke	Alex Brekke ETAL	Dylan & Casey Brekke	Troy Brekket ETAL
Richard Clark ETAL	Arlan & Cheryl Fore	Larry Fossum	Gerald Howard
Clarence & Dianne Gagner	Elaine Green	Gunvalson Farms LLLP	Robert Howard
Benjamin & Kelsey Gunvalson	Jeremiah Johnson	Wade Parsley	Cleta Ralph
Julie Runnfelt Jacobson	Charlie Johnson Jr.	Ronald Stonehouse	MNDOT
James & Barbara Laniel Trust	Nathan Magnell ETAL	Christopher Walker	James & Lori Reinbold
Todd Mattison & Jodi Kuznia	David & Brenda Odegaard	Frank Warzecha Trust	Ryan Nelson
DNR Div. of Land & Minerals	Orlean & Virginia Stonehouse	Luke & Mary Swenson	Stenberg Brothers, INC.
Swede's Paradise Farms, INC.	Gregory & Deborah Whalen		

Benefitted Polk County Property Owners of said ditch are as follows to, Wit:

Gerald & Annette Nelson	Robert & Dianne Solheim	Russel & Sheila Emerson	Randall & Nancy Magnell
Luane & Sandra Tasa	John & Cheryl Gunvalson LLP	Gunvalson Brothers LLP	Steven & Jennie Svendsen
Gerald Tasa	Bradley & Clifton Johnsrud	Dean & Naomi Hanson	

Lands that are affected include the following sections or parts of these sections, to Wit:

Sections: 32,33,34,35,36	North Equality Township, Red Lake County
Sections: 1,2,3,4,5,9,10,11,12,13	Equality Township, Red Lake County
Sections: 5,6,7,8,17,18	Johnson Township, Polk County

Hearing on said Petition will be held Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 9:00 am, ending at 9:30 am. The location will be the commissioners room in the Red Lake County Courthouse, Red Lake Falls, MN.

The meeting will be a hybrid meeting with a virtual option: **Microsoft Teams.**
Join the meeting now: Meeting ID: 251 956 823 654 Passcode: 4vhgRA
Send an email request to kacenv@co.red-lake.mn.us if you would like a link emailed to you instead of ID & Passcode.
Kelsey Gervais
Red Lake County Auditor
Date: 8/6/2024

M22-24C

Resurfacing projects begin on various highways in NW MN

Motorists will see short-term lane closures, delays and flagger operations.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation announced today a resurfacing project beginning on August 19. Construction crews will resurface five locations in northwest Minnesota:

- Highway 11 in Karlstad.
- Highway 59 from Karlstad to Lake Bronson.
- Highway 71 from Highway 200 to Hubbard CR 4 in Lake George.
- Highway 172 from Highway 11 in Baudette to Wheeler's Point.
- Highway 175 from North Dakota border to Highway 75.

The contractor for the $2.4 million dollar project is Morris Seal Coat. The project will be completed under traffic, and flaggers will guide motorists through the single-lane construction zone. It is expected to be complete by late August, and will create a smoother, safer driving surface.

Important reminders for motorists regarding work zone safety:

- Slow down when approaching every work zone, then navigate through with care and caution.
- Stay alert; work zones constantly change.
- Watch for workers and slow-moving equipment.
- Obey posted speed limits. Fine for a violation in a work zone is $300.
- Minimize distractions behind the wheel.
- Be patient; expect delays, especially during peak travel times.

Please join the MnDOT District 2 Facebook group for updates on construction, road conditions and other transportation related topics. www.facebook.com/groups/mndotnorthwest/. For a complete list of projects for 2024, please visit www.mndot.gov/d2. For real-time traffic and travel information in Minnesota, visit www.511mn.org or get the free smartphone app at Google Play or the App Store.

Ad deadline: Noon Friday

FNB of McIntosh holds school supply drive

Join First National Bank of McIntosh now through August 30th in collecting school supplies for the upcoming school year for those in need. Donations can be dropped off any time during business hours. Ideas for school supply lists can be found at https://wem-schools.org/elem/.

FNB thanks you for your donations and look forward to helping our students thrive and succeed!

Wed. Aug. 21: Lacey Roed
Thurs. Aug. 22: Cody Krossen, Grant Enger, Emmett Rock
Fri. Aug. 23: *David & Wanda Stordahl
Sun, Aug. 25: Jason Breckel, Mike Breckel, Mara Halland
Mon. Aug. 26: Shirley Delage, Silas Schow, *Jarrid & Alicia Graff, *Mark & Hannah Sylstad, *Jason & Holly Breckel
Tues. Aug. 27: Peyton Schow, *John & Tara Burthwick

Please contact the McIntosh Times if you move or have a change in your address so we can keep the paper coming to your home on time.

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.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

Wed. Aug. 21: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Fri. Aug. 23: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. August 25: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Wed. Aug. 28: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Fri. Aug. 30: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. Sept. 1 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

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

Sun. August 25: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services
Sun, Sept. 1: 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, August 25: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com); 7:00pm Luther League Concert with The Rusty Chords (see article elsewhere in the paper)
Tues, August 27: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30
Wed, August 28: 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. August 25: 9:00am Worship
Sun. Sept. 1: 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

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
TWIN VALLEY * MAHNOMEN * WINGER
719 N. Main, Mahnomen, MN
644 Main St., Winger, MN
*Paige 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.

M3-28C

THE WINGER ENTERPRISE

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

The County Line

By Warren Strandell
Polk County Commissioner, Dist. 2

I recently passed on to an old classmate a copy of a news column that had come to me. It was unwanted like so very many items that are being circulated on the Internet, but I passed it on anyway. The subject was about the campaign for the presidency and how personal mudslinging from both sides has become the focus of almost every opportunity to be quoted in the news or spewed out in campaign appearances and mailed material.

Here's some of what my old high school friend had to say in an e-mail back to me:

It seems like they "are making their whole campaign about tearing down other people and degrading them, knocking suggested solutions and not offering solutions of their own, and repeating everything over and over, not to mention continuously making up stories and spouting proven lies and conspiracies.

"I keep looking for something positive, anything, but just can't seem to find it. Everything is constantly negative in context and has become sooooo tiring. In the days of Eisenhower, Reagan and others, the campaigns were so full of a positive outlook and a positive future, and not about personalities and name calling."

He continued: "Let's (instead) talk about the issues and protecting our democracy, not who can run down each other's character the most."

My friend said it right. Our presidential candidates need tell us about how electing them can make things better… because we certainly have many issues that need attention, that need to become better. Those issues include the economy, uncontrolled immigration, the support programs for illegal immigrants (most, if not all of which seem to have no end), the energy system, global warming, military strength, drugs and crime, world affairs, the wars in Ukraine and Israel, our homeless veterans, the $35 trillion (and running) national debt, the country's infrastructure, college debt forgiveness, COVID, and so many more.

I find very little mention made in news reports to those issues… the ones that really count. It is in instead the character assassinations that keep going on and on.

I would hope that the presidential candidates would somehow get the point that we want some positives and that they would come to realize the millions of votes that would result. Just tell us — me and my old classmate — somethings that they would do to help get us on the right track. We, like many voters, come from the old school, give us a reason to vote for you, something positive.

If abortion wasn't listed by me as a campaign issue, it is because I don't regard that as being in the area of government concern… either for or against. My opinion? I defer that question to God. Ask him.

I long for a return to the days of old, like when President John F. Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Much of the country has turned 180 degrees away from that directive. I think it's time to reverse the direction, but don't see much chance of that happening any time soon.

Other sporadic thoughts:

• When pulling the mail out of the box each day, I make a quick assessment as to the difference between those pieces that are asking for money and those that aren't. Without any firm documentation, I think it is at least 80 percent and probably closer to 90 percent that want money including those of political interest. One day 10 of the 11 letters were money requests. Many, if not all of them are good causes, really good causes — and I do give to many of them — but certainly not to all and not all the time. One positive in this is that they help to finance the Postal Service.

• A nice part of summertime here in our part of the world is the number of good community events that are held… like the fairs in Polk, Marshall, Norman and Pennington counties, Heritage Days in East Grand Forks, Ox Cart Days in Crookston, the Lions Club Corn Feed in Alvarado, and all the other events that don't come to mind at this moment. These great events require a lot of donated time and effort to organize and conduct them. Support them if you can. They are a lot of what makes our part of the country a great place to call home.

Thoughts for the day:

• Just once, I want the prompt for username and password to say, "Close enough." — No idea who to credit for this one

• I hate it when I can't figure out how to operate the IPad and my tech support guy is asleep. He's 5 and it's past his bedtime. — No idea who to credit for this one either

Disclaimer: Thoughts expressed in this column are those of the author and are not necessarily a reflection of the opinions of the other members of the Polk County Board.

Rydell NWR late summer/early fall update

With the tail end of summer upon us, and fall right around the corner, there's still a lot going on for the public at Rydell National Wildlife Refuge in Erskine, MN. The Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuges Association just set up the first ever Rydell Refuge Story Stroll on Golden Pond Trail.

The Story Stroll offers a new way to spend time outside and engage with Rydell Refuge, while growing an appreciation for nature and reading. Bring out your kids to walk Golden Pond Trail and read "Mother Bruce" – a funny story of a grumpy bear named Bruce, who gets stuck with four goslings that think he's their mother! The Story Stroll will be up through September 13th.

There are just a couple months left to take advantage of some good bluegill and largemouth bass fishing on the west end of Tamarac Lake. This is the only area open to fishing on Rydell Refuge, and it closes for the year on November 1. Hike or bike to the fishing area from the North Parking Lot and enjoy a peaceful fishing experience on one of our accessible piers.

Also, several hunting seasons start on both Rydell and Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuges in early September. On portions of both refuges, mourning dove hunting opens on September 1. On parts of Glacial Ridge Refuge only, early goose, early teal, rail, and snipe hunting seasons also open on September 1. The early youth duck hunt is open on portions of both refuges on September 7 and 8. On September 14, portions of both refuges open for archery deer and various small game seasons. Non toxic shot is required for all shotgun hunting on both refuges, and other special regulations apply. Review refuge-specific hunting regulations before hunting on Rydell or Glacial Ridge refuges.

The 29th Annual Accessible Deer Hunt will happen at Rydell this fall on October 10-12. This hunt is limited to 20 hunters and is intended to provide a special hunting opportunity for persons with disabilities. If you are interested in participating in this amazing hunt, call Randy Sorensen (Options Interstate Resource Center for Independent Living) at 218-779-740, prior to mid-September. Due to an unfortunate lack of interest, Rydell Refuge will not be hosting a special mentored youth deer hunt this fall; however, we encourage interested youth to try hunting on the more than 17,000 acres open on Glacial Ridge Refuge for the four-day youth deer hunt from October 17-20.

Last but not least, the Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuges Association will host the 3rd Annual Walk for the Wild Event on Rydell Refuge on Sunday, October 13. This free 5k and fundraising event will include a designated 5k route made up of three different paved, yet scenic trails. There will be an option of a guided trail walk, as well as the option to go on your own. All 5k finishers will receive an official Walk for the Wild Finisher sticker.

Additional activities will be going on at the Refuge that day, as part of this popular event. All donations received will benefit interpretive and educational programs at the Refuge, along with continued outdoor accessibility for all. Call the Refuge for more information on this event.

Beginning August 19th and until the spring of 2025, Visitor Center and Nature Store hours will be limited. Please call the Refuge if you have an interest in use of the Visitor Center or want to check out the Nature Store.

For more information on any of the above activities, call the Refuge at 218-687-2229 or check out our websites at fws.gov/refuge/rydell and fws.gov/refuge/glacial-ridge.

Emergency closure of early teal hunt on Area C Hunt Unit at Tamarac NWR

We at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognize that relationships, knowledge-sharing and co-stewardship with federally recognized Tribes are essential to our mission. With that in mind, Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge is issuing an emergency closure of the northern migratory bird hunt unit north of Becker County Highway 143, Area C, during the Minnesota experimental early teal season to protect the wild rice resources of the area. This area will be posted with hunt closure signs at parking lots and gates ahead of the season opener which begins on September 1, 2024.

The early teal season will remain open on the southern hunt unit, Area D, for waterfowl hunters who wish to pursue teal hunting September 1 through 5, 2024, consistent with state of Minnesota hunting regulations. Please note that Area C will remain open to regular waterfowl hunt seasons that open September 21, 2024.

The emergency closure to protect wild rice resources is consistent with the White Earth Nation closure of early teal season on rice-bearing waters found on reservation lands during wild rice gathering season. Members of the White Earth Nation have the right to gather wild rice on refuge waters and Area C is within the White Earth Nation Reservation boundaries. The refuge is working in partnership with the White Earth Nation to manage natural resources on refuge lands and waters. For more information, please contact Refuge Manager Kent Sundseth via email at kent_sundseth@fws.gov or by phone at 218-308-7589.

USDA invests $26.8 million in clean energy to strengthen MN

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development State Director Colleen Landkamer announced that USDA is funding 86 projects throughout Minnesota to expand access to clean energy systems and increase the availability of domestic biofuels that will create new market opportunities and jobs. The projects will increase American energy security and advance President Biden's Investing in America agenda to grow the nation's economy from the middle out and bottom up.

USDA is providing $26.8 million to Minnesota through the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP) and the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) with funding from the Inflation Reduction Act, the nation's largest-ever investment in combatting the climate crisis. To date, USDA has invested more than $600 million from the Inflation Reduction Act for more than 4,500 clean energy projects through REAP, and more than $180 million in more than 200 projects that increase availability of domestic biofuels across the country.

"By expanding access to homegrown biofuels and clean energy systems, we are strengthening our energy independence, addressing the impacts of climate change and creating new market opportunities and revenue streams while bringing good-paying jobs to rural Minnesota," State Director Landkamer said.

Today's announcement came alongside Secretary Vilsack's visit to Minnesota, which included an Investing in the American Bioeconomy discussion at the University of Minnesota and a visit to The Corner Store in Inver Grove Heights, which is receiving a $518,250 HBIIP grant to create infrastructure to expand the sales and use of renewable fuels. This project will install four E15 dispensers, four E85 dispensers, and two ethanol storage tanks at this fueling station. This project will increase the amount of ethanol sold by 506,100 gallons per year.

USDA is awarding $9.2 million in REAP grants to 71 projects across Minnesota. This program helps farmers and small business owners expand their use of wind, solar and other forms of clean energy and make energy efficiency improvements. For example:

In Longville, Raveling Outdoors, LLC will use a $59,475 REAP grant to install a 45-kilowatt solar array for the company's boat construction business. This project is expected to save the business nearly $9,000 in electrical costs per year and replace 52,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

In Waltham, Moe Family Farm LLC will use a $10,812 REAP grant to install an energy efficient shop heater. This project is expected to save the business $1,000 in electrical costs per year and replace 37,300 kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

In Clark Grove, Harmony Park Inc. will use a $20,000 REAP grant to to install a 39-kilowatt solar array for their campground. This project is expected to save the business $5,700 in electrical costs per year and replace 52,300 kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

As part of today's announcement, USDA is also awarding $17.5 million in HBIIP grants to 15 projects in Minnesota. These investments will help business owners install and upgrade infrastructure such as fuel pumps, dispensers and storage tanks. They will also spur economic growth in rural communities by increasing competition in agricultural markets and lowering costs through clean energy projects.

For example:

Johnson Oil Co. of Hallock Inc. will use a $1.1 million grant to install six E15 dispensers, five B20 dispensers, three ethanol storage tanks, and three biodiesel storage tanks at two fueling stations in Hallock and one fueling station in Argyle. This project is estimated to increase the amount of biofuel sold by 637,785 gallons per year.

Tri-County Co-Op Oil Association will use a $1.04 million grant to install four E85 dispensers, four B20 dispensers, one ethanol storage tank, and two biodiesel storage tanks at one fueling station in Chokio and one fueling station in Wheaton. This project is expected to increase the amount of biofuel sold by 184,615 gallons per year.

USDA continues to accept HBIIP applications until Sept. 30, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. ET. For more information, go to the HBIIP webpage.

Today's announcement includes $99.6 million in HBIIP and REAP investments in California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, Tribal and high-poverty areas. Visit the Rural Data Gateway to learn how and where these investments are impacting rural America. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.

MDA State Fair exhibit features farming, fun, and freebies

Minnesota State Fair runs Thursday, August 22 through Labor Day, September 2

St. Paul, MN: Fairgoers of all ages will connect agriculture to their daily lives with educational, engaging, and fun hands-on activities and games at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) 2024 State Fair exhibit.

A kid-oriented activity, sponsored by Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom, is scheduled daily from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. all 12 days of the fair. Children can make a seed bomb matrix at the booth, then take it home and plant it in their own yard or garden and see it grow!

In addition, the MDA's Emerging Farmers Office will be providing resources that aim to help beginning and emerging farmers across the state in underrepresented farming communities. The office will supply information on land access, grants and resources, and language accessibility.

Farmer-members of the Minnesota Grown local foods promotion program will also be on hand to answer questions about their food production and farm operations, give out copies of the Minnesota Grown Directory of local farms and farmers markets, and to handout temporary tattoos, as well as Swedish dishcloths.

Furthermore, fairgoers can find out more about Minnesota's invasive pests and noxious weeds, from spongy moth to emerald ash borer. The booth will provide an educational experience through a themed prize wheel with various questions regarding invasive species topics. Information on managing noxious weeds and steps to protect our environment from pests are also available.

The MDA State Fair exhibit is in the North Hall of the Agriculture/Horticulture Building at the northeast corner of Underwood Street and Judson Avenue on the fairgrounds. The Minnesota State Fair runs Thursday, August 22 through Labor Day, September 2. Exhibits are open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Join the Strategic Farming: Field Notes season wrap-up Aug. 21st

By Liz Stahl, Extension Educator – Crops and Phyllis Bongard, Content development and communications specialist

The 2024 cropping season has thrown us a few curve balls. Join the U of MN Extension Strategic Farming: Field Notes session on "Takeaways from the cropping season and looking to harvest", August 21, from 8 to 8:30 am. Dr. Jeff Coulter, Extension corn agronomist, and Dr. Seth Neave, Extension soybean agronomist, will join moderator Dave Nicolai, Extension educator in crops, for a review of the season, evaluation of where we are at, and a discussion on what we should prepare for as the 2024 harvest season draws near.

Participants will have the opportunity to have their questions addressed live during the program.

For more details and to register, go to https://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming.

There is no charge to participate, thanks to generous sponsorship from the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council and the Minnesota Corn Research and Promotion Council. Note if you have attended any Strategic Farming: Field Notes sessions in 2024, you do not need to register again to join live.

If you missed any Strategic Farming: Field Notes sessions this season, no problem! Podcast recordings are available at: https://strategicfarming.transistor.fm/.

All webinar recordings of the Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops program from earlier this year are also available at https://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming.

We hope you will take this opportunity to join U of MN Extension for our wrap-up of another great, informative, and useful Strategic Farming: Field Notes season!

For more news from U of M Extension, visit www.extension.umn.edu/news or contact Extension Communications at extnews@umn.edu.

Do you have a story to share?

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

Woodlands for pollinators

Did you know diverse woodlands provide wonderful habitats for native pollinators? We're shedding some light on the overlooked giants of pollinator habitat and how woodlands can be managed with pollinators in mind.

Minnesota has over 500 species of native bees and thousands of pollinators including bees, moths, butterflies, ants, beetles, flies and birds. This diverse group needs many different types of plants to live and thrive.

Prairies are often thought of as pollinator havens, but woodlands with their downed wood, standing dead trees, huge leaf canopies and diversity of herbaceous plants and trees also provide important habitat for many life stages of Minnesota's pollinators.

Pollinator facts

▪ Native pollinators support plants that help build soils, filter water, and sequester carbon.

▪ 85% of the world's flowering plants and two-thirds of food crops require pollinators.

▪ Some species of flies can look like bees. You can tell them apart by counting their wings: bees have 2 sets of wings while flies have only 1 set.

▪ 25% of all birds need food produced from plants that need pollinators.

▪ All flowers need pollination to produce fruit but some are wind-pollinated; however, even wind-pollinated plants are often used by pollinators for food and shelter, even though they are not required for pollination.

▪ Honey bees are non-native and most are managed like livestock to produce honey and pollinate crops. They are often regulated like chickens in Minnesota ordinances.

▪ Some plants rely on native pollinators' buzzing to shake the flower and release pollen.

▪ Native pollinators including mason and bumble bees are important fruit crop pollinators.

While developing our climate-ready woodlands information we researched how each tree and plant species on those lists benefits wildlife, including pollinators.

Early blooming trees and spring ephemerals can be critical as early spring food sources for many emerging pollinators. Insects will seek out the spring blooms of maples, hawthorns, dogwoods, cherries, willows, serviceberry, and eastern redbud. Insects pollinate spring ephemerals including trout lily, trillium, Dutchman's breeches, violets, wild geranium, and wild ginger among many others.

We also researched tree and plant benefits for beetles, ants and flies. We know that beetles pollinate pipsissewa, Canadian mayflower and bluebead lily;

ants pollinate common marsh marigold, leatherleaf and chokecherry; and flies (which often mimic bees) pollinate bog rosemary, wood anemone, skunk cabbage and creeping snowberry just to name a few of the many, many plants that benefit our diverse pollinators.

Just as trees and plants provide for pollinators, pollinators are good food sources for other woodland wildlife including birds, amphibians, mammals and other insects.

Woodland management for pollinators

Forests meet the full habitat requirements for many pollinators throughout their life stages, from eggs, caterpillars and grubs, to mature butterflies, moths, beetles and ants. Pollinators benefit from woodlands that have some open canopy, which provides more light to sun and fly in, and allows for more herbaceous flowering plants to thrive.

Pollinators also benefit from wood and brush piles as well as snags (standing dead trees) that create habitat for woodboring beetles whose tunnels are used by cavity-nesting bees. Some pollinators will also nest in burrows created under brush piles by small mammals.

Because diverse woodlands are home to many species of trees and plants, plants will flower at different times, supplying a continuous source of nectar and pollen. Woody plants support 10 times more butterflies and moths than herbaceous plants. For example, Lepidoptera (winged insects that include butterflies and moths) use native woody plants for shelter, pupation and feeding.

There are many things woodland stewards can do to enhance pollinator habitat across the forest. A few important ones are preventing forest fragmentation, reducing troublesome deer herbivory, minimizing pesticide use, and avoiding over-harvesting of wild plants.

Good woodland stewardship, including invasive plant removal, thoughtful timber harvesting, and corridor management are also important.

Woodland edges

Many woodland owners or stewards have woodland edges throughout the property. Creating a gradual transition between habitat types, called feathering, can enhance bumblebee and butterfly abundance. Many folks also find feathered edges more aesthetically appealing and natural-looking than straight edges.

Timber harvesting

Timber harvests are often essential management tools for resilient woods. Creating small canopy gaps can increase herbaceous plant flowering and allow butterflies to sun themselves.

Timber harvesting is also a good time to improve the climate resilience of the forest by diversifying tree and plant species. Species diversity is critical for optimal pollinator habitat.

Log landings are areas where logs are piled before hauling off-site during a timber harvest. These woodland openings are often reseeded after logging is complete and some will have residual wood. To manage these areas for pollinators, reseed with native perennial wildflowers and allow loose bare ground to persist along the edges, as this can be valuable for ground nesting and mason bees. The wood piles can be used as habitat for overwintering pollinators, reptiles and amphibians.

Corridor management

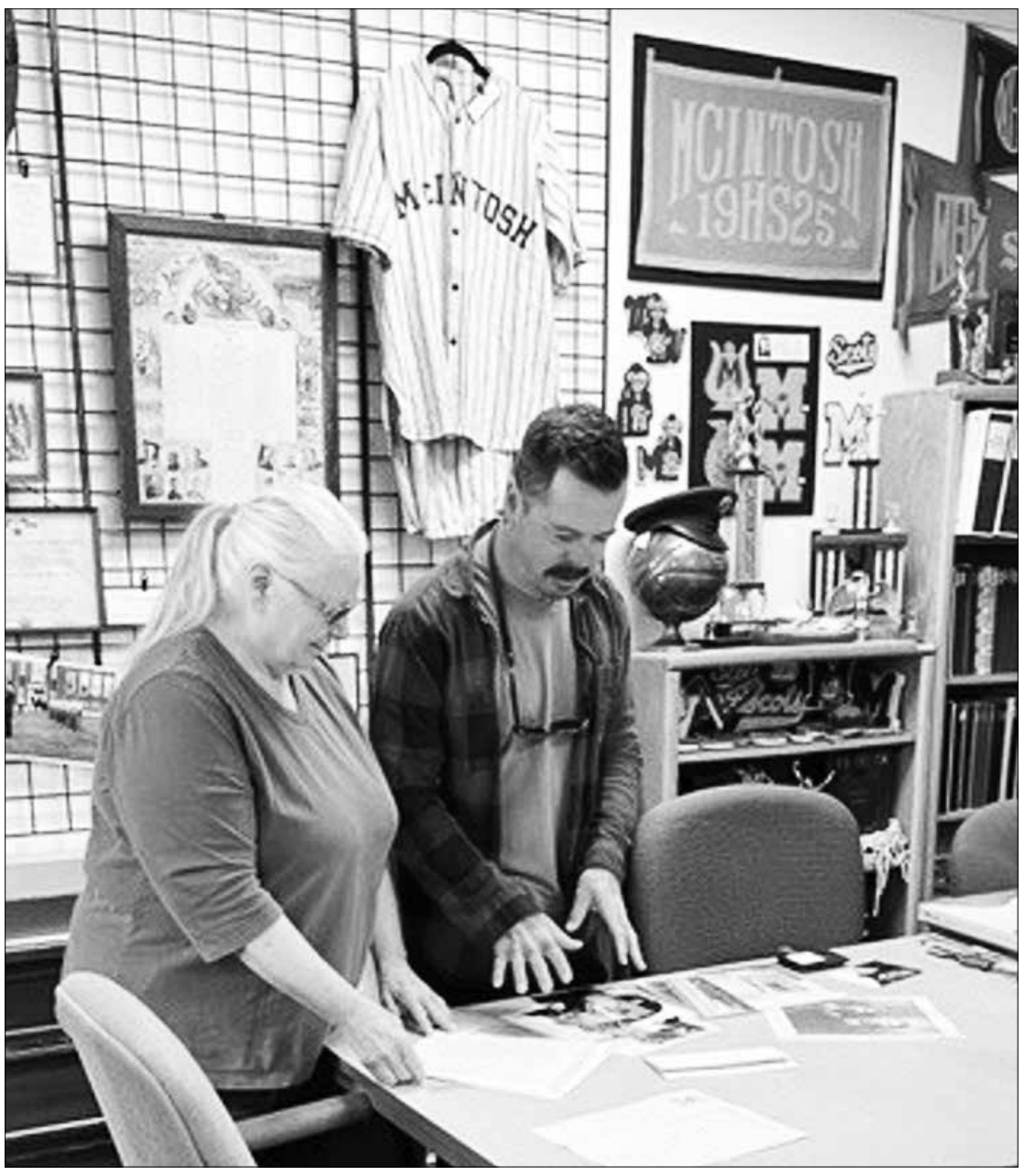
Managed trails and roads that run through the woods can enhance pollinator habitat. If the corridor is wide enough for sun to enhance flowering herbaceous plants, they can provide nectar and pollen later in the season. If the corridors or road edges are shaded they may harbor spring ephemerals that are critical for early-season pollinators.

It may be helpful to think of mowing as a vegetation management tool to be deployed with care. For some plants, waiting until after they've flowered may be preferable. (For invasives, it's important to make sure the mower does not spread propagating parts or seeds, though sadly this is common with wild parsnip.) Rough or high mowing can leave behind herbaceous stems that pollinators use for overwintering or nesting habitat.

Mowing information from the DNR offers this advice: "Roadsides that have not been mowed for three years have up to three times as many [bird] nests per acre as those mowed annually. Mowing every three years is sufficient to control brush. Mow grass high to leave cover over winter." The DNR also recommends spot mowing or spraying for weed control.

Benefits for wildlife from bees to bears

The improvements you make to your woodland benefit more than just pollinators. Forests are incredibly valuable for many large wildlife including deer, turkey, bear, moose, elk, wolves, bobcats and more.



Toni Epema, Collection Manager at MH&AC and Mike Jensen look over historical Jensen pictures and papers at MH&AC. Some of the items were a letter from Anton to his son Ernest dated March 16, 1914, and also a marriage certificate from 1925 of Mike's grandparents Ernest and Vernessa Bakken.

Mike Jensen standing by the Jensen Ave street sign in McIntosh on his recent visit to learn more of his family history.

How to make a home more cozy

The meaning of the term "cozy" varies as it pertains to home decor. For some, cozy may mean intimate spaces with lots of quilts and throws. For others, cozy could indicate bright and airy spaces enhanced by plenty of fresh foliage.

Regardless of how they define cozy, homeowners typically want their homes to be inviting and comfortable. With that in mind, the following are some ways to impart a cozy vibe to any living space.

· **Make use of a fireplace.** Flames lapping wood (or faux wood in the event of gas-powered fireplaces) can put anyone in a tranquil state of mind. Fireplaces add instant ambiance and make great places for people to congregate and engage in conversation. During warmer months when the fire isn't blazing, decorative candles can be lit to mimic the same feel.

· **Add texture in the design.** Texture can be anything from a raised pattern on wallpaper to a knotty area rug to a mosaic piece of artwork. A home with texture tends to create cozier impressions than one with all sleek and smooth surfaces.

· **Enjoy a soft rug.** Although many design experts say hardwood floors or laminate options are easier for allergies and keeping a home clean, a soft rug underfoot can be welcoming. Rather than wall-to-wall carpeting, place area rugs in spots that can use some cozying up, such as beneath beds and even under the dining table.

· **Light candles.** The warm, flickering light of candles adds cozy vibes in spades. According to The Spruce and Paula Boston, a visual merchandiser for Festive Lights, candles can be used throughout a home to create instant atmosphere. Exercise caution with candles and fully extinguish them before retiring for the evening.

· **Update bedding for the season.** Crisp and light cotton and linen are cozy materials when the weather is warm. But when the temperature starts to dip, flannel or jersey bedding makes a bed that much more inviting, says Real Simple.

· **Invest in lots of pillows.** Pillows can instantly make a spot more cozy, whether it's the living room sofa or an outdoor lounging nook. Look for materials that are durable for the space in which they're being used.

· **Think about warm lighting.** The transition from incandescent light bulbs to halogen and LED is beneficial from an environmental standpoint. However, LEDs illuminate with a more stark, blue light that can seem clinical in home spaces. Look for bulbs where the "temperature" can be customized. The more the color spectrum leans toward warm light, the more cozy a space will feel. This can be enhanced by putting some lights on dimmer switches, and toning down the brightness as needed.

· **Install a bookshelf.** Even for those who are strict devotees of e-readers, a shelf full of actual books interspersed with some well-placed knick-knacks can make a room feel more cozy. Books add texture, the feel of hallowed halls and libraries, and visual appeal.

Making a home more cozy doesn't have to be complicated. A few easy modifications can improve interior spaces.

WEM School Announcements

Attention Win-E-Mac Football Players: Practice will begin for all 9-12 grade players on Monday August 12th.

Practice for 7-8 grade players will begin on Monday August 19th with equipment handout and practice the next day.

Practice for 5-6 grade players is TBD. Look for more information to come out shortly.

For more detailed practice schedules, please refer to the team and school social media sites. If you have questions please contact the following coaches -

9-12: Aaron Cook acook@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us

JH: Jason Svlaen jsvalen@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us

Elementary: Nate Johnson njohnson@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us

Win-E-Mac Junior High football summer schedule:

August 20
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM (gear, practice to follow)
August 21
9 AM to 11 AM
August 22
9 AM to 11 AM
August 23
9 AM to 11 AM
August 26
9 AM to 11 AM
August 27
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM
August 28
9 AM to 11 AM
August 29
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM
August 30
9 AM to 11 AM
September 3
430 game Newfolden

WEM Families: We have completed classroom assignments for our K-6th grade students and your child's placement is in the mail. If you would like to see who your student's teacher is immediately you can look on ParentVUE.

This is a difficult process and together our staff used the knowledge we have of each individual student and their needs. We have an amazing teaching staff. Your child will be placed in a classroom that will be held to high expectations where student safety and learning is our top priority.

For a smooth transition into the new school year we will not be moving students at this time. Our teachers have started preparing for their in coming classes and late classroom movement was an early concern for our teachers.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Also, WEM Open House will be on Wednesday, August 28th from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Piano lessons this fall at Win-E-Mac. Shannon Svalen and Andrew Hanson are teaching piano lessons again starting in the fall of 2024. If you are interested, please visit the school website at www.wemschools.org to find and fill out the form there. Andrew and Shannon will work out between them who will have which students, but generally, Shannon will have the younger students, and Andrew will have the older ones. Please note that filling out our form doesn't necessarily guarantee you a spot; you may be put on a waiting list if all of our time slots are full. Thanks for your understanding.

Fifth grade band will be starting Fall 2024! Interested fifth graders should sign up with Mrs. Shultz by August 23rd through mail, email or through the band website. All band information will be mailed home to all fifth grade families.

Please email Mrs. Shultz or contact the school to request another copy in needed. If you are interested in learning more about specific instruments, check of the band website. You can even submit a band interest form online. (Under the Elementary Band tab, click on the yellow Band Interest Form button.)

Any sixth graders who missed sign-up for band last year but would like to join this year are encouraged to fill out the online form and/or contact Mrs. Shultz.

Win-E-Mac will be doing the Sole Tree again this year. This program matches kids in need of tennis shoes for the school year with donations from our communities.

All shoe donations will be due by Monday August 26th. When you bring your shoes in please make sure you mark them with the number you signed up for. If you have any questions please contact Cassie Subbert.