

THE CALL



The Great Debate:

It's 2020. When are you putting up your tree?

Locals find creative ways to use 'Christmas' trees to lift their spirits.

We wondered, so we asked, "When are you putting up your tree this year?" It's 2020 after all, and anything is fair game. Your answers made us realize how much joy our trees bring. While Thanksgiving weekend is a perennial favorite, many of you are changing things up this year. We also learned quite a few daughters are just like their mothers. ;)

Doris from Little Pine starts with a Thanksgiving tree each year, then redecorates it for Christmas after Thanksgiving.

Emily & Peggy, daughter & mom, both keep their trees up long after Christmas. They just remove the Christmas ornaments in January, and replace them with snowflakes, winter decor and keep the cozy warm lights.

Megan R-A feelings compelled to decorate now and feel the holiday cheer for as long as possible this year. But she did admit receiving some pushback; her house is split 50/50 on this issue! Jennifer B is in that same pickle.

Stephanie and Christine, another daughter & mom duo, each had the lights on their tree by the first half of the Vikings/Packers game. Good luck omen!

Miley convinced her parents they needed their tree up on Halloween night. Ashley R also got hers up by Halloween. That early snowfall was inspiring!

Diana, a PHS alum won't put hers up until after Thanksgiving. She prefers a real tree and wants to keep it fresh. But this year Diana has more time so she's planning more decorating and cookie baking.

Sandra W's tree brings her joy, so she gets it ready in November. When she gets home after Thanksgiving, it's ready to enjoy. Abby feels the same joy, so she also gets her tree up early and ready for her return after Thanksgiving.

Jeana N & Michelle M both have carols playing in the background while they decorate. Kelly C believes in one holiday at a time. Britta H will put it up as soon as her husband agrees. Tracy B said hers is going up early this year because she 1) has time, 2) feels the need for an extra long season this year, 3) it's

DEER HUNTING TRIVIA

- 70% of Minnesota's firearms deer harvest typically occurs during the first 3 or 4 days of the season...
- But the average hunter spends 5 days afield during MN's firearms deer season. ☺ Think they're having fun out there?
- Last year, 32% of Minnesota firearm hunters successfully harvested a deer.
- There are nearly 500,000 firearms deer hunters in Minnesota.
- Adult female white-tailed deer weigh about 145 lbs., and males weigh about 170 lbs.
- The biggest white-tailed deer recorded in Minnesota was a 500 lb buck. Wow!
- A whitetail's home range is only about 1 square mile.
- Minnesota holds three primary types of deer hunting seasons, each with differing dates. The seasons are bow & arrow, firearms, & muzzleloader.

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."
-President Teddy Roosevelt, avid sportsman and conservationist who created five national parks during his presidency.

a bumper year & we need more Christmas!

Paul G's neighbors just put up their tree because they felt they needed two months of Christmas spirit this year.

The snow put Becky M in the mood and she's already got her lights and outdoor pots done. If she doesn't host Thanksgiving, she'll have her tree up by mid-November.

Carmen H has 3 trees: a kitchen tree, family room tree, and bedroom tree. She's putting all of them up early too!

But it's Laurie H who is our definitive tree decorating expert. She leaves 3 trees up all year, and decorates MANY more for Christmas. As she adds trees, Laurie

Prairie Wind Middle School Life Lessons: Help others, be kind, be a good person

PWMS Students hear the phrase, "Who we are, what we're about" on a daily basis. At Prairie Wind, staff are focusing on the core to what they feel is important in school *and in life* by demonstrating **3 simple things** well everyday: **help others, be kind, be a good person.**

A positive atmosphere at school (and home) has a major impact on increasing student achievement, improving students' attitude toward school, increasing attendance, and improving relationships. So the next time you talk to a PWMS student about what they did at school today, ask them how well they 'lived' the 3 simple things. We're hoping their life lessons spill over and teach the rest of us those lessons too!

The students listed below were recipients of **Prairie Wind's quarterly Outstanding Yellowjacket Award.** This award is given to students who exhibit the 3 things that define who we are and what we are about at PWMS, along with showing an excellent work ethic and improvement in the classroom. Students are given a certificate and a sign displayed in their yard as a showcase. Quarter 1 recipients are:

Grade 5: Grace Braukmann, Dalen Bachmann, Luke Ruther.

Grade 6: Yitao Jin, Samantha Rethemeier, Leah Urbach, Olivia Phillips.

Grade 7: Abigail Smith, David Arenivar Martinez, Kingston Mumm, Teagen Holz.

Grade 8: Charlize Sweere, Tyrus Coudron.

...continued with recognition from Districtal Court Districtal Court Family Letter

Perham Public Library has recently compiled a variety of materials about Alzheimer's Disease and other related dementias that are available to be checked out. Some items are designed to be used with a loved-one with dementia to encourage memories of past events and activities. Others are intended to support a caregiver with research, information or understanding as they travel the journey with their loved-one. Resources are available in a variety of different formats including print books, audiobooks, electronic books, videos, puzzles, and kits that include props and discussion suggestions. This project was funded with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education Library Services and Technology Act using federal funding. *-Susan Heusser-Ladwig*

Butternut Squash Spiced with Red Pepper Jelly

- 2 lbs butternut squash, split in half lengthwise and seeds removed
- 2 large white potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 cup Stonewall Kitchen Red Pepper or Hot Pepper Jelly
- salt and pepper

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Place squash cut sides down in a baking dish. Pour water into dish around squash halves. Bake until tender and easily pierced with a fork, about 1 ½ hours. Add more hot water if needed. Remove from oven and carefully remove skin. Set squash aside.
2. Boil potato cubes in salted water until very soft when pierced with a knife.
3. Drain potatoes and add squash along with Red Pepper Jelly, add salt and pepper to taste.
4. Mash by hand until almost smooth, or use an electric mixer. Add butter if desired and serve.

Teens & Tweens PopUp Shop arrives next weekend at Nest, Nov 13th-15th! Stop in, or follow our facebook posts to see all that's new. Curbside pickup is available too!



Get exclusive discounts, swag, a limited-edition tote, and more chances to win during the first ever **Lady Boss Shop Hop**, Nov 13th & 14th featuring local women-owned & women-led businesses in **New York Mills, Ottertail, and Perham.** Tickets are \$20, and can be purchased at The Cove in Perham, Cultural Center in NYM, and Williams Company in Ottertail



The Cactus offers THANKSGIVING DINNERS-TO-GO

Plan ahead and order by the Monday before Thanksgiving.

Contact:

events@TheCactusPerham.com

TRIVIA NIGHT

Wednesdays 6pm-8pm
at Lakeside Tap

NOVEMBER is

4-H Sign-Up Time!

4-H is an out-of-school, hands-on learning club for kids age 5-19. Youth choose a project in which they are interested, and explore it with peers and adult leaders. 4-H clubs are local groups of youth who want to learn together. 4-H offers experiences in science, photography, agriculture, healthy living, and much more. **Email Sarah at sarahu@umn.edu for more information.**