



The Westby Border News

December 19, 2011

Volume 6

Issue 130

1.50/copy

Have a Merry Tebow Christmas



Westby High School held their traditional Christmas window contest this past week showing a lot of talent and creativity among the lot. The Freshman class outdid themselves with the clever "Tebow Greeting" which won them 1st place honors. All of the classes did an excellent job and the public is welcome to view the Christmas windows displayed on the high school classroom windows in the high school corridor.

Pictured are freshman: Damon Gibbs, Cooper Olson, Parker Westgard
Sabrina Carter, Marcee Hendrickson and Jaime Gibson

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WEDNESDAY – Shrimp in a Basket w/ coleslaw & fries

THURSDAY – Pablo's Mexican Dinner– OR - Full Menu

FRIDAY – Chicken Fried Steak w/ fries, toast & salad

SATURDAY – Hamburger Steak w/ baked potato, toast & choice



Chocolate & Vanilla Soft Serve

Chicken to go (potatoes included) 2 pc – Barrel 200 pc

Haugen, Marlowe A.

82, of Tempe, AZ, passed away on Wednesday, November 23, 2011. He was born in North Dakota, the son of Andrew and Mabel Haugen of Westby. He is survived by his son Jay Haugen (Sharon), three grandchildren Kimberly, Michael, and Jamie; and sisters Lola, Ardelle, and Dorothy. He was predeceased by his parents; brothers Ervin and Laverne; and sister Betty. Marlowe was a farmer before moving to Arizona where he worked as a Realtor. He enjoyed spending time with his family, playing guitar, ballroom dancing, and learning.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all my family and friends for the prayers, phone calls, gifts, cards, meals, and visits while I was recovering from surgery in Rochester. My family was great with all the help they gave me. I truly am blessed to have such wonderful family and friends.

Beatie Petersen



Thanks to everyone who came to my "Private Quarters" party in November or sent in orders! I appreciate your support! Liz Krebsbach, of PQ, donated her profits of \$370.00 to Immanuel's building fund. Thank you very much, Liz! I have some lovely items to donate for fundraisers, too!

Pr. Barb Westhoff

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Dr. Ivan



Dr. Patrick Evans



Shelley Bartow
PA-C



Jackie Lindsey
FNP-C

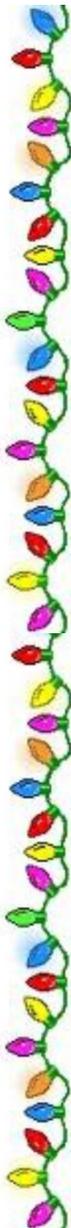
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MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

Happy New Year

To all my Friends and Family

Time goes by so fast it seems. I keep busy and am doing fine. Jay L., Diane, and Cindy & Mark gave me a wonderful birthday party in October. It was my 80th one so time really does go fast. Ha! They surprised me with relatives from Alaska, Southern California, Seattle, Snohomish, and Great Falls. Also, I was surprised by some very good friends I hadn't seen in a very long time and so many other friends and family.

It was a great time with the surprise, a program and a calendar about 80 years ago, too.

I enjoy the Border news so much, too. It keeps everyone posted on what goes on in "Great Westby!".

Take care and
Happy Holidays to All
Love,
Iona Huber
Kellogg, Idaho

Season's Greetings from
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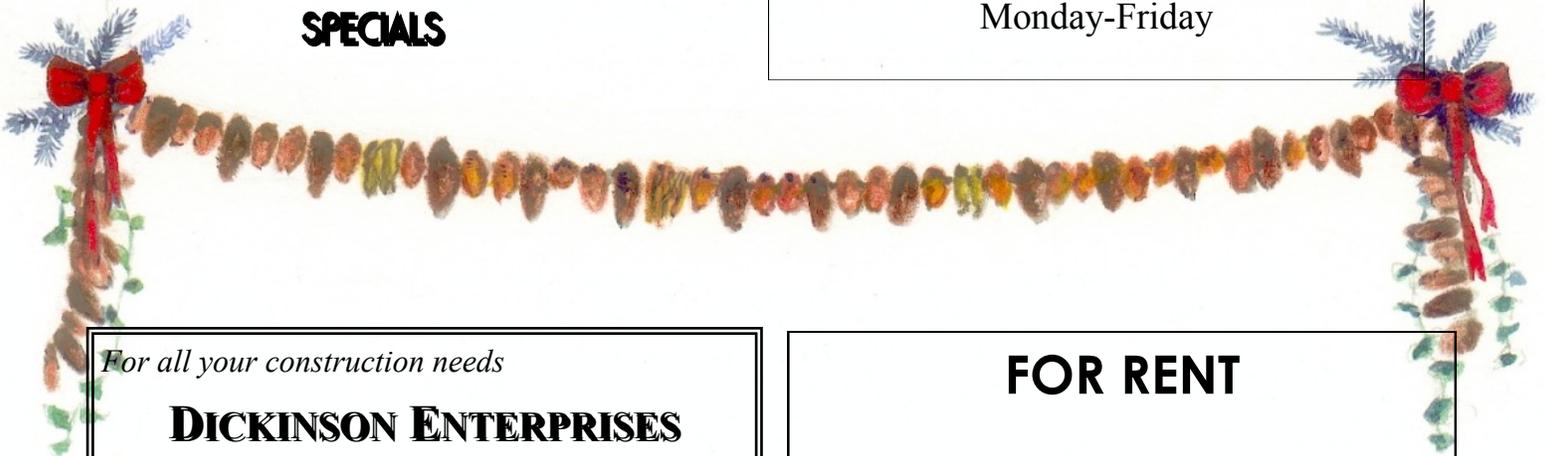
SUNDAY BUFFETS

Serving from

Tuesday SMEAR
Friday BINGO (5:30)

**DAILY
LUNCH & DINNER
SPECIALS**

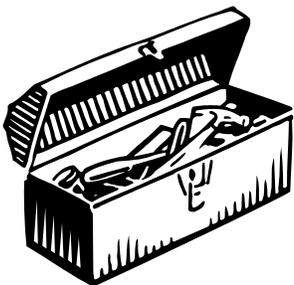
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You better watch out; you better not cry; you better not pout; I'm telling you why.....

Yes, he is coming to town. In a matter of days, perhaps hours, depending when you read this, the "Jolly Old Guy" in the red suit will be showing up. The 'ready or not' goes without saying and I'm here to tell you: Ready? Me? Not so much. But never fear. I work best under pressure. I may have heaped on a little more than I bargained for as I host this year's family gathering and because the latest saga of my life may affect you, if only in a small way, I feel compelled to share the story.

I know better. I'm too old to be running, let alone sliding into base, but about six weeks ago I tried some facsimile of this and struck out. Since then, I have done my share of doctoring to determine the best course of action to make opening a bottle (as in wine) possible; holding a club (not that it could hurt my golf game); releasing cooking spray from an aerosol can (ah, a little splash of olive oil works even better-haven't figured out an alternative to hair spray though); stirring, mixing or mashing anything thicker than water; and typing (not that it was anything to brag about, but I muddled through and that's where you come in) possible again.

Surgery (December 19th) was determined the best course of action to repair the damage done to two of my fingers on my right hand. If all goes as plans, I shouldn't be in a cast more than a month (hopefully less) and a brace an additional month. I'm quite sure I can type with a brace as I have already been dealing with one, but not so sure how conducive the cast will be, but really who am I trying to kid? I mostly hunt and peck anyway so one handed shouldn't be *that* much different. None the less, I wanted the subscribers to be aware.

I will do my best to get *the Border News* out in a timely fashion, but, just in case it doesn't work as well as I expect, you understand why.

I have managed to work in a little baking and cooking and entertaining and have enjoyed a Christmas party or two. What would the holiday season be without family, friends and gathering? Adeline had a lovely Christmas party in her home for our WELCA group, her traditional gift to her circle members and everyone enjoyed the fellowship.

I was looking for a cookie recipe, seasonal in color and attractive on a plate for the ladies aid Christmas party. These cute little morsels with white chocolate chips and plenty of peppermint flavor, filled the bill perfectly.

WHITE CHRISTMAS DREAM DROPS

2 large egg whites, at room temperature

1/8 tsp cream of tartar

1/2 tsp vanilla extract

1/8 tsp salt

3/4 cup sugar

1 cup white chocolate chips

1/3 cup plus 1 1/2 tbsp coarsely crushed peppermint candies

Preheat oven to 250 degrees. Beat egg whites and cream of tartar in a deep bowl with a mixer, using whisk attachment if you have one, just until soft peaks form. Add vanilla and salt. With motor running and mixer on high speed, pour in 1 tbsp sugar and beat 10 seconds, then repeat until all sugar has been added. Scrape inside of bowl and beat an additional 15 seconds. At this point, meringue should form straight peaks when beaters are lifted. Fold in chocolate chips and 1/3 cup candies with a flexible spatula. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper, using a bit of meringue at corners as glue. Using a soup spoon, drop meringue in rounded 1 tbsp portions slightly apart onto sheets, scraping off with another spoon. Sprinkle with remaining 1 1/2 tbsp crushed candies. Bake until meringues feel dry and set when touched but are still pale, 30-35 minutes, switching pan positions halfway through. Turn off oven, open door, and let cookies stand about 10 minutes. Let cool on pans. Makes 32 cookies.

Store in airtight container up to two days. For an elegant touch, dip the edges in melted dark chocolate.

Each year, I enjoy giving my friends a gift of food. This year one of my selections included citrus infused honey with nuts, perfect served over a wedge of your favorite cheese.

CITRUS HONEY w/ THYME AND WALNUTS

1 cup walnut pieces 3/4 cup orange blossom honey
1/2 cup walnut oil or extra virgin olive oil
Kosher salt & freshly ground pepper
1 tbsp fresh thyme or rosemary leaves plus 2 sprigs, divided
1/4 tsp finely grated lemon zest.

4 whole dried chilies

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Spread walnuts on a rimmed baking sheet. Bake, stirring occasionally, until lightly browned and fragrant, about 15 minutes. Let cool. Coarsely chop. Set aside. Whisk honey and oil in a medium bowl to blend. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Fold in walnuts, 1 tbsp thyme and lemon zest. Add chilies. Place one thyme sprig in each of two 8-ounce jars. Divide honey between jars. Cover and chill. May be made 1 month ahead. Keep chilled.

Note: I used regular honey and citrus olive oil as I did not have access to orange blossom honey. I did not add the dried chili, but have the option to add a bit of red pepper flakes to jar before serving if so desired. Great drizzled over wedge of blue cheese or goat cheese.

This last recipe comes from Heather's Grandma Pearl. We were thrilled to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with Heather's family in Phoenix and at 89 years young, Pearl is an inspiration to all. I have no doubt; this dessert will be the go to recipe for many holiday gatherings. The beauty of this dessert is the ease in which it comes together and it is just as good as any pumpkin pie you will ever eat. This is easily equivalent to 2 pies.

PUMPKIN DESSERT

24 ounces (3 cups) pumpkin

12 ounces evaporated milk

3/4 cup sugar

3/4 cup brown sugar

4 eggs, slightly beaten

2 tsp cinnamon

1 tsp ginger

1/2 tsp nutmeg

1/2 tsp allspice

1/4 tsp cloves

1/2 tap salt

1 pkg yellow cake mix

2 sticks butter, melted

3/4 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix well, first 11 (up to, but not including cake mix) ingredients and pour into 9X13 cake pan. Sprinkle dry cake mix over all. Pour melted butter evenly over dry cake mix. Sprinkle with nuts and bake for 1 hour or until knife inserted comes out clean.

May the reason for the season fill our hearts with hope and peace; and the spirit move us to share any and all with those less fortunate.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A GLORIOUS NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOURS



Pictured Right: Danny & Val Moore's grandchildren, Colton 4 & Bryce 1 1/2

WESTBY BECOMES HUB FOR MONSON'S EXPANDING GRAVEL BUSINESS

It took time for a general contractor to free his schedule, but once he and his crew hit town it's been full steam ahead. Larry Gaebel who hails from Minnesota, wrapped up a job in South Dakota to find the weather still conducive for construction work. Gaebel was hired by Chad Monson to construct an 80X90 foot building on the lot on Main Street which had once been home to the Ford Garage and Crystal Bar. According to Gaebel, his crew will finish tinning the building this week and return to Minnesota for the holidays. After the first of the year, interior work will begin. The building will house company trucks, part of the fleet used in Monson's gravel crushing and hauling business. In addition to truck parking, the building will include office space and living quarters, but no hardware store.

Monson stated, "After much thought, we have pulled back from pursuit of a hardware store. At this time, it seems the residents of Westby are not interested in one. Our dream of adding a new tire shop, full time mechanic and any of the other things a business of this type could offer has been squelched by the negative feedback."

Besides the Main Street location, Monson has acquired Ron Moericke's shop and home south of Westby. The shop will allow them an area to work on the trucks once a full time mechanic can be hired.

The home will be used by Monson's family when they spend time in the area.

Monson and his employees, approximately thirty call Westby home, have become an integral part of the community. City clerk Lyndon Lagerquist noted, "Monson's company has been very generous to the community. At least 14 loads of gravel have been donated to the town. In addition, several loads were given to the Westby Gun

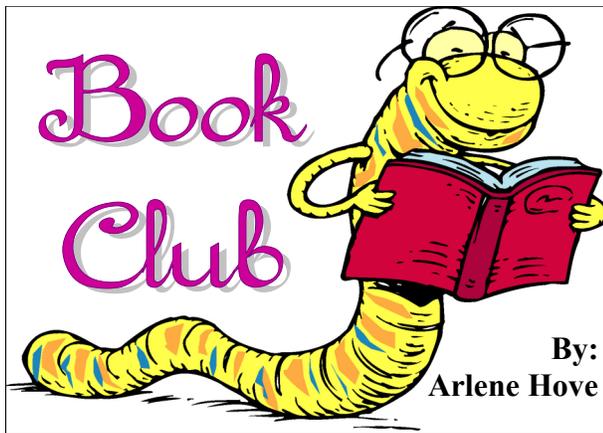
Club project to gravel their road and at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Monson's crew not only donated gravel, but time and equipment to roll the church parking lot. When Lyle and Kelly Olson buried their combine this fall on a road bogged down by high water levels, Monson's crew was on the scene

with a track hoe to excavate the machine. It was done at a fraction of the cost and with no damage to the combine. Considering the circumstances, Lyle couldn't have been happier with the outcome and he has Monson's to thank."

In talking to Monson employees, it is obvious a universal theme of giving to a community of which you have become a part, is a very important concept from the top on down. It sounds as if we are all winners in Monson's choice to make Westby hub of his ever expanding business.



Work continues on Monson's Main Street location.



November 2011

Bound Like Grass

Author: Ruth McLaughlin

Hostess: Paula Joyes

Firstly, let me say that Ms. McLaughlin won not only the Montana Book Award but also the High Plains Book Award in the Best First Novel category for Bound Like Grass, her non-fictional account of growing up on the plains near Culbertson, Montana in the 1950's and 60's. Secondly, this is *not* Little House on the Prairie and nothing is sugar-coated or dipped in honey in this account of the McLaughlin family's basic, hard-pressed existence on the homestead settled by the author's grandparents.

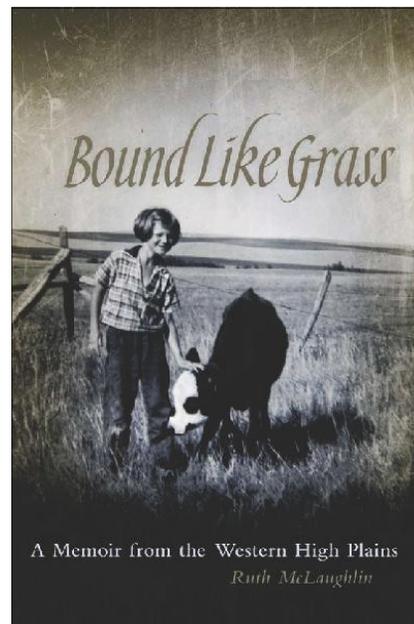
Do you remember the Johnny Mercer song that contained the lyrics, "You've got to eliminate the negative, accentuate the positive"? We all felt that Ms. McLaughlin has done just the opposite and the overall result is a pretty negative account of her childhood. Karen said, "I like the book, just didn't like her" (the author). Many of us growing up in those times on prairie homesteads certainly had it much harder than the present day generation. The difference is that we didn't really know or understand that these were "hard times" - we never went hungry, had clean, warm clothing and parents who worked hard to provide a safe, loving home, all the while teaching us the principles that wrought us.

But I digress. Back to Bound Like Grass. It's worth the read, well written and introspective. Ms. McLaughlin's family was not exactly the ordinary family of those times, having to deal with the mental illness of two of the daughters, Rosemary and Ginny. The author is honest about the societal and emotional isolation she felt because of her disabled sisters and also honest in reckoning with her own cruelty and failings toward them.

We can sympathize with her brother Dwight, who never had much of a relationship with their cold, but not totally heartless, father. The children never learned to swim, dance, bowl or throw a ball, simple things that most of us took for granted in our childhoods. You just know that "fun" was not part of this equation.

Yet McLaughlin does not play the blame game and finds compassion for her parents, "a generation trapped between adventurous parents and discontented children". She steers clear of pity in this honest account of hardships and failure and we admire her for that honesty.

The author and her brother, the only family members who still survive, could not wait to leave behind their bleak prairie existence in pursuit of a richer, brighter life. And yet the author is drawn back to the homestead time and time again, searching, always searching for something....."she remains bound - like the long, intertwining roots of prairie grass - to the land and to the memories that tie her to it".



Happy holidays from
our family to yours!

Nemont offices will be closed:
Monday, December 26
Monday, January 2

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Ranger Report

I am Tony Holecek, superintendent in District #3. As with all schools, this time of year is a very hectic time as the holiday season approaches. Congratulations go out to our hard working Rangers and Gophers for their recent accomplishments. First off, a little recognition for our Honor Band and Choir kids who attended the Honor Band and Choir opportunity in Bainville. Brett Nielsen, Waylon Garman, Abby Westgard, Tess Bjorgen, Makayla Westgard, Kayla Rust, Makenzie Westgard, Sophia Ekness, Logan Olson, Thayne Ekness, Shayla Garman, Cooper Olson, and Sabrina Carter. Congratulations on your selection to Honor Band and Choir and your representation of our community at that special event. Congratulations also go out to our All-Conference and All-State selections in High School Volleyball. Jonni Muller first team all conference and All-State. 1st team All-Conference Tess Bjorgen, 2nd Team all-conference Kayla Rust and Makenzie Westgard. Great job girls, your successes are well-deserved!

Our Westby-Grenora basketball teams have begun their season. Fans, I don't know if we'll always win, but I'm pretty sure we'll play hard all game long. Come out and be part of a community that supports kids that give their best! Thursday, December 22nd will be our Christmas movie, when our entire student body will be going to a Christmas Movie at the Plentywood theatre. Finally, our holiday break will begin on Thursday, December 22nd and we will dismiss our students at 2:25 that day. Happy Holidays to all! It is an honor and a privilege to work with your children. I thank the entire community for your support of our school and the opportunity to play a role the lives of your children. This has been the Superintendents report for District #3. Westby schools, "A place that still teaches the three R's Respect Responsibility and Ranger Pride.

School Board Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting
December 12, 2011
7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Westby School District #3 was held on December 12, 2011. Brenda Ryals, Vance Meyer, Brant Cartwright, Jim Sundsted, Aldon Joyes, Mr. Holecek, Mr. Somppi and Donna Sorenson were in attendance. Chairman Ryals called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairman recognized the visitors, Tess Bjorgen, Brett Nielsen and Suzi Ekness.

Donna read the minutes of the November 15, 2011 meeting. Following no corrections or additions, these minutes were approved and placed on file.

The Board reviewed the Clerk's October financial report.

Public Comment: None

Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds: Mr. Holecek reported that work on the new housing project is progressing well and is on schedule.

Three heat units in the gym are not working properly. Sheridan Electric will be replacing them in the next week or so.

Mon-Dak update: In an effort to resolve some of the heating issues the school has been having, Mon-Dak built platforms for all the exterior units that had previously been set on cement pads on the ground. The condenser unit for the Library was also replaced under warranty. Thermostat issues are still being resolved.

Unfinished Business:

A. An estimate was received from Jensens for materials and labor to finish the basement on the new housing project. The bid also included sub-contracted electrical installation. Cartwright moved, seconded by Meyer to hire Jensens to complete the basement; all voted in favor.

New Business:

A. Mr. Holecek reported that a high school student has been absent more than the maximum of 10 days as allowed by policy. After conferring with the student's teachers and parents he has granted a one-time policy exception to the student.

(Continues next page)



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Happy Holidays

School Board Meeting Minutes

(continued)

- B.** Revision of BP5321 (Leaves of Absence) was given a first reading.
- C.** New policy BP7515 (GASB 54) was given a first reading.
- D.** Journal Voucher #2012-5 to clear year-end balances from revenue and expenditure control accounts and #2012-6 to transfer an expense for electrical wiring to the proper fund were presented to the board. Joyes made a motion to approve these Journal Vouchers, Sundsted seconded. AIF
- E.** The Telecommunications Bid (E-rate) was tabled until next meeting pending a review of the bids received with the school's E-Rate Services consultant.
- F.** Mr. Holecek presented a proposal for reimbursing certified staff for unused sick leave. This matter was tabled until next meeting to give the board time to review the proposal and consider possible policy language should the board decide to approve the proposal.
- G.** Senior and Junior class representatives, Brett Nielsen and Tess Bjorgen were in attendance to request financial assistance for the Jr/Sr trip to Minneapolis. Nine students will be participating in the trip which is scheduled for March 4th through 9th. Meyer moved to contribute the same amount as in previous years, \$500 to each class, to help offset expenses of the trip. Sundsted seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Announcements/Discussion

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Holecek informed the board that an energy audit is being conducted on the school by Sheridan Electric and Basin Electric in an effort to determine the cause of the substantial increase in electric costs over the last two months.

Further research is needed to better understand the issue but they hope to have an answer soon.

Mr. Holecek presented two letters from TAQA informing interest owners of public hearings to be held in Billings on December 15 regarding applications for increased density authority and permanent spacing in Section 5, T37R58E. Mr. Holecek did not have plans to attend these hearings since the school's interest in the property is so small.

Mr. Holecek recently completed a review of prices students are charged for breakfast and lunch to verify compliance with federal pricing guidelines. Westby School is currently compliant but may need to consider raising the prices slightly in the near future.

Mr. Holecek reported that non-tenured staff evaluations are complete. Superintendent evaluation forms will be sent to each board member to be completed prior to the January meeting.

Mrs. Ryals read a card from Darrell and Sonja Mangel thanking the board for the Christmas Dinner. Suzi Ekness also offered a verbal thank you for the assistance Thayne has received from the school for the HOBY seminar he will be attending in Missoula this summer.

Meyer moved to approve payment of December payroll warrants # 10861-10869 totaling \$50,938.41, and December claims warrants #16703-16737 totaling \$117,914.43. Joyes seconded the motion for payment approval, AIF.

The November Extracurricular Financial Report was reviewed followed by a motion by Sundsted to approve; Cartwright seconded the motion, AIF.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Donna Sorenson, District Clerk
Brenda Ryals, Chairman

**THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL AND
SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL.**

Letter to the Editor

December 19, 2011

Dear Editor,

In the spring of 2011 Immanuel Lutheran Church suffered a devastating loss through flooding. Our basement, which housed the fellowship hall, kitchen, bathrooms, Sunday school rooms and storage, was a complete loss. Despite great effort by church and community members to salvage this area, nothing could be saved. Insurance covers none of the expenses incurred from the flood.

Despite it all, optimism comes because although church membership is down, our youth group has 19 active and enthusiastic members and two inspirational leaders. Enrollment in the Sunday school program remains steady. Summer Bible School typically sees even more registered as many members' grandchildren come for this popular event. Our Women of the ELCA boasts 45 members and Immanuel is fortunate to have an active Men's Fellowship group. The area population continues steady growth with oil activity and an optimistic agricultural future. All of these factors play into our decision to forge ahead.

A newly formed Building Committee is researching the possibility of a ground level addition with full handicapped accessibility as well as restoration of the basement at some functional level. A Fundraising Committee was also established to explore the viability of reaching these goals. The fundraising campaign is not just about a new addition or the restoration of the basement. These issues call us to look to the future of our ministry here at Immanuel and say to the world who we belong to, and that is, Jesus Christ!

This vision sees families coming together to experience hope and transformation. This is a time of opportunity and challenge! It is time to reach out to our ultimate goal. It is time to create a witness of who we belong to.

With the year end looming, this is an optimal time to consider a tax-deductible contribution. Our initial goal is to raise a minimum of \$100,000 in order to give the Building Committee a direction in which to proceed. Whatever you give, be it large or small, it will be important! Those who believe in and who give themselves to a great cause are always willing to go "the extra mile".

We envision a new fellowship hall as an important community asset. The future of Immanuel depends on **every one of us!**

"The mere fact that you are alive and reading these words, no matter your age, the state of your health or physical condition, means that you have been chosen by God to perform some work that no other person can do." Dr. V. Raymond Edman

Your tax-deductible contribution may be dropped at the church office or mailed to:

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, ATTN:
Fundraising, P.O. Box 199, Westby, MT 59275**

Thank you for your consideration. Questions may be directed to any Fundraising Committee member: Marlene Anderson, Lori Bjorgen, Arlene Hove, Sue Meyer, Danny Moore, or Marvin Nelson



Happy Holidays from *Westby Border News*

In 2011 we said goodbye to...

Eric Schulz	Lloyd Moore
Eldon Hanson	Hannah Raam
Vera Elm	Earl Halseth
Arla Samuelson	Laverne Haugen
Rose Ann Brough	Stanley Tangedal
Duane Anderson	Marjorie Reed
Anna Lagerquist	Duane Lutnes
Simon Massine	Eva Nelson
Erwin Olson	Gene Tuffon
Gordon Bowman	Marlowe Haugen
Robert Johnson	

and welcomed...

Robert Carl Seekings
Ronald Allen Seekings
Tinley Palmer Venhorst
Sadie Irene Venhorst
Logan Lane Cartwright
Isaac Robert Leninger

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN UPDATE

On December 4th Immanuel Lutheran Church members held a meeting to discuss the options available to them in regards to the issues related to the loss of the fellowship hall, restrooms, and Sunday school rooms in the devastating spring flood of the basement.

Council President Bruce Westgard reported the air quality inspection has come back clear and all of the mold issues have been dealt with. The basement has been gutted and the contents disposed of. Innovative Builders have been hired to install blocks, a trench and a pump in an attempt to prevent the flooding from re-occurring. Sadly, insurance does not cover any expenses incurred from flooding.

Two proposals were submitted for the congregation's consideration. The first proposal includes "repair and replace" the basement as is with no structural changes and the second proposal would attempt to build a new ground level handicap accessible addition.

The congregation felt there was not enough information available at this time to vote on either proposal. A building committee was formed to explore a variety of options and a fundraising committee was formed to begin an all out effort to raise funds (see letter to the editor) to help guide the building committee to the most feasible plan. The committees plan regular congregational meetings to keep their members informed.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE?

Customers who are certified by the Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services to receive medical benefits are eligible for telephone payment assistance.

LIFELINE

Lifeline provides a monthly discount to eligible customers on their telephone bill.

LINK-UP

Link-Up lowers the cost eligible customers pay for connecting new service at home.

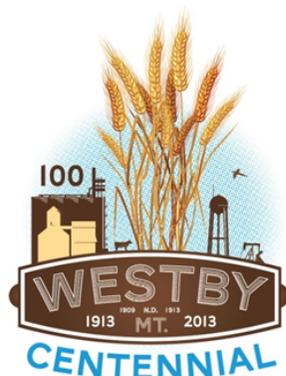
For more information, visit a Nemont office, call or e-mail us at customerservice@nemont.coop. A customer service specialist can answer your questions and help determine whether you qualify. Eligibility forms and program details are available on our website at www.nemont.net.

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December 2011



Registration Form



July 12th-14th, 2013
Westby, Montana

"The Little Town With a Big "

Surname	First Name	Email Address	Phone #	Friday meal # attending

Saturday meal # attending	Sunday Continental Breakfast # attending	WHS class of:	Fortuna Air Base alumni? Years affiliated?

Name

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip

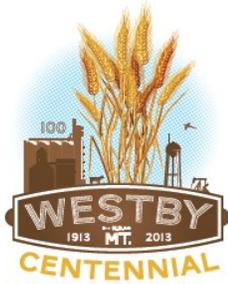
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 59275

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Please return completed form to: 2013 Westby Centennial Committee,
ATTENTION: Registration,
PO Box 61, Westby, MT 59275

www.westbycentennial.yolasite.com



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