

# February 2025



## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Pastor Hakes Grace Note
- The Cheapskate Gardener
- Pinewood Derby announcement
- WJA School Ski Day announcement
- A Psalm
- Washington's Birthday

## GRACE NOTE

Now who would believe a teacher could cause so much confusion? It was in the early 1970s my family had just moved from Yankeeville to the heart of Dixie in Tennessee. Part of the confusion was that our new friends in Tennessee had never heard of a backwater place called the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the only thing we knew about Tennessee was from our favorite TV show "The Beverly Hillbillies." With the perspective of 35 years of 20/20 hindsight, I can say misunderstanding was inevitable.

As to the tractor, my dad was the new mechanic and it was his job to keep all the tractors in operating condition. Mr. Hagan was the lovable almost retirement age gentleman who operated a tractor. He had worked there 30 years and lived there all his life. Mr. Hagan spoke southern. My dad spoke Yankee.

The tractor it seems, just quit. Mr. Hagan had to walk back to the shop to find my dad who was supposed to get that mechanical beast running again. This is where the confusion began. "It wouldn't crank," said Mr. Hagan. Dad didn't know what that meant. "Will it turn over?" asked Dad. Mr. Hagan didn't know what that meant. In desperation Mr. Hagan said, "Come, I will carry you to the tractor." Dad seeing images in his mind of being slung over a man's shoulder like a sack of potatoes said, "O, no you won't, but I'll go witcha." "Witcha" is a norther slang running a bunch of words together actually meaning "I will go with you." Mr. Hagan didn't know this so he was wondering what a witch had to do with what was wrong with his tractor or how this Yankee witch was going to fix it. Two grown men speaking the same English language and neither one had the foggiest idea what the other was saying. Back to paragraph one. Mr. Hagan thought dad a hick from the sticks and dad thought Mr. Hagan really was a member of the Beverly Hillbillies.

Through the years the two men became fast friends, and they laughed about this event many times.

It is so easy to judge people based upon our preconceived opinions, but when we take the time to get to know somebody, something amazing happens. Suddenly the person becomes easier to understand.

Blessings, Pastor Jim  
Written June 6, 2006

## The Cheapskate Gardener

"The only difference between gardeners and cheapskate gardeners is the amount of money they spend to achieve the same results. The truth is, like no other hobby, gardening is actually more productive when the cheapest – even free! – supplies are used."

Mary Hunt  
Menominee County Journal, June 8, 2023

Well, Mary, I could not agree more! And it was in this spirit that the Gourley Township Food Exchange was created. The Gourley Township Food Exchange was created in April of 2024 and is a member-only Facebook group whose purpose is to bring local people together to show others what they are growing and producing, and to encourage like-minded people to swap food items for other food items, services, supplies, etc.

It is true that "the early bird gets the worm" and last December, the Gourley Township Food Exchange organized a seed purchase. Seeds are expensive enough, but the shipping charges are outrageous! A community seed purchase is one way to reduce the cost of garden seeds by taking advantage of discounts for large orders and seed company coupons. And it did just that.


Thanks to a few local residents who participated in the seed purchase, we were able to order over \$200 of seeds from Johnny's which then qualified for free shipping! If each of us had placed our own order, we would have incurred shipping charges anywhere from 10% to over 20% of our individual orders.

Burpee doesn't offer free shipping for large orders, but because I am a regular customer, I frequently get 20% off coupons which I applied to the Burpee order, and this essentially paid for the shipping of our Burpee seeds.

MIgardener is my new favorite seed supplier. The owner, Luke, offers a large selection of seeds for the reasonable price of \$2 per pack. He also has a fantastic YouTube channel with many how-to videos that help home gardeners get the most from their gardens. (<https://www.youtube.com/@MIgardener>).

The Gourley Township Food Exchange is on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1754843338337399>. It is open to anyone in the area who gardens, farms, or supports those activities. We have 47 members and we are growing!


Happy Gardening, Ivy



JOIN THE FUN!  
**PINEWOOD  
 DERBY RACE**  
 FEB 15, 2025  
 6:30 PM

Pine Car Kits \$5 each  
 email: principal@wja-sda.org

FOR SALE AT EVENT:  
 HOMEMADE PIZZA  
 POPCORN  
 DRINKS  
 BAKED GOODS



## WJA School Ski Day



- Who: WJA students and Church family
- When: February 27<sup>th</sup>
- Where: Norway Mountain

Contact Cindy Berger (906-639-2199 or 906-280-2681) to sign up or for more information. Lift ticket and rental \$30 per person.



Did you know that the Carney Nadeau school weight room is open to the public? It is called the **Friends of the Wolf Club "Tom Safford" Memorial Fitness Center**. There is a small monthly charge of \$15 or \$150 per year and family membership are also available. Once a member, you can access the weight room 24/7. You must be 18 years of age or older, or be accompanied by an adult who has a paid membership. Contact Paul Polfus at [ppolfus@gmail.com](mailto:ppolfus@gmail.com) for more information or visit the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Carneynadeau>.

## A Psalm

By Valerie Messersmith

Father, I praise You  
 For Your steadfast, eternal love,  
 Covenanted towards me.  
 It is too high, too deep, too wide,  
 For me to comprehend such love.  
 I see the sacrifice of Your Son,  
 The Sinless One,  
 Dying from a broken heart,  
 The weight of my sins separating Him  
 From You  
 While hanging uplifted on the cross.  
 Yet my stony heart cannot fathom  
 Why He would die  
 For me.  
 It is Your steadfast, eternal love.

## George Washington's Birthday 2025

February 17th

George Washington's Birthday is celebrated on the third Monday in February. Americans celebrated Washington's Birthday long before Congress declared it a federal holiday. In 1862, the House and Senate commemorated the 130th Anniversary of Washington's birth by reading aloud his Farewell Address. It was considered a morale-boosting gesture during the darkest days of the Civil War, and this tradition has continued to this day. In his Farewell Address, Washington warned that the forces of geographical sectionalism, political factionalism, and interference by foreign powers in the nation's domestic affairs threatened the stability of the republic. He urged Americans to subordinate sectional jealousies to common national interests. Contrary to popular belief, neither Congress nor the President has ever stipulated that the name of the holiday observed as Washington's Birthday be changed to "President's Day."

## Miscellaneous Announcements & Classified Ads

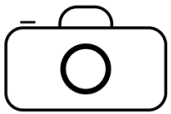


### Boerschinger Boy Baking

Making bread to order  
call 906-639-3632  
Ask for Zebulun



Gourley Township Historical Society meets the first Thursday of the month, October through April. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 6<sup>TH</sup>, 6pm central/7pm eastern at the home of Roger Janofski, N13380 Co Rd 551. Come have a good time talking about old times in Gourley! Contact Ivy at (906) 639-2979 or [ivynetzal@gmail.com](mailto:ivynetzal@gmail.com) for info.



"Pics from the (906)"

Tanner Pearson

Photographer/Videographer

(906) 398-7541 / (906) 639-2701

Instagram - @tpearf

- Weddings
- Senior Portraits
- Engagements
- Family Portraits



# DESMOND'S PRESSURE WASHING

DESMOND HEYN

423.774.2059 SMARTFARMERDESMOND@GMAIL.COM

WE ALSO OFFER  
DRY WALL PATCHING  
CAR INTERIOR DETAILING  
GUTTER CLEANING



## Eggs for Sale



Chicken \$3 doz

Duck \$3 for 1/2 doz

Call 906-639-3632  
Ask for Ezra

Don't forget about our ongoing Rada fundraiser. They have a great selection of knives and kitchen utensils that are a great gift or just a great new addition to your own supply!

If you shop online please use the link above, or you may search for **Wilson SDA Jr. Academy** at <https://radafundraising.com/pages/select-your-fundraising-group>. If you prefer a catalog, please contact Brandee Groleau! She is also willing to help you with your orders.

The funds raised will go directly towards finishing our school gym project so that our school can function at its greatest potential for our students and teachers. Please help us meet this goal!

RADA Cutlery Fundraiser for the WJA School Expansion

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=1820058.87e8e7>  
or call Brandee Groleau (906) 399-9247 (call or text)

## 8th Grade Class Homemade Freeze-Dried Candy Fundraiser!

Order at any time. Many different candies to choose from! Great stocking stuffers or gifts!

\$5-\$10 bags available.

All profits go to the 8th Grade class. Call or text Erin DeGrave for details.

**BOERSCHINGER**  
**METAL REMOVAL**  
FREE METAL REMOVAL  
QUESTIONS? CALL  
ELIJAH @  
(906) 399-1702

WASHERS, DRIERS,  
LAWN EQUIPMENT,  
CABLE, WIRING,  
PIPES, STOVES,  
BRAKE ROTATORS,  
RIMS, OLD PARTS,  
STEEL TIN, CAST IRON,  
ANYTHING ALUMINUM  
SCRAP VEHICLES AND  
EQUIPMENT