

Memories that last a lifetime

By Tucker Henderson
Special to the Dispatch

They say when an elderly person dies, it is akin to a library burning down. Well, a great wealth of knowledge was lost this past week when my grandmother, Lynnette (Menze) Henderson, passed away. I feel as if I just wrote a history column as I just finished her obituary clocking in at 764 words. I'd appreciate it if after you finish this article, you made your way to the obituary page and read hers. She lived through a lot and it's only human for me to feel the selfish desire to have her back here with us.

I often ask questions to my elders about what life was like when they grew up or information about the generations before them. My grandma would often say, "I don't know. I'm not the one interested in all that history." I quickly learned that she only answered that way when I asked about my grandpa's family. When I sought out answers pertaining to her side of the family, she would tell me what she knew and offer conjecture for the rest.

I had hoped to write a lengthy and well-researched article about my grandmother's home, which just happens to be an interesting (former) community feature. Instead, as life often does, other projects, hobbies, and obligations pulled me away from

focusing on that article. Although I wish she could have read that nonexistent masterpiece that I dreamt up in my head, I feel that I am able to honor her interest in history with this column.

My grandmother's parents, Orlie and Dede Menze, had a business idea in the '50s for a "Youth Recreation Center" as the NYM Herald called it in November of 1963. Through their tenacity and drive, they succeeded in building a 56x120 foot log structure to start their dream. The building was actually a kit of native cedar logs specially ordered from Northwoods Log Cabin Mill in LaPorte, Minnesota. Orlie, with expert help of Burgess Bach (he worked for the Cabin Mill) designed the building to fit the business' specific needs. Orlie had help from his father and his sons to construct a building from the massive kit that sat at the east end of Rush Lake, ready to be assembled.

Orlie had already bulldozed a hill to make room for the building and a parking lot. Most of the construction was done by the Menze family, only needing extra help for the flooring and roof. They even landscaped the grounds and laid sod over top of the sandy soil that made up the ground there. The roller rink was named "Orlie's Log Cabin" and had a grand opening in December

of 1963. The building had 6,720 square footage, 5,600 of which made up the roller skating area.

The plan was to expand upon the business as profits increased and made it possible to do so. Orlie and Dede's future plans were to add trapshooting facilities, lawn bowling, cart track riding, boating, horse riding, and a place to camp and picnic. This site was located off the beaten path, though not too far. The Herald gave directions from Heinola, so that tells you how easy it was to find.

The business was successful and well enjoyed and my grandma recalled working in the concessions stand. She said the only part that she didn't like was cleaning up stale cigarettes and spilled booze on Sunday mornings before church. This only happened after a set-up party was booked on some Saturday evenings. The business didn't have much of a chance after Orlie had a massive heart attack in 1965 that made it so that he was unable to work or farm. I'm not sure of exact dates, but I believe my grandma said that it was totally closed by 1968 when she graduated high school. After being empty for about ten years, my great grandpa Orlie was sick of people vandalizing the building, so he offered it to my grandma and grandpa for sale. They bought it around 1976 and

remodelled it as a home.

They've lived there ever since and due to its large design, it even afforded my grandma enough room to have a dedicated industrial sewing room. She named her new seamstress business "Lynn's Log Cabin" and it has been called that off and on by the family ever since.

Though Orlie's heart attack led the business to an early closure, his son Dale Menze continued his dream and recently opened Rush Lake Range not far from the roller rink and closer yet to Orlie's farm in Otto Township. Rush Lake Range is a shooting range outfitted with trapshooting facilities, which was on the list for Orlie's Log Cabin years ago.

I will forever cherish my memories of my grandma and she taught me something that I didn't even realize until writing this column: though she said she didn't care for history, she was much more interested and involved in her own history than she likely even realized. Buying her family's old roller rink, renaming it after her business while honoring her parent's business, and keeping up the building show her dedication to history. Be it big or small, we are all a part of history. Make sure to make your dent in the memory of your community. My grandma certainly did and I hope to do the same.

Lynnette Henderson, 71

Lynnette Henderson, age 71 of New York Mills, passed away on October 20, 2021 at Sanford Broadway Medical Center in Fargo, N.D. Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 11 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Ottertail.

Visitation was held on Monday, October 25, 2021 from 4-7 p.m. with prayer service beginning at 6:30

p.m. at St John's Lutheran Church in Ottertail. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the service at church.

Please visit www.karvononfuneralhome.com to leave memorials and condolences on Lynnette's Tribute Wall.

Arrangements provided by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of New York Mills.

Gloria Setterholm, 80

Funeral services will be held for Gloria Setterholm age 80, of Battle Lake, on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in New York Mills.

Visitation will be held on Friday, October 29, 2021 from 4-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 6 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in New

York Mills. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the funeral service on Saturday.

Please visit www.karvononfuneralhome.com to send Gloria's family a message of comfort and support.

Arrangements are provided by Karvonen Funeral and Cremation Services.

Dorothy Endres, 97

The Mass of Christian Burial for Dorothy Endres of Bluffton will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, October 29, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Bluffton with Father Gabriel Walz as celebrant.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, from 5-8 p.m. at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena. Visitation will resume at the church on Friday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the ser-

vice. Dorothy, age 97, passed away on October 22, 2021, at the Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena.

Burial will be in St. John the Baptist Catholic Cemetery, Bluffton.

Arrangements are with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Johnson-Schuller Chapel, Wadena, MN. (www.SchullerFamilyFH.com)

More mountain ashes that can enhance a yard

By Bev Johnson
Master Gardener

Actually, these trees and shrubs are misnamed. They aren't ashes, they are actually related to apples. If you look closely, you will notice the resemblance to a very small apple.

Kashmir Rowan grows in the Himalayan mountains. She blooms in the early spring, April or May. The flower clusters are white, or pink followed by white berries that persist well into the winter. She will tolerate most soil, but a little rotted leaf mold added to the planting hole will make her happy. (See, I told you to make leaf mold). She will do well in dappled shade or full sun. This is a very small tree about 30 feet tall and wide at maturity. A perfect tree for small yards. There are several cultivars of this pretty tree. The resulting berries are yellow. Maiden's Blush has pale pink fruits and Kristen pink has dark pink ones. These small trees are zone 3 to 6 girls so will do well here as they prefer cool climates.

Whitebeam, Saria is a European species named for the white undersides of her leaves. She is also a small tree, 35 to 45 feet tall with a compact domed shape. She is much more tolerant of poor soils than some of the other species. She has nice white flowers in the spring with clusters of red edible berries in the fall. Most of the fruit of other Mountain Ash are only edible if you are a bird. S Aura is a cultivar with yellow foliage. S aria majestica had larger fruit and leaves making it an attractive option. She likes our zone 3 and will even do well up to zone 8.

Green's Mountain Ash is a western ash. She has a habit of forming thickets, so you will need to keep the clippers handy if you want a single shrub. She normally grows as a tall narrow shrub, reaching only 8 to 15 feet tall and 5 to 10 feet wide. A perfect accent shrub. She grows from the Canadian Pacific to the Rocky Mountains, a true native. The shiny orange fruits are a favorite of gray jays and other

birds of the region. She is a bit stunted in southeastern Alaska, where she looks like a small tree. She is a zone 3 to 8.

You may have difficulty finding some of these trees locally. You may have to

get friendly with your local nursery owner. They may have access to one or more of these rather special trees and shrubs. You may even make extra money for him if they catch on here. Can't hurt to try.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

PRE-SEASON SNOWBLOWER TUNE UP!



MOBILE REPAIR
let us come to you!

Otter Repair
Small Engine Repair & Rental

PARTS & SERVICE
Lawn & Garden, Generators, Outdoor Power Equipment, Boats, ATVs and more!

Stop in or call today
701.541.4200
102 S Lake Ave. Ottertail, MN

YOUR
Loved One
NEVER LEAVES OUR
Care



Suzi & Greg Karvonen, Owners
110 South Broadway, New York Mills, MN 56567 • 218-385-2345

FOR THREE GENERATIONS
KARVONEN
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE

GET MORE LOCAL NEWS WITH THE
NYM DISPATCH
218.385.7720 | nymdispatch.com

Sewer Service

Sewer Line Thawing
Septic & Holding Tank Pumping • Jetting Thawing
Lift Pump Replacement

Call **218-346-7436** or **218-385-3880**

Serving Perham, Dent, Vergas, Richville, New York Mills, Bluffton & Surrounding Areas

Grieger Dental

206 WALKER AVE. N. NEW YORK MILLS, MN
RACHEL GRIEGER D.D.S. • GREG HAMMERS D.D.S.
218.385.3130

Open Monday-Friday 8-4:30pm

FARMERS UNION
INSURANCE AGENCY

Trusted. Local. Committed.

Lisa Preuss, Agent
25 N Main Avenue • PO Box 237
New York Mills, MN 56567
Office Phone 218.385.3344/888.385.4554
Fax 218.385.3905 • Cell Phone 218.457.0467
www.mnfuia.com
lisa@farmersunionnym.com

- Home
- Auto
- Farm
- Crop
- Business
- Health
- Life
- Worker's Comp
- Watercraft
- Motorcycle/ATV
- Fixed Annuities
- Renters
- Long-Term Care

GOING ON VACATION?

TAKE US WITH YOU. WE'LL FIT RIGHT IN YOUR POCKET.

Subscribe to our E-edition and do your travelling while still staying current with whats happening at home.



SUBSCRIBE TODAY 218-385-7720 | nymdispatch.com

WELLERS GARAGE
AUTO & TRACTOR REPAIR

M-F 8:00am-5:00pm
SAT [by appointment]

Shop: 218.385.3555
Cell: 218.639.8803

429 S Walker Ave | New York Mills, MN

Dan's Towing & Repair

24 Hour Towing

218-385-2785

We're Pull'n For You

After Hours 218-639-8162
20 Centennial Drive • New York Mills, MN 56567