

# Sleepy Eye



## FALL 2024

400 4th Ave SW  
Sleepy Eye MN 56085  
507-794-7873

Volume 47 Issue 1

## Staff

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## Community Education Advisory Council

Joleen Dittbenner, Matt Schmidt, JoAnn Schumacher,  
Kayla Jacobson, Lisa Steffl, DeAnn Gieseke, Christy Kallevig

School day office hours are generally 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**If school is closed, activities are canceled.**

**If school starts late, evening activities will be held.**

Watch for monthly updates on our program by reading the Community Education News in the *Sleepy Eye Herald Dispatch*. The first and third Tuesday, a staff member provides updated information on KNUJ-SAM 107.3 at 8:30 a.m. You may also find updates on Sleepy Eye Online.

Thank you for your continued support of our programs!

Pat Stevermer, Director

[pat.stevermer@sleepyeye.mntm.org](mailto:pat.stevermer@sleepyeye.mntm.org)

Some topics and information included in this brochure include:

- Defensive Driving classes
- Fall Outings
- Adult and Youth Enrichment Courses
- ECFE Classes and Activities

# CLASSES

**Quilting** – A day long class to start a new pattern or finish one that has been in your tote for a few months. Yardage provided when one registers. All quilting projects use the rotary cutter method. Patterns are available for beginners and experienced quilters. Scheduled classes are: Saturdays, **September 28, October 19, and November 16**. The class begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m. Participants bring a potluck dinner. The fee for a quilt is \$12.50 but smaller projects may be made for \$6.25. Instructor is Patty Haala. Class is held in the Sleepy Eye School Cafeteria.

**Classroom Driver's Ed** for students who turn 15 by the end of December will be offered during September and October. Registration forms will be available early September in the high school offices or community education. Thirty hours are required by the State of Minnesota in order to obtain a driver's permit. Behind the wheel instruction is held during the summer months.

**Cookie Decorating for Adults** - Christmas Theme cookies - Tuesday, December 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sam Whittington, Sammy's Sweets, will teach participants how to use a variety of royal icing techniques to make cookie masterpieces! Fee: \$30.00 (Minimum 10/Maximum 15) Meet in the Lindahl Room.

**Cookie Decorating Class for Kids 13+** - Tuesday, December 15, 3:30-5 p.m. in the Lindahl Room. Fee: \$30.00 (Minimum 10/Maximum 15)



# OUTINGS

**MN State Fair**- Monday, August 26 - Senior Citizen and Kids Day - Discounted tickets available until August 21 or get a ticket at the gate. Motorcoach fee will be \$30 per person. Sign up early! Depart Sleepy Eye at 7 a.m. and leave the fairgrounds at 6:45 p.m.

**Cranberry Festival** - Friday, September 27 - Journey to Tomah, WI for this annual festival. Over 1200 vendors for food, crafts, flea market and farmer's market. A walking tour to the cranberry marsh is also available. Would depart Sleepy Eye at 6:30 a.m. and return by 9 p.m. Motorcoach would be \$40 per person. Sign up by September 18.

**Stillwater in the Fall** – Friday, October 11 – Take a trolley ride with historical narration of folklore and mansions, visit the courthouse and jail, have lunch on main street as well as visit the antique shops. A stop at an apple orchard on the way home. Would leave at 8 a.m. and return by 6 p.m. Motor coach and tours would be \$50 per person. Register by October 1.

**Sidekick Theatre** - "Over the River and Through the Woods" - Wednesday, October 30 Every Sunday, Nick crosses the river to New Jersey and has dinner with both sets of his Italian-American grandparents. But Nick has dreams, and when he receives the perfect job offer from the west coast, he is determined to take it. His grandparents - Frank, Aida, Nunzio and Emma - are just as determined that he stay put. Thus begins a series of shameless schemes and hilarious shenanigans that will have you roaring in your seat while reminding you of the wonderful zaniness that is family. Noon luncheon, show and motorcoach will be \$80 per person. Departure from Sleepy Eye would be 9:30 a.m. Sign up by October 14.

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## DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASSES

Drivers 55 and older who complete the course qualify for a ten percent discount on their vehicle insurance premium for three years. Developed by the Minnesota Safety Council and conducted throughout the state, Defensive Driver teaches preventive measures to use when driving that saves lives. During the 2024 legislative session, a change was made to the Accident Prevention Course Rule. Effective July 1, 2024, the new rule states that the course must be a total of at least 4 hours. This means that a first-time participant can take a 4-hour program as their initial training - the 8-hour program will no longer be a requirement. 8-hour classes will not be offered with a live instructor after June 30, 2024, but if you would like to take the 8-hour program it will be available online. Classes are held at the Sleepy Eye High School. **Please call and register so we know if we have enough to hold the class, and also so we have your contact information in case class gets canceled.**

Cost is \$30 per person. Minimum class size is 12.

Bring your driver's license.

Classes this fall will be offered on the following dates:

### **Defensive Driving Classes:**

Monday, September 23, 1:00 pm

Monday, October 14, 5:00 pm

Thursday, November 7, 1:00 pm



## VIP SENIOR CITIZEN ATHLETIC PASS

Sleepy Eye Community Education in partnership with School District #84 offers the VIP Pass! The VIP pass is a complimentary pass for senior citizens 60+ years old and who reside within the Sleepy Eye School District. VIP passes allow the bearer free entry to all regularly scheduled Sleepy Eye Public School home athletic events as well as Sleepy Eye United Football games that would be scheduled at St. Mary's Athletic field. This pass is not valid for any tournament or post season games. Patrons may obtain a VIP pass by stopping in the Community Education Office, Room 109, 400 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SW. Individuals are required to provide their name and home address to prove they are a School District 84 resident. Passes are good year to year—no need to get a new one each year.

# DYCKMANN FREE LIBRARY

The following activities have been planned for the Dyckmann Free Library this fall:

- **Musical Storytimes** with Yellow Door Studio's Kristina Marti the second Thursday of each month October - March at 10 a.m.
  - **Story Time every Thursday at 10 a.m.**
  - **After School Music with Anna St.Croix** on Wednesday, September 25, 3:30 p.m. (registration required)
  - **Adult Craft Needle Felting with Wool - Fall Leaves** - on October 9 at 6 p.m.
  - **Adult Acrylic Painting Class with John Ebenhoh** - October 21, 6 p.m.
  - **Adult Acrylic Painting Class with John Ebenhoh** - October 23, 6 p.m.
  - **After School Halloween Craft** on October 30, 3:30 p.m. (registration required)
  - **Adult Acrylic Painting Class with John Ebenhoh** - November 18, 6 p.m.
  - **Adult Acrylic Painting Class with John Ebenhoh** - November 20, 6 p.m.
  - **Armstrong Blvd Brass Quintet Christmas Music at the Sleepy Eye Event Center** - December 6, 7 p.m.
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- **1000 Books before Kindergarten** - The goal of the program is to promote reading and encourage children to have had 1000 books read to them by the time they enter kindergarten. Enrollment in the program can be done at the Dyckman Library or any ECCE classes or events. Once enrolled, children will receive a log to track the books being read to them. If you read a book twice, mark it down twice! After each 100 books read, children will receive a small prize or sticker. Special incentives are awarded to children when they complete 300, 500, 700 or 1000 books.

**Sleepy Eye High School is sponsoring a blood drive on November 5. Watch for more details!**



**A fall 2024 Babysitting List** has been assembled for those needing babysitters. Only children with parental permission have their names on the list. Contact the community education office if you need a copy.

# EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

Since parents are the first and most important teachers for their children, all families are welcome in the ECFE program. No one will be denied participation due to inability to pay. Scholarships are available. Classes are held in the ECFE rooms (#318-320) in the Sleepy Eye Elementary School.

Fall term began in September with offerings for all ages of preschoolers. The child's age as of September 1, 2024 should be used to determine which class to enroll. The teachers take into consideration children's developmental levels when planning activities for each class. Complete class information and additional offerings are available in the ECFE newsletter and on the school website [www.sleepyeyeschools.com](http://www.sleepyeyeschools.com). If you do not receive the newsletter, we do not have your preschool children on our census list or perhaps you have a new address. Call 507-794-7873 with this information.

**Babies** (birth to walking) on Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Meet with other parents and discuss topics related to parenting babies. Classes held on September 28, October 19 and November 16. FREE.

**Toddlers and Twos** on Mondays, 5:15-6:30 p.m. beginning Monday September 9 for nine sessions. Fee is \$36. Have fun learning with your toddler and two year old through play and parent-child activity time. Parent discussion last part of session. Babies already walking are invited to join.

**Preschool Ages** (3-5 years) on Thursdays, 4:30-6:00 p.m. or **Mixed Ages** on Thursdays, 8:30-9:45 a.m. beginning September 12 for nine sessions. Fee is \$36. Play is your child's work and the classroom offers many types of play activities.

**Preschool Screening - Tuesday, October 1** – Children who will be four by December 31 are invited to attend the fall early childhood screening. This screening is free of charge and begins at 8:30 a.m. It is held in the basement of Trinity Lutheran Church. Appointments are scheduled every 30 minutes and the screening takes about an hour to complete. Call 507-794-7873 to set up an appointment for your child.

**Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat** – Saturday, October 26, 3:00-5:00 pm. Held at the Sleepy Eye School parking lot. Join us for a fun afternoon of fall themed games, trunk or treating and community fellowship. Collaborated with Trinity Lutheran Church. Come dressed in your full costume, but please—no weapons!

**Mommy and Me – Cooking with Mom** on Friday, November 8, 5:00-6:30 p.m. in the FACS Room at SEHS. Come and join as we bake cookies and enjoy a simple supper of pasta. If mom is busy or working, bring anyone that would like to cook with you!

**Open Gym** – Saturday, November 16, 3:30-5:00 p.m. or Saturday, December 7, 10:30 am-12 noon in the Sleepy Eye Elementary Gym. Time to run, jump, climb and play!

**Holiday Event** – Friday, December 6, 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Sleepy Eye School Cafeteria.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Father-Daughter Dance: January 26, 2025, Mother-Son Dance: February 9, 2025  
Both events are at the Sleepy Eye Event Center, 1:00-2:30 p.m. Tickets on sale in January!



## PRESCHOOL OFFERINGS

School District #84 offers a three-year-old **Discovery Time** preschool two or three days a week for two hours and 15 minutes. Parents also attend ECFE classes with the child. Scholarships are available for qualifying families and busing is available in town. Early sign-up is encouraged as classes fill fast!

**Voluntary Pre K** is available for four year olds and meets 140 days during the school year due to a grant which was awarded to Sleepy Eye School for the 2024-25 school year.

**Other preschools** are available at Grace Lutheran Church, St. Mary's Catholic School and Tri Valley Head Start.

**Sneakers Recycling** - Don't throw those tennis shoes in the landfill - deposit in the boxes in the lobby of Sleepy Eye elementary school. The ECFE program will send them off periodically and receive a rebate. Thanks for your support.

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## LIFE-WORK PLANNING CENTER

The mission of LIFE-WORK PLANNING CENTER is to increase the self-sufficiency of women and their families. LIFE-WORK PLANNING CENTER:

- Pre-Employment for women and a Minnesota Displaced Homemaker Program. They serve women in transition, including Displaced homemakers; Non-Displaced Homemakers; Latina Women and Youth, and Women transitioning from Welfare to Work.
- Provides a supportive environment where one can gain pre-employment skills and define what is important to them.
- Services include Workshops, One-to-One Peer Counseling, Computer tutoring, Resources & Referrals and Advocacy.
- Service individuals in Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan Counties.
- Is sponsored in part by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, area United Ways, and individual contribution.

Classes include **Strength, Balance and Self-Respect** for 6 weeks. Topics included are Confidence, Stress Management, Assertive Communication, Boundaries, Decision Making and Goal Setting. Classes are held at the New Ulm MVAC office, 1618 South Broadway on Wednesdays 12:30-2:30 p.m. starting September 11.

**Job Search** will be offered for 3 weeks. It covers the following topics: Assessments, resume writing and work history, interview skills and job search. Held at Mankato office, 3-5 p.m. starting October 23. (this workshop is both in-person and virtually).

**SMART** workshops is an evidence based Stress Management And Resilience Training. Participants attend once a week for two weeks 0 November 12 & 19, 10 a.m.-noon virtually. Call 1-507-345-1577 or e-mail [info@lwpc.org](mailto:info@lwpc.org) for the latest updates and to register for offerings through Life-Work Planning Center.



**GED** classes are offered in New Ulm through the Mankato Area Adult Basic Education Consortium. Preparation for people who need a high school diploma or its equivalent in order to get a better job, or move on to post-secondary education opportunities. All classes are held at the New Ulm Public Library either in-person or online.

Class times during the year are 4:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information or to schedule an appointment contact: New Ulm Adult Basic Education, 507-779-5827 or Mankato Area Adult Basic Education at 507-345-5222.

**ESL** classes have 5 levels available and an evening online option is available. New students join these classes every month. The classes are held 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, contact Mankato Area Adult Basic Education at 507-345-5222. Leave a message and they will get back to you. Text 507-779-5827 or email [abe@isd77.org](mailto:abe@isd77.org)

## UNITED WAY BROWN COUNTY AREA

Many initiatives are offered through our Brown County Area United Way. One of the long standing programs has been the **Youth Activities Scholarship Program**. Young people ages 4-18 whose family income is insufficient to meet the activity and equipment fees, are eligible.

The **Dolly Parton Imagination Library** is open to all preschool children in Brown County. This program delivers one book a month to those who register through United Way. Reading regularly to children at a very young age has proven to help children be ready for school. Call the United Way at (507)354-6512 to register a child.

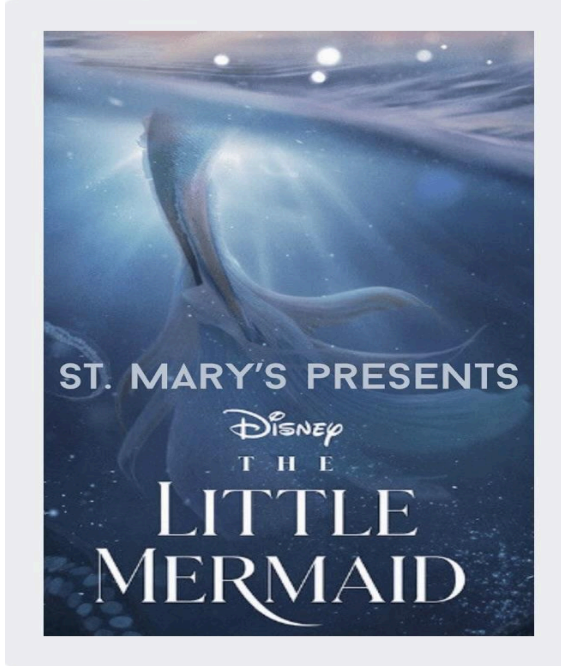
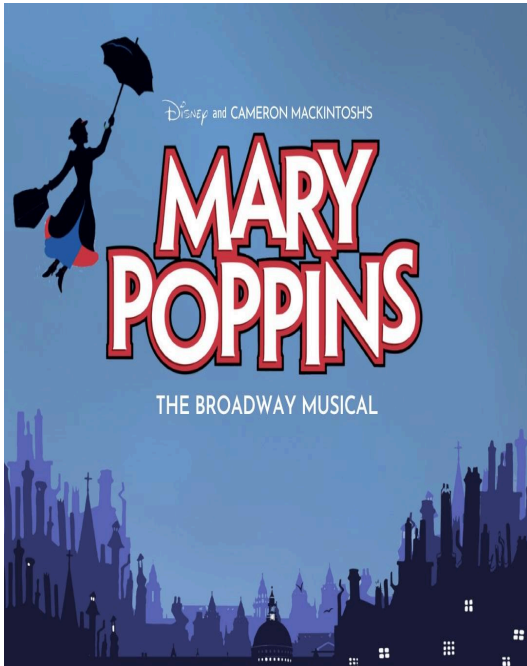
Registration forms and additional information is available on all of these activities at [HYPERLINK "http://www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org"](http://www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org) [www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org](http://www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org)

### **Days of Caring - October 24, 25, 26**

It's a three-day service event like no other! Days of Caring brings together teams of volunteers to help individuals across Brown County. Our volunteers provide services for our disabled and/or senior population. Some non-professional service projects include: small painting projects, raking leaves, washing windows, cleaning gutters or other yard work. It is amazing the difference one day can make when people work together. Spend one to three days volunteering with us to complete more than 80 projects. Sign up for the 23rd annual **Days of Caring** organized by the United Way of the Brown County area. If you are in need of a helper for any of the days or want to register a team, call 507-354-6512 or visit us on the web [UnitedWayBrownCountyArea.org](http://UnitedWayBrownCountyArea.org)

**#Raise Your Hand!**

# LOCAL THEATER EVENTS



**Mark your calendars for two amazing productions coming this fall! Sleepy Eye High School will perform *Mary Poppins* October 3-6 and St. Mary's High School will produce *Little Mermaid* November 15-17. Watch for future media publications.**

## Registration Form

Return to: Sleepy Eye Community Education  
400 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SW  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Class or Event	Day/date	Fee

