

# SLEEPY EYE COMMUNITY EDUCATION

**400 4<sup>TH</sup> AVE SW**  
**SLEEPY EYE, MN 56085**  
**507-794-7873**

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.**

**Winter/Spring 2025 - Volume 47 Issue 4**

## **Staff**

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Director

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## **Community Education Advisory Council**

Joleen Dittbenner, Matt Schmidt, JoAnn Schumacher,

Lisa Steffl, DeAnn Gieseke, Christy Kallevig

Watch for monthly updates on our program by reading the Community Education News in the *Sleepy Eye Herald Dispatch*. On the first and third Tuesday of each month, a staff member provides updated information on KNUJ-SAM 107.3 at 8:30 a.m. You may also find weekly updates on *Sleepy Eye Online*. Thank you for your continued support of our programs! Interested in serving on the advisory board? Please call for details.

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, Motorcycle Safety Training, Behind the Wheel Training
- Spring Trips
- Adult and Youth Enrichment Courses
- ECFE Activities
- Summer preview



**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 class on Saturdays; **January 25, February 22, March 22.** 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.

## **Trips and Tours**

This spring, take a journey by motor coach with Sleepy Eye Community Education. Stops are made along the route to pick up participants. A minimum number is needed to go. Please adhere to sign-up deadlines. If you cancel after a ticket deadline, you will be responsible for the ticket price unless you find a replacement. More details about the events of the day will be provided for those who have registered.

**Minnesota State Capitol and Minnesota History Museum** - Thursday, March 13 - A guided tour will give an overview of Capitol history, art, architecture and state government. The Capitol features the largest self-supported marble dome in the world, decorative art, murals and paintings that have all been restored within the past ten years. After the tour, we will go a short distance to the Minnesota History Museum. The Cafe Minnesota features sandwiches, wraps, subs, soups, salads, and beverages. You may also bring your own lunch. Suggested time to visit the exhibits is 90 minutes. The current exhibits include Girlhood, Reframing Our Stories, Our Home: Native Minnesota, Minnesota Greatest Generation.

Departure time from Sleepy Eye will be 8 a.m. and return around 5 p.m. Motorcoach, capitol tour donation and museum admission will be \$55 per person. Sign up by February 26.

***GREASE* at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre** - Wednesday, April 2 - Greased back hair and leather jackets, ponytails and poodle skirts, fast cars and rock'n'roll, ***Grease*** is back at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres! Experience the nostalgia of high school in the 50's - peer pressure, love, and teenage life set against the campy backdrop of Rydell High! Discover the drama, comedy, and pop-culture satire that has made *Grease* one of the most popular productions of all time! Don't forget the music, with songs like "Summer Nights," "We Go Together," "Greased Lightnin'," "Beauty School Dropout" and so many others, including the hits you love from the movie. Have fun as you groove and bop along!

Noon lunch (choice of six entrees), theater ticket, motorcoach fare is \$105 per person. Sign up is needed by March 3. Departure time from Sleepy Eye is 9:15 a.m. and return time around 5 p.m.

**Eagle Watch at the National Eagle Center in Wabasha** - Thursday, April 10 - Have you ever wondered "How much does an eagle weigh?" "How big is their wingspan?" Get answers about our national bird at the center located in Minnesota. Depart Sleepy Eye 8 a.m., have an early lunch in the Wabasha area and spend the afternoon visiting the displays. Return by 5:30 p.m. Fee of \$50 includes motor coach and admission. Food on your own. Register by March 20.

**Sidekick Theatre** - Wednesday, May 7 - ***Perfect Wedding*** - A groom wakes up on the morning of his wedding day with a hangover and a strange woman in his bed. Mix in the bride, her mother, the best man, and a maid that knows too much, and you have a recipe for disaster. Wedding bells or running for the hills? Their big day will be far from a piece of cake! *“This fast moving and hugely entertaining comedy produces an endless series of excuses, lies, confusions and false confessions right up to the unexpected happy end.”* - The Daily Mail

Noon buffet luncheon, show and motorcoach would be \$85 per person. Sign up by April 21. Departure time from Sleepy Eye would be 9:30 a.m.



Join Sleepy Eye Community Education as live audience members for the taping of **The Jason Show**! Fifty tickets have been reserved for Wednesday, May 28. Guests have to be 18 or older to attend. Each one needs to bring and show a valid photo ID and there will be a security screening via metal detection process. Following the taping, we will go to the Eden Prairie Mall for lunch. Motorcoach fee would be \$35 per person. Bus would leave Sleepy Eye at 7:30 a.m. and return by 5 p.m. Sign up is needed by May 10.

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**Summer youth activities** - a youth brochure will be available at the first part of May including the schedule for swimming lessons, babysitting clinic, soccer camp, 4-H offerings, book wagon, story stroll, preschool summer school and Party in the Park.

## Sleepy Eye Community Theater *Junior*



**Sleepy Eye Community Theater *Junior*** will produce ***Seussical Jr, the Musical***. August 1 and 2! The production is open to 2nd through 9th graders for the 2025-2026 school year. Auditions will be held on **Saturday, May 10** and **Wednesday, May 14**. Stay tuned for more information that will be published in the summer youth activities newsletter.

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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. Effective July 1, 2024, the Accident Prevention Course 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 but it is 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.

Bring your driver's license.

Minimum class size is 12 and maximum is 25.

Classes this spring will be offered on the following dates:

### **Four Hour Renewal Classes:**

Thursday, March 20 1:00 pm

Tuesday, April 15 5:00 pm

Monday, May 12, 1:00 pm

## **Ride Safe, Ride Smart! Motorcycle Safety Training**

RSRS is recognized by the National Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) and licensed by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. All RiderCourses are held at the Sleepy Eye High School and are limited to 8 riders.

- Always wanted to ride? It's time to hit the road!
- Been riding on a motorcycle permit for years? Time to get legal!
- Learn to ride and earn your endorsement in just two days!
- No riding experience is necessary and the bikes are provided!
- Be ready for a FUN weekend - Saturday & Sunday only - 9 am-4 pm!
- Refresher courses are available for experienced riders.
- Moped courses are also available - ONLINE.

### **2025 class schedule:**

Dates for 2025 are April 26-27, May 17-18, May 31-June 1, June 14-15, June 28-29

July 12-13, July 26-27, August 9-10, August 23-24, September 6-7 (classes run 9 am-4 pm both days)

Fee: \$270

BRC2 Intermediate course will be Saturday, June 21, 9 am-2 pm

Instructors: Brent & Debby Jass, certified MSF RiderCoaches

More information and registration can be found at [RideSafeRideSmart.com](http://RideSafeRideSmart.com)

Questions? Call Brent at 507-630-0551

**BEHIND THE WHEEL INSTRUCTION** (for students who have their permits) will be offered during the summer. Sign up is coming so students need to watch the school bulletins. Four 1.5 hour sessions are needed to get a white card.

## 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.

Spring term continues 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. Class held on Saturday, January 25, February 22, March 15

**All Ages** - Tuesday, 4:30-6 p.m.- February 2 to April 1 - Join us for engaging classes designed to provide ideas, motivation, and support to help you stay ahead of your curious, active child. Through age-appropriate activities like dramatic play, reading, art, and other hands-on learning centers, your child will have fun while learning through play - their most important work. During the last 30 minutes of class, parents will separate for a guided discussion led by a parent educator. Fee: \$36

**Open Gyms** - Saturday, January 25, 9:30-11 am, Saturday, February 22, 3:30-5 p.m. and Saturday, March 15, 9:30-11 am \$2 per child, \$5 per family or food shelf items

**Grandparents Day** - Saturday, February 15, 9-10:30 a.m. - Preschoolers love to show their classroom to grandparents, so join them at this special event. There will be time for grandparents to share how they are part of their grandchildren's activities as well. \$2 per child, \$5 per family or food shelf items

**Literacy Night** - Tuesday, March 11, 5-7 p.m. - special activities for preschool through sixth grade all based on books.

**Daddy and Me** - Friday, April 11, 6-7:30 p.m. - This fun, building project event will be held in the Sleepy Eye School Cafeteria. \$2 per child/\$5 per family or donate one food shelf item per person.

**Vehicle Fair** - Tuesday, May 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Sleepy Eye Public School Parking Lot - Explore vehicles up close like tractors, trucks, cars and machinery. A small concession stand will be available as well as other activities.

**Ladies Night Out:** Cookie Decorating at the Sleepy Eye Coffee Company - Watch for more details for this event in late April or early May.

**Coming in summer** - Book Wagon, Book Stroll, Mobile Screening

**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 Free Library or any ECFE 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.

**Sneakers** are being collected for recycling. Just leave them in the box at the elementary school entrance.

## Preschool Offerings



School District #84 offers a three-year-old **Discovery Time** preschool 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! Registration information will be available in July.

**Voluntary Pre K** is available for four year olds and meets 140 days for two and a half hours during the school year. A grant application will be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education to obtain financial support for the program participants.

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

## Sleepy Eye Dyckman Free Library offerings

**345 Main St W - 507-794-7655 - [www.sleepyeye-mn.com](http://www.sleepyeye-mn.com)**

Young Adult Painting - kids ages 10-18 - \$10 per person

Wednesday, February 5, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 24, 6 p.m.

Adult Painting - \$20 per person

Monday, January 13, 6 p.m.

Monday, February 3, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 17, 6 p.m.

Spice Tours - learn and try new spices

Wednesday, January 15, 6 p.m. - Juniper

Wednesday, February 19, 6 p.m. - Star Anise

Wednesday, March 19, 6 p.m. - Spanish Saffron

Wednesday, April 16, 6 p.m. - Sumac

Ninten Tones Jazz Band - Friday, May 2, 7 p.m.

Story Times every Thursday at 10 a.m.

Musical Story Times the second Thursday January-March at 10 a.m.



## 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" www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org](http://www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org)

### Registration Form

Return to: Sleepy Eye Community Education  
400 4th Ave SW  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

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

Class or Event	Day/date	Fee

#### Others ways to register:

- Call 507-794-7873 and leave a message if the office is unattended.
- Email [Pat.stevermer@sleepyeye.mntm.org](mailto:Pat.stevermer@sleepyeye.mntm.org) or [Sandy.brinkman@sleepyeye.mntm.org](mailto:Sandy.brinkman@sleepyeye.mntm.org)