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Wednesday,
March 20

Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge kicks off season with sweet new event

Learn how to make maple syrup in the ultimate maple tapping experience



Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge Sweet Ann's Small-Batch Maple Syrup will make its debut during the Maple Season Tap Off Weekend on April 5-7. Photos courtesy of Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge.

Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge has a sweet reason for beginning its season earlier than normal this year – maple syrup.

The Maple Season Tap Off Weekend on April 5-7 marks the beginning of Ruttger's spring resort season, weeks earlier than the resort typi-

cally opens. At this first-ever event, guests will learn the maple syrup production process from tapping to tasting, eat a variety of maple-inspired foods, and leave with a bottle of Ruttger's Sweet Ann's Small-Batch Maple Syrup, produced with sap from the trees of Ruttger's.

"This event is a really neat – and delicious – way to get outside, commune with nature, learn a little bit, and have some fun," Ruttger's President Chris Ruttger said. "Plus, you get to eat the fruits of your labor... and who doesn't love fresh, homemade maple syrup on a steaming stack of pancakes?"

Clayhill Farm of Brainerd will partner with Ruttger's on this event, including instructing a Maple 101 class that educates participants how to produce their own maple syrup. The educational presentation will also include tapping sugar maple trees on the grounds of Ruttger's, collecting the sap, and then heading to Clayhill Farm to process that sap into syrup.

"Warm maple syrup straight from the evaporator is unlike anything you've

ever tasted before," Clayhill Farm Owner Harry Worms said. "We'll also make maple butter, maple candy and a few more surprises."

The event is open to the public for \$65 per adult and \$25 for children 17 and under. This includes breakfast,

lunch and the full-day maple experience. Rooms are available for those looking to make a mini-vacation out of it. Overnight guests also get dinner included.

For more information or to sign up, go to www.ruttgers.com/maple.



Harry and Judy Worms of Clayhill Farm, Brainerd-based small-batch maple syrup producers. The couple will instruct participants in the maple syrup making process.

SHIFT

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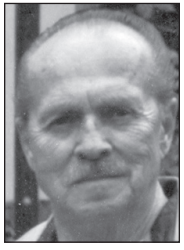
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OBITUARIES

JAMES WHEELER



James Robert Wheeler, 77, of Merrifield died on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at his home.

Funeral services was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby. Burial was at the Mission Township Cemetery with military honors by the Myrin-James American Legion Post #443.

He was born in Brainerd to Clinton and Blanche (Potter) Wheeler on November 16, 1941. He was a Vietnam Navy veteran.

Jim married Marjorie Moritz Roach on September 5, 1986 at the Ossipee Community Church in Merrifield. Jim was a retired Potlatch employee with 38 years of service. He enjoyed farming, playing in the Country Western Band, inventing and making things in his machine shop, hunting, camping and tending to his garden. For nine years Jim was involved with Kinship Partners, sponsoring Loren Jones. He attended the Emily United Methodist Church.

Jim is survived by his wife, Marjorie; son, Brian Wheeler; daughter, Brenda Wheeler; two step sons: Jim (Pam) Roach and Randy (Kelly) Roach; step daughter, Mitzi Crall; 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren; sister, Lenea Wheeler and brother, Clinton (Wilma) Wheeler, Jr.; and a special sister-in-law, Ellie Wheeler.

Preceding Jim in death are his parents; two brothers: Burton and Kenny Wheeler; granddaughter, Heidi Keen and great-granddaughter, Analisa Lydia Wheeler.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

KATHERINE KOKESH



Katherine M. Kokesh, 75, of Aitkin died on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 due to cardiac arrest.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday, March 15, at 2:00 p.m., at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, 27332 Central St., Garrison with Fr. Kevin Anderson officiating. Visitation one hour prior. Reception immediately followed at the Andrew F. Kokesh VFW Post 1816 at 27234 Monroe Street, Garrison, MN 56450. Memorial donations may be made to "Kathy Kokesh Memorial" at Bremer Bank. Funds will be used to support the organizations Grandma Kathy loved the most.

She was born in Hopkins on September 22, 1943. Katherine was married to Duane "Bucky" Weitnauer for 24 years. Known to most as Grandma Kathy, her greatest pleasure was found in caring for others. She was a successful businesswoman as the proprietor of the Y Club in Garrison, the 40 Club Restaurant, Motel, and Convention Center in Aitkin, and Merlin's Family Restaurant in Princeton. She volunteered for

many local organizations including schools, churches, and food shelves. She loved playing games with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and cards with her friends. She made the best cookies, banana bread and potato salad.

She is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law: Cletis, Curtis and Angela, Clayton and Susan Weitnauer; six grandchildren: Michael (Lauren) Weitnauer, Cletis, Marcus, and Cameron Weitnauer, Andy (Laura) Weitnauer, and Heidi (Ross) Robinson; eight great-grandchildren Scout and Luke Weitnauer, Lainey, Greta, and Lucy Weitnauer and Riley, Reegan, and Reese Robinson; brothers and sisters-in-law: Robert and Nancy, Mark and Colleen, Neil and Carolyn, Tony and Melinda Kokesh; and sisters and brothers-in-law: Mary and Jim Henry, Jan and Dale Post, and Chris Kokesh.

She was preceded in death by her parents Robert and Jeanette (Randall) Kokesh, siblings Guy, Andy, Luke, and Connie Kokesh and her beloved grandson, Luke Weitnauer.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Go to www.srtfuneral.com to sign the online guest register.

Send your e-mail to hopper@crosbyironton.net

Community Events, Births, Open Houses, Engagements, Weddings & are published FREE!



Open House

100th Birthday Open House
Woodrow Banks
Sunday, March 24, 2 p.m. to 5pm.
at the Bible Baptist Church in Crosby



Oliver Steven Gutzman, 23-month-old son of Trever and Jennifer (Reyes) Gutzman, died on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital in Minneapolis.

Funeral services will be held on 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 16, 2019 at the Salem Lutheran Church in Deerwood. Burial will be at the Woodland Cemetery in Irondale Township. Visitation will be on Friday at the Salem Lutheran Church in Deerwood from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday one hour prior to the services at the church.

Oliver was born on March 21, 2017 in Crosby. Oliver was born with a condition called Biliary Atresia, which required a liver transplant in February of 2018. Complications with bile duct

OLIVER GUTZMAN

obstructions required many hospital stays and procedures. Post-transplant lymphoma disease and immune thrombocytopenic purpura developed, taking Oliver's life. Oliver fought hard for life. In two years, he developed an interest in balls, cars, sports and loved learning new things by being read to. His smile was more contagious every day.

Oliver is survived by his parents, Trever and Jennifer Gutzman, Ironton; sister, Olivia Gutzman, Ironton; paternal grandmother, Lisa Gutzman, Crosby; maternal grandparents, Wayne and Roxsana Sanders, Crosby; paternal great-grandmother, Rose Stimac, Pequot Lakes; aunts: Kristie (Ryan) Chapman, Jocelyn Straka and Hailey Sanders and uncles, Felix (Rachel) Reyes and Tyler Hendrickson.

Oliver was preceded in death by his maternal great grandmother, Antonia Santiago and paternal grandfather, Maynard Hendrickson.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

* Indicates handicap accessible. NOTE: All times are Sunday morning (a.m.) unless indicated otherwise.

ALLIANCE

Aitkin* — New Life; Larry Burg & John Baker, pastors; Worship 10:15 am & 5:30 pm; Adult Sunday School 9 am; "Elevate" youth group for 7th-12th graders, Wed 6:15 pm; 112 - 1st Ave. SW 218-927-2823.

Garrison* — Pastor Michael H. Palkie; Worship 9; SS 10:30. McGregor/Big Sandy — Rev. S. DeMars, 426-3408; E. of Sather's Store; Worship 9:30; Children's Church 10 Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Aitkin — Heritage Church, Rev. Hayden Loven; Sunday Morning Service 10:45
Crosby — Interim Pastor Greg Kalyvas; Worship 10:30
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeseth; SS at 9:30, Worship at 10:45
Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; hillcityagchurch@gmail.com; 218-697-2662
Palisade — Pastor Ed Sornberger; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

BAPTIST

Aitkin - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617, Worship 9 and 10:30, thejourneynorth.com
Baxter - The Journey North, Pastor Mark Bjorlo, 218-824-5617, Worship Saturday 5, Sunday 9, 10:30, 11:45, thejourneynorth.com
Brainerd* - Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Chris Erickson, 218-829-3191; SS 9:00, Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m., Wed. Classes and Clubs 6:30 p.m.; fbcbrainerd.com
Brainerd - The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 www.thechurchontheviseroad.org
Brainerd — Eagles Nest, Pastor Bob Stockland 218-829-4673, Worship 11, SS 9:45.
Breezy Point — Eagles Nest, Pastor Bob Stockland 218-562-5252, Worship 9:30, SS 9:30.
Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor G. Fisher; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study and Our Kids for Christ Wed. 7 pm
Deerwood* — Pastor W. Skog; SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and 6 pm; Wed. Service, 6:30 pm.
Glory* — Pastor Chris Meirose; 927-3678; SS 9:15; Worship 10:30 am.; Wed 6pm Glory Family night, KidMin grades kindergarten - 6, Mad4Christ grades 7-12.
Hill City — Pastor Lonnie Lee; 218-697-2645; Adult SS 9; Worship 10 am; Bible Study, Fri., 7 pm.
Isle — Pastor Nick Skogen; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.
Opstead — 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.

CATHOLIC

Aitkin — St. James, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 10 AM. Confession Sat. 10-10:45 am and 4-4:45 pm.
Brainerd — St. Andrew's, Fr. Daniel Weiske, Sat. 4:30; Sun. 10:00 and St. Mathias Sunday 8:00.
Brainerd — St. Francis, Fr. Anthony Wroblewski, Sat. 5:00; Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 and All Saints Saturday 4:00 and Sunday 10:30.
Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sat. 5 p.m.
Crosby — St. Joseph's, Mass: Sat. 4:30 pm; Sun 10:30.
Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, 218-692-3731; www.ihmstemiys.org; Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm.
Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. & Wed. 8; Sun. 10:30; Confession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101.
Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Elias Gieske, Mass Sun. 8 am. Confession Sun 7:15-7:45 am.
Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483
Hillman — Holy Family, Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt.
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8 am. Confession 7:15-7:45 am.
Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Baxter, Lakes Area — Nondenominational; 7001 Highland Scenic Road; Bible Study every Wed. 7 pm; Worship 10:30-11:30. 218-828-1362
Tamarack — Pastor Terry Banker, 608-475-1528, Worship 9:30; SS 10:45; Wed Youth 4 pm.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10

COMMUNITY

Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun. 10, 218-927-6959
Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene - Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10:45, SS 9:30 -16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005
Glen — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9 May-Oct.
Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 pm
Jacobson — Jacobson Community Church, Pastor George Collins, 218-252-5938, Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm
Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.
McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 10; 99 South 1st Street (at the McGregor United Methodist church [shared] in downtown McGregor) Pastor Joel Seibel.
McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm.
Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ron Christenson; Service 11 & 6 pm. Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536.
Merrifield — Ossipee Community, SS 10; Service 11; Wed. Bible Study Prayer, 7:00 p.m.
Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Dave Uhrich; Service 10; Fellowship 9:30-10
Outing* - Narrows Community Church, Pastor Stanley Mikles, 218-792-5530 Worship 9:30; Children's Sunday School 9:30; Clothes Closet 8 am - noon 4th Saturday, 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy. 6 bridge
Palisade/Waukenabo Twp. — Hilltop Chapel, Pastor B. Hite; Service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's SS 9 a.m.; between Esquagama & Round Lake. Handicap Accessible.
Tamarack — Church of Christ, 218-768-3898; Service 9:30; SS 10:45.

CONGREGATIONAL

Aitkin — First (UCC) Rev. Susan Cline; Sun. 10; Comm. 1st Sun; Council Mtg. 2nd Sun. Spiritual fellowship, Sun. 9.

EPISCOPAL

Aitkin — St. John's, Holy Communion or Morning Prayer 9 *Brainerd - St. Paul's, Holy Communion Sunday 10

EVANGELICAL FREE

Baxter — Lakewood EFC, Pastor Brian Erickson; Worship at 9 & 10:45; Wed for all ages 6:45 pm
Crosslake — Interim Pastor Mark Holmen; Call for Service Times at 218-692-4141, email thelogchurch@crosslake.net
Isle — Pastor Kerry Johnston; Worship 9; SS 10:15; Wed. Youth Group 6 pm; Adult Prayer 6:30 pm
Malmö — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10; Worship 10:15
Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Thu., Bible Study, 7 pm.

HEBREW/MESSIANIC

Glen — Beth Shalom Tabernacle of Truth, Rabi Frank Dell, for information 320-684-2804

LUTHERAN

Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun each month.
Aitkin — First* (ELCA) Pastor Darrell Pedersen, Pastor Jordan Gades; worship Sat. 5pm, Sun. 10am (coffee fellowship at 9am); communion every Sat. and 1st & 3rd Sun.; contemporary service 2nd & 5th Sun.; staffed nursery

for Sun. service. Sun. service broadcast live on KKK (94.3FM) and on TV cable channel 181 at 9am on Wed.; community meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9:30am- 5pm.

Aitkin — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor D. Becker; Worship Sun. 9, SS 10

Baxter — Christ Lutheran Church and Preschool (WELS). Pastor Bill Werth. Sunday Worship 9. Sunday School/ Adult Bible Class 10:15. 13815 Cherrywood Dr. in Baxter. (Corner of Inglewood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. www.christbaxter.com.

Baxter — Prince of Peace (LCMS); Communion every Sunday 9, Fellowship 10:15, Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am 218-829-7092 www.pobaxter.org
Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun., 10:30.

Brainerd — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church, AFLC, Sunday School 9, Worship 10 coffee fellowship 11, Wednesday evening 7 pm adult Bible study. Located at 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052, www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church

Brainerd - Laestadian Lutheran Church; 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 11 am. (www.lchurch.org)
Brainerd - Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th Street Brainerd - Pastor David P. Holte and Pastor Hans Anderson - Summer Sunday Worship Time is 9 a.m. and Wednesday evening at 6 p.m. - Phone: 218-829-5147 Website: www.trinitybrainerd.org Email: trinity@trinitybrainerd.org

Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9 Breezy Point* — Eagles Nest, Pastor Jonathan Lemaster, 218-562-5252, Worship 10:30 a.m. SS 9:30 a.m.

Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA); Worship 8:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.

Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7 pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910

Crosslake — (ELCA), Indoor worship 8:30; Coffee Fellowship 9:30; outdoor worship 10. 218-692-3682.
Crosslake — Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Leslie Uhrinak; Worship 9:30 with every Sunday Communion, Fellowship 10:30, Adult Bible Class 11, 218-692-4228, www.missionofthecross.org

Deerwood — Salem (ELCA), Pastor Michael Briggs; Worship: 8:15 (traditional) & 10 (contemporary); Sunday School 9:15.

Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Pastor Juli Sutton-Deem; Worship 9 SS 9; 320-692-4773 or 877-406-9101.

Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (LCMS), Rev. Tom Petersen. Worship 10 with Communion Every Sunday. Adult Bible Study 8:30am, Sunday School Sept-May, 8:30am. Fellowship 11am. 320-692-4581. www.shepherdofthelake.org.

Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month 8:45.

Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor M. Eckert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.
Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9:30, SS 10. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)

Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 10:30; 218-534-3069.

Isle — Faith (ELCA), Interim Pastor Rev. Henry French; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.
Isle — Holden (ELCA), SS 9:30; Worship 10:30.
Isle — Trinity (Missouri Synod), Rev. Mark Maunula; Worship 8:30; Fellowship follows; SS 9:45; Adult Bible 10.

Jacobson — Carmel, Vicar Mark Wagner; SS 1st & 3rd Sun. 10, Service 11, fellowship follows.

Lake Shore — Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Interlachen Rd.; Worship 9:00 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and Bible study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N)

Malmö — Bethesda (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9 (winter) 8:30 & 10 (summer); Fellowship after first service; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.

McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.

McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship 9; SS 9.

McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (ELCA), Pastor Ericka Foss; Worship 9, Fellowship follows, SS 10.

McGregor — Our Savior's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua C. Reinke; Worship 9; SS 10; Bible Study Tue. 9, Wed. 7 pm Outing — Our Saviors ELCA; Pastor Michael Gustafson, Worship 9.

Palisade* — Bethel (ELCA), Rev. Wm. J. Sass; Worship 9:30; Wed. School classes 4:15 p.m.

Pequot Lakes* - Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA) Rev. Peter Rosenkvist, Worship 9:00 a.m. SS 9:15 am. Adult Ed — 10:15 am. Wed. Worship 5:45 pm. Free Community Supper Wednesdays at 5 pm.

Rosburg — Bethesda (ELCA); Comm. 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.

Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor Ron Staudinger; 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays 10 am; 41163 Kestrel Ave 3.3 mi. South of Hwy 210

Thor — Zion, Pastor G. Salmonson; Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.

Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.

Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua Reinke; Worship 10:30; Bible Study and Sunday School Sun. 9:30; Lent services Wed. 5:30 pm.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Brainerd — Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30 am, 523 SE 11th Street, Brainerd, 218-454-0984

PENTECOSTAL
Emily — Cornerstone Church; Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.

Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Irondale Town Hall*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 pm. Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, Pastors Ken and Ron Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585

PRESBYTERIAN
Crosslake — Worship 10; Bible study on Wednesdays at 10; 14444 Daggett Pine Road; 218-692-4769

McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9. McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm. Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.

REFORMED
Crosby — Lifespring Church, a member of Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals, 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, www.visitlifespring.com

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Aitkin — Pastor Peter Emig; Worship Sat. 9:30 a.m., Bible Study 10:30 a.m.; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; www.aitkinadventist.org; 423-805-0933

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
Pequot Lakes — 28877 State Hwy 371, Pequot Lakes 10:30 1st and 4th Sundays. 218-330-3476

UNITED METHODIST
Aitkin — Pastor Dawn Houser; high school & adult SS 9; Worship 10:30; fellowship follows; handicapped accessible.

Crosby/Deerwood — Cascade, Reverend Dr. Genia Garrett; Worship 9:45; fellowship follows.
Cutler — Pine Lake Chapel, Rev. Laurence Foote; Worship 9. Cromwell — Pastor Tim Homstad; Worship 10; SS 9
Emily — Pastor Dawn Houser; Worship 8:45; fellowship follows; handicapped accessible.

Fleming — (Northern Lights Parish) SS 9:15; Worship 10:30; fellowship follows; handicapped accessible.
Hill City — Pastor Roger Lynn; Worship 10
McGregor — (Northern Lights Parish) Worship 8:45; fellowship follows; handicapped accessible.

Onamia — Pastor Rick & Judy Wilder; Worship 11; fellowship 10; 2 bks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

WESLEYAN
Emily — Pastor Ryan Fish; Worship 9; Friendship Time 10; SS 10:30; Wed. Activities 6:30 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.

We ask you to support these sponsors of the church directory:

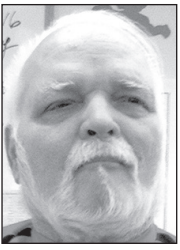
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NEWS HOPPER
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OBITUARIES

PAUL RIMARCİK



Paul Joseph Rimarcik, 78, of Aitkin died Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at the St. Cloud Hospital in St. Cloud. A memorial service will be held in the spring. Interment will be at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery.



Paul was born August 15, 1940 in Minneapolis to Joseph and Mary Rimarcik. He grew up and attended schools in Minneapolis graduating from DeLasalle High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served 22 years in the navy. Upon his discharge he returned to Minneapolis and worked as a mold injection operator for a manufacturing company. He moved to the Aitkin area in 1982 and worked for Stearns Rubber.

He married Helen Hermanson on April 4, 1984 in Minneapolis. They made their home in Aitkin. He was a member of the VFW and Knights of Columbus. He was an avid fisherman and also enjoyed bowling.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Rimarcik, Aitkin; sons: Greg Rimarcik and Ken Rimarcik both of the Minneapolis area; stepson, Douglas Hermanson and stepdaughter, Anita Williams both of Minneapolis; granddaughter, Brianna (Brandon) Rongnitch; great-granddaughter, Marlee Rongnitch; four sisters: Sue Brennen, Kathy Theis, Marty Crawford and Ann Aeschleman all of Minneapolis.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Go to www.srtfuneral.com to sign the online guest register.

Aitkin Sports and Commerce Show



The Aitkin Sports and Commerce Show was held on a snowy weekend, which kept the attendance down on Sunday, March 10. Here is Patches from the Deerwood Lakes Lions, giving out pinwheels.

Ann Schwartz photos



The 4-H Young Riders have nearly raised all the money for a new horse barn at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds. Here, Young Rider Kendra has some fun at their exhibit.



Ihleen Williams, past Riverboat queen and Aitkin Mayor Gary Tibbitts volunteer as greeters.

Green Owl opens on the avenue



This adorable green owl is the mascot for the new gallery. There is a contest to name the little fella.

The Green Owl Gallery opened last weekend on Minnesota Avenue North in Aitkin. It is an art market featuring works from over 40 local artists and crafts. Skye Fielder, Aitkin, right, gallery owner, and Ann Anderson, Deerwood, left, crafter, were on hand. Dave Sannes of Palisade was the carpenter for the remodeled space that was formerly the guild center for From Heart to Hands. Sannes also shows his wooden clocks there. Artwork, ceramics, pottery, jewelry, knit and crocheted items, cards, practical home items, soap, and much much more are featured.

Ann Schwartz photos

READER RIBBETS

Campaign promise prevented

Based on a phone tip, the Crosby police leadership investigated a Crosby citizen and involved the ATF. The police leadership poked the citizen in the chest and reassured him they would get him.

The citizen ran for mayor and won. On the campaign trail, he promised to investigate BMS Case No 17-PA-0260, (read at www.newshopper.net) and render punishment, if needed.

In the fall of 2016, the citizen called the police for help, after being assaulted on his property by two individuals. Following police recommendations, he obtained a restraining order. The ICR was closed.

The police leadership was approached by one of the assailants in the spring of 2017, the closed ICR was re-opened and turned into a felony charge against the citizen who called for help.

The second assailant had to be subpoenaed by the defense, he discredited the felony charge and the Crosby police leadership; they did not subpoena him for a reason. Jurors found no evidence and a flawed investigation. The police leadership succeeded in removing the person from the Office of Mayor, his campaign promise defused by three plus charges that has cost him thousands of dollars to defend.

BMS Case No 17-PA-0260 found the police leadership lied, distorted the truth, conducted biased and prejudiced investigations, and altered documents. Their honesty and integrity shall forever be called into question, their continued employment is destructive.

The Crosby police leadership have a trail of innocent victims that have been subjected to the bias and prejudiced ways.

Resignation and retirement are to little too late, immediate termination should occur and Crosby can move immediately forward with new leadership.

Kelly Avelsgard
Concerned Observer
Deerwood

Ethics and transparency in Crosby?

About the same time our mayor and city administrator, here in Crosby, started the process of moving an investment group forward towards building a hotel in city limits by applying for a substantial IRRRB grant that will cover a majority of costs pertaining to the construction of the water infrastructure to this endeavor's proposed property, our mayor had the amazing vision to buy a building here and relocate his business.

Remember that it was about a year later, that Dale Lueck's letter officially announced this hotel's supposed arrival with some of our council members, as well as the entire Economic Development Committee, having no idea that our city was even involved.

Then, under our mayors influence, a city ordinance

regarding the tearing down of structures, in my opinion, got stretched to help yet another business gain, what truly could be argued, an unfair advantage uptown. But guess who just happened to acquire the neighboring property mere weeks before the marketing campaign began for the soon to be business just one hundred feet away? Is this a classic case of good things happening to good people? Or did insider information help influence these, as well as other people's, decisions on when and what properties to buy in Crosby?

Getting back tho to the hotel issue, if there was nothing to hide or question, why were certain council members and committees left in the dark? Why wasn't this same help offered to the parties that were previously interested in build-

ing at that very site? Why is it suddenly, under this reign, our city has opened itself up using taxpayers resources to help certain select businesses get grants? And why did our mayor not pursue the Economic Development Committees January 2017's proposal of extending an interest in the city acquiring the Croft Mine property for both development and restoration? Could it be he or some close associates already had some form of interest in this other hotel?

For some of us, this current reign's lack of transparency has taken away from the excitement of these new businesses coming to town and replaced it with a feeling of mistrust towards our city government.

Sadly, I once again have to ask is this good governance?

Chris Ryan, Crosby

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Harvest of one walleye will be allowed in May on Mille Lacs Lake



Anglers on Mille Lacs Lake will be able to keep walleye during open water fishing for the first time since 2015. An improving walleye population has been protected by conservative fishing regulations in recent years, according to the Department of Natural Resources.

Mille Lacs anglers will be able to keep one walleye between 21 and 23 inches or one walleye over 28 inches from Saturday, May 11, through Friday, May 31.

Rep. Dale Lueck, R-Aitkin, said this loosening of walleye restrictions is a step in the right direction that will benefit anglers and the local economy.

"This is good news and indicates we continue to have a sustainable walleye fishery in Lake Mille Lacs," Lueck said. "Extending the ability to keep at least one fish into

the early portion of the open water season is a major step forward. I am pleased that the Minnesota DNR and the Ojibwe tribal officials have agreed to a harvest level that will allow people to be able take a fish home for the dinner table at least through the month of May.

"This decision, which some might consider a bit too cautious, continues to move us forward on the path of being able to keep fish throughout the entire season. While Mille Lacs has an abundance of other species for which one can fish, the walleye remains the real prize. The DNR's decision represents a cautious loosening of the harvest, while still supporting continued growth in the walleye population. This action benefits both anglers and our local economy."

"It's good news that anglers get to keep some walleye this May, but we are being cautious," said Brad Parsons, DNR fisheries chief. "These regulations represent a careful balance between expanding fishing opportunities and conserving the fishery for the future."

Similar to recent years, a night closure for the 2019

walleye fishing season will be in effect on Mille Lacs from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. beginning Monday, May 13. The night walleye closure will remain in effect throughout the entire open-water season, which ends Nov. 30.

Catch-and-release fishing for walleye begins Saturday, June 1, and other than the night closure, there are no planned closures for walleye fishing this season.

The DNR is able to allow this limited harvest opportunity because of an improving walleye population bolstered by a 2013 year class of fish that has been protected by conservative fishing regulations. The 2013 year class is starting to produce young fish that appear to be surviving.

The DNR expects a strong increase in the number of anglers fishing during the period when walleye harvest is allowed. Allowing the harvest during May, when water temperatures are lower, will limit the mortality of released walleye associated with this increase in pressure. Both harvested fish and those that die as a result of being caught and released are counted against the state's walleye harvest allocation.

The Mille Lacs walleye population has undergone many changes over the past two decades that have coincided with significant aquatic system changes including increased water clarity and decreased walleye productivity; the introduction of zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil and spiny water fleas; a changing zooplankton community that may be altering the aquatic food web; and declines in certain forage species, including tullibee.

The DNR encourages Minnesotans and out-of-state visitors to fish the other abundant species that Mille Lacs Lake has to offer in addition to walleye.

Bass fishing

The lake is nationally recognized as one of the nation's top smallmouth bass and muskellunge fisheries. In 2017, Bassmaster Magazine named Mille Lacs the number one bass fishing lake in the nation. The lake hosted the Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year Championship in 2016 and 2017.

Minnesota's bass season opens Saturday, May 11, and is catch-and-release only in most of the state, including Mille Lacs, through Friday,

May 24. Beginning on Saturday, May 25, Mille Lacs' daily bag and possession limit will be three bass per angler. All smallmouth and largemouth bass between 17 and 21 inches must be immediately released. Anglers may keep only one bass over 21 inches. In a change this year, smallmouth bass are catch-and-release only on Mille Lacs from Monday, Sept. 9, through Feb. 23, 2020, to be consistent with statewide regulations.

Northern pike

Mille Lacs Lake has special regulations that exempt it from the new statewide northern pike zone regulations. From May 11 through Nov. 30, anglers may keep up to five fish. Only one northern pike over 40 inches may be included in the bag limit of five, and anglers must release all pike between 30 and 40 inches.

Special night fishing opportunities

For muskellunge, the season opens on Saturday, June 1, with the statewide rules of a one fish bag and a minimum length of 54 inches. Beginning June 1, anglers may fish for muskellunge and northern pike at night on

Mille Lacs, but may only possess and use artificial lures or sucker minnows longer than 8 inches.

Bowfishing allowed

Bowfishing for rough fish is allowed at night on Mille Lacs starting June 1 but possession of angling equipment is not allowed and only rough fish may be in possession.

State and tribal allocations The state and the Ojibwe tribes with harvest rights in Mille Lacs Lake agreed on a 2019 safe harvest level of 150,000 pounds of walleye, resulting in a state allocation of 87,800 pounds. Under the catch-and-release only regulation last year, walleye angler kill totaled just over 47,000 pounds.

The walleye safe harvest level for Mille Lacs Lake is determined annually. It is based on population status and predictions of how harvest will affect the walleye population in the future. State anglers share the safe harvest level with the eight bands of Ojibwe that have fishing rights under an 1837 treaty. By agreement, the bands and the state are required to monitor harvest according to their respective allocations.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ongoing Events:

AA - Aitkin - 322 1st Ave. NE 218-927-6240 Sun. Women's Meeting 5:30, Mon. Step Study 7:00pm Open, Tue. Big Book Discussion Meeting 6:30pm Open, Open Meeting 8:00pm, Wed. Women's Meeting 6pm, Thu. Sober Sailors Open 9am.

AA Garrison: Monday Night AA (open) 7:30 PM and Wednesday 7:30 PM at Community Alliance Church, 9475 Jefferson St.

ALANON - 322 1st Ave NE, Aitkin 6:30 pm Thursday evenings.

ALANON Garrison: Wednesday 7:30 PM at Community Alliance Church, 9475 Jefferson St.

Aitkin Friends of the Library meet 4th Tue. each month, 1 pm, Aitkin Public Library.

Aitkin IOOF 164 meeting every 4th Monday at 2 pm

Aitkin Lions meet on the 3rd Tuesday at 6 pm at the Aitkin Forty Club restaurant. Call 218-839-3954 for more info.

Aitkin Rebekah Lodge. 151. Meets the 1st and the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Come join us. We meet at the IOOF hall. 22 2nd st. Above the Napa auto parts store. The 1st Tues. is a business meeting. The 3rd one is a social meeting

Aitkin Women of Today meet 2nd Mon. of month, 6:30 pm, Mille Lacs Energy Coop, info call 218-927-4558. Evening care is available and free. All are welcome!

Alzheimer's Support group meetings at ANGELS in McGregor meets the 1st Thurs. every month at 1 pm.

American Legion Aitkin Lee #86 & Unit 86, meets the 2nd Thurs. of each month at 7 p.m.

Art Club meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the Jacques Art Center in Aitkin, 1-3 pm

Care N Share Community Cafe Community Meal, Wednesdays Located in the fellowship hall in the Wesleyan Church on Highway #6 in Emily. Please call Sharon - 612 669-3295

Caregiver/Memory Loss Support Group. Meets the first Wed., 1-2 p.m. at Birchstreet Center, downtown Aitkin. 218-9271383.

Circles of Support meets every Tue., 6-8 pm If you are living paycheck to paycheck and are ready for a change, Circles may be right for you, call Brandi, 800-997-5723.

Clear Lake Grange meets second Tue. each month, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. Meets at the Aitkin Library Community Center. More info call Bonnie 218-927-3485 or Roxy 218-927-4558.

Co-dependants Anonymous meeting. 332 1st Av. NE Aitkin. Wednesday evenings. 5:30.

Cooks Night Out - 3rd Wed of month, McGregor Comm. Ctr., 5:30 p.m., no restrictions, donations welcome.

Cuyuna Rock Gem & Mineral Club, meet 2nd Sat. each month, 2:30 at the lower level of the Franklin Arts Center at 1001 Kingwood St, Brainerd.

Dance every second Tuesday at Moose in Grand Rapids.

Dance at VFW in McGregor every 1st Monday of the month, except holidays which will be on the following Monday

Dance at Waukenabo the second and last Wednesday of the month.

Deerwood Lakes Lions meet the 2nd Monday of each month at the Heartwood Senior Living Complex. Social begins at 5:30pm followed by Dinner/Meeting at 6:00pm. We are very involved in community events and would love to have you join us. If you would like to come to a meeting and see what we do or going to be doing, please call Lion Nancy at 218-678-4165 and let me know by the Thursday before our meeting.

Dyed in the Wool Spinners meeting 1st Tuesday of the month 1-4 p.m. If you knit, crochet, spin, weave or do any other fiber arts please join us in the Club Room at the Security State Bank, 402 Minnesota Ave. N., Aitkin.

Emily Community Care N Share is serving meals on Wednesdays in the fellowship hall at the Wesleyan Church, Highway 6, Emily

Evergreen P.A.C. ATV Club meetings 1st Thu. each month, 7 pm, Jackson Hole, Lawler, open to public.

FASD Caregiver Support Group - For caregivers of individuals with a diagnosed or sus-

pected Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). Meet with other caregivers (adults only please) for support, understanding, and networking. Meetings are 9 am the second Saturday of each month at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 418 8th Ave. NE, Brainerd. For more information, please contact Sheila York at 218-820-5903 or syork@mfos.org

Friends of Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge meet 3rd Wed. each month, at 1 pm. at the Visitor Center at 36289 State Hwy. 65, McGregor 218-768-2402

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous Meeting Tuesday evenings, 6:30 pm small conference room at Aitkin Library. No dues, fees or weigh ins. For more information call: 217-248-6434. www.foodaddicts.org

Food Shelf (Aitkin) Open every Wednesday, 10:30 am - 3 pm. 102 4th St. NW, Aitkin

Food Shelf (Aitkin) at First Lutheran Church open on 2nd and 4th Thurs. 9:30 am-5 pm, at 107 2nd St SE, Aitkin. Must register by 4:45 pm to be served.

Food Shelf (Aitkin) Emergency Food Shelf at St. James Catholic Church, Aitkin. Hours are Tuesday from 12 to 3 pm. To enter the food shelf go to the South side of the building, go to the 4th door and look for signs.

Food Shelf (Emily) First Wednesday of the month for produce and bakery only, 9:30 - 11:00 am. Third Wednesday distribution 9:30 - 11:00 am, followed by Thursday distribution 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Enter from south door.

Food Shelf (Garrison) Open Tue. & Thu. 1-5 pm, at 9541 Madison Street; Garrison. For emergency Food Shelf, call 320-692-5399 and leave a message.

Food Shelf (Hill City) Trinity Lutheran Church 3rd Saturday 8 am - Noon or by Appt.

Food Shelf (Jacobson) Carmel Lutheran Church 60346 240th Ave, 1st and 3rd Thursday, 4 - 6 pm

Food Shelf (McGregor) 45898 Hwy 65 2nd and 4th Wednesday of Month 9 am - Noon

Garrison Fire Auxiliary meets 2nd Thu. 7:30 pm, Garrison Fire Hall.

Garrison Thrift Store, Thurs.-Fri. 10-4, Sat. 11-4.

Gamblers Anonymous 7 pm Thursdays at the Heritage Church on College Drive in Brainerd. This is a closed meeting. Anyone who has a desire to stop gambling is welcome. For more info call 715-821-1749.

McGregor Community Meal sponsored by ANGELS served at the Community Center on Highway 65 on the 3rd Wednesday of each month serving from 5:30 - 6:00 pm.

McGregor TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets Thu., 4 pm weigh in, 4:30 meeting, Minnewawa Sportsman's Club, Goshawk St. (Co. Rd. 6), 218-768-2340 for more info.

McGregor VFW hosts a dance the 1st Monday every month at 1pm.

MS Support Group, meets the 1st Thu. of the month at 7 pm, 606 NW 5th St, Brainerd, 218-824-5228.

Mystic Masonic Lodge meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7 pm except June, July & August meet only 1st Tuesday at 7 pm over the Eye Care Center in Aitkin.

National Alliance on Mental Illness meet Fri., 2:30, Community Presbyterian Church, 703 Pokegama Ave., room 105, Grand Rapids, Call Terrence at 218-327-1347.

North Central MN Farm & Antique Assn. meet 1st Wed. of month, Blackberry Town Hall. Info: Bruce 218-752-6592.

ORDER OF EASTERN STAR, Woodland Chapter #122 in Aitkin meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month at 7PM, EXCEPT January, February

ary and July which are dark . 4th Tuesday in June and 2nd Tuesday in August also are dark. Meetings are held on 2nd floor of the EyeCare Center 312 Minnesota Ave No. Aitkin, MN

Operation Minnesota Nice meets 3rd Monday each month at 6 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hill City. For info call Tina Harcey at 218-697-8144. www.operationminnesotainice.com.

Overeaters Anonymous 9:30am at Aitkin Library, 7:00pm at 112 1st Ave SW - house next to New Life Church. Everyone is welcome, especially newcomers. OA is a 12 step program fashioned after AA. Not a diet club, no dues or fees or weigh-ins. For more info: OA.org, or call meeting contact Cheryl at 770-576-5984.

Praise & Worship Services, 101 S. Maddy St., McGregor, Intercessory prayer Wed 6-7 p.m.; Praise & Worship Services Sat. 2 pm, Sun 10 am.

Recovery Worship Service, Cascade United Methodist Church, Crosby/Deerwood, 1st Sat., 5 pm. Everyone is welcome.

TOPS Aitkin (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Every Tues at East Entrance, First Lutheran Church, 101 2nd St SE, Aitkin Weigh in at 4:30pm and meeting at 5pm

TOPS Ironton (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meet Monday, 4 pm weigh-in, 4:30 pm meeting at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Crosby. Call Mabel Semler 218-546-6523 for meeting location information.

Weight Watchers meets every Wednesday at 5:45 pm at the Deerwood VFW. Weigh in begins at 5:15 pm. For more information, call 218-820-9725.

White Pine Riders ATV Club meet 2nd Sat. each month (Feb. - Oct.) at McGrath Fire Hall, 10 am, open to public.

March

18th - The Garden Club of Cuyuna Lakes will hold their first meeting of 2019 at the Crosby Bar's meeting room at 6:00 pm. All experienced or novice gardeners are welcome.

23rd - Crappie Flop Tournament Rescheduled. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$10 entry fee, Co-sponsors are the Town Tavern in Ironton and Oars 'n Mine in Crosby.

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The good news is that there are many ways to do this and one that can fit just about any level of commitment. So, let's take a look at a few of the different ways to detox.

Eliminating items

Starting from the very simple, eliminating a single item that is adding to the toxic load in your body can be extremely effective. Not only can you start feeling better immediately, but this sense of feeling better can encourage you to do more involved programs in the future. This could include eliminating smoking, alcohol, or even caffeine. More involved programs might be solely focusing on eliminating gluten or grains. This demands more of a undertaking, but many find this commitment life-changing.

One day at a time

Another simple starting point is to focus on a "one day at a time" program. This might begin with a tall glass of pure water, when you wake up in the morning. Squeezing fresh lemon juice into that water is a great way to detoxify and help clean the liver.

Including stretching during frequent breaks throughout the day can help.

Being sure to avoid alcohol is very helpful, as the body sees this as a toxin.

Herbal infusions "teas", pure water, and mineral broths can help with the "stuffed, bloated" feelings.

Eradicating foods that are sugary, deep-fried and avoiding highly processed meats will all pay detoxifying dividends.

Cap it off with a great night's sleep and wake without the morning alarm clock.

Greens and bitter herbs

Drinking infusions "teas" of bitter herbs, such as nettles and dandelion is a great way to help your body detox.

Making fresh juice with fruit and vegetables is an excellent way to get much needed nutrition into your cells. Putting a little kale, cilantro, carrots and other easy to find items through a juicer or into a blender can be tasty and healthy detoxifying helpers.

Getting help

You may want to enlist a professional trained in natural approaches to help guide you through detox.

Regardless of the method you choose, taking the first step can be the most difficult and yet the most rewarding thing you do in this year, so far.

Dr. Murray Smith is the co-founder of SHIFT Integrative Medicine serving the Cuyuna Lakes and Brainerd Lakes areas of central Minnesota for over 25 years.

For more information, log on to www.askdrsmith.com or call 218-851-9626.

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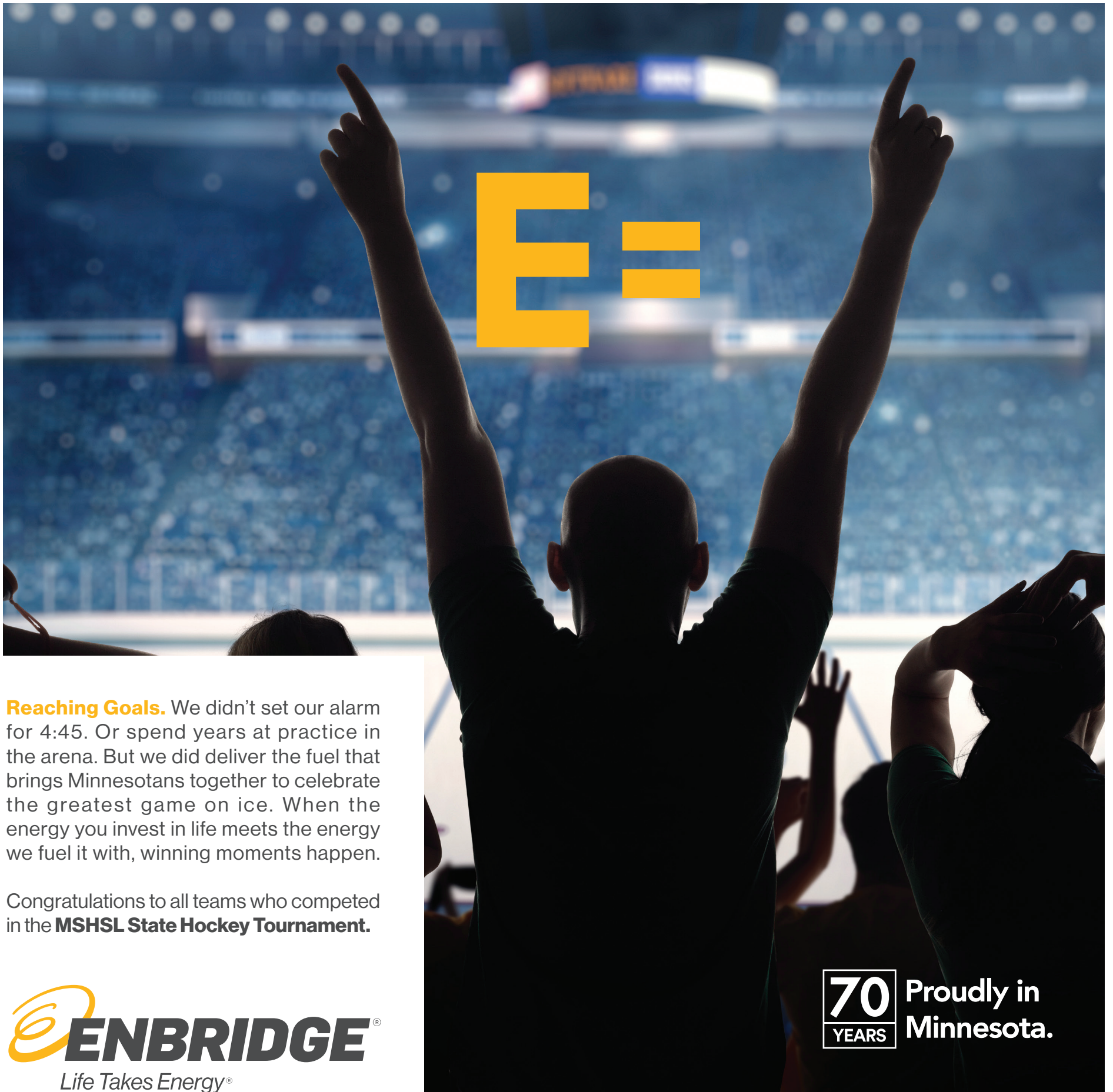
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