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Team reels in \$750 at Pike-A-Palooza Fishing Tournament



Jesse Williams and his teammate Tony Sandberg won the \$750 first-place prize last Saturday in the first annual Ruttger's Pike-a-Palooza Fishing Tournament on Bay Lake. Their two-fish bag weighed in at more than 16 pounds and included the tournament's big fish – a 37-inch trophy that weighed in at nearly 12 pounds.

Team Williams and Sandberg narrowly edged out the second-place team of Ron and Dave Wickham who turned in a three-fish bag weighing in at more than 15



Tony Sandberg and Jesse Williams reeled in first-place in the first annual Ruttger's Pike-a-Palooza Fishing Tournament on Bay Lake.

pounds. Team Wickman took home \$500 for their efforts. There was a two-way tie for



The team of Ron and Dave Wickham placed second.

third place between Terry and Bob Carper, and Jeff Wohl and Greg Bruchhoff. The teams split the \$250 third-place prize.

Nearly two dozen hearty

anglers braved the cold and rain to compete in the tournament. Between the boats competing, more than 25 fish of 22 inches or larger were caught and released. In addition, more than 170 small "hammer handle" northern pike were harvested during the tournament in support of the Bay Lake Improvement Association's effort to reduce

the number of small northern pike in Bay Lake.

All anglers who fished in the tournament enjoyed a door prize drawing for prizes donated by Oars-N-Mine, Bay Lake Marine, Reeds Sporting Goods, Bent Paddle Brewing Company, Graphic Packaging, Deerwood Technology and Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge.

Quilts of Valor recipient



Lester served in the Army Air Corp -later changed to Air Force- from October 15, 1942 to January 16, 1946. He was part of the 285th Combat Engineer Battalion. His first entry into battle was in Patton's 3rd Army in the Battle of the Bulge. He said he was one happy young fellow to have done a little bit for his country. Lester's wife, Irene, draped his quilt at the Aitkin American Legion. They will celebrate their 72nd wedding anniversary this year. Ripple River Quilt Guild provides Quilts of Valor through their community service and is all done by donations.



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Memorial Day Weekend Events Around the Area

Friday, May 24

Aitkin: Brats on the courthouse lawn 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Aitkin County Courthouse. For takeout orders call 218-831-0225 or 218-831-5770.

Sunday, May 26

Holden and Opstead: 3 p.m. at Holden Cemetery, 4 p.m. at Opstead Cemetery. Hosted by Isle Area Honor Guard.

Malmo: 1 p.m. at Malmo Cemetery, 2 p.m. at Lakeside Cemetery. Hosted by Bethesda Lutheran of Malmo and Pastor James Muske, Isle Area Honor Guard.

McGregor: Memorial Day Service at 2 p.m. Rice River Cemetery south of McGregor. Hosted by McGregor VFW and Legion Honor Guards. Lake Country Quilters will honor each member of the guards with a quilt.

Tamarack: Potluck Dinner 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Rice Lake Community Center, five miles south of Tamarack or Kestrel Ave. Hosted by Salo Cemetery Boards.

Monday, May 27

Aitkin: Memorial Day Service at 1 a.m. at the the Aitkin American Legion

Deerwood: 9 a.m. Memorial Day Service at the Deerwood Auditorium. Representative Dale Lueck will be the speaker of the day. The Cuyuna Range Community Band and soloist Cathy Aykens will provide entertainment.

Emily: 9 a.m. Memorial Day Service at the Pine Ridge Cemetery. All past or present military are encouraged to in your uniform. This

invitation includes current reserve or guard military. The

public should bring chairs. **McGregor Memorial Day**

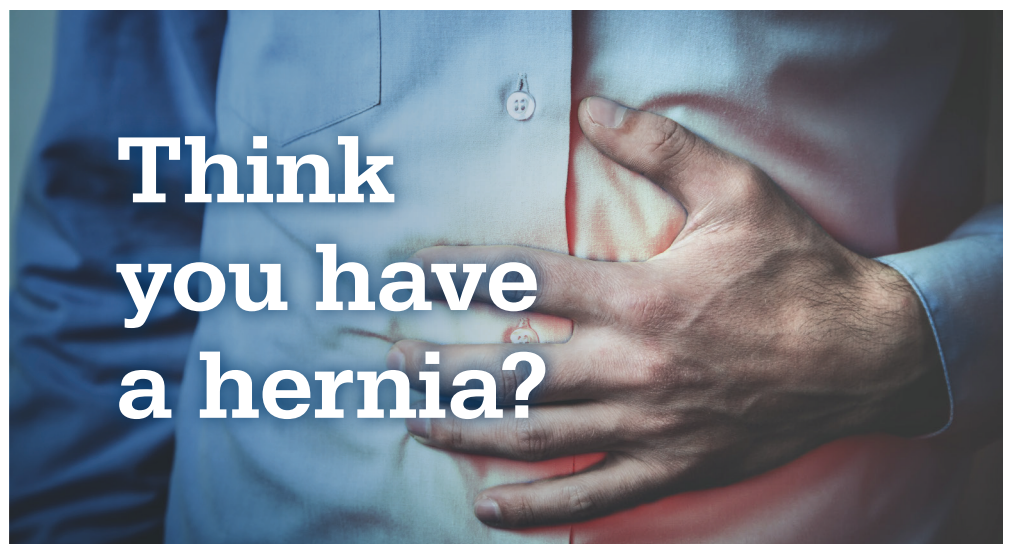
Service Lakeview Cemetery, 3 miles west of Sathers

on Co. Rd. 3 (480th St.) 1:30 p.m. patriotic music, 2

p.m. Rice Lake Community Center



Art served in the Air Force from 1958-1978. His service was all over the Globe from North Dakota to Thailand. Art moved to Minnesota in 2003. Draping his quilt is His Granddaughter Jasmyne and Great-Granddaughter Letticia. Quilts of Valor is a community service project of the Ripple River Quilt Guild.



FREE Hernia Seminar & Screenings

Saturday, June 1

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READER RIBBETS

Crosby residents will pay

Crosby is like a picture you stare at to see a hidden image, some see it, some take longer, some don't.

BMS Case No 17-PA-0260, BMS Case No 13-PA-0659, 13-PA-0660 is the image Crosby must face. The city administrator wants your focus on a different picture. Do that, focus on the city administrator and their performance.

Time has run out for Crosby and the first of many potential lawsuits are taking place.

The only people who have lied, censored, and spread propaganda are the city administrator and the people named in the lawsuit. The council and

mayor have a responsibility to terminate the chief of police and possibly the city administrator. How much more are the citizens of Crosby willing to pay for the poor actions and flawed judgment of its employees?

The city administrator assured the council it could be confident in the professionals they hired to keep the city out of trouble and assured the council that the issues do not relate to poor administration. The administrator was wrong. The city administrator and chief of police are playing with your money to push their agenda.

Failed attempts to criminally

prosecute two former mayors were nothing more than political attacks to cover up their actions by arbitrary and discriminate use of the law and their power to do so.

Crosby options are quickly diminishing and the failure of council and mayor to fix or even see the continued employment of destructive employees is troubling. As the city administrator eloquently stated: Crosby won't pay, the residents will.

The city administrator is right.

Kelly Avelsgard
Concerned Observer
Deerwood

Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

Last [Saturday] night, Governor Walz, Senate Leader Gazelka and House Speaker Hortman finally announced a tentative global agreement on a new two-year state budget. While that is a step forward in most areas, details are not out yet. Here are some big picture items that are in the agreement:

I am relieved to see the governor and House DFL majority finally gave up their demand to hike the gas tax by 20 cents per gallon and increase tab fees.

Just as important to stopping the unwarranted gas tax hike was preventing the "highway robbery" of the statutorily dedicated road and bridge funding that comes from the sales tax on auto parts and repairs that we already pay.

Every year we produce cars that get better gas mileage, with

some using little or no gasoline at all. The reality is we still must replace tires and repair those autos. It is critical that we broaden the funding base for transportation. Keeping the sales taxes we already pay on auto repairs going to the road and bridge fund does that.

There is also renewed funding for the state broadband program. That will continue the expansion of high-speed internet service to underserved and unserved areas of the state which includes major portions of Aitkin and Crow Wing counties.

However, reinstating the health care provider tax despite a longstanding bipartisan agreement to end that tax remains problematic. That action will add about \$2 billion in health care costs for Minneso-

tan's in the near term.

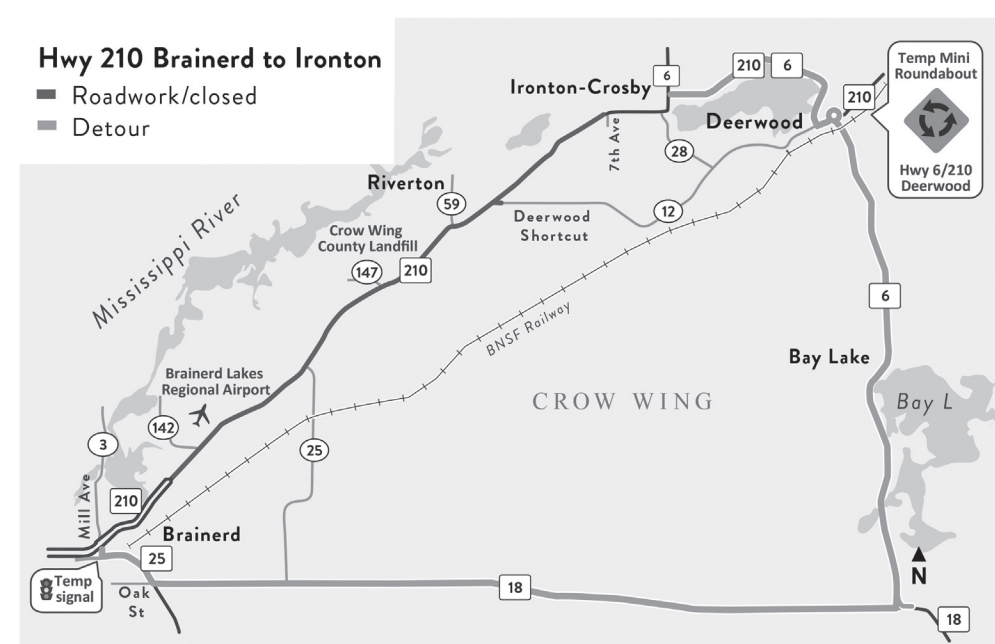
K-12 education will continue to receive strong funding with a 2 percent increase on the per pupil school funding formula in each of the next two years.

With the global budget numbers finally coming forward late on Sunday and the constitutionally mandated adjournment at midnight Monday, a special session will be required to flesh out the details that were agreed upon.

When that will take place, and how many days a special session would last, has yet to be determined. Expect another update when those details are worked out.

Representative Dale Lueck
Minnesota House
District 10B

Summer Brainerd-to-Ironton detour



All who travel Highway 210 in Crow Wing County are encouraged to attend an open house about a major road project that will reconstruct Highway 210 between Brainerd and Ironton in July.

While Highway 210 will be closed to through traffic for about four months, the Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport, Crow Wing County landfill and all businesses will remain accessible throughout the project.

A public open house will be held Tuesday, June 4, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Crosby-Ironton High School, 711 Poplar St, in the Forum

Room.

Open house attendees will be able to learn about the project's schedule, work to be performed, detour and traffic plans, and take home project information. A project layout will be on display, and MnDOT staff will be available to answer any questions. No presentation is planned, and guests are invited to arrive any time.

The project will reconstruct Highway 210 between Pine Shore Road in Brainerd and Seventh Avenue in Ironton; repair or replace underground pipes; add left-turn lanes at County Road 25,

County Road 147, and County Road 59; reconstruct the Highway 210/County Road 12 intersection to improve sight distance, turning movements and extend turn lanes; and add bypass lanes at the Mississippi Northwoods entrance and Sploezens Road. When complete, the project will improve the ride and improve safety and access along 11 miles of the busy highway carrying 12,000 vehicles per day.

For more information on the project, contact project manager Matt Indihar at matthew.indihar@state.mn.us or 218-828-5737.

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