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NEWSHOPPER

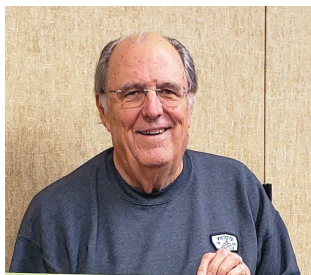
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Pequot Lakes resident named conservationist of the year



Ron Meyer
Crow Wing SWCD
2019 Outstanding
Conservationist

Ron Meyer of Pequot Lakes was honored as the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Outstanding Conservationist at the annual meeting of

the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) on December 9 and 10 in Bloomington.

Since 2004, Ron has led the Pine River Watershed Alliance (PRWA), a nonprofit group whose main goal is to improve water quality. From 2008-2019, Ron Meyer and the PRWA partnered with the Cass County Farm Bureau to host 11 annual Harvest Dinners with over 1,650 people in attendance. Harvest Dinners connected ranchers and lakeshore owners through a sit-down local food meal.

In 2016, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency identified Arvig Creek as an impaired stream. Ron took

initiative to build a relationship with a farmer adjacent to the stream. Now the farmer has fenced off the creek, began adaptive grazing techniques, and is working on implementing cover crops. In 2019, CW SWCD and

PRWA hired two farmers to talk with landowners about conservation and cattle.

Each year, the state's SWCDs recognize individuals and organizations for outstanding accomplishments in implementing conservation

practices and improving Minnesota's natural resources. Ron was selected by SWCD for the county award and was also awarded The Area 8 (nine county area) Conservationist of the year by The MASWCD award committee.



(left to right): Ron Meyer; Melissa Barrick, SWCD District Manager; Jim Chamberlin SWCD Supervisor; and Leonard Koering SWCD Supervisor.

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CHRISTMAS DINNER

Christmas Day
Wednesday, Dec. 25
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
First Lutheran Church,
in Aitkin

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Santa Claus spotted early at Moose Lodge Christmas Party in Aitkin



Aitkin Moose Lodge Christmas Party was held Saturday, Dec. 7 with over 70 children in attendance. All the children received a present from Santa. Howard Lambert, Lightning in a Jar Studios photos

DNR begins four year opportunity to discuss statewide deer population

Starting in 2020, Minnesotans can take an active role in helping shape deer population goals across the state by attending workshops designed to increase inclusiveness and transparency in the Department of Natural Resources’ decision-making process.

Based on feedback from hunters and others, the DNR is using a new workshop format to facilitate small group discussions to both scope issues and create recommendations. The workshops replace the citizen advisory committees and public meetings that were used during the last round of deer goal setting in 2017.

“Using workshops to gather input opens the doors to include more participants and more viewpoints than the advisory committees used previously, and we’re really looking forward to hearing the conversations and recommendations,” said Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader. “We encourage anyone who has an interest in deer management to attend these workshops and give feedback on future deer population trends in the areas where they live, work and recreate.”

Using the workshop format is a change based on information from Minnesota’s hunters about how they prefer to provide input, exit interviews of participants from the last round of population goal setting and consultation with the statewide Deer Advisory Committee.

The DNR sets deer population goals – how much of an increase or decrease is desired in a deer population in a particular deer permit area – as part of managing the state’s wild deer herd. Deer population goals will be updated on a staggered basis in 14 regional goal-setting blocks that are made of multiple deer permit areas. The population goals established in this process will provide direction for management over 10 years, with a midpoint review every five years.

The goal-setting process will take four years to complete statewide, with several geographic blocks addressed each year. This year focuses on blocks in the northwestern and western parts of the state. Complete details, including the dates and locations of the workshops are listed on the goal-setting webpage.

The workshop process will span over four years. This first year focuses on the northwestern and western parts of the state, which include the following deer permit areas: Agassiz-Littlefork, Northwest Parkland-Prairie, West Central Prairie, and Central Hills Prairie.

There will be a pair of workshops for each block, each three hours long.

During the first workshop, participants will work in small groups to identify key issues of interest and priorities to guide management of the deer population. In the second workshop, participants will discuss solutions to the issues create recommendations for the deer populations in those blocks.

Anyone may attend these workshops, regardless of affiliation or knowledge of the process. Background information will be provided.

Those who are unable to attend the workshops can still participate in the goal-setting process. There will be online comment opportunities supplementing the workshops, including an online questionnaire that will be on the DNR website in January. The public will also be able to comment on the draft population goals that result from the goal-setting process.

In addition to goal setting, there are other ways to provide input about deer management. As in prior years, anyone can talk directory with area wildlife managers or attend deer open houses.

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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 1 st 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 "Ask An Attorney" Workforce Center - 20-3rd St. NE, Aitkin, 4th Tuesday of month at noon
Pre-registration required call 218-723-4005
Blow-Hards, a lung disease support group, meets the 4th Thu. of each month, Kanabec Hospital in Mora. Contact Carol, 320-225-3646.
Buddhism-Nichiren meetings held at the Brainerd Public Library conference room on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 1 pm. For infor-

mation contact Mike Engblom-Bradley 936-525-7843.
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 suspected 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@mofas.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 2nd and 4th Thurs, 9 : 3 0 a m - 5 p m , at 107 2nd St SE, Aitkin.
M u s t 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. only 1-5 pm, at 9541 Madison Street; Garrison. For emergency food, call 3320-433-9435 and state needs, name & phone number, or leave message of same if no answer.
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.
Heart to Heart Support Group, 4th Tue. of month, 2 pm, Kanabec Hospital, int. of Hwy. 65 & 23, Mora.
Jacobson Seniors meets every Thu., 10-2 pm at Jacobson Comm. Ctr. Potluck at noon. Beverage provided. All are welcome. For more info., 752-1515.
Marsh and Meadows Hunting Retriever Club, Mon. 5:30 pm in Pequot Lakes, for more info call Brett 651-270-5648 or facebook/Marsh and Meadows Hunting Retriever Club
McGrath City Council, first Thu. of the month, 6:30 pm at fire station hall.
McGrath Senior Center meets every Mon. 1-4 pm, cards & games, all are welcome.
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 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.operationminnesotanice.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.

askdrsmith.com featuring Dr. Murray Smith Be Joyful

The Advent and Christmas season, we continually hear, is the best time of the year. Undoubtedly, this is truly one of the two best times of the year, along with Easter. However, for some, this can be a difficult, stressful, and lonely time of year. I can go on about the tremendous health benefits of being happy such as improved immune function, better sleep and weight loss, and an improved perception of pain. Instead, I am going to make some suggestions that, despite your situation, can boost your mood and health.

Start your day on your knees. This can sound radical, but to start your day in this way can help you begin thoughtfully with a focus toward a better day. While there, take a few minutes in gratitude for what you've been given. This might be for your family, home, or even something as simple as being able to breath. Perhaps remembering, despite anything that may have happened, you have a God-given dignity that is written on your heart and cannot be taken away. You could also try to focus on being present in all your interactions of the day; to think of these individuals, their needs, or maybe asking "How are you?" and mean it.

While we're on the topic of others, try to find a time during your day to extend an act of kindness. It could be opening a door for someone or offering to help them across a slippery area. Visit someone at a care center that may not have anyone to visit them. This could revolutionize both of your lives! Helping someone with a common chore such as sweeping snow from

their car or offering to carry groceries can spread a great deal of joy. Try smiling a lot, people will wonder what you're thinking! (Kinda fun) I've seen this written in a few places and tried it with a surprisingly positive response.

Most importantly, remember the true meaning of Christmas: The birth of Jesus Christ. This great gift to all of humankind, is the center of all time. All of history before Him and after Him points to this singular moment in time. And the great news is that we can reflect on this, see Him as He dwells among us in the Light that emanates from His presence in those who love Him. I invite you to do this and rejoice throughout the day. Be Joyful!

Merry Christmas and Peace to you and yours!



Dr. Murray Smith DC, cAcu, CSCS, CCSP is a Board Certified Doctor of Chiropractic, Board Certified Acupuncturist, Clinical Nutritionist with a passion for helping people reclaim their health naturally and empowering them to keep it! He 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, call or text 218-851-9626.

Holiday Worship Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE - TUESDAY, DEC. 24
Aitkin
Mass, St. James Catholic Church4:00 p.m.
Mass, St. James Catholic Churchmidnight
Brainerd
Mass, All Saints Catholic Church4:00 p.m.
Mass, St. Andrew's Catholic Church.....4:00 p.m.
Mass, St. Francis Catholic Church4:00 p.m.
Candlelight Service, Good Shepherd Free Lutheran ...5:00 p.m.
Mass, St. Mathias Catholic Church8:30 p.m.
Mass, St. Francis Catholic Churchmidnight
Crosby
Service, Immanuel Lutheran Church.....2:00 p.m.
Service, Immanuel Lutheran Church (Hallelujah Handbells)4:00 p.m.
Mass, St. Joseph Catholic Church4:30 p.m.
Service, Immanuel Lutheran Church (Music by Hannah Swanson)...8:00 p.m.
Crosslake
Mass, Immaculate Heart Catholic Church4:00 p.m.
Deerwood
Candle Light Service, Salem Lutheran Church..... 3:00 p.m.
Candle Light Service, Salem Lutheran Church..... 5:00 p.m.
Garrison
Candlelight Service with Holy Communion, Light of the Cross Lutheran Church (27170 Monroe St.)5:00 p.m.
McGregor
Mass, Holy Family Catholic Church 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS - WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25
Aitkin
Mass, St. James Catholic Church9:00 a.m.
Brainerd
Mass, St. Francis Catholic Church8:00 a.m.
Mass, St. Andrew's Catholic Church.....10:00 a.m.
Mass, All Saints Catholic Church10:30 a.m.
Mass, St. Francis Catholic Church10:30 a.m.
Crosby
Mass, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Crosby8:00 a.m.
Crosslake
Mass, Immaculate Heart Catholic Church8:30 a.m.
Emily
Mass, St. Emily's Catholic Church10:30 a.m.
Garrison
Mass, Our Lady of Fatima.....10:30 a.m.
McGrath
Mass, Our Lady of Fatima 10:00 a.m.

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OBITUARIES

RICHARD MCPHEETERS



Richard Irvin McPheeters, 84, of Aitkin, died Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at Saint John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin with Reverend David Becker officiating. Burial was in Bennettville Cemetery.

He was born May 29, 1935 in Webster, WI to Irvin D. McPheeters, Jr. and Pearl E. (Michaelis) McPheeters. He graduated from Minneapolis Vocational High School. He married Judith MacKenzie in May of 1954 in Minneapolis. Judith passed away on March 9, 1998. Richard was employed with Moorhead Machinery and Boiler Co. in Minneapolis for 46 years. Richard married Mavis (Hillman) Bruns in June of 1999. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, traveling in his RV

and spending his time with family and friends. He was a member of the Boilermakers Union for 67 years and a member of Saint John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin.

Richard is survived by his wife, Mavis McPheeters; sister and brother-in-law: Shirley and Larry McGerr; sons and daughters-in-law: Jeffrey and Tammy McPheeters, Mark and Kathy McPheeters, and Shawn McPheeters; step-children: Steve (Jill) Bruns, Jennifer (Steve) Schlaund, Mark (Lori) Bruns; six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one on the way; 12 step-grandchildren, 15 step-great-grandchildren and one on the way; and other special relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, Judith Fay McPheeters and 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.

SHAWN CRIST



Shawn Michael Crist, 44, of Ironton died at his home on Thursday, December 12, 2019.

A Celebration of Shawn's life is being planned.

He was born to Steven and Kathleen (Meyer) Crist in St. Paul on September 30, 1975.

Shawn was employed with Grand Casino Mille Lac's as a card dealer and with Steve's Painting. He was an avid fisherman, motorcyclist and

card player.

He is survived by his life partner, Jessica Wilson; son, Cole (Brooke Kretzman) Crist, Brainerd; daughter, Sadie Crist, Ironton; grandson, Cooper Crist; parents, Steven and Kathleen Crist, Ironton; brother, Jeffrey (Evelyn Voss) Crist, Baxter; and sister, Jeannie Grieser, Brainerd.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Jeremy Crist.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

JOHN LACLAIR



John P. LaClair, 85, of Aitkin died Saturday, December 7, 2019 at his residence.

Funeral service was held Thursday, December 12, 2019 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin with Father David Forsman officiating. Burial with military honors will be at Saron Cemetery at a later date.

He was born October 31, 1934 in Saint Paul to John C. and Ethel M. (Leonard) LaClair. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1952 and served on the USS Coral Sea and the USS Midway during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1955. He attended the Milwaukee School of Engineering for two years on the G.I. Bill. In 1958, he joined the St. Paul Fire Department and was a Fire Fighter for 32 years until his retirement in 1990. He married Catherine "Kate" L. Gill on April 19, 1968 in Minneapolis.

They had been coming to the Dam Lake area since the mid 1970's and moved full time after his retirement. He was a "Jack of All Trades", an avid sportsman, and enjoyed riding his "side by side". He was a member of the American Legion, Dam Lake Association, state and local ATV clubs, the Up North Riders Club, Saint James Catholic Church, and a lifetime member of the VA. He was preceded in death by his parents.

John is survived by his wife, Kate; sons and daughter-in-law: Michael LaClair and Katherine Newton; and Scott LaClair; five grandchildren: Melissa, John, and Megan LaClair, Samantha (Kyler) Gilliland, and Brandon LaClair; a great-granddaughter on the way; sisters and brother-in-law: Joan (Paul) Cyr and Emara White; many other special relatives and friends.

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.

JERRY SMITH



Jerry Dean Smith, 72, of Palisade died Saturday, December 7, 2019 at the Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Funeral services were held Sunday, December 15, 2019 at First Lutheran Church in Aitkin with Rev. Jordan Gades officiating. Interment was in the Fleming Cemetery with military honors provided by the Aitkin American Legion and VFW Posts.

Jerry was born March 1, 1947 in Topeka, Kansas to Frank and Myrtle (Crabble) Smith. He grew up and attended schools in Topeka. He then served in the U.S. Navy. He married Jeanette A. Wiese on January 4, 1969 in Walden Township of Cass County near Pine River. He attended the Staples Technical School and studied drafting. He worked for Durkee's Manufacturing, Montgomery Ward Co. and the J.C. Penny Co. He went to work for the U.S. Postal service in 1978 working in Pillager and Brainerd. He became

postmaster of the Swatara Post Office in 1984 and in 1985 moved to Palisade where he served as Postmaster for many years. He and his wife have lived in Palisade since 1985. He had served on the Moose Lake Township board in Cass County in his younger days. He loved to fish and especially enjoyed teaching his grandchildren how to fish. He also loved music and singing. He enjoyed deer hunting and was very good at telling jokes.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanette Smith, Palisade; children: Brian (Nicole) Smith, Palisade; Greg (Kathie) Smith, Aitkin; Jonah Smith and Kristin, Hermantown; seven grandchildren: Taylor Smith, Darian Erickson, Amisty Smith, Nick Smith, Amira Smith, Race Smith and Ripley Smith; sisters: Emma Osborne and JoAnn (Billy) Lyden all of Topeka, Kansas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters: Betty, Helen, Barbara and brothers: Bill, Ronald and Dick.

Arrangements are with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Aitkin.

Sorensen-Root-Thompson

Aitkin, MN

218-927-2614

S

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T

McGregor Funeral Home

McGregor, MN

218-768-3136

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Directors: Jerry Thompson
Jason Brezinsky

www.srtfuneral.com

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.

Baxter* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10:00: www.pointway.org

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 — Pastor Dustin McCaleb; 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; hillcityyagchurch@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: 30 and 11, 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.thechurchonthewiseroad.org

Breezy Point — Eagles Nest, Pastor Zach Broom 218-562-5252, Worship 10:30, 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.ihmstemilys.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 Hope 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; 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. Lilja Behr; 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 Steve Anderson; Worship at 9 & 10:45; Wed for all ages 6:30 pm

Crosslake — 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 Doug Larson, Pastor Jordan Gades; worship Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 8 am & 10 am, Wed. 5:30 pm w/supper; communion every Sat. and 1st and 3rd Sun.; contemporary services 2nd & 4th Sun.; nursery staffed

during 10 am Sun. service; Sunday service is live streamed on YouTube (First Lutheran Church Aitkin); broadcast on KRIN (94.3FM) and on TV cable channel 181 at 9 am Wed.; community meal every Mon. & Thu. 5 pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thu. 9:30 am-5 pm.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.ppopbaxter.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.llchurch.org)

Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th Street Brainerd — Pastor Hans Anderson Worship times September through May are 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Summer Worship time is 9:00 a.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

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 Peter Rosenkvist, Worship 9.

Palisade* — Bethel (ELCA), Rev. Wm. J. Sass; Worship 9:30.

Pequot Lakes* - Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA) Rev. Stephen Blenkush Worship 9:00 a.m., SS 9:15 a.m., Fellowship 10:15 a.m. Wed. Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Rossburg — 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, 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 — Pastor Tony Oltmann, 218-692-4769; Worship 10; Fellowship 11:15; Bible study on Wednesdays at 10:14444 Daggett Pine Road just passed the Community Center; www.crosslakepres.org

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, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible & Brew at Block North Brew Pub.

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* — Pastors Luke and Bethany Nelson; Worship 8:30; fellowship follows.

Fleming* — (Northern Lights Parish) SS 9:15; Worship 10:30; fellowship follows.

Hill City — Pastor Roger Lynn; Worship 10

McGregor* — (Northern Lights Parish) Worship 8:45; fellowship follows.

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:

To become a sponsor of the church directory contact Eric at 218-821-1393 or hopper@crosbyironton.net

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OBITUARIES

MARIAN BILL



Marian Bill, 84, of Deerwood died early Monday morning, December 2, 2019 at home. A family and friends memorial gathering will be held at her home Saturday, December 28, 2019 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

She was born January 13, 1935 in Minneapolis to Floyd and Myrtle Grahlman. Marian graduated Northwestern Bible College. She married Norman L. Bill on September 2, 1961 in Minneapolis. She worked at Powers Dry

Goods Department Store in Minneapolis. Marian also worked at Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin for 10 years. She will be missed so much.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Julie and James Riley, Aitkin; three grandsons: Michael, Kevin and Scott; three great-grandsons and another great-grand-baby on the way; brother-in-law, Daryle Sheppard, Osseo; brother-in-law and his wife, Mark and Victoria Bill, Deerwood.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Norman Lawrence (Larry) Bill; daughter, Cynthia Lee Diehl and sister, Patricia Sheppard.

MARK SANDBERG



Mark Edward Sandberg, 56, died peacefully Friday, December 6, 2019 while asleep at home from complications from ALS.

Services were held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at Crosslake Lutheran Church in Crosslake. Services will be also be held in Tumwater, WA on December 27, 2019 at the Mills & Mills Funeral Home. Service will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a Graveside service to follow at 3:00 p.m. at Tahoma National cemetery in Kent, WA. The family also would like to invite family and friends of Mark to join them on December 28, 2019 from noon until 6 p.m. at Hallen Hall, 816 Bowker St. SE, Lacey, WA to enjoy BBQ and a nice cold beer.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests donations be made toward the funeral expenses at WSECU, account #7179762. Any remaining funds in the funeral account after expenses will be donated to the ALS Association in his name.

He was born the youngest of four on July 20, 1963, in San Diego, CA. He moved to Minnesota at age 11. He attended Crosby-Ironton High School and graduated in 1982. He joined the U.S. Army in 1983 where he served for 21 years, retiring in 2004 as a SFC. He then started a new career path with Intercity Transit where he worked 14 years and retired as Operations Manager in 2018. His joys in life were his family, serving his country and community. His greatest hobbies were camping, boating, fishing, traveling, football, a good BBQ and a cold beer. He will be missed beyond words.

He survived by his mother Ramona (Lentz) Sandberg; wife, Tina Sandberg; four children: Benny, Nevaeh, Svenja and Ren; two grandchildren; siblings: Steven, Tamela and James and their spouses; nieces and nephews; grandnieces and grandnephews; and aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Benny Sandberg, and an uncle.

Arrangements were with Mills & Mills Funeral Home, 5725 Littlerock Rd. SW, Tumwater, Washington 98512.

PEGGIE STEPHENSEN



Elsa Margaret “Peggie” (Crosby) Stephenson, 94, formally of Crosslake, died Thursday, December 12, 2019.

Memorial plans pending.

She was born in Duluth, to George H. Crosby, Jr. and Elsa M. Bieberman. Peggie grew up on the shores of Serpent Lake in Crosby, swimming, sailing and letting the boys chase her. After graduating from Bennett College in Millbrook, NY, she decided that being a wife and mother was the most important career there was. This was undoubtedly because she found a love that eventually lasted 70 years. She married Paul, June 11, 1949. She was an all-season type

of girl she loved summer where she could play tennis, swim, bike and sail. In the winter, it was ice-skating and snow skiing. Winter was a special time; because nobody did Christmas like Peggie did. Peggie co-created one of the first Girl Scout Troops in Golden Valley, MN. Mentored young girls in Florida and was very active with the Humane Society. What she will be most remembered for was her love of her family, her wacky sense of humor and how she made everybody feel when they were around her. After spending time with Peggie, you came away feeling lighter and so much happier. She was vibrant, full of life and a joy to be with.

She is survived by husband, Paul; children: Cynthia Nadler, Marc, Michael (Marina), Kevin (Barb); eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., Dec. 14 & 21, 2019)

WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING FOR TOWNSHIP OFFICE

Notice is hereby given for the time of filing affidavits of candidacy for the Township officers to be elected at the Wealthwood Township Annual Meeting which will be held Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

Filings will be open Tuesday, January 1, 2020 and will close January 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Filing hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the office of the Clerk Office will be closed on legal holidays.

Call for an appointment 218-678-2880.

Offices to be filled are one Supervisor for a three (3) year term .

Filing fee is \$2.00.

Dated: December 9, 2020 LINDA WENDLANDT, Clerk Wealthwood Township 4.65

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., Dec. 21, 2019 & Sat. Jan. 4, 2020)

NOTICE BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP

January Monthly Board Meeting - January 14, 2020 -7:00 P.M. Bay Lake Town Hall

Filing for Township Officers Election - December 31, 2019 - January 14, 2020 to 5 P.M. Phone Carol Pundt at 218-678-3256 for an appointment to pick up a filing form.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 11, 2020, 7:00 P.M.

BAY LAKE TOWN HALL ANNUAL AUDIT AND BUDGET MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL FEBRUARY 18, 2020 6 P.M. Alternate Date Due to Inclement Weather FEBRUARY 21, 2020 6 P.M.

ABSENTEE VOTING AT THE TOWN HALL MARCH 7, 2020 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS POLLING HOURS WILL BE OPENED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 4:00 P.M. AND 8:00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL ON MARCH 10, 2020 ALTERNATE DATE FOR ANNUAL ELECTION OF

TOWN OFFICERS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER MARCH 17, 2020 4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP WILL BE HELD AT THE BAY LAKE TOWN HALL MARCH 10, 2020 8:30 P.M. ALTERNATE DATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTION/BOARD OF CANVASS MEETING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER MARCH 17, 2020 BAY LAKE TOWN HALL

BOARD OF CANVASS MEETING MARCH 10, 2020 AFTER ANNUAL MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL

REORGANIZATION MEETING April 7, 2020 7:00 P.M., BAY LAKE TOWN HALL

REORGANIZATION MEETING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER April 9, 2020 7:00 P.M., BAY LAKE TOWN HALL

MARCH MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MARCH 12, 2020 7:00 P.M. BAY LAKE TOWN HALL

Dated December 13, 2019 CAROL PUNDT, Clerk Bay Lake Township 218-678-3256 9.6



Sheriffs’ Association Scholarship

Crow Wing County Sheriff Scott Goddard (far right) presented certificates to (left to right) Kortny Villnow, Alexander Vukelich, and Masen Barton for the 2019 Minnesota Sheriffs’ Association Scholarship Program on Fri., November 29 at the Crow Wing County Sheriff’s office. The association awards scholarships each year to individuals planning to become Minnesota Peace Officers. The applicants apply through their local sheriff’s offices. This year, the scholarship committee chose a total of 22 recipients. For additional information on the Minnesota Sheriffs’ Association, visit mnsheriffs.org.

READER RIBBETS

Thank you for your insights

It’s with pleasure to acknowledge being the subject of letters in last week’s *Courier*, it’s deserved.

It’s surprising to read one resident letter writer is thankful for being sued twice and not finding it dire. Please, don’t continue to sit back, grab a broom and help the other letter writer sweep up the pigeon poop or feel free to turn your concern into a run for office and proudly represent the residents.

The rumor an officer was placed on paid administrative leave is true. The former chief confirmed their involvement by calling some of the Crosby officers on their personal phones to defend themselves. They also called the newspaper, not to say the rumor was false, but to defend their own and the city administrator’s images, begging: “make it stop, make it stop.”

The new chief is a highly

trained, qualified, individual. The former police chief and city administrator collaborated to undermine their authority and sucker punch the chief’s position for personal reasons. That’s dangerous to every Crosby officer, city employee, and surrounding communities.

One letter writer is sickened — e-coli from pigeon poop would be a good guess.

Hearsay and fabrication was used by the former chief and resulted in two wrongful termination lawsuits, eight failed attempts to criminally prosecute two former mayors and the residents being served — funny that doesn’t sicken them.

Instead of a nickname like Father Crosby, with promises to spank the community, the writer should be tagged with the nickname “Pigeon Poop.” That’s all they’ll manage to clean up if residents elect them mayor.

Please dear writer, tell everyone where they can physically go out, spend a few moments and fact find what you’re writing about me.

Everything I’ve written has been accurate, the arbitration report, research, and observation of actions, are the sources. Footnote: I am not, nor have been, nor will be, compensated for these efforts. I write for no one. I write for the relentless pursuit of justice and the massive violation of the public trust.

Hopefully, the exposure has prevented both letter writers from being subjected to false charges. Tragically, it didn’t prevent an officer getting placed on paid administrative leave. That’s another story Crosby will hear about.

Thank you both for your insights.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood Concerned Observer

Crosby cohorts contrary to committee

This message of our community working together, at least with our current mayor, city administrator and his city council cohorts, seems rather ignorant when you look at their past actions.

At least three times our elected ‘representatives’ went against our Planning and Zoning committee’s recommendations to help achieve what appeared to be our mayor’s personal agendas. This man who parades under good governance even started a new Hwy. 210 committee due to the fact that he disagreed with the original, who represented a majority of the business owners downtown who were not in favor of a bike trail on the highway [downtown] for obvious safety reasons. In the end, his attempts of pleasing the bicycle mafia failed anyway. The city admin. and mayor’s

consistent lack of attendance and support for the original Economic Development Committee, also showed many of us that listening to what our existing business infrastructure needs, their ideas for future growth and working together with them wasn’t a priority for this man’s administration. It’s interesting that the very people who preach these messages of working together are the very people who never volunteer their own time or efforts. Therefore, they don’t understand the frustration of putting hours of research into a project, while trying to represent all citizens and the law equally only to have it tossed or worse, manipulated and twisted for the benefit of a select favored few.

They also have never felt demoralized as the city attorney and administrator spend 30

minutes sternly reminding the Planning and Zoning members that their efforts are really in vain and that their submissions are nothing more than suggestions to our council. At that point, I once again realized we need a new city attorney.

But the fact is that most people don’t want to believe that this poorly planned show of ‘prosperity’ has and will continue to come at a cost. Our higher taxes, increased utility rates, costs associated with public safety, etc aren’t going to diminish when the tourism boom reaches its plateau.

The idea of working together means more than the inner alliances in city hall. If we want stable, healthy economic growth and an affordable tax platform to live under, the real need to work together is to vote out this current administration.

Chris Ryan, Crosby

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Due to Christmas and the New Year:

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- The deadline for the Jan. 5 issue (after the New Year) will be Fri., Dec.27

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Pheasant, duck strategies to enhance habitats and recreation

Strategic conservation efforts designed to foster stewardship of pheasants, ducks and their habitats are outlined in new Minnesota Department of Natural Resources action plans.

“The DNR strives to be a forward-thinking leader for pheasant and duck management in Minnesota,” said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. “The issues facing ducks and pheasants are serious. They include the amount and quality of habitat and the impacts of a changing climate. These plans help clarify and focus our work to better address these issues.”

The action plans were developed during the last 10 months with the help of conservation and tribal partners as well as the public and technical experts. Each plan is designed to better define what the DNR will do and how it will work with partners. Each outlines short-term actions that can help fulfill long-term conservation goals.

While species and habitat management plans often cover time periods of 10 or more years, the new action plans focus efforts over four years. That allows the DNR and its conservation partners to more immediately assess and adjust activities to meet long-term goals that are affected by changing conditions.

“A key part of DNR’s work outlined in these short-term plans will be collaboration with our conservation partners,” said Mike Larson, interim DNR wildlife section manager. “Helping support our partners’ work, especially their work with private landowners, is critically important.”

Strategies outlined in the plans include:

- Maintaining land acquisitions for wildlife management areas, primarily in western and southern Minnesota, and increasing the proportion of those acquisitions in priority areas identified for pheasants and ducks.
- Increasing the quality and quantity of habitat improvements and enhancements on state lands for pheasants and ducks.
- Supporting the work of conservation partners to protect and enhance habitat on private and federal lands.
- Increasing coordination of actions under the plans with related activities of conservation partners in Minnesota.
- Supporting priority management actions within the Mississippi Flyway for ducks.
- Improving access to land for outdoor recreation and habitat appreciation.
- Defining research and monitoring priorities and working with partners to address those priorities.

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