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# Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity making dreams come true for a family



Kara Anderson, center, with children Adriana, left, and Damon, right. Photo submitted by Kara Anderson

Kara Anderson, 30, started over from scratch with her two children when she moved to Aitkin in 2016. Leaving behind her children's father and her military career, Kara made the move from Texas to Aitkin. She was just selected as the homeowner for the Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity 2020 home build.

Her daughter, Adriana, 6, is a student at Rippleside and son Damon, 3, attends daycare. They are a close family unit. Kathy Robb, Kara's mom and a graphic designer for the Aitkin Independent Age, will

be her mentor in this process. If all goes as planned (the COVID-19 virus notwith-

Storm Damage Cleanup

Aerial Truck

standing) the new home will be built at 218 Minnesota Avenue South in Aitkin this year, with the family moving in sometime around Thanksgiving 2020. Anderson was thrilled when she heard that she was selected from four finalists based on her housing need, willingness to partner and ability to pay the mort-

gage and other housing costs. "Getting my own house is a dream come true," enthused Anderson. "When I knew I was moving back to Minnesota and starting over, I knew I wanted a safe, stable home for my children for their growing up years. I set a goal to own a home in five years, and thanks to Habitat for Humanity, my dream is coming true a year early."

Born in Olmsted County in Rochester MN, Anderson was raised by her mom. She graduated from Zumbrota-Mazeppa high school with honors. Her favorite subjects were art and English.

After high school, she joined the military to pay for college and served in the Army National Guard in the 35F military intelligence unit. She served in Minnesota and Texas, but was not deployed overseas.

After that, she was a correctional officer, then a 911 dispatcher. When her children's father returned from Afghanistan, he had trouble adjusting and so she left Texas and moved to Minnesota. Her mom, Kathy, by then lived in Aitkin and her Grandpa Patrick Condon is from Crosby.

She came back with her daughter in tow and pregnant with her son, got a job at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, and after, living with her mom for a few months, she moved into her own apartment. Her glowing recommendation from her landlord was one of the reasons the Family Selection Committee was sure that Anderson will make an outstanding homeowner and neighbor in Aitkin.

Now a three-year employee at CRMC, she is an admitting department team lead. They are the first impression for patients who come in and they verify demographics, insurance coverage and appointments. "I really like my current job. It's a really good place to work and a really great department – we have a really good manager," observed Anderson. She also got an outstanding recommendation from her

manager.

Robb, her mom, has been a graphic artist since she was in high school and worked for a family business. "She is a single mom of three children and the strongest women I know," said Anderson.

Anderson's younger brother Mark lives in Aitkin and is a cook at Heartwood. Her younger sister, Katelyn Steffes, is a certified nursing assistant who works at Aicota and hopes to attend nursing school. Having family in the local area is a plus for single parents, as they work on building a home.

Anderson and her children love to read, go to the library, garden, mow the lawn, fish and hike. They love arts and crafts and painting.

Anderson knows the struggle of starting over and that, with perseverance and hard work, she will have a great future for her family.

Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity needs donations of money, materials and labor for the home. If you can help in any way, please call 218-927-5656 Monday-Thursday from 8-1 or email annschwartz@habitatforhumanityaitkincounty.org.

# **Governor Walz announces 50%** forgivable loans for small business

Governor Tim Walz has announced a 50% forgivable loan program for small busi-

Following Executive Order 20-15, DEED has established a loan program to assist small businesses directly and adversely affected and whose industry is named in Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08 following the COVID-19 pandemic. Small businesses are a vital part of Minnesota's

will provide a source of working capital to help businesses sustain operations during this challenging time.

If you are a small business owner more information is at tinyurl.com/ulaadqg.

Businesses should apply directly through a certified lender. A list of lenders and application materials are available in the tabs on the site.

For businesses in Cass,

economy and this program Crow Wing and Wadena contact North Central Economic Development Association, sbarney@regionfive.org, 218-894-3233.

> For businesses in Aitkin, Carlton and Itasca contact Northland Foundation, alex@ northlandfdn.org, 218-723-4040.

> The program is still being developed and loans will be available soon. Nonprofits are not eligible for this program.

> > CALL TODAY!



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# **OBITUARIES**

#### **CHERYL BUCHITE**

Cheryl Marie Buchite, 58, of Nisswa died on Friday, March 20, 2020 at her home

Arrangements are pending with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

#### **BEATRICE PEARSON**



Beatrice "Bea" Mae Pear- missed. son, 88, of Crosby, died Sunday, March 22, 2020 at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Care Center.

No memorial services are planned at this time.

Bea was born on May 20, 1931. She loved to fish, play

cards and bingo, and knit. Bea will be truly

NewsHopper™

Bea is survived by her children: Lorna, Jerel, Sherel. Marla: many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her first husband, Lawrence Wahlstrom; second husband, Lawrence Pearson; three children: Judy, Ronald,

Arrangements were with the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, www.brenny.com.

#### FLOYD R. VIKLA



McGregor, died peacefully on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at Aicota Health Care Center in Aitkin, MN. Floyd, the son of Mathias and Josephine (Andrysek) Vikla, was born on June 20th, 1933 in Lonsdale, MN. He

graduated from New Prague High School in 1950. Floyd was united in marriage to Donna (Raemer) on June 8, 1957 in Prior Lake, MN.

He was a loyal and hard worker his entire life. He worked at Lamaur Corporation in Fridley, MN from 1955 to 1973. During this time, he also played the bass horn in two polka bands; the Jolly Musicians (14 years) and The Ivan Kahle Band (12 years). Since music was such an important part of his life, he left his job at Lamaur to pursue his dream of owning a ballroom.

He and his family moved from Richfield, MN to McGregor, MN in 1973 and purchased the Shamrock Ballroom. They initially had polka dances on the weekends and later switched to rock and roll music, which his son, Randy, helped him run and manage for many years. During this time, Floyd also worked at Sa-

Floyd R. Vikla, age 86 of vamco in McGregor, until he retired. He was a faithful member of Grace Lutheran Church and enjoyed singing in the choir. He also loved to fish, hunt and watch sports. Floyd was a very generous man who would help anyone he could. He had a great sense of humor and loved his family dearly.

Floyd is survived by his loving wife of 62 years: Donna Vikla;

three children, Randy (Sherrie) Vikla; Barb (Paul) Nelson; and Bruce Vikla (Amy Hayes); five grandchildren, Jamie Vikla, Jessica Vikla, Samantha Nelson, Jazlyn Vikla and Alex Hayes; one great grandchild, Zander Preston; one brother, Sidney (Betty Ann) Vikla; brother-in-law Bernie Simacek; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents: daughter, Cindy Vikla; sister, Lillian Simacek; brother, Ernest (Janelle) Vikla; brother, Elmer (Margaret) Vikla: cousins. Emmanuel. Helen. Ray, Robert and Lewis Vikla.

Service to be held at a later date. To sign the guestbook and leave a message of condolence online, go to: www.srtfuneral.com. Arrangements are with McGregor Funeral Home and Cremation Services of McGregor.

#### Locally Owned & Operated

Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home & Cremation Services Aitkin, MN 218-927-2614

McGregor Funeral Home & Cremation Services McGregor, MN 218-768-3136

Traditional Funerals • Cremation Services Celebration of Life • Pre-Planning Services

**Directors**: Jason Brezinsky Jerry Thompson • Tad Brezinsky

www.srtfuneral.com

#### RONALD MOROSEY



Ronald John Morosey, 83, of McGregor died Thursday, March 19, 2020.

To honor Ronald's wishes, no service will be held. A memorial for family members will take place at a future date.

He was born July 9, 1936 in Buffalo, NY. Ronald was a veteran of The United States Air Force

who served from 1955-1958. Ronald married Linda Buckley on June 24, 1989 in Cheektowaga,

NY. He worked at GM Auto as an assembler for 30 years. Ronald was also a siding contractor. Ronald was a member of UAW and USA Softball Umpires Organization. He enjoyed playing chess, baseball, reading, history, philosophy and traveling.

Ronald is survived by his wife of 30 years, Linda Morosey, McGregor; children: Ronald (Colleen) Morosey, Jr., North Carolina; Richard Morosey, Buffalo, NY; Dean Morosey, Aitkin; John (Penney) Grochowski, Buffalo, NY; Ryan Grochowski, Eagan; Corey Grochowski, Crystal; Diana Morosey, Flowery Branch, GA; Melanie Morosey, Buffalo, NY; Maureen Grochowski, Buffalo, NY and Julie Grochowski, McGregor; numerous grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; brothers-in-law; James (Michele) Buckley, Michael (Cate) Buckley, Kevin Buckley and Robert Buckley; sisters-in-law: Patricia Buckley and Agra Buckley; special family member, Kathleen Majchrzak; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Ronald is preceded in death by his mother and father in-law, Daniel and Janet Buckley; brother-inlaw, Daniel P. Buckley; special companions of 14 years, CoCo and Peepers.

To sign the guestbook online, go to: www.srtfuneral.com. Arrangements are with McGregor Funeral Home and Cremation Services, McGregor.

#### CLARENCE AHLGRIM



of Crosby died on Wednesdy, March 18, 2020 at the Cuyuna Regional Care Center in Crosby.

A private graveside was held at Oak Grove Cemetery in Nokay Lake Township.

on October 17, 1924 to Clar-

He was born in Minneapolis

Clarence S. Ahlgrim, 95, ence and Hazel (Rutledge) Ahlgrim. He was a WWII Army veteran.

Clarence is survived by two daughters, Sharon Chase of Baxter and Karen (Ben) Korte of Hillman; one brother, Wayne Ahlgrim of Minneapolis; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Preceding Clarence in death are his parents and his wife Adeline.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

#### **BETTY GAGE**



Betty May Foster Gage, 88, of Aitkin died on Thursday, March 12, 2020, at the Aitkin Health Services in Aitkin.

A graveside service will be held in June in Iowa.

Betty was born May 10, 1931 and was the last remaining child of Edgar and Maude (Mi-

chaels) Meader. Born on the family farm outside Manchester, IA with seven brothers and one sister, Betty attended Copperhead Country School by Bailey Ford. She attended Manchester High School, graduated from Francis Shimer Junior College and AIB College in Des Moines, IA. Betty Married Clellan Fuller on November 13, 1954. They resided in Mechanicsville, IA where they raised six children and she was the City Clerk. They moved to Wealthwood Township near Aitkin in October of 1972, where they lived and managed Kamp Different for a time. Betty also worked briefly at Kamp Kichi Kanis and the Aitkin Turkey plant before going to work at Aitkin County Family Services in 1975, retiring in 1993. Her husband Clellan died in 1979. Betty married John E Foster in Aitkin on February 2, 1980. Betty and John enjoyed dancing and spending time with friends at the Aitkin American Legion and teaching children how to polka. John died in September of 2000. She moved into Mary Hill Manor in Aitkin. Betty and her daughter Carol enjoyed their many adventures and shopping trips with her poodles. Betty met Don Gade at Mary Hill Manor and they married on April 4, 2003, He died April 4, 2007. Betty moved to the Aitkin Health Services in 2014.

She is survived by her daughter, Susan Hegarty-Doyle, Des Moines, IA; Mark Fuller and wife Mindy, Mechanicsville, IA; Carol McWilliams and husband Mike, Conway, AR; Jane Howe, Hibbing; Ed Fuller and wife Kim, Aitkin; 16 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Joe in

March 29, 2014; husbands; son-in-law, Glen Howe; great-grandson, August McWilliams, and fur babies: black poodle, Susie and copper poodle, Penny Sue. 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.

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

Aitkin\* — New Life; Larry Burg & John Baker, pastors; Worship 10:15 am & 5:30 pm; "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; wwwpointway.org Garrison\* — Pastor Michael H. Palkie; Worship 9; SS 10:30.

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,

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

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, the journeynorth.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

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.  $\label{eq:Grand Rapids} \textbf{Grand Rapids} \, \textbf{--} \, \textbf{St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun.}$ 

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-

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 Richie Bean; 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.

#### 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 Malmo — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10; Worship

Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship,

#### HEBREW/MESSIANIC Glen — Beth Shalom Tabernacle of Truth, Rabi Frank Dell, for

10:30; Thu., Bible Study, 7 pm.

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 ser-

vices 2nd & 4th Sun.; nursery staffed during 10 am Sun. service; Sunday service is live streamed on YouTube (First Lutheran Church Aitkin); broadcast on KKIN (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 Svnod). 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.popbaxter.org

Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun.,

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

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 —(FLCA), www.crosslakelutheran.com, Pastor Kristin, Oltmann, Pastor Kurt Hagestuen, 218-692-3682, Sunday Worship 9:30 am, Wednesday Worship 6:15 pm

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: 9; 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 9 am Alternating with Zion of Crosby; 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.  ${\it Lake Shore-Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Interlachen \, Rd.;}$ 

study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N) - 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 9:00 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and Bible

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 Chanel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service

Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585

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

**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 Evangelicals, 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, www.visitlifespring.com

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST Aitkin - Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 9:30 a.m., Bible Study

 ${\it Crosby-Lifespring Church}, \ a \ {\it member of Fellowship of Independent}$ 

10:30 a.m.; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; www.aitkinadventist.org; 423-805-0933

#### Street, Brainerd, 218-829-1676 UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Brainerd - Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 11:20 a.m., Bible Study

10:00 a.m.; Bible Study & Prayer Mtg. Wed. 6:30 p.m.; 2910 Oak

#### 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.

 ${\sf Crosby/Deerwood^*--Cascade, Reverend \, Dr. \, Genia \, Garrett; Worship}$ 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; fellow-

ship 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

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

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



Toll free: 1-888-450-8845

Worship 11.



# **Extended the chaos**

Crosby has been served the second of many potential lawsuits. The two wrongful termination lawsuits, eight failed attempts to criminally prosecute two former Mayors were about protecting jobs, not residents, they used taxpayer's dollars to do so. The city administrator and former police chief are not able to control, suppress, or stop the information from reaching the public, so they threaten First Amendment rights as a personal issue of defamation. There is proof they colluded to willingly, maliciously, break data privacy laws and libel the city. The letters have never been personal; they're about accountability of actions, exposing why the city failed, ending negligence

and incompetency. There's an agreement in values with the former police chief, cities with bad cops, who lie, distort the truth, violate the public trust, are threatening or damaging to the resident's safety and resources should be terminated. They should be pursued and held accountable, another purpose of letters to the editor. Interestingly, the city invokes gag orders with the threat of immediate termination to keep employees from speaking.

Multiple city employees have disclosed a hostile workplace environment, multiple city departments have filed grievances, sewer district members were forced to spend \$120,000 in reserve funds, the city lost thousands of dollars by

placing an officer on paid administrative leave and the levy was raised a whopping 2.9% when the city had a surplus.

The current council and mayor have shown they don't care about the victimization of resident's, employees, sewer district members or anyone else. As another letter writer pointed out, they extended the chaos three years, making the solution someone else's problem.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood **Concerned Observer** 

# **Disclaimer**

The views expressed in this publication's Reader Ribbets and/or guest column by the "concerned observer" who has the same last name as we do, are in no way a reflection of our opinions..

Jeff and Cheryl Avelsgard Deerwood Township

# Loyalty and separation of duties

Crosby, we reward loyalty. For example, our mayor and his cohort council members rewarded our city administrator with a generous three year contract extension. This, even after she actively sought employment elsewhere. She applied for positions in at least two different towns, the most recent a few short months ago. We are then left to wonder, if she is continuing to explore options elsewhere, what's her loyalty to us?

Her loyalty has been displayed towards our mayor, select city employees and even to a few newer hand-picked business owners, but there hasn't been much shown to anyone else.

This new contract, once again, was simply protection against the possible retaliatory actions of a new mayor and a unified council being elected.

Her credentials are that of a tremendous city clerk/treasurer.

That has been proven. But this mayor and followers rewarding her a position that she wasn't qualified for and carried just way too many additional responsibilities for one person has proven to be ineffective. Her friendships with city personnel have caused conflicts of interest and are continuing to be a distraction. Her overseeing of city personnel has led to poor hiring choices. Her neglect of annual city responsibilities, including removing snow off our library's roof, caused untold hardships for both city employees and residents. The list of the city's mishaps, cover ups, abuses and embarrassments could go on and on, but what it really comes down to is that one person should not and realistically cannot hold multiple city titles or responsibilities.

The taxpayers of Crosby are going to pay dearly for this experiment. But to put all the blame on her isn't fair, as she takes orders from a biased dictator and his cohort council who constantly push his tourism based agendas over our resident's wishes. Along with voting out this opportunistic mayor and electing some free thinking council members, our towns residents need to consider that we once again hire a true city administrator and then restore [her] position as our cities clerk/treasurer. The council would need to oversee the separation of these duties. That would be a start towards some accountability and transparency, so that we could move Crosby forward and focus on solving the many other issues our city will be facing.

Chris Ryan, Crosby

**NewsHopper** Deadlines are Mondays at Noon







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### HELP WANTED

Kimberly Township is accepting quotes for a three year contract to provide class 5, road maintenance work, hourly equipment rates and snowplowing, must do all. Please have quotes to Kimberly Township 38227 Nature Ave., Aitkin, MN 56431 by 5:00 p.m. April 3, 2020. w11 -13 Kimberly Township is looking for contractors to perform roadside mowing, brushing and miscellaneous work. Please have prices to Kimberly Township 38227 Nature Ave., Aitkin, MN 56431 by 5:00 p.m. April 3, 2020. w11 -13

#### HELP WANTED CONT.

Kimberly Township is looking for lawn maintenance to be performed at the Kimberly Township Garage and Cemetery by either an individual 18 or older with valid MN Drivers License or a landscaping contractor. Individuals have work history; contractors have costs to Kimberly Township 38227 Nature Ave., Aitkin, MN 56431 by 5:00 p.m. April 3, 2020. w11 -13

#### HELP WANTED CONT.

Glen-Kimberly Town hall is looking for quotes to mow the town hall lawn for the 2020 season. Please submit quotes to Anita Anderson, 33079 360th ST, Aitkin, MN 56431 by April 8, 2020. If a lawn service please include your insurance information.

> To Advertise Call 218-772-0300 or www.newshopper.net

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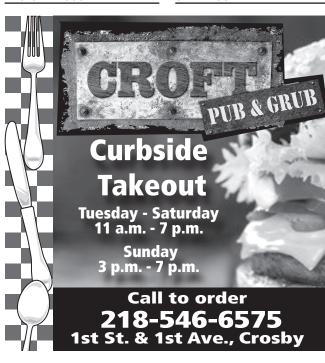
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# Level 3 predatory offender moves

Joshua Matthew McMillen will be moving into a residence located in the 30000 block of State Hwy. 6 in Perry Lake Township in rural Crosby on March 28. He has resided

in the City of Brainerd since his release on Nov. 5, 2019 and is on supervised probation.

McMillen engaged in sexual contact with a known teenage



female. Crow Wing County Scott Sheriff Goddard wants to keep the public informed as to the known locations of predatory offenders, but also reminds the public

that he cannot control where they choose to reside. There will not be a public hearing held due to current guidelines regarding social distancing and

attendance in groups.

"My highest priority is public safety and I want you to know that all predatory offenders in Crow Wing County are closely monitored by my office for compliance," Goddard stated in the release. "As always, we ask that the public report any suspicious activity immediately so we can investigate. "

McMillen is white, 6'2" tall and weighs 173 pounds with blue eyes and sandy hair.

# askdrsmith.com featuring Dr. Murray Smith **Building the essentials**

We are open. We are. Unfortunately, this has become a rare commodity with the increasing restrictions being asked of us as the coronavirus crisis continues. To help with making this uninterrupted care a possibility in our office, we have implemented a series of procedures to help in maximizing the cleanliness for each of our patient areas.

You can do this at home, as well. This week let's begin with a basic recommended line of defense: wash your hands and the surfaces around

The vast majority of experts recommend that a primary line of defense is to wash your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. We are doing this after every patient encounter. We are also encouraging our patients do this on the way in, though many are already doing this on their own before we see them. During this time of frequent washing, using a soap that is less harsh can help in minimizing the discomfort.

We have had an increasing number of calls to help patients in their care via phone or Zoom from their home. In response, we now have unveiled a platform that allows you to schedule your appointment time. Go to ask www.askdrsmith. com and click the "Book Appointment" tab. You'll see the calendar and available times. Follow the easy instructions and get started.

As a reminder, we also have made available our best nutrients through our online patient hub. Just text your name, email, and cell phone number and we will set you up and give you top recommendation to help you during this time and beyond. Your order is directly shipped to your home or desired location.



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.

Try these favorites:

- Ingredients for the hand soap
- 1/2 cup castile soap liquid
- 1/2 cup distilled water
- 15 drops tea tree essential oil
- 5-10 drops lavender essential oil (If desired)
- 1 Tbsp vitamin E oil
- 1 Tbsp sweet almond oil or olive oil or jojoba oil ■

## Ingredients for the surface spray

- In an 8 ounces spray bottle combine
- 3/4 cup distilled water
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 7-8 drops tea tree essential oil 7-8 drops lavender essential oil

# We're all in this together.

These are unsettling times.

Like you, we're thankful for the professionals who work to keep communities safe and healthy during this COVID-19 crisis.

Our people live and work in communities like yours. We've taken steps to keep our employees healthy and safe—including alternative work arrangements to support social distancing.

Through these uncertain times, we know it's important we continue to deliver the affordable and reliable energy we all need to fuel our lives—with safety remaining our first priority.

Stay healthy. Stay safe. We're all in this together.



