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Sat., May 9, 2020

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Nisswa first grader misses "real school"

By ANN **SCHWARTZ** Lucy Smith, 7, is a charming and outgoing first grader at Nisswa Elementary in Erica Hanowski's class.

Because she is such an extrovert, she is lucky to have somewhere to go during the day. Since her mom, Becca, an RN, is a frontline worker, childcare is provided for Lucy.

She goes to Nisswa Elemen-

tary for a full day from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The school work is done at 10 a.m. in the morning and 2 p.m. in



Lucy Smith, 7, at home with her cat.

Submitted photo

the afternoon. The remainder of the day is set up like an after-school program, with Continued on Page 4





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2 May 9, 2020 NewsHopperTM www.NewsHopper.net

St. Francis principal glad they invested in improved internet —

First-year administrator wasn't expecting such big changes



Jennifer Nagel, St. Francis of the Lakes principal

By ANN SCHWARTZ

Jennifer Nagel, 41, was familiar with St. Francis of the Lakes School in Brainerd, having worked as a teacher and assistant principal there, along with tons of other teaching experience under her belt.

But her first year of being a principal, and learning the basic job, was rudely interrupted when the governor of Minnesota, Tim Walz, shut down schools from March 18 through the end of the school year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Looking for silver linings in the cloud, Nagel is so thankful that they upgraded their internet network last summer, which left them better placed to teach students online this year. St. Francis has about 60 laptops and 30 ipads that students use — many loaned out by the school.

A faith-based school, solid on Catholic teachings, St. Francis of the Lakes Catholic School falls under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Duluth. St. Francis contracts with the Brainerd School District for food service

and transportation. Brainerd also provides special education and district nurse services to St. Francis.

It helps that they don't have to worry about food service during this pandemic and their families were well-equipped to deal with childcare with their students at home, Nagel said. In a private school there are fewer children in poverty than the public school system has and parents tend to be very engaged.

"We do have some families who have hardships and we're here to help with financial difficulties, or if they have a need for food or childcare, we would provide that too," noted Nagel.

For the most part, teachers are doing an excellent job of reaching out to parents and families. "I've had to contact a few people," she noted.

With fundraising down everywhere, extra donations to the school would be appreciated this year, she said. About 9 percent of the students are not of the Catholic faith. They admit students of any and all faiths, or no faith, but they must be open to the teachings of the Catholic Church, she explained.

"We center our academics and values around our faith,"

she explained about the bedrock of the school. "Faith concepts are integrated into every class."

The trend for Catholics having large families is true at St. Francis. Ten of their families have at least five children each, so distance learning plans must include a way to serve large families with children at various grade levels.

"One thing I try to stress to teachers, students and families, is that the spiritual, social, emotional and physical well being of all of us is very important at this time. If you need a break, take a break. Do the best you can but don't strain

yourse

"I tell everyone 'hang in there.' There are only three weeks left of school and everyone is doing a great job of adapting and are open to possibilities. I look forward to starting next year off with a bang and hope we don't have to do distance learning right away."

Nagel said she is sad for the eighth graders. Eighth grade graduation is a huge event at St. Francis, with a special Mass where each student is highlighted by an eighth grade teacher, followed by a reception — all attended by family and friends. And then eighth

graders are given the last two days of school off.

This event is such a milestone for St. Francis students that they are attempting to reschedule it for later in 2020.

"One thing we found is that the teaching staff have had a chance to research and find tons of new resources that they've incorporated into their instruction. Without distance learning, we wouldn't have the time to do that."

Like all of us Nagel misses seeing everyone in person and exchanging smiles and hugs. "This school building is really quiet without any children in it," she concluded.

St. Francis music teacher keeps part of former routine

Sue Jewell still goes in to teach her online classes every day



Sue Jewell, the music director for St. Francis of the Lakes Catholic School in Brainerd.

By ANN SCHWARTZ A lot of things have changed, but some things have stayed the same with school closed early this year.

Sue Jewell, Brainerd, the music director for St. Francis

of the Lakes Catholic School still goes into the building and teaches classes every day. (She also teaches piano lessons during the regular school year).

"My keyboard is there and all my reference material," explained Jewell, about her music classroom in the basement of the school. "I have a laptop and CD player and music books that I have all arranged around me for easy access."

St. Francis, a private faith-based school in Brainerd, has about 220 students in grades preschool through eighth. Jewell interacts with all ages and also has choir rehearsals and concerts with the older students grade 4-8.

Their big events during a year of "real school" begin with Grandparents Day in a big

welcome — back shindig in October where music students perform.

Then a ton of work goes into putting together a Christmas program, staged in December, where about 900 folks attend the evening concert at Tornstrom Auditorium, Brainerd.

The second half of the year is a little less hectic, with lots of music theory studies and choir practice continuing once a week. All students have music class two or three times a week. She also teaches students the music for Mass and students take turns helping at each Mass. Mass is held at St. Francis Church every Wednesday morning and attended by the student body (the public is also welcome to attend).

The next big programs would have been the spring

band and choir concert and a trip to Valley Fair for band and choir students and their chaperones.

"We usually have two coach buses going to the Valley Fair with 90 people. We have strict guidelines of two parents chaperoning every group of five or six children."

The Valley Fair trip is called off this year and so is the concert

But Jewell continues to reach out, even during distance learning times. She hosts classes most days, online, with about 15 students in each class.

She keeps in contact with Brainerd School District music staff and exchanges ideas with them.

Jewell reaches out to families with a SMORE newsletter

every Friday. "I put my email address and cell phone number on there and I have quite a few parents who will email or chat with me about music lessons," observed Jewell.

She uses her ipad at home where she does planning, practicing and preparing.

How does she keep spirits up? "We end every class session, every day, with prayer for anyone who is struggling."

She said the younger children, especially, love to come to the online classes. And teachers and staff from St. Francis have a fun game going on facebook. They publish a photo of themselves somewhere in the Brainerd Lakes Area and everyone has to guess where

"It keeps our families engaged," said Jewell.



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Brainerd, area's largest school district, has over 6,000 students

By ANN SCHWARTZ Brainerd has a large school district with multiple buildings to manage. They have

about 6,344 students in six elementary schools, a middle school and two high schools. Brainerd High School includes grades 9-12 and with about 1,850 students.

They also have Washington and Lincoln buildings, an early childhood center and are in the midst of a multi-million construction project impacting many of their building



Brainerd High School Principal Andrea Rusk.

"Brainerd High School provides daily distance learning for all students," said Andrea Rusk, high school principal.

"We decided to do a daily check-in and learning task in order to stay connected to our students. We also ensure they have the daily support needed to be successful in this new platform for learning. Each morning, a teacher posts a lesson and it may include a video, reading, or learning activity. Every student is expected to check in with each teacher daily and also complete the assigned learning task.

"Our Transportation Department is doing deliveries of meals and supplies (as needed) to the homes of the people who have let us know they need that through the Family Needs Survey on our district homepage at isd181.org."

Rusk said, "Each day is the same, but different,' about her work load during these times. "What I mean is that when I get to school I log on to my computer and spend much of the day 'meeting' with individual teachers and with teacher teams. I feel busier in distance learning than I did when we had face to face learning! I think it is due that this is all new for us and we had a steep learning curve in how we best provide instruction to our students.

"Our administrative team also meets daily to discuss students we are concerned about, and we also problem-solve together."

For students who may be struggling, teachers first email the student, said Rusk. If that is not successful, the teacher calls the parent.

Rusk said, "We want them to know we want them to stay connected — even if they are struggling with the online learning. For many of our students, this has been very difficult. It has also been a challenge for parents many of whom are working from home or who have been laid off from work due to COVID19. There are many stressors on our families as they are doing their best to survive this difficult time.

"From my perspective," said Cori Reynolds, communications specialist for the district, "the most helpful thing the public can do is be patient and offer lots of grace — with us



Cori Reynolds, communications specialist for the district at the school district when we don't have answers to questions, with rambunctious kids who miss their routines and friends, with parents who are struggling to work and parent and help support learning, with anyone who feels scared or angry or unsettled by all of this. Everyone is doing the best they can at things they have never done before."

"Please continue to support education,"said Rusk. "Given this challenging time, it may seem unrealistic to provide education using distance learning but we share hope of a time that we will be back together with our students and the learning done now will benefit the return to normal in our schools. Understand most schools were not prepared for this change and we are working really hard to support our students. We have a great community of support for our schools and the continued value on education is appreciated!"

Canceled events

At this time the school is on a "pause" for the commencement ceremony. There hope is that they can have an in-person ceremony following Center for Disease Control and Minnesota Department of Health guidelines for safety. If they do not have a ceremony on May 22 as planned, they have two back up dates, one in June and one in July.

Prom will be rescheduled and potentially held later this summer.

The Minnesota State High School League has canceled the spring season for athletics. The hope is that at some point this summer student athletes will be able to resume some type of athletic training with their teammates.

Senior recognition night, which Brainerd Public Schools Foundation sponsors, will be held as a virtual ceremony on

Get

Wednesday, May 13.

The school had to cancel kindergarten round-up, Kinder Friend day, field days, field trips, awards ceremonies, concerts and more. An alternate schedule or format doesn't make sense for most of those things. Where it does make sense, plans are being made and will be shared when they're complete.

Some schools are doing spirit days where people send in photos of their outfits, to keep spirits up. The high school is doing a series on facebook highlighting the seniors.

Administrators are doing their best to encourage staff. One did home flower deliveries earlier this week to celebrate the staff for Administrative Professionals day.

Another school brought in bagels and coffee for everyone working at the child care site. Others have video meetings to encourage the staff and answer questions and give them a chance to vent.

The focus remains on taking good care of kids and supporting their learning.

build schedule!

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2020)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

DATE: April 19, 2020 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFI-CATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage

INFORMATION REGARD-MORTGAGE TO BE **FORECLOSED**

1. Date of Mortgage: August 15, 2018

2. Mortgagors: Shayne D. Pankratz and Trista J. Pankratz, spouses married to each other

3. Mortgagees: First International Bank & Trust

4. Recording Information: ded on S**eptember 11,** 2018, as Document Number 908419, in the Office of the County Recorder of Crow

Wing County, Minnesota. 5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any: N/A **INFORMATION REGARD-**ING MORTGAGED PREMIS-

Tax parcel identification number of the mortgaged premises: 251030030010009, 251030030020009 251030030030009

7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises:

LOTS ONE (1), TWO (2), AND THREE (3), BLOCK THREE (3) MATTSON'S AD-DITION TO IRONTON AC-CORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER, **CROW WING COUNTY, MIN-**

8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 308 6th Ave., Ironton, MN 56455.

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA

9. The person holding the Mortgage: is not a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Stat. 58.02, subd. 30.

The name(s) of the residential mortgage servicer and the lender or broker, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is First International Bank & Trust.

10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is First International Bank & Trust. **INFORMATION REGARD-**ING FORECLOSURE

11. The requisites of Minn. Stat. 580.02 have been satis-

The original principal amount secured by the Mortgage was \$ 23,000.00.

13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the Mortgage, including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the

Mortgage, is: \$23,414.69. 14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Crow Wing County, Minnesota, at public auction on June 11, 2020, 10:00 a.m., at Sheriff's Office, 304 Laurel Street, Brainerd, MN 56401.

15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagor or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale.

16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute

applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on December 11, 2020.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY MORTGAGOR, MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR AS-SIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDI-CIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STAT-UTES, SECTION 582.032, DE-TERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORT-GAGED PREMISES ARE IM-PROVED WITH A RESIDEN-TIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRI-CULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:

Caren L. Stanley (MN #0340480)

VOGEL LAW FIRM. LTD 218 NP Ave PO Box 1389

Fargo, ND 58107-1389 Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:

First International Bank &

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OBITUARIES

BRIAN BUKKILA

NewsHopperTM



Brian Donald Bukkila, 60, of Aitkin died Saturday, April 25, 2020 at Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin.

The family is planning a celebration of life for both Brenda and Brian to be held at a later date.

He was born July 15, 1959 in Minneapolis to Donald and Barbara (Larson) Bukkila. He graduated from High School in Minneapolis and work for Burlington Northern as a machine operator until his retirement. Brian was united in marriage to Brenda Sue (Keen) on September 16, 2000 in Las Vegas, NV. He was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Brian is survived by his parents, Donald and

Barbara Bukkila; children: Ben Bukkila, Sturgis, SD; Kevin (Samantha Solheim) Hanson. Wishram, WA; Derek Hanson, Wishram, WA; grandchildren: Emory, Coralynn, and Liam Bukkila, Cain and Jacob Solheim, Merci Wildey, Trent, Jameson, Makayla, and Quinten Hanson; grothers and sisters: Julie (Ken) Patnode, Maple Grove; Brock (Amy) Bukkila, Aitkin; Brett (Sherri) Bukkila, Coon Rapids; Don (Barb) Bukkila, Alexandria; many other special relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Brenda, on December 25, 2019 and his grandparents, Ben and Helma Bukkila.

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.

MICHAEL EDWARDS



Michael Paul Edwards, 47, of Brainerd, formerly of Aitkin, died Thursday, April 30, 2020 in St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud.

Services for Michael will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be sent to Susan Edwards at 19181 Spencer Road #9, Brainerd, MN 56401.

He was born April 24, 1973 in Detroit Lakes to Terrance and Harriet (Steece) Edwards. Michael graduated from Aitkin High School. He married Susan Sisson on July 10, 2009 in Bemidji. Michael enjoyed visiting with friends, scrapping, playing sudoku, tinkering in the yard, canning and gardening. Michael will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Michael is survived by his loving wife, Susan Edwards; step-son, Samuel Stubbs; mother, Harriett Carleton; brother, Nicholas Edwards; numerous aunts, uncles and many cousins.

Michael is preceded in death by his father, Terry and his grandparents. To leave an online condolence, go to: www.

srtfuneral.com. Arrangements are with Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral and Cremation Service, Aitkin.

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JOHN GAUSE



John Edward Gause, 74, died on Sunday, April 26, 2020 at Aitkin Health Services in Aitkin.

Private Services will be held at a later date. Due to the unprecedented need in all of our communities, the family suggests that memorials and

expressions of sympathy be made to the charity of your choice.

John was born April 28, 1945 in Minneapolis. John worked as an Auto Mechanic for over 40 years. He excelled as a mechanic and was a "jack of all trades" around the home. John enjoyed hunting, fishing and collecting old cars. He loved spending time with family and friends. John had a great sense of humor and charm. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

John is survived by his sons: David (Sara) Gause and Tom (Kristen) Gause; brother, Richard Adams; sister, Frances Carter and many other

John was preceded in death by his parents, William and Eleanor Adams, and brother, David

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.

NATALIE SPALJ

Natalie Gerbich Spalj, age 91, longtime resident of Deerwood and currently residing at the Brightondale Reflections Memory Care in New Brighton, died on Sunday, May 3, 2020 due to health complications from the Coronavirus.

A Funeral Mass will be held a later date. A full obit will be at that time.

Natalie is survived by her children: Heather (Jack) Tooker, J.R. (Jane) Spalj, Heidi (Brian) Anderson, and Luke (Leslie) Spalj; 11 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren and great-great -grandchildren.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

First grader looks forward to summer fun with baby sister | Continued from Page 1

stations, playing outside, activities and free time.

"I like math the best," Lucy says about her favorite subject. "And we have Tensticks that teach us all about where our numbers go."

A reader since kindergarten, Lucy has moved on to doing book reviews. She loves Mercy Watson stories. "I have seven books about her. She is very funny."

In a serious vein, Lucy said that she knows that the Covid-19 Pandemic means that: "People are sick and they are getting worse. I

think that we should help others that are sick - get their groceries and stuff."

Because she is in childcare and they practice social distancing, separating the kids and keeping the groups small, Lucy knows that although she is at her school physically, it's not: "real school. I miss real school and my friends and my teacher."

She said Olivia is her best friend and she misses all her friends and family members that she hasn't seen recently. With North Long Lake right out her window, Lucy

looks forward to swimming, boating, riding her bike and other vehicles, such as four-wheelers, this summer. "I like things with wheels."

This is the first summer she has had a sibling. Baby Liv is almost seven months old and she can roll over, laugh, blab and eat baby food. "I want the future to get better and I want to go back to real school. For fun, I hope I can go swimming and hold my sister in the water and help her get used to the water and maybe swim."

* 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; "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, Worship at 10:45 Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; hillcityagchurch@gmail.com; 218-

697-2662 Palisade — Pastor Ed Sornberger: SS 9: Worship 10: Kids

Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

BAPTIST

Aitkin - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617, Worship 9: 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

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.

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 10:3011:30. 218-828-1362

Tamarack — Pastor Terry Banker, 608-475-1528, Worship 9:30; SS 10:45; Wed Youth 4 pm.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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

Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959 Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene-

Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10:45, SS 9:30 -16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005 Glen — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9

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

Palisade/Waukenabo Twp. — Hilltop Chapel, Pastor B. Hite; Service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's SS 9 a.m.; between Esquagama & Round Lake, Handican Accessible,

School 9:30; 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy.

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

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

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

Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30: Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun each month.

Aitkin – First* (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton, Pastor Jordan Gades; worship Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 8 am & 10 am, Wed. 5:30 pm w/supper; 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 KKIN (94.3FM); 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.popbaxter.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.

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

Sunday Worship Services 11 am. (www.llchurch.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), 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

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.

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) Malmo — 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.

 Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship McGrath 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, Wor-

ship 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 Roger Hagen; 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

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 Street, Brainerd, 218-829-1676

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 blks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-

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

3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

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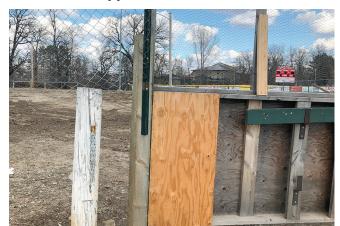
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Aitkin park upgrade

The City of Aitkin's *Make Your Mark, Support Our Park* campaign includes replacing the hockey rink and warming house. The new rink will include a concrete pad that will be lined and used for pickle-ball courts in the summer. The concrete pad could also be used for basketball in the summer and broom ball in the winter. Construction has started with Aitkin city staff demolishing the old warming house and hockey rink at the City Park. Just a few boards remain from the old hockey rink. Ann Schwartz photo





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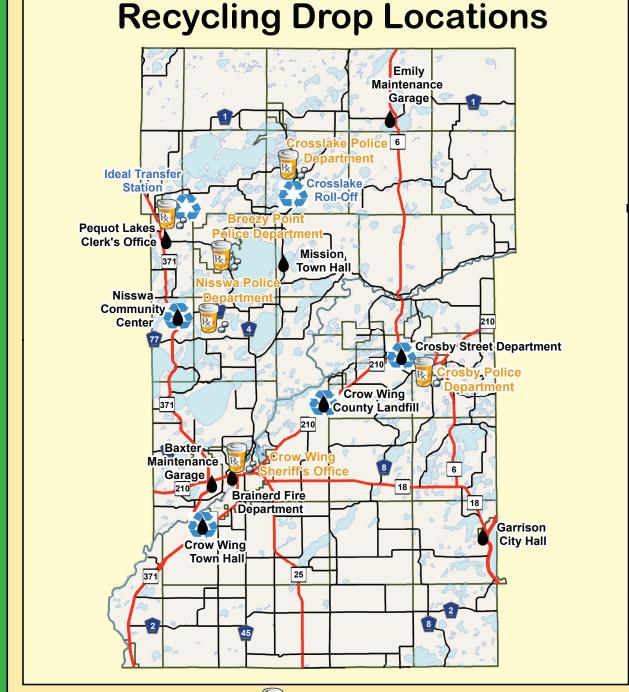


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Crosby's government needs cleansing

NewsHopperTM

As the NewsHopper is not an official newspaper for the City of Crosby, this current mayor and his powers that be haven't been able to use this as leverage to force this publication to block or censor letter writers, such as yours truly. They have tried unsuccessfully to discredit those of us who dare see thru the half truths, biased favoritisms, staged and often untruthful presentations given to other cities from their own contracted service professionals and cover ups cowardly disguised as client confidentiality.

Their own minutes speak for themselves, as they do not show this council voting to approve 13 foot wide sidewalks on BOTH sides of the highway downtown. Their own minutes also show that for almost two years this council has been waiting for the results of an independent

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firms evaluation of our cities ordinances, yet during the April 27th city council teleconference meeting, Sova stated she had just the week before sent these ordinances off! Yet, some controversial decisions concerning Planning and Zoning, variances, etc. had been hastily made due to the believe that some of the ordinances may be changed anyways after these results came back.

Our city's government needs a cleansing that involves more than just this mayor and his cohort council. We need to elect someone to replace this man who has ruined the concept of good governance and is bold enough to take the necessary steps to help our city start fresh. That will mean reevaluating contracts and reopening the bids on all the parties that have contributed to this administrations

Restoration

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questionable actions.

In order to reestablish credibility along with providing our taxpayers due diligence, our next city's governing body will need to reevaluate the costs and services provided by its city attorneys, engineers as well as its contractors that offer services such as our part time building inspector, Hallett management, etc. Those whose actions have hurt not just their own reputations, but Crosby's as well, or may have hindered the fair execution of things such as policy enforcement in town, charged us grossly excessive fees, etc. will need to go.

So instead of voting for candidates who sing the praises of people who were 'just doing their jobs', we need to elect those who will make sure people actually and ethically do their jobs.

Chris Ryan, Crosby

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Claiming credit

An interesting letter on biased, prejudiced, flawed, how local government works and who the boss really is, may have been an admission of guilt by the author. It was titled, "Your vote makes a difference" and published in the April 29th Courier. The author is a former Crosby mayor and announced candidate for mayor in 2020. It was during their tenure both wrongful termination lawsuits took place. By the author's reasoning, they were the boss and decided it was okay for the former police chief and city clerk/ administrator undertake a fraudulent, corrupt, personal vendetta investigation into a police officer. The mayor decided it was okay to use

lying, distortion of the truth, during the investigation. These decisions set Crosby on the path of destruction that has ended in the residents being served the second of many potential lawsuits. That must be why it was an honor and privilege to serve with them, the employees were just backing the mayor and council up and doing the mayor's bidding rather than their own. If the former mayor wants

residents to be knowledgeable and not vote on hearsay, they can read the arbitration report on www.newshopper.net.

Voting is extremely important to a solid community and quality of life for residents and surrounding communities.

Crosby has been misled for years. Apparently this former mayor wants to claim credit for the mess Crosby is in, confess their failures, and wants the residents to give them a second chance at running their city.

The former mayor should disclose their complete involvement, knowledge of the massive failure their tenure started.

It's agreed people should not be attacked for doing their jobs. No one has been attacked. They have been exposed for not doing their job and abusing their power.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood **Concerned Observer**

Cracks in monopolistic meat supply

As large corporate meatpacking plants close across the nation, the pandemic exposes deep cracks in the nation's monopolistic meat supply. Allowing a handful of multinational corporations to control the meat supply impairs the public safety during our hour of need. The combination—monopolistic control and sick laborers-does not work well to ensure production and public safety in a pandemic.

During his 90-year lifetime, my father farmed in southern Minnesota. He watched as multinational corporations forced independent farmers off the land, replaced by industrial-sized factory farms. As 11 swine factory farms circled our farm within a 3-mile radius, my father frequently proclaimed that "Small farmers will feed this country when it gets into trouble." My father was right. The country is in trouble and small farmers are feeding this country-not multinational corporations.

As America slowly emerges from this crisis, we must re-examine the sick dependency upon corporate titans to feed America and rely, once again, upon small farmers to feed America.

Sonja Trom Eayrs is a farmer's daughter and rural advocate. Ms. Eayrs writes on behalf of Dodge County Concerned Citizens, a grassroots organization dedicated to preserving America's independent farmers, while exposing the environmental, public health and monopolistic control of American agriculture by industry giants.

Sonja Trom Eayrs, Maple Grove



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We'll get through this together.

To all the unsung heroes who provide for our health, our safety, our wellbeing, our food, our supply chain—thank you from all of us at Enbridge.

To those of you staying home, practicing social distancing and flattening the COVID-19 curve, we also say thank you.

We're working closely with our nonprofit community partners, our closest Indigenous and Tribal neighbors, and local governments to help where resources are needed most—including food banks, social service agencies, mental health organizations, first responders and health care providers.

The energy we deliver, safely and reliably, heats homes, fuels lives and keeps vital services operating. While we continue this essential work, we have also taken steps with our people and in our workplaces to do our part to help prevent the spread of the virus.

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