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WHAT'S INSIDE

OBITUARIES
Pages 4 & 5

READER RIBBETS
Page 5

CLASSIFIEDS
Page 6


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Math teacher and coach honored for tennis coaching career Aitkin's Don Hagestuen gets tennis courts dedicated to him

By ANN SCHWARTZ
A young teacher who came to Aitkin in 1959 is still in town at age 83 and enjoying his life.

Don Hagestuen of Aitkin, a retired teacher and coach, was recognized at a ceremony at the Aitkin Tennis Courts on September 26. It was renamed the Don Hagestuen Tennis Center.

His early history

Don was born in Starbuck on a farm in the farmhouse in April 1937. "I was raised on a farm and helped with chores till I was old enough for Dad to farm me out to neighbors and friends of Dad," Don said in an interview.

He attended school in Starbuck, graduating in 1955. "I loved mathematics but did not excel at athletics. I loved hunting small game – especially pheasants."

He went on to attend and graduate from Augsburg College, where his brother also attended. Graduating in 1959, Don majored in mathematics and minored in phy. ed.

"A former superintendent



Aitkin Mayor Gary Tibbitts (left) presents former Aitkin girls' tennis coach Don Hagestuen with a framed proclamation renaming the Aitkin tennis courts to the Don Hagestuen Tennis Center while John Woodrow, sports announcer and advocate, looks on.

at Aitkin, OB Bakken, came down to Augsburg to interview me. I hadn't even heard of Aitkin before. He had a job for me teaching junior high math. I never even had to create a resume or apply for a job."

Settling in

"God was very kind to me. I drove up here in the spring around Lake Mille Lacs – I'd never seen such a big lake before. He interviewed me and gave me a contract that day."

Moving to town in the fall of 1959, at age 22, he lived upstairs at Pearl Baker's,

about a block from the high school. He taught four sections of seventh grade math and one eighth grade section. He also coached fifth and sixth grade basketball and helped with grades seven and eight. "At that time, there were no girls' sports in Aitkin."

In the 1960s and 70s, Aitkin had bigger classes than now, averaging 130-to-150 students per graduating class.

Romance blooms

Sonja, his longtime wife, came into picture in 1960. The St. Olaf graduate had a degree in phy. ed with a

strong interest in music. "We met at a party before school started and started dating."

"We had a great group of young teachers who hung around together. We had snowball fights and lots of good clean fun."

Engaged by Christmas, they were married on June 17, 1961. "We were best friends, good buddies – I knew I wanted her for my partner for life."

About family

Don and Sonja have four children.

Rebecca, the oldest, is a choir director in Wayzata.

Naomi is a part-time mathematics teacher at Breck School.

Kurt, an ordained minister, serves at Crosslake Lutheran and is also a great carpenter.

Erik, with a chemistry degree, works for a food company in Plymouth.

What did they stress when raising children? "We instilled a strong faith into them. We've been members of First Lutheran Church since the early 1960s."

"All of our children have made me proud. They have had some bumpy roads, but, by the grace of God, they are

all doing well." The couple has 12 grandchildren: six boys and six girls. Sonja is a resident of Aitkin Health Services and Don visits her every day.

Tennis comes to Aitkin

After federal Title XIX was adopted, girls' sports were started up all over the United States, including in Aitkin. "Maude Klingelhofer was instrumental in helping get girls' sports started. We knew she had her hands full trying to coach volleyball and couldn't handle tennis too. I had taken tennis as a class in college and I enjoyed it. Also, Sonja and I enjoyed playing tennis with Lenore and Fred Clossit."

"I did the coaching of girls tennis from 1974 to 1983. By then, my daughters had graduated, and I want to do more things with our boys."

The team played at the non-regulation size concrete area in the northeast corner of the football field. "Then we built a new concrete court north of what is now the Journey North Church parking lot." That is gone now, and tennis is played at

Continued on Page 3



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Aitkin tennis courts dedicated to Hagestuen | Continued from Page 1

a complex on the southwest edge of town. Don remembers: “The highlights of nine years of coaching was the young ladies I worked with and the coaches I got to know. Tennis is a sport the girls can play for the rest of their lives.” Byron Johnson, a fellow math teacher and friend, was his assistant coach. “We



Tennis team takes District honors

The Aitkin High School tennis team became District 18 champs, defeating Foley, 4-1. They were also named Sub-Region 5A runner up, losing to St. Cloud Cathedral, 1-4. Pictured (front row, left to right) are Bunny Blegen, Dawn Sharp, Becky Hagestuen, Katie Bartz; back row, Sandy Sharp, Darla Blegen, Naomi Hagestuen, Jodie Sharp, Jane Soderquist and Coach Don Hagestuen. Not pictured are Roxanne McGillis, Andrea Knutson and Deb Maxwell.

A newspaper clipping of former Aitkin girls' tennis coach, Don Hagestuen, along with his team.

were as close as brothers.” In 1963, Don and Sonja moved into their charming brick and stucco home at 324 2nd Ave. NW, Aitkin, which is still the family home. It is very near the Aitkin High School. Don is still fit and able to enjoy his life. “I go over to see Sonja every night to have supper and visit. I always like having coffee with the guys at Dotzler Implement. I also have to keep up the house and the yard.”

The event

“We had a great dedication event at the tennis court on September 26. My whole family was there except a few grandchildren who couldn’t leave college due to the pandemic. We gathered at home and journeyed to the tennis courts. There was a little rain, but it didn’t dampen the enthusiasm. Mayor Gary Tibbitts was there as were fellow tennis coaches Joe and Cindy Walz and Jen Waldorf. “The present high school tennis coaches participated more in tennis than I ever did. They are much more experienced. I had never played in a competitive match.”

Bunny Dotzler, a dear friend, put together a couple memory books that were presented to Don. They are chalk full of memories of girls’ tennis teams and outstanding individual athletes. Don’s name was featured on a large new sign on the court which the Aitkin Quarterbacks paid for. “John Woodrow, a good friend who I had as a student, was instrumental in organizing this.”

John Woodrow weighs in

Talking about Aitkin school in the 1960s, John said: “Well, I mean, it was a lot simpler than it is now, you know classes weren’t fancy: just math, English, the basics. The teachers were a little stricter for the most part.”

He dubbed Maude Klingelhofer the “Godmother of Ait-

kin sports.”

She was the groundbreaking girls’ volleyball coach and had great teams. She was also a phy. ed. teacher. “Maude was a little strict – very old school.”

“I got to know Don when I worked at KKIN radio in the 1970s and the coaches would call me at night to talk to talk about their match or game for the sports show at 7:30 a.m. He never missed a call in the nine years that I worked with him.”

John said it was important to him that those folks who had done outstanding work in Aitkin be honored. He thought about this tennis idea about five years ago and got it going this summer, along with Athletic Director Alex White and Mayor Gary Tibbitts.

He said they just picked a Saturday in September to have the event. “He was a coach in this community for many years and if Don worked with you, you were family.”

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OBITUARIES

JOANNE KNUDSEN



JoAnne “Jody” Lee Knudsen, 57, of Aitkin, died at the St. Cloud Hospital on September 28, 2020. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. at Hunters Point Resort on Mille Lacs Lake. There will be a visitation one hour prior to the service. Jody lived in New Hope, until the age of 38 when she moved to Mille Lacs Lake, Wealthwood Township. In June of 2008 she married

Jon Knudsen. She worked as a Manufacturing Supervisor for Lakes State Lumber. Jody loved fishing, family and friends. Jody is survived by her husband, Jon Knudsen of Mille Lacs; mother, Marlene Eads of Mille Lacs; sister, Dawn Rosenow of New Hope; brothers: Bill Eads of New Hope, Keith Eads of Mille Lacs, and Lawrence Eads of New Hope. She is preceded in death by her father, Lawrence Eads. Arrangements by Mille Lacs Funeral and Cremation Services, Isle.

SALLY ALLISON



Sally Allison, 77, of Palisade, passed away Saturday evening, October 3 at the memory care unit of Golden Horizons after a battle with Alzheimer's. Services were held Friday, October 9, 2020 at 11 a.m. in Sorenson-Root-Thompson Funeral Home, Aitkin. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment to followed at Waukenabo Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Cure Alzheimer's Fund. Sally was born January 15, 1943 to John and Edna (Wiberg) Stiff and grew up in West St. Paul, where she was a 1961 graduate of Henry Sibley High School. Sally moved to North Round Lake in 1973 where she raised her four sons. She worked many years as an aid at Palisade School and for the Waukenabo Township. She was a

member of the Hilltop Chapel Church where she was an active volunteer. Sally enjoyed spending time outdoors in her yard gardening and watching the birds and wildlife. She loved her weekly trip to town and shopping the garage sales with her best friend, Linda. She especially cherished spending time with friends and loved ones, her girlfriends, her children, and her grandchildren. Sally is survived by her four children: Tony of Durham NC, John (Linette) of Maple Grove, Tylor (Pauline) of Stillwater, and Andrew of Pequot Lakes; eight grandchildren: Julien, Riley, Kelli, Cecilia, Jasmine, An Li, Emery, and Leila; best friend and “sister”, Linda Watson; other relatives and friends. Sally was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, John. Arrangements were with the Sorenson-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

IVAN SORENSEN



Ivan B. Sorensen, 91, died Monday, August 3, 2020 surrounded by his family at his home in Granbury, TX. A memorial service will be 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home & Cremation Services in Aitkin with Deacon Bill Stein officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Military honors will be accorded by the Aitkin VFW Robert-Glad Post # 1727 and American Legion Lee Post # 86. Ivan's family cordially invites everyone to the American Legion in Aitkin for a time of fellowship following the services at the funeral home. He was born to Anton and Ragna Sorensen on April 4, 1929 in Luck WI. He was the last of 12 children. He graduated from Milltown High School in Wisconsin. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Okinawa Japan. He and seven of his brothers served during WWII. Upon his discharge he attended the University of Wisconsin for one year. He then graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Mortuary Science. He worked for several funeral homes and while working for the Green Funeral Home in International Falls he met Lucille Haponuk and they were married on June 27, 1953. In 1959, they moved to Aitkin and he

purchased the Seavey Funeral Home. In 1962, he and Gordon Root, along with wives Lucy and Jean, purchased the former Hartman Haas Funeral Home. Ivan and Gordy also served the McGregor area after purchasing the Johnson Funeral Home. Jerry and Val Thompson joined them in 1986. Ivan retired in 1996. Ivan was awarded Aitkin's Business Man Of The Year in 1961. Ivan was a member and former vice president of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a member of the Jaycees, past president of the Lions Club, and former chairman of the Aitkin County Red Cross. He was also a member of the Moose, IOOF, organizer and member of the Aitkin Quarterbacks Club. He served on the Aitkin Community Hospital Board for 30 years and was Aitkin County Coroner for 30 years, former board member of the First National Bank in Aitkin, and the Aitkin Fire Department for one year and served as a Deacon for First Lutheran Church in Aitkin. Ivan is survived by his wife of 67 years, Lucy Sorensen of Texas; daughters: Sandy (Warren) Halverson of Texas; and Cindy (Mark) Larson of Aitkin; son, Brad (Jan) Sorensen of Wyoming; three grandchildren: Scott and Heather Halverson and Eric Wold; six great-grandchildren: Maddox, Ryan, Cash, Ian, Lily and Hunter; many other special relatives friends. Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

Minnesota Legislature special session

Governor Tim Walz will convene a special session of the Minnesota Legislature beginning on October 12. Governor Walz intends to extend the COVID-19 peacetime emergency by 30 days to ensure that the state can continue to quickly and effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. “The COVID-19 virus is unpredictable, and as we have seen over the past few weeks, it continues to devastate our communities,” said Governor Walz. “It’s imperative that we have the tools necessary to respond to this public health emergency and protect the health and wellbeing of each and every Minnesotan. This emergency is not over.” Since the Governor declared a peacetime emergency, Minnesota has taken steps to respond to COVID-19, including enhancing protections for veterans in our veterans homes, activating the National Guard to assist in relief efforts, partnering with Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota to launch a statewide testing strategy to test all symptomatic people, and providing economic relief and stability to those impacted by the pandemic.

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ALLIANCE
Aitkin* — New Life; Larry Burg & John Baker, pastors; Worship in the church building beginning on July 5th 10:15 am & 6:30 pm; 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; www.pointway.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.thechurchontheiseroad.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. 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. Matthias 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, Fr. Anthony Craig, Mass: Mon. 8, Tues. Noon, Thurs. 6 pm, Fri. 8, Sun 8:30 & 10:30 (10:30 outdoors weather permitting)
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. Anthony Craig, Mass Wed. 9 & Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm
Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483
Hillman — Holy Family; Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt.
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8 am. Confession 7:15-7:45 am.
Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10
COMMUNITY
Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959
Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene- Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10:45, SS 9:30 -16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005
Glen — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9 May-Oct.
Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 pm
Jacobson — Jacobson Community Church, Pastor George Collins, 218-252-5938, Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm
Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.
McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 10; 99 South 1st Street (at the McGregor United Methodist church [shared] in downtown McGregor) Pastor Joel Seibel.
McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm.
Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ron Christensen; 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.

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 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 Ingleswood 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.pcpbaxter.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 10 am. (www.lchchurch.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) Pastor Kristin Oltmann, Pastor Kurt Hagestuen, 218-692-3682, In-Car Outdoor Worship, Sundays at 10 am at 14019 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake View Worship online at crosslakelutheran.com
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.
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 Goss; 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 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 Black 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; 320-532-3150; 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.

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OBITUARIES

GARY JOHNSON



Gary A. Johnson, 79 of Aitkin died Thursday, September 24, 2020 at Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin from complication of cancer.

Memorial service was held Monday, October 5, 2020 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin with



Reverend Wendy Hjelmberg officiating. V Burial was in Dorris Cemetery. Military honors were accorded by Aitkin American Legion Lee Post #86 and VFW Roberts-Glad Post #1727.

He was born December 24, 1940 in Aitkin to Alec and Mildred (Tibbetts) Johnson. Gary spent most of his life in Aitkin where he was the foreman of Millie Lacs Wild Rice Processing and raised cattle for many years. In the mid 1970's Gary left Aitkin to go north to Alaska. He co-owned Superior Roofing in Fairbanks and worked on the Alaskan Pipeline in Point Barrow. Upon

returning to Aitkin in the late 70's he bought and operated Aitkin Blacktop, later turning it into an environmental remediation business that cleaned contaminated soil for the EPA. Gary designed and built that business with his lifelong friend Brad Gustin. After selling that business, Gary did dirt work and excavating before retiring. He was a former member of the Jay C's, Ducks Unlimited and the American Legion.

Gary is survived by his wife, Beverly; daughters: Kim (Barry) Sherwood of Mora and Jodi (Dan) Wegge of Aitkin; son, Chris (April) Hegman of Aitkin; Bev's boys: Steve, Chris, David, and Matt Cluff; 10 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; sisters: Carol (Wayne) Vernon and Jackie (James) Reither; many other special relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Alec, Jr., and sister, Patricia Johnson.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

LELA GOULD



Lela Gould, 88, of Crosby died on Friday, October 2, 2020 at her home on Rabbit Lake.

A Memorial service will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 10, 2020 at the Cascade United Methodist Church in Deerwood. A visitation will

be one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

She was born on October 28, 1931 at her family home in Hayes, North Dakota to Lee and Anna (Benedix) Wright. Lela grew up in Kasson, MN where she attended school. After graduating, Lela attended college at Mankato State receiving a bachelor's degree in education. Lela was a grade school teacher for 44 years. She moved to Crosby in 1971. She began teaching at the Ironton Elementary School and later CRES. She retired from teaching in 1993 from the Crosby-Ironton School District. Lela married Donald Gould on August 1, 1954 in Kasson. Lela was an

active member of the Cascade United Methodist Church in Deerwood, Evergreen Charter of the Order of Eastern Star, a volunteer for the summer library program in Crosby and was a Cub Scout and Brownie leader. Her hobbies included motorcycling the U.S., including Alaska, Canada and Newfoundland with her husband Don. Lela also enjoyed camping, fishing, playing cards, reading books, watching the Minnesota Twins and spending many hours with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Lela is survived by her son, Thomas (Shelly); daughter, Suzanne (Jeffrey) Evans; six grandchildren: Leah (Ryan) Olk, Anna (Cody) Plumski, Nicole (Justin) Keiler, Gregory Evans, Daniel (Jennifer) Evans, Erica (Dan) Lasher; five great-grandchildren: Evrette, Truett, Austyn, Charlotte and Emmett.

Preceding Lela in death are her parents; husband, Donald and five siblings.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

ALICE JENKINS



Alice Evangeline Jenkins, 79, of Hill City, died Wednesday, September 30, 2020 in Grand Itasca Hospital, Grand Rapids.

She was born October 31, 1940 in Park Rapids to Frank and Geneva (Tennis) Rugg.

Alice married Morris Jenkins on January 26, 1963 in Millbank, SD. Alice was a member of Hill City United Methodist Church. She enjoyed gardening, farming, sewing, quilting, fishing and traveling. Alice's claim to fame was her homemade pickles. Alice loved spending time with her family and friends and will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Alice is survived by her children: Steve (Roxane) Jenkins of Hill City; Lauryl (William Leek) Torkelson of Ka'aawa, Oahu, Hawaii; and Kathleen (Tim) Ryan of Aitkin; grandchildren: Michael

(Lindsay Smith) Torkelson of Bethel, Alaska; Alan (Michelle) Torkelson of Shakopee; Jessica (David) Short of Anchorage, Alaska; Parker (Melissa) Torkelson of Nevis; Randi (Jordan) Morrow of Centennial, Colorado; Brian Jenkins of Grand Rapids; Sophia Jenkins of Hill City; Elizabeth Ryan of Aitkin; and John Ryan of Aitkin; great grandchildren: Dominick Jenkins, Elliot Torkelson, Clayton Torkelson, Cora Torkelson, Logan Torkelson, Tucker Torkelson, Macy Short, Madeline Short and Finley Morris; sister-in-law, Donna Lord of Park Rapids; other relatives and friends.

Alice is preceded in death by her husband, Morris; parents; brothers: Robert, Edward, Charles, Wilton and Donald Lord.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

READER RIBBETS

Wants to be “Top Dog” ... again?

After his failed tenure a decade ago, I hear [Rick Ferrari] is going to try again. When he was mayor he quit the job midterm, as did all who followed him.

He started the downward spiral by hiring his cousin Lisa Sova (he was a personnel committee

of one) and you know the rest of the story!

He's claiming around town he wants to be “Top Dog” again.

He is in violation of the nuisance order in Crosby and can't even paint his own house. Not sure if he lives here or in Perry

Lake Township.

I respect the Ferrari name. Jinx and Ray were/are good friends. Jinx was a great guy. Ray still is.

Ricky is of a different mold. Don't vote for Ferrari!

Barry Nelson, Crosby

City obligations

Having served on the city council of Deerwood in the 90's does not make me an expert on government today. Deerwood had been managed very well; it was an obligation of the council to continue that practice.

Deerwood had four challenges in front of it: 1. The arrival of Magnum Machining. 2. The development of the White Pine property on Serpent Lake. 3. The proposed expansion of Parker Hannifin. 4. The building of the Hallett Community Center.

Magnum Machining arrived, the White Pine property developed, Parker Hannifin obtained more property. The biggest struggle was the Hallett Community Center.

Everything we were told about the community center project was true, the possibilities were tremendous. The glaring problem in the plan, the center was not financially feasible. It could not sustain itself, leaving multiple outcomes, none of which benefited the residents of Deerwood. When the financial issue was addressed, the message was don't worry about that, or don't look at it that way, we will cross that bridge when we get there.

The council in Deerwood had a moral obligation to say no, the city's infrastructure, public safety, was not going to be improved and Deerwood residents couldn't afford to have

it on their tax role, nor did they want it on the tax role.

The community center is a financial problem for Crosby, adding ongoing maintenance of a two-million-dollar tunnel, adding the expense and maintenance for the cosmetic improvements along Hwy. 6/210 is poor civil and financial judgment. As the highest taxed city in Crow Wing County, the residents should seriously be concerned. Governments need people who understand and are willing to look at the long-term issues tied to over-spending today on projects their city can't afford tomorrow.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood

Second amendment sanctuary county

Back on June 23 the Crow Wing County Board passed their own version of the Second Amendment Dedicated County Resolution. The County's and Mike Starry/Sanctuary group had very little differences, as I see it, after reading Mr. Starry's copy of the proceeding on the internet.

The county attorney with the backing of the Minnesota County Attorney Association (MCAA) claiming the resolution presented by the Resolution Group and Mike Starry (RG) would lead the county into hot water, law

suits and other financial issues, as well as being an illegal and unapproved resolution.

Supporters of the movement (RG) advocate for their local governments, typically counties or municipalities, to adopt ordinances (sanctuary provisions) which gives it's citizens the rights to keep and bear arms.

Under Minnesota's Constitution and Statutes, counties and municipalities are political subdivisions of the State and have only the powers granted to them by the legislature. Thus, the County Attorney's first duty

is to the State and it's constitution. In a nut shell, the State and the Federal governments must follow the Constitution and the rights of the people, as outlined in the Second Amendment and have been tested and passed in the highest court. These rights have been outlined in the Resolution adopted by our County Board of Commissions. From what I have read on this matter, I believe our county attorney and county board did a fine job and made a sound and proper decision.

Jim Hiller, Trommald

Aitkin's Capital Project Levy necessary

Every school district has general fund dollars. This money comes from the state (65%), local taxpayers (30%), and the federal government (5%). On average, school districts in Minnesota receive about \$14,800 annually per student from the state. Generally, this money breaks down in the following way.

- \$8,000 Instruction
- \$2,500 Capital expenses and debt
- \$1,300 Support
- \$900 Administration
- \$900 Operation and maintenance
- \$700 Transportation
- \$500 Food service

Aitkin Public Schools receives \$9,752 per student from the state. Unfortunately, our enrollment has been decreasing, which means less funding from our primary source, the state of Minnesota.

As is the case with all budgets, if a portion of incoming revenue decreases, another source

of funding is needed to avoid budget cuts. Our school district has been forced to make some tough decisions over the past three years, which resulted in \$575,000 in cuts due to a shrinking operational budget. Cuts were made to staff, programs, services, and our transportation fleet. A decrease in state support means we need to increase our local support to fulfill all our district's needs.

The school district is proposing to move \$500,000 of technology and transportation expenses out of the general fund and into a Capital Project Levy. If that happens, we will be able to reduce future cuts because general fund dollars will be available to cover expenses related to instruction, building expenses, food service, etc. It also means our one-to-one device program will continue, our infrastructure will be updated, and our technical support will remain strong.

Most districts that have one-to-one device programs rely on

capital project levies, or some form of voter-approved funding. Aitkin is one of only nine districts in the state that does not have voter-approved funding. We want our students to receive the best possible education at Aitkin Public Schools. Updating and maintaining our technology is crucial for quality learning and reliable transportation is a necessity.

If the levy passes, a median-value home (\$111,600) in the City of Aitkin would see a tax increase of approximately \$2 per month. A median-value home (\$180,000) in Aitkin County would see a tax increase of approximately \$3 per month.

Mail-in balloting is now open. Please vote on or before November 3, 2020 and visit the district's website to learn more about the Capital Project Levy.

We care about our students. We care about our community. We are ISD#1.

Daniel J. Stifter, Superintendent Aitkin Public Schools



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Top Value
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2/\$5.00

12 oz.

HOT OR MILD

Qwaltney
Pork Sausage

2/\$3.00

1 lb. roll

Whole Pork Tenderloin

\$2.49

per lb.

Whole Boneless
Pork Loin

\$1.69

per lb.

FAMILY PACK

Family Pack
Boneless Chops

\$1.89

per lb.

Gourmet Dining
Meal Kits

Asst. Varieties

\$4.49

24 - 28 oz.

FROZEN

Fryer
Chicken Leg Quarters

\$3.99

10 lb. bag

Elliott
Summer Sausage

\$5.99

2 lb. package

Now Processing Your Venison Trim

Summer Sausage
Polish Sausage
Jerky Solid/Ground
Snack Sticks -many varieties
Fresh and Smoked Brats
Breakfast Sausage - links, patties, bulk
Grinding and Wrapping

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Your one stop shop for all of your home processing needs:
from paper,
to beef or pork trim,
to seasonings,
to MUCH MORE!

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