PO Box 562, Ironton 56455 By Appointment Only • 218-821-1393

Vol. 21 • Issue 51

email: hopper@crosbyironton.net www.newshopper.net

Relief to help some Minnesotans survive Walz's shutdown

STREET PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS Page 2

READER'S RIBBETS Page 3

> **OBITUARIES** Pages 4 & 5

CLASSIFIEDS Page 6

Governor Tim Walz signed bill will provide direct, a bipartisan \$216 million economic relief package that includes direct support for small businesses and a 13-week extension of unem-

ployment benefits.

"Our small businesses have made enormous sacrifices to their own bottom lines for the good of our state," said Governor Walz. "This is a critical lifeline for those businesses, and for the Minnesotans whose livelihoods depend on them. This bipartisan targeted aid to keep our small businesses afloat, support workers struggling to get by, and help families put food on the table while we work to get the virus under control."

The bill includes \$88 million in grants administered automatically by the Department of Revenue to restaurants, bars, gyms, bowling alleys, and other businesses who have seen losses of more than

30% compared to last year; \$14 million administered by the Minnesota Department of **Employment and Economic** Development (DEED) for convention centers and movie theaters; and 112 million in grants that will be administered at the county level. The county-based grants are intended to help additional businesses impacted by the recent closures that do not qualify for the first two grant categories, however businesses who receive grants from the Department of Revenueare not precluded from receiving county-based grants.

Many are critical of Gov-



ernor Walz's continued shutdown of small businesses. He announced the current restrictions on November 18, which kicked in just two days later.

"Harmful closures mandated by Governor Walz have resulted in significant economic hardship for main street businesses and families in our community," said Rep. Josh Heintzeman, R-Nisswa. "This legislation will help alleviate some of the damage caused by the Governor, but it will not make these businesses whole. These folks don't want a handout, they want to safely reopen their doors and serve the community. The Governor's orders are not backed up by data, and he needs to allow as manv businesses as possible to reopen with safety measures in place to protect employees and customers." "The bill

will help," Rep. Dale

Lueck, R-Aitkin said, "However, I continue to believe it's time for the governor to back off on the current business crippling restrictions. Rather than use the attorney general's office and other state agencies as a sledge hammer to threaten business owners. we must stay laser-focused on protecting those most at risk and getting our children back in school."

"This legislation will help businesses and workers impacted by the governor's shutdown and ideally will serve as a bridge until the federal government passes additional relief," said Rep. Sondra Erickson, R-Princeton. "While today's vote is a step in the right direction and will help local businesses stav open and keep our neighbors and loved ones employed, it will not cover all of the losses incurred by Governor Walz's shutdown. Stores, restaurants, fitness centers, and others that have been closed do not want a handout, they want to be able to open and safely serve their customers. I will continue working to make that a reality."

The bill also extends the deadline to January 4, 2021 for school districts and charter schools to report the number of students enrolled in the free or reduced hotlunch program.

"Because of federal action the school hot lunch program automatically became free for most students." Lueck said. "Unfortunately, as a result, many parents did not complete the enrollment process for the program. Future program aid considers previous year certified enrollments, if that number is not accurate, many schools could see a significant reduction in next year's aid in this area."





Schedule your first appointment by Dec. 31, 2020 and receive a

FREE Depression & Pain Consultation*

• In Person or TeleHealth Access (online health consultation) • Doctor-grade supplements delivered to your door To gain access to our Patient Hub, just text your name and email to (218) 851-9626

INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE Drs. Murray & Shannon Smith • 23 West Main Street, Crosby • www.askdrsmith.com • (218) 851-9626

Chiropractic • Acupuncture • Massage • NeuroMetabolic Care • Guided Weight Loss • Slim Laser • Magnesphere Resonance Therapy









Impending road construction – Little Falls has advice for Crosby



Photos submitted by the Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce showing their new downtown.

By ANN SCHWARTZ

The way to get through the reconstruction of Hwy. 210 in Crosby in 2021 is to work together, says Debora K. Boelz, president/CEO of the Li tle Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

"Be supportive of each other. This is a community-wide effort," Boelz emphasized in an interview. "Support each other — business to business, customer to business and

municipality to business. Remember, your city employees will be on the hot seat as well. There is short-term sacrifice for long term gain."

Boelz is offering support and advice to assist Crosby in its impending construction situation.

In the Little Falls area, they didn't envision that their huge construction project would be followed by a pandemic But, it did assist businesses in getting a web presence, learning how to sell items online, to do bulk mailing and to step up communications with customers. "One women's clothing store would email loyal customers, pointing out such things as 'we just got a new blouse in that is in your size that we're

sure you'd like.'" Downtown venues also made use of their back doors. Many already had parking behind their buildings, along with back

entrances, and those were played up. The first part of the construction went great, but

instead of finishing on Labor Day, it was mid-October when the project was wrapped up.

They have a much healthier area, she said, as old coal chutes, buried gas tanks and other hazards were removed and utility lines replaced in the "Big Dig" as they dubbed their project. Now, they have a gorgeous and healthy downtown with added bike lanes. They did lose a little parking, but now have wonderful sidewalks -- so everything is a trade off.

Unfortunately, downtown property owners, of which Boelz is one, have to spend the next 10 years paying the bills for the project. "We trained people to come downtown and now they have to continue to come to pay the bill," she laughed.

There were inconveniences. The post office was in the heart of the construction. One bank had to close their drive-up for three months. To counter that, they offered drinks and cookies personal greetings to customers who came inside to do transactions.

Living in a construction zone is dirty. "It is a constant effort to keep windows, surfaces and merchandise clean. When they aren't busy, employees are cleaning."

The local Morrison County Record newspaper did a great job of publishing weekly updates on what items were completed and what was expected to be done the next week. "That let readers know if they could get to the dentist the next week, or other places they needed to go."

She warns that Cuyuna Range area nonprofits will suffer because their donors are already stretched from pandemic losses.

Now is the time for businesses to plan ahead for ways to save money next year.

"There will be less coming into the cash register and less has to go out," she said. She advises to be proactive to replace that energy-gobbling water heater, ice machine, lighting and other ways to reduce fixed expenses. Take advantage of rebates that utilities offer. See what you can get by without, such as having floor mats changed frequently.

"Now we have a beautiful downtown with handicapped-accessible curb cuts, new sidewalks and bike lanes," Boelz emphasized.



Holiday Farmers' Market in Aitkin

There will be a Farmers' Market at the Butler Building in Aitkin on Saturday, Dec. 19 from 9:30 a.m. to

Vendors will include Crafting for the Cure by Evie Ladd featuring jams, sauce by Ron Shaw; Sweet Scarves, holiday towels Heaven Baked Goods feaand stocking stuffers; Ole turing take and bake pies, Lake Farm featuring goat's milk soap and lotion, fresh mas cookie trays and lefse. wheat and rye flour, home-

candies, food gifts, Christ-Call 218-839-2241 for made salsa, BBQ and pasta Sweet Heaven pre-orders.

Last day of free food distribution

The last free food distriparking lot of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Crosby.

Anyone is eligible for bution for this year will be the receiving the food, but Tuesday, Dec. 29 in the there is a limit of one box of food for each family.

Volunteers are needed

beginning at 10 a.m. on the day of the distribution.

To volunteer, please contact Mabel Semler at 218-546-6523.

This is not just a home ... it's a secure, comfortable place to call home.



ASSISTED LIVING

850 2nd Street NW, Aitkin, MN 56431

218.927.2182 • www.aicota.com

At Aicota Assisted Living, we offer residents a unique experience that combines high quality accommodations and services which are designed to promote a dignified independent lifestyle. As a resident, you will enjoy a peaceful setting, along with friendly, compassionate and professional staff that are

available to meet your needs 24 hours a day.

- 1-Bedroom & Studio Apartments
- Dining Rooms with 3 Meals/Day
- Living Rooms and Large Stone **Fireplaces**
- Outdoor Patio Area and Gardens
- Salon/Barber Shop
- Daily Planned Activities & more!





EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL

AT TANNER MOTORS!



NEW 2020 DODGE JOURNEY SE

Black Top Package, **Popular** Equip. Group, 2.4L & Much More!!!

MSRP \$27,224

2.4L 14,

Convenience



JEEP COMPASS LATITUDE 4X4

Group & Much More!!!

PER MONTH O.A.C



MSRP \$30,330

Stock #21-0000



*39 MONTHS, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, \$3,499 DOWN. TAX, TI-TLE, LICENSE & 1ST PAYMENT EXTRA. REBATES TO DEALER.

NEW 2021 JEEP CHEROKEE LUX EDITION

3.2 6 cyl., Leather, **Heated Seats, Heated Steering** Wheel & Much More!!!



MSRP \$34,280 Stock #21-0049



*42 MONTHS, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, \$3,499 DOWN. TAX, TI-TLE. LICENSE & 1ST PAYMENT EXTRA. REBATES TO DEALER.

NEGADE LATITUDE 4X4

1.3L Turbo, Heated Seats & Wheel with a Whole Lot More!!!

MSRP \$31,615 Stock #21-0465



*39 MONTHS, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, \$3,499 DOWN. TAX, TI-TLE. LICENSE & 1ST PAYMENT EXTRA. REBATES TO DEALER.

ohn Tanner's 18.829.3597 or 800.222.0434







Department of Health announces new COVID-19 testing site in Brainerd

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) announced a new COVID-19 testing site at Central Lakes College in Brainerd, part of a collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Testing at this site will occur through Saturday, Dec. 19 at the Central Lakes College Gymnasium at 501 W College Dr. in Brainerd. Hours on Saturday are from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The site will be set up as a walk-thru, with participants self-administering a nasal swab test. The site has capacity for approximately 480 tests per day. Appointments are strongly encouraged, but not required.

This testing event is part are providing support, inof a federal effort to provide temporary federal support in areas that have seen a recent spike in COVID-19 cases. The site is made up of three components: federal government support, federal contractor support, and state and local support. It is the second site of its kind in Minnesota; the first was held in Blaine from Dec. 7 through Dec. 12.

The Brainerd site is a coordinated effort between the State of Minnesota, HHS, the Minnesota National Guard, Crow Wing County Public Health, Central Lakes College, and eTrueNorth (eTN). The State of Minnesota and National Guard

cluding non-medical personnel, site management, and traffic control. HHS is providing resources such as personal protective equipment, cloth face coverings and community mitigation guidance. The federal contractor, eTrueNorth, is providing support including online registration, test kits, and notification of lab results. The lab processing the test samples is Health Quest Esoterics in Irvine, California. eTrueNorth will notify participants of their test results via email within approximately three to five

"This is a very convenient way to get tested close to home with fast results," said Brainerd Lakes Chamber President Matt Kilian. "Our chamber strongly encourages local businesses and their teams to take advantage of this opportunity, especially those in quarantine or questioning whether they were exposed to the virus. It's another step to get our economy back on track."

"With much of the focus today being around the release of an effective and safe vaccine, it is important to have our community continue to be vigilant for symptoms and continue to test for COVID-19," said Crow Wing County Public Health Supervisor Michelle Moritz. "Individuals should also test

five to seven days after they have been in close contact with other individuals that have tested positive. This clinic will give many the opportunity to test regardless of symptoms or close contact. It will be important to know your COVID-19 status before making plans for the holidays."

"Testing saves lives when people know their COVID-19 status and are then able to isolate away from others to prevent further spread," continued Supervisor Moritz. "While we are excited to soon have a vaccine and end this pandemic, we our community to help get our kids back to school and business back

open by slowing the spread until we have the majority of our community vaccinated. Testing can be quick, easy, and now without a doctor's order."

Testing is open to anyone who believes they need a COVID-19 test, with or without insurance. State guidance on who should get tested was recently updated and can be found on the Minnesota COVID-19 Response webpage, Who Should Get Tested?.

Individuals seeking testing can register at Do I Need a COVID-19 Test?. Test results can be accessed by logging into this same portal after receiving an email notification that results are ready.

Aitkin Public Schools update

As we approach the holidays, I want to wish all of our families Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Happy Holidays to everyone. I know this holiday season will look different than in the past for many families. Please continue to connect with families and friends, regardless of how that looks in 2020. I also ask that you all please stay safe and do what you can to keep you, your family and the community safe.

When we return from the Holiday break, Aitkin Public Schools will be looking at a return to in-person learning for grades 4-12 on January 18, 2021. In order to do that our Covid Case numbers need to decline. The good news is that our local numbers have started to trend down. I know that Remote Learning has been a challenge for many families. Our families and staff have worked hard to make it the best we can, but it is not an ideal educational situation for many students. We want to be able to open our doors for all grades in-person, and we need your help and the entire community's help to

Please continue to follow the protocols of hand washing, masking, social distancing, etc. as you celebrate the season. Please continue to monitor for symptoms and follow up with your health care providers if you have any questions. Your practices can and will make a difference.

Once again I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Daniel J. Stifter Superintendent Aitkin **Public Schools**

Boycott mandatory mask-policies

When a person is not wearing a mask or other face-covering, others should not assume that the person is acting in defiance of the governor's mandate. Some people are genuinely unable to wear masks/ facecoverings for very legitimate medical reasons. These reasons are sometimes, but not always, obvious to casual observers. It is out of respect for these exempt people and their medical privacy that many businesses are deliberately and appropriately choosing not to question people who enter without a face-covering.

The Minnesota mandate has very clear exemptions for medical reasons. The reasons are actually quite extensive. People with these exemptions deserve to be treated respectfully and be allowed to participate normally in society if they wish to do so. It is unethical and immoral to treat them as if they are posing a threat to others by being out in public without the ubiquitous mask.

For an establishment to absolutely deny entry to persons who are medically unable to wear masks/shields is unethical, immoral, discriminatory, and cruel. It is bullying to try to force these medically-exempt people to wear face-coverings in order to do business in society, when wearing them may cause severe harm to these people's health. Not everyone has the ability or desire to do business via online ordering and/or curbside service, and the nature of certain businesses makes such methods of operation impossible anyway.

This is how the mask is being turned into a form of the Apocalyptic Mark of the Beast; the U.S. is very nearly at the point where no one can buy or sell (or even participate in society!) without "The Mask."

Businesses understand boycotts because boycotts hurt their bottom line. If enough people boycotted businesses such as Menards and Costco over their mask-policies which deny that all persons have a right to be treated with dignity, they would back down and start treating ALL customers with proper respect.

Jessica Schumacher,

Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

Good things are happening. The British conducted their first COVID-19 vaccinations. Legislators received a detailed briefing from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDA) on Minnesota's vaccine distribution plan Tuesday evening, after MDA's initial public announcement earlier that day.

The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee has recommended emergency use of Pfizer's vaccine. As I pen this update, FDA is reviewing the committee's recommendation. Final FDA approval should come soon. Next week the advisory committee will make a recommendation on the Moderna vaccine.

Minnesota expects to receive the first shipment of the Pfizer vaccine within 1-2 days after the FDA approval. Assuming no delay in approvals, by the end of December Minnesota is expected to receive enough vaccine to provide about 183,000 individuals with the first of the 2-shot protocol. Both vaccines require a booster shot at 3 to 4 weeks.

The vaccines will be shipped to 25 distribution hubs across Minnesota. The hubs will service about 118 additional spoke facilities that will be handling the vaccines. The vaccines are temperature sensitive, a successful test shipment with a temperature data logging device inside the package has already been conducted. Assuming prompt FDA

approval, Minnesota's first vaccinations could begin sometime just before Christmas. Who and when individuals will get vaccinations will be based on risk factors. The first group will include selected healthcare workers and residents and individuals working in skilled nursing facilities and nursing homes. Visit https://www.health. state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/phase1aguide. pdf for detailed information on MDA's guide for allocating the vaccine. We are making good progress, but please this is not the time to relax precautions like masks, social

Gov. Walz has called a special legislative session for

distancing and hand washing

that help to slow the spread

of the virus.

Monday. That will automatically renew his emergency authority for another 30 days. As I mentioned last month in a news release when the governor imposed the current shut down, we can't wait for the feds, we need to provide help to our main street businesses that have again been forced to close.

A relief package is being worked on with the goal of being ready for Monday's special session. At this point it would include about \$116 million in aid administered by the state and another \$100 million that would be provided to the counties for distribution at the local

Representative Dale Lueck Minnesota House District 10B

Fraud on a small scale usually results in massive consequences, not immediately, but in the future.

The repercussions from the failed former Crosby police administration and the corrupt city council have not been felt, yet.

The repercussions from the failed executive orders of Tim Walz and the findings of the Joint Transportation and Judiciary and Public Safety Committee Report won't be felt for quite some time.

He allowed Minneapolis to burn, his adult daughter had access to confidential information that she disseminated to the general public and rioters. He has destroyed small business, devasted our economy.

Call for Gov. Walz's resignation In comparison, South Da-What must be immediately kota did nothing significant with COVID — no mask mandates, no lockdowns, 86,500 cases as of Dec 7 with only 1,100 deaths, and that includes

> the hands of Tim Walz. Daily protests must be held at every closed restaurant with protesters compensating for the food and beverages each

protester consumes.

events like the Sturgis Bike

rally. Minnesota 350,000 cases

with over 4,000 deaths, all on

felt is your voice calling for the immediate resignation of Tim Walz, 651-201-3400 is the number. Demand Walz's immediate resignation. We the people must not wait

for others to do what we must get done. "The world will not be de-

stroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything." A. Einstein.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood





Restoration

Sandblasting

24 Hour Towing

Ironton, MN

Reasonable • Experienced • Reliable



Snow Blowing • Roof Snow & Ice Removal

Tim Turner 218-330-7003 David Turner 651-242-4796

Serving the Lakes Area

Hoppers Helper's Service Directory

AUTOMOTIVE

Pete's Auto Detailing The only service that comes to you! Mobile Auto and Boat Detailing Service for Your Vehicles Call Pete today for info (218) 838-5487 w28 Appliance Sales & Service

Jim Blakesley Appliance Service & Repair 218-927-2027 • 1-888-450-8845 • Aitkin Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Refrigerators, Air Conditions, Septic Protectors, and MORE. Authorized Platinum Star Service

COMPUTERS

Call Billy "Mac" (Billy Hoffs) 218-851-9990 or email bhoffs@mac.com All things Mac, from purchasing new or used, to teaching, to repairs "Friendly & Honest" I make house calls tfn

CONTRACTORS

Radtke Remodeling & Construction Custom Built Homes • Remodeling • Garages New Additions • Pole Buildings • General Contracting • Insulation Dean Radtke, Aitkin. Lic. #20108758 www.radtkeremodelingconstruction.com 218-678-3403 • 218-839-6103

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

A & M Heating & Air Service & Installation, Great Prices & Quality Work. Licensed, Insured, Bonded 612-229-6011 • Credit Cards Accepted 2020 w10

Ken's Heating & Mobile Home Supply LP & Natural Gas • Nationally Certified Service Technician - over 30 Years Experience Residential & Commercial • Mobile Home Heating and Air Conditioning • RV's/Supplies 218-821-6720 • Aitkin • kensheatingllc.com w47 2020

INSURANCE



4 locations to serve you **Aitkin** 218-927-3712 • **Onamia** 320-532-3235 • *Isle* 320-676-3795 • *Grand Marias* 218-387-1540

Local Foods

Nisswa Farmers Market 8 - 12:30 Thursdays American Legion Nisswa May 7th-Mid October

PAINTING

Solution Painting • 612-387-4042 Free estimates interior / exterior / professional results.

PET CARE SERVICE

Dogpatch • 218-927-4353 Expert Pet Grooming & Boarding Services. West of Aitkin on Cedar Brook Rd.

SHOE REPAIR

Harting Shoe Repair 509 Washington Street, Brainerd. Drop Stations: Crystal Cleaner Crosby 218-829-

UPHOLSTERY

DRUK UPHOLSTERY • 218.763.3242 Family owned 50+ years. **NOW** servicing the BRAINERD LAKES AREA! Residential and commercial upholstering. Free estimates. Free pick up and delivery.

http://www.drukupholstery.com SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES

5 lines for \$15.00 per week

4 lines for \$12.00 per week 3 lines for \$9.00 per week

OBITUARIES

MARION BARTA



of Aitkin died Wednesday, December 9, 2020 in Aicota Healthcare Center, Aitkin.

Marion was born in Walsh Co., ND on February 26,1929 to Victor and Agnes (Narloc) Barta, Sr. He went to the county school and worked

for area farmers until enlisting in the Air Force in 1954. Marion married Kathleen Lawrenson on September 2, 1954, while sta-

tioned in England. They were married 42 years until her death on May 30, 1996. Marion found love a second time and was married to Marion E. Dasovich (Miss Marion) on July 27, 1997 until she passed on January 29, 2014. Marion and Marion were lovingly referred to as M&M by relatives and friends. Marion was an Air Force Veteran. His time in the military spanned the Vietnam War with numerous assignments all over the globe, mostly as a Communications Master Technician. He traveled with or without his growing family who tagged along to many of these various destinations both Overseas and Stateside. After a 20-year career in the AF he retired in 1971 as a Master Sergeant. He settled in Pengilly MN, with his wife Kathleen and his three children: Philip, Sharon, and Rachel. He found work as a local butcher, (a benefit of his first but not last job in the military). Afterwards he was hired and became a Maintenance Mechanic at Butler Taconite. During his time at Butler he built His and Kathleen's dream home on a patch of land in the woods just outside Pengilly. It was close to Swan Lake where

Marion Victor Barta, 91, his brother, folks, and close friends lived. At some point he "retired" a second time but never slowed down. To say Marion was a prolific woodworker would be an understatement. He has left a legacy of his handiwork in countless households and landscapes. His moniker "Marion's Kingdom" is a fitting testament to his beloved shop next to that house he built in Pengilly. Marion loved being part of the communities he lived in, especially the Catholic Church. Marion was a member of the Parish Counsel, a Eucharistic Minister and organizer for many Summer Festivals and Parish events. Marion was also a member of the VFW Pengilly Post 8831. He was the area Commander for a time and served as an Honor Guard member until his move to Aitkin.

Marion is survived by his son: Philip Barta, two daughters: Sharon Barta and Rachel (Cindy Gellner) Barta; five grandchildren: Jessica (Scott) Minter, Jacqueline (Joseph) Aamodt: Jennifer (Ryan) Larson, Anthony (Tabatha Moore-Bohler) Bohler and James (Ashley) Bohler; 10 great grandchildren: Rudy Marion, Victor Philip, Ivan Utred Jared, Grace Kathleen, Max Russell, Lukas James David, Mathew Gerad Allen, Peyton, Aubrey and Carson; brothers: Andrew (Josette Barsness) Barta; and Raymond (Marianne) Barta; and sister-in-law, Irene Barta.

Marion is preceded in death by his wives, Kathleen and Marion; parents; sister, Bertha Barta; brother, Victor Barta, Jr.; daughter-in-law, Debra Barta.

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

KENNETH NELSON



Kenneth R. Nelson, 87, of Bay Lake and Edina, died Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center due to COVID-19.

A memorial gathering is planned for the summer of 2021. Memorials may be

made in name to the Macalester Fund at www. macalester.edu, click on Support Mac.

Kenneth was born on June 2, 1933 to Gayle (Richardson) Nelson and Oscar F. Nelson in Dodgeville, WI. He had two brothers and two sisters and enjoyed growing up in a small town. Kenneth met his wife, Janet, on orientation day at Macalester College and spent nearly 70 years creating their life together. He graduated from Macalester College with a BS degree in Business. He began his career as a buyer at Dayton's and continued

with several business endeavors over 55 years. including owning The Frances Shoppe and J. Taskers in Brainard. Ken was a volunteer, actively involved in several service organizations including; the YMCA, Masons, Jaycees, Lions and Unlimited Learning as well as involved in committee work at church. Boating, fishing, golfing and camping were some of the ways Ken spent his free time. Also, he and Janet enjoyed traveling.

Kenneth is survived by his wife of 64 years. Janet J. Nelson; three children: Catherine Nelson-Messer, (Robert); Steven Nelson, (Elizabeth); and Margaret Tollefson, (Stephen); nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren and one sister, Dorothy Lundberg.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents. two brothers and one sister.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to www.koopfuneralhome.com.

MICHAEL BRANDT



Michael Alan Brandt, 69, of Deerwood died on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 as a result of an automobile accident near Grand Rapids.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 18, 2020 at the Deerwood Baptist Church.

Burial was at the Bay Lake Township Cemetery. A visitation was one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday.

He was born in St. Paul on July 10, 1951 to Albert and Margit (Wicklund) Brandt. Michael married Mary Ellen Gosciewski on December 18, 1989 in Payallup, WA. He was a member of the Deerwood Baptist Church in Deerwood.

Michael is survived by one son, David Brandt

of Staples; two brothers, Ronald Brandt and

Steven (Tracy) Brandt. Preceding Michael in death were his parents and is wife, Mary Ellen.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

ROBERT LARSON



Robert Leroy Larson, 84, of Palisade, died Tuesday, December 8, 2020 in Riverwood Healthcare Center, Aitkin.

To honor Robert's wishes, no services will be held. Interment will be in Fish Lake Cemetery, Mora.

He was born April 9, 1936 in Braham to George and Mildred (Hockenson) Larson. Robert grew up in Brunswick, MN on a farm with his mom and dad and sister. He later moved to East Bethel and lived on a farm there. Robert married Connie and they had four children. He loved snowmobiling and

enjoyed going fishing, deer hunting and watching football. Robert worked as a Heat treater at Med-Tek until his retirement. He then moved to Palisade to enjoy his retirement.

Robert is survived his daughters: Shelly (Keith) Voigt, Melanie Larson and Melissa Larson; grandchildren, Jenna Larson and Kaylee Voigt; sister, Joan Bronson; many other relatives and friends and girlfriend, Jo Petersen.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents and son, Mike Larson.

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

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

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

ALLIANCE

Aitkin* - New Life; Larry Burg & John Baker, pastors; Worship in the church building 10:15 am & 6:30 pm, check the website for the time of service NewLifeAitkin.com; 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 Espe

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

Aitkin - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617. Worship 9: 30 and 11, theiournevnorth.com

Baxter - The Journey North, Pastor Mark Bjorlo, 218-824-5617, Worship Saturday 5, Sunday 9, 10:30, 11:45, thejourneynorth.com

Brainerd* - Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Chris Erickson, 218-829-3191; SS 9:00, Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m., Wed. Classes and Clubs 6:30 p.m.; fbcbrainerd.com

Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 www.thechurchonthewiseroad.org Breezy Point — Eagles Nest, Pastor Zach Broom 218-562-

5252, Worship 10:30, SS 9:30.

Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor G. Fisher; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study and Our Kids for Christ Wed. 7 pm Deerwood* — Pastor W. Skog; SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and

6 pm; Wed. Service, 6:30 pm. Glory* — Pastor Chris Meirose; 927-3678; SS 9:15; Worship

10:30 am.; Wed 6pm Glory Family night, KidMin grades kindergarten - 6, Mad4Christ grades 7-12. Hill City — Pastor Lonnie Lee; 218-697-2645; Adult SS 9;

Worship 10 am; Bible Study, Fri., 7 pm.

Isle - Pastor Nick Skogen; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.

Opstead — 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.

CATHOLIC

Aitkin* — St. James, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 10. 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, 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

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 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

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.

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

Malmo — 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 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. - Sunday Worship Services 10 am. (www.llchurch.org) Brainerd - Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th Street Brainerd - Pastor Hans Anderson Worship times September through May are 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Summer Worship time is 9:00 a.m. Phone: 218-829-5147 Website: www.trinitybrainerd.org Email: trinity@trinitybrainerd.org

Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9 Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct.

Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA); Worship 8:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun. Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.

Crosby —Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7 pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910 Crosslake —(ELCA), www.crosslakelutheran.com, Pastor Kristin Oltmann, Pastor Kurt Hagestuen, 218-692-3682,

Visit our website to view worship opportunities 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.

lachen 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.

Lake Shore — Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Inter-

McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.

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

ship service is Sunday at 9:30 am, 523 SE 11th Street, Brainerd, 218-454-0984 **PENTECOSTAL**

Emily — Cornerstone Church; Pastor Earl Ready; Worship

Brainerd-Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Wor-

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-

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.

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







Sandra Marie Dreher, 81, of Aitkin, died Sunday, December 6, 2020, at Golden Horizons Assisted Living in Aitkin, after a long battle with

A Celebration of Life will take place this summer at her beloved Cedar Lake where

many family and friend celebrations have taken

Sandy was born on October 23, 1939, in Baudette. After she finished high school, she went to Illinois for additional schooling. This is where she met her husband, Robert Dreher. For most of her career life, she was an Office Manager. For a few years starting 1979, Sandy and Bob owned Carlsona Beach Resort and made very fond memories. Upon retirement, they spent six months on Gull Lake in Brainerd, and six months in Florida.

Sandy was known to be a fantastic cook with

a reputation for her excellent ribs and BBQ sauce. She had a great fondness for animals, especially her Labradors. In addition, she was an avid gardener, loved playing cards with her grandchildren, and the first in line for a boat ride.

Sandy is survived by her husband, Robert; three children: Mark Dreher of Brainerd, Heidi Westerlund (Mark) of Aitkin, and Erik Dreher (Connie) of Wisconsin; three sisters: Joanne Albritton (Robert) of Mississippi, Janice Wehner (John) of Illinois, and Cheryl Larson (Dayton) of Brainerd; and six grandchildren: Darrel, Dallas, Matthew, Felicia, J.D., and Dakota.

Sandy is preceded in death by her father, Sisner Rydberg; her mother, Ruth Rydberg; and three brother-in-laws: Robert Albritton, John Wehner, and Dayton Larson.

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

JAMES BALLINGER



James Carter Ballinger, 75, of Aitkin died Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at Golden Horizons Assisted Living in

Funeral service was Monday, December 14, 2020 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin with

Pastor Wayne Skog officiating. Burial was in Spencer Cemetery.

He was born May 20, 1945 in Ripley, TN to James Marion and Almer Jonell (Northcott) Ballinger. He graduated from Banning High School in Wilmington, CA. He enjoyed playing semi-pro baseball for a time. While playing ball on a Sunday, James was injured and said that was God's way of telling him he wasn't doing what he was called to do - so he hung up the cleats and went to Bible college. He attended Bible Baptist College in Springfield, MO. James married Beverly Ann Mitchell on May 8, 1965 at Lakewood Bible Baptist Church in Lakewood,

CA. He was Pastor for over 20 years at Fullerton Bible Baptist Church in Fullerton, CA. He also worked for the Zamboni Company building Zamboni and Grasshopper machines.

James is survived by his wife of 55 years, Beverly; three children: James Kevin Ballinger (Laura Jensen), Kimberly (Mike) Lynn, and Katie (James) Bossart; 12 grandchildren: Brittany Bowman, Alyssa Spolarich, Hailey Ballinger, Mikayla Ballinger, Dean Lynn, Jake Lynn, Kyle Lynn, Danielle Lynn, Matthew Bossart, Jonathan Bossart, Ashlyn Bossart and Benjamin Bossart; six great-grandchildren: Annette, Elizabeth, Elleanor, Lily, Jack, and Finnley; two sisters: June (Ron) Harmon and Barb (Robert) Leiviska; many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents: James and Almer Ballinger, brother Jerry, and

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

ROBERT KOCHENDERFER



Robert Allan Kochenderfer, 80, of Aitkin, formerly of Eagan, died Friday, December 11, 2020 in Quiet Oaks Hospice House, St. Augusta.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to The Riverwood

Foundation or the charity of your choice. He was born March 6, 1940 in Lincoln Town-

hsip, WI to Ottmar and Florence (Salway) Kochenderfer. Robert was Director of Logistics at Lockheed Martin and was later a Real Estate Agent with Edina Realty. Robert loved watching the Packers, fishing on Mille Lacs Lake and hunting the river bluffs of Wisconsin. He was a true outdoorsman.

Robert is survived by his loving wife, Mary; children: Mary (Joe) Stadler, Joe (Tammis Mc-Millan) Kochenderfer, Jeff Kochenderfer, Paul (Susan O'Donnell) Kochenderfer and Jamie (Joe) Jachimiec; five grandchildren; brother, Gary (Jeanne) Kochenderfer; sister, Marilyn George; nieces, nephews, other relatives and numerous

Robert is preceded in death by his first wife, Nancy; parents; and daughter, Kim Kochenderfer. Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

Salvation Army Red Kettles in need



Dan Stifter, Aitkin School District Superintendent, and Andy Dokken, elementary principal, ring bells in 2019. Submitted photo

By ANN SCHWARTZ

With the pandemic, local needs for the basis of life are in huge demand. The Aitkin County Salvation Army is heavily relied on by local residents and travelers to keep their families alive and well.

Bell-ringing at the Red Kettle continues through Wednesday, December 23, at Paulbeck's County Market.

day through Saturday by calling Kari Paulsen of the Salvation Army local board. Volunteers are asked to take two-hour shifts. Make it more fun

by bringing along your family, friends, club members or others. Youngsters look cute at the kettle station and enjoy learning how to help others. Studies show that folks are more likely to donate when someone human is there ringing the bell at the kettle station. The site will be Covid-19 complaint.

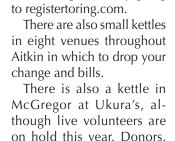
Call Paulsen at 218-735-

Sign up for 6121 or email kari.paulsen@ nemojt.org to sign up to ring bells this year. You may register to ring online by going

> on hold this year. Donors, please remember our Greater McGregor Area. Call Tom and Shirley Scollard at 218-426-

> You can also go online to make your donation at: https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/

> Last year, nearly \$15,000 was given locally to help residents meet the basics of life — all raised through the Red Kettle Campaign.



3527 to make McGregor-area donations.



Photo by Honor the Earth Protesters in rural Aitkin County.

Protesters arrested in Aitkin County

The population of the Aitkin County Jail increased significantly last Monday as protesters, who call themselves Water Protectors, were arrested about 10 miles north of Palisade.

Protesters, many of whom are Native Americans, object to the Line 3 pipeline that will pass through sensitive northern waters and the Mississippi River. Construction of the pipeline has started in Aitkin County, with the recent issuance of the final permit.

The Aitkin County sheriff's office provided a bucket truck to bring down tree sitters who were there for 10 days.

In the county jail, as of Tuesday, being held on charges of trespass on property critical for public service or trespass on a locked construction site were Mason Berbue, Joseph Bettelyoun, Gregory Boertje, Scott Bol, Mary Breen, Carrie Chesnik, Priya Dalal-Whelan, Liam Delmain, Alicia Dvorak, Jeanne Fahlstrom, Khaloni Freemont, Julie Fritz-Endres, Jackson Froland, Erica Nack, Jennifer Montano, Azurite Montgomery, Marian Moore, Jesse Phenow, Joshua Phenow, Simone Senogles, Melissa VanDerStad.

According to Aitkin County Sheriff Daniel Guida the protesters refused to leave the site and would not allow the trucks and equipment to go through, so the protesters were arrested.

All that were arrested were from out of the area and represented various groups for organized activism. Protesters with local ties left the scene and were not arrested.

Sheriff Guida said that he believes that people have a right to protest, but he had no choice in arresting the protesters and they wanted to be arrested.

"They were pushing and wanted to be arrested, they were asking to be arrested and they got arrested," said Sheriff Guida.

He also said groups affiliated with the protest tried to shut down the Aitkin County Sheriff's Department's phone system.

"They put on Facebook that everyone should call the Sheriff's Department to demand the protesters be released," said Sheriff Guida.

No press release was available at press time and according to the online inmate roster list all but one of the protesters had been released.

New pedestrian crosswalk signal activated on Highway 169 in Vineland

Those who travel on the four-lane segment of Highway 169 in Vineland will come upon a newly operational pedestrian crosswalk signal near Grand Casino Mille Lacs, north of Ataage

The signal system is called the 'HAWK' and stands for 'High intensity Activated cross WalK'.

The HAWK signal is visually unique with its double red dot above a single yellow

dot display which will get the motorists attention by the unusual shape of the display cluster. The HAWK design has proven to be safer and more effective than conventional crosswalk designs.

Motorists should be alert for the new signal system activated Dec. 8 on Highway 169. Watch for flashing lights, be prepared to slow down and stop for pedestrians within the crosswalk.

For more information

on how the HAWK system works, visit www.mndot.gov/ d3/hottopics/hawk.html.

Anderson Brothers was the contractor for the \$361,988 project led by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. The project will add motorist and pedestrian safety to this highly traveled recreational area.

For real-time traffic and travel information on Highway 169, call 511 or visit 511mn.org.

Mass schedule for Christmas

St. James Catholic following Christmas Mass Church at 299 Red Oak Drive in Aitkin, Holy Family Catholic Church at 2 South Maddy Street in McGregor and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church at 102 South Highway

65 in McGrath have the

schedule:

On Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, Mass will be at 4:00 p.m. and midnight at St. James Catholic Church; and at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church.

On Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25 Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. at St. James Catholic Church; and at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Fatima.

Bulletins can also be found on www.parishesonline.com.



Give us a call • Fast service at an affordable price:

TCBX • 1748 SE 13th Street • Brainerd, MN 56401 1-888-829-8229 · www.tcbxtrucking.com

T(Twin) C(Cities) B(Brainerd Area) X(Express) • Established 1907



SEND YOUR PHOTOS, NEWS AND EVENTS to hopper@crosbyironton.net, along with your name, city and a description of the photo.

ilblak@embargmail.com

1-888-450-8845

IN THE CLASSIFIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVESTIGATE BEFORE YOU INVEST! We do not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all classifieds and other ads which require an investment. (MCN)

ATVs

ATV Battery Sale 14A-A2 at \$44.99 w/ exchange Riley Auto Supply - NAPA, Aitkin, 218-927-2153.

AUTOMOBILES

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-752-6680

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-855-977-7030

CASH FOR CARS: We Buy Any Condition Vehicle, 2002 and Newer. Competitive Offer! Nationwide FREE Pick Up! Call Now For a Free Quote! 888-366-5659.

GOLF

Golf Cart Batteries in stock \$139.99 w/exchange. Riley's NAPA Aitkin 927-2153

CABLE/INTERNET

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 855-824-1258. (MCN)

CABGE/INTERNET CONT.

Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$14.95/ month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed. Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-855-679-7096 (MCN)

High-Speed Internet. We

instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/ month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-855-399-9295 (MCN) DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. 1-844-316-8876.

(MCN) AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$64.99/ mo plus taxes for 12 months. Premium Channels at No Charge for One Year! Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. W/ 24-mo. agmt TV price higher in 2nd year. Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.49/mo. is extra & applies. Call IVS 1-866-387-0621. (MCN)

HEACTH & MEDICAC

Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-855-372-3080 or visit www.walkintubquote.com/midwest (MCN)

> \$500 Off NO PAYMENTS & OR NO INTEREST

UNTIL 2022

CALL NOW AND RECEIVE

3 FREE ACCESSORIES 877-378-0529

SEND YOUR PHOTOS, NEWS AND EVENTS to hopper@crosbyironton.net

TRANSFORM YOUR BATH OR SHOWER IN AS LITTLE AS ONE DAY

Give the gift of a new bathroom for the holidays

EMPLOYMENT

TECHNOLOGY

INTEGRATIONIST

required. For more information, see

www.nls.k12.mn.us/employment

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED:

ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES

Running or not. Titled or not. Cash

in exchange. Sell now while prices

are high! Call Dan at 612/720-2142

AUCTIONS

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

For 96 Ford L9000 with Boom

located in Brainerd MN. Begins

closing Monday December 21, 5:30 p.m.

www.hallbergauction.com 800/373-2255

Sub New London-

licensure

MN

HEACTH & MEDICAC CONT.

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-716-2411. VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-866-306-

MobileHelp, America's Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether You're Home or Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-855-385-9770. (MCN)

9928 (MCN)

HEACTH & MEDICAG

Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-855-372-3080 or visit www.walkintubquote.com/midwest (MCN)

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-716-2411. (MCN)

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-866-306-9928 (MCN)

MobileHelp, America's Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether You're Home or Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-855-385-9770. (MCN)

1-866-482-1031

Visit PittmanDavis.com/MN186

Only \$19.99 (reg. \$29.99), plus FREE Shipping,* Satisfaction completely

HELP WANTED

Wanted: Furniture Sales/ Stocker Apply in person. Unclaimed Freight North Hwy 210 West Aitkin.

MISCECCANEOUS

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-577-1268. Promo Code 285. (MCN)

Two great new offers from AT&T Wireless!Ask how to get the new iPhone 11 or Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e ON US with AT&T's Buy one, Give One offer. While supplies last! CALL 1-844-290-8275. (MCN)

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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- Make a difference from home via phone or video chat providing friendly visits to homebound seniors.
- Provide No contact grocery and medication drop off when needed
- In home visits will resume once safe to do so
- Earn a stipend, mileage reimbursement and other benefits. To learn more about serving or

to be linked with a volunteer companion please contact: Angie Kingbird at

218-824-3804 or angela.kingbird@lssmn.org

FREE Shipping & 33% OFF

PETS

Dogpatch- Expert grooming and boarding. We now carry Retail Products for your dog 218-927-4353.

TRAILERS



Utility Trailer brake & suspension parts in stock. Riley Auto Supply, NAPA Aitkin 218-927-2153

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

VACATION / TRAVEL

DO WARM WINTERS SOUND GOOD?? Bring your RV down to the warm Rio Grande Vallev. J-5 RV Park in Mission Tx. will welcome you with a country setting and friendly people. We have a special for 1st time visitors. We are following guidelines to keep everyone healthy and taking precautions to protect our community. Phone us at 956-682-7495 or 515-418-3214. Email info@j5rvparktexas.com Tom and Donna Tuttle, Managers. (MCN)

WANTED

We buy old batteries: auto size \$5.00, 8D \$20.00 Riley Auto - NAPA Aitkin 218-927-2153



- Dec. 26 NewsHopper issue Deadline (issue after Christmas) will be Fri., Dec. 18
- Jan. 5 NewsHopper issue Deadline (issue after New Year) will be Thurs., Dec. 24







The Better Way to a Better Window



Wear a mask in public spaces.



have any symptoms.



Answer if your health department calls.

m minnesota

STAY SAFE

Term

Schools.

Long

Spicer

MCAN

Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

MISCELLANEOUS

TIMESHARE

CANCELLATION EXPERTS

Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and

fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informa-

tional package and learn how to get rid of

your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 833/619-1117

AT&T WIRELESS

Two great new offers! Ask how to get

the new iPhone 11 or Next Genera-

tion Samsung Galaxy S10e on us with

AT&T's Buy one, Give One offer.

While supplies last! Call 855/332-0464

DONATE YOUR CAR

truck or boat to Heritage For The

Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax

deductible, free towing, all paper-

work taken care of 844/220-9501



MISCELLANEOUS DIRECTV

Every live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS 877/350-0094

DISH NETWORK \$59.99

for 190 Channels! Blazing fast internet \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & get a free \$100 Visa gift card. Free voice remote. Free HD DVR. Free streaming on all devices. Call today! 855/562-4309

ENJOY 100% GUARANTEED

delivered to-the-door Omaha Steaks! Get 4 free Pork Chops and 4 free chicken breasts. Order the Omaha Steaks Classic - only \$129.99. Call 844/331-1614 and use code 66762CCP or visit www.omahasteaks.com/dinner96

NOW PAYING MORE PER MILE

Van | Deck Van | Flatbed | Reefer



OPPORTUNITIES FOR:

Experienced drivers Recent CDL grads Folks seeking CDL training





833.4.HALVOR | HalvorLines.com

Advertise here statewide in 230⁺ newspapers for only \$279 per week! Call 800-279-2979

NewsHopper Classified Order Form

All ads must reach our office no later than Noon on Monday with payment. Please type or print clearly. Your ad will be printed as you write it.

Classified Rates

TOTAL COST OF AD

VISA

\$12.00 per issue ☐ 75¢ per word one issue (10 word minimum)

□ 70¢ per word, per week for two issues (10 word minimum)

☐ 65¢ per word, per week for three to twelve issues (10 word minimum)

□ 55¢ per word, per week for thirteen or more issues (10 word minimum) Add \$1.00 each for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED type, whether one word or all words in your classified ad.

Add a photo for

Add \$12.00 for your logo, artwork or photo! (1/2" tall x 1 1/2" wide printed maximum size) Add \$2.00 for one of our sixteen eye catching graphics: 🗸 🗶 🕇 🕆 😵 🔘 💆 🖎 🖙 🧩 🛣 🗘 🔾

To Figure the Cost of Your Ad

Number of Words Rate per Word Additional Costs Total Per Week Number of Weeks

We are not responsible for error due to illegible copy or missing punctuation. Punctuation does not count as a word. Each phone number, e-mail and web address counts as one word.

Send

NewsHopper TM PO Box 562 Ironton, MN 56455

per issue for

13 or more issues

(10 word minimum)

www.NewsHopper.net • hopper@crosbyironton.net 218-772-0300

Thank you for your order!



Please make check payable to the NEWSHOPPER



www.NewsHopper.net NewsHopper[™] December 19, 2020

How are Tribes being involved in this project?

We're engaging with Minnesota Tribes and creating opportunities for their citizens and communities to benefit.

At Enbridge, we are proud of our relationships with Indigenous communities, and see them as mutually beneficial—economically, socially and culturally. Our Line 3 replacement marks an unprecedented level of Tribal engagement, inclusion and economic participation.

As part of the Line 3 replacement, we've committed \$100 million for Tribal-affiliated work opportunities, and we're engaging with Minnesota Tribes on training, contracting, procurement and hiring.

A Tribal-led Cultural Resources Survey was completed along the project route. With representatives of nine Tribes doing direct survey work, and more than 30 Tribes involved via government-to-government consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, this has been the largest such survey ever attempted in the energy industry.

Most importantly, we've been listening. From the start, we respected the wishes of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe to route the new Line 3 around their reservation. We've also signed a 20-year easement renewal with the Fond du Lac Band and made further route changes based on the Tribal Cultural Resources Survey results.

Learn more at enbridge.com/Line3US.









Smithfield Spirals Sliced Ham

Save up to \$1.80 per lb



Smithfield Portion Hams

smoked, shank or butt cut





Campbell's Soup **Cream Mushroom** or Cream Chicken

10.5 oz



Butter Kernel 14.5 - 15.25 oz, select varieties

Savings good through Saturday, December 26th.

Open until 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 24th. Closed Christmas Day. Reopen at 6 a.m. on Saturday, December 26th.

Prices guaranteed at Baxter & Brainerd Cub Stores.

We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers Some items may not be available in all stores. See service desk or visit cub.com for rain check & coupon policy.













2020 NISSAN **ROGUE S CVT AWD**

Intelligent All-Wheel Drive, Automatic Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Detection, Intelligent Lane Intervention, Intelligent Forward Collision Warning, Rear Automatic Braking, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Blind Spot Warning, NissanConnect 7" touch-screen display, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Bluetooth® Hands-free Phone System, Streaming Audio via Bluetooth, RearView Monitor, and Much More.

2020 NISSAN SENTRA SV CVT

Remote Engine Start System, Apple Carplay, Android Auto, Intelligent Cruise Control, Dual Zone Temperature Control, Automatic Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Detection, Intelligent Lane Intervention, Intelligent Forward Collision Warning, Rear Automatic Braking, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Blind Spot Warning

and Much More.

2020 NISSAN FRONTIER CC 4x4 SV

3.8-Liter Direct Injection Gasoline V6 Engine, 310 Horsepower, 281 Lb-Ft Of Torque, Factory-Applied Spray-On Bedliner, Tow Hitch Receiver, Heated Front Seats, Exclusive Midnight Edition Black 18" x 7.5" Aluminum-Alloy Wheels, Bluetooth® Hands-Free Phone System and Much More.

2020 NISSAN MURANO S AWD

260-hp, 3.5-liter V6 engine, Intelligent All Wheel Drive, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, 8" Touch-Screen Display, Hands-Free Text Messaging Assistant, Bluetooth Hands-Free Phone System and Streaming Audio, Remote Engine Start Automatic Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Detection, High Beam Assist, Blind Spot Warning, Intelligent Lane Intervention, Rear Automatic Braking and Much More.

SIGN & DRIVE

ZERO DOWN 3 year 30,000 mile lease \$3,375 Nissan Lease Cash \$500 Nissan Holiday Bonus Cash Lease Sale Price \$26,835



MSRP: \$28,370

VIN: 5N1AT2MV6LC781022 Stock Number: N200175 Model Year: 2020 Model Code: 22010

ZERO DOWN 3 year 36,000 mile lease \$750 Nissan Lease Cash Lease Sale Price \$20,633



MSRP: \$21,755

VIN: 3N1AB8CV9LY267848 Stock Number: N200300 Model Year: 2020 Model Code: 12110

Model Year: 2020

MSRP: \$35,245 VIN: 1N6ED0EB6LN712151 Stock Number: N200336

Model Code: 32210 Pictures for illustration purposes only, actual vehicle color may vary. See dealer for details.

3 year 36,000 mile lease

Lease Sale Price \$33,615

ZERO

DOWN

\$500 Nissan Holiday Bonus Cash

Months

Plus \$2,500 Nissan **Special APR Only Cash** and \$750 Nissan **Holiday Bonus Cash**



MSRP: \$36,235 VIN: 5N1AZ2AS6LN154771 Stock Number: N200254 Model Year: 2020 Model Code: 23010



800.245.9689 218.829.1465

*O.A.C. Finance with Tanner.

www.TannerNissan.com

620 West Washington St., Brainerd