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Artists explore "Emergence/Re-emergence" in new exhibit



"Wingspace" by Denise Bunkert, 24"x48", oil on canvas.

For the new show at Ripple River Gallery, 15 artists responded to the theme "Emergence/Re-emergence." The result is a wide-range of viewpoints, expressions and media—work ranging from felted wool to clay to photography and painting—and an exhibit that is at once

thought-provoking and inspiring. "Emergence/Re-emergence" opens April 28 and continues through June 6 at the gallery near Bay Lake. Weather permitting, an outdoor reception will take place Saturday, May 1 from 2 to 4 p.m. "Over the years Ripple River Gallery has hosted several invitational shows focused on a theme," said Amy Sharpe, gallery co-owner. "Most recently "Water: We All Live Downstream," gave artists the opportunity to focus on threats to the quantity and quality of our water supply. "To reflect on this season of rebirth and renewal, as well as our deliverance from the dark times we have all experienced, we chose "Emergence/Re-emergence" as the theme for this upcoming exhibit," she said. "Artists were invited to consider how self-isolation has affected their work, and share where they find light and hope. We asked them to consider how they have been changed by the experience and to share their discoveries." The 15 regional artists included in the show are fiber artists

Kristen Anderson, Tina Fung Holder and Amy Sharpe; painters Judith Bergerson, Denise Bunkert and Terri Huro; mixed media artists Brenna Busse and Tracy McMan; photographers Rachel Cain, Melissa Cloose and Dee Kotaska; clay artists Karin Kraemer and Ken and Pat Lar-

son; jeweler Emily Chesick; and printmaker Anna Marie Pavlik. Ripple River Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. Masks are required. The gallery is located five miles south of Deerwood on Highway 6, then 3 miles east

of Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge on County Road 14 to Partridge Avenue; or south of Aitkin on Highway 169 to Bennettsville, then 3.2 miles west on County Road 11 to Partridge Avenue. For more information call 218-678-2575 or e-mail ripple-rivergallery@gmail.com.

CLC Verse Like Water program



Central Lakes College' Verse Like Water program is host-

ing poet Valzhyna Mort for a free virtual reading at noon on Tuesday, April 27. The link for viewing is: www.youtube.com/watch?v=BO1Uy8pbqEU.

Mort, born in Minsk, Belarus, made her American debut in 2008 with the poetry collection *Factory of Tears*, co-translated by the husband-and-wife team of Elizabeth Oehlkers Wright and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Franz Wright. She is also the author of *Collected Body* and her most recent collection *Music for the Dead and Resurrected*.

Mort received the Crystal of Vilenica Award in Slovenia in 2005 and the Burda Poetry Prize in Germany in 2008. In 2010, she received the Lannan Foundation Literary Fellowship and the Bess Hokin Prize from Poetry magazine. Her poems have appeared in Best American Poetry 2014, New European Poets, and The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry, as well as such literary magazines as The Common, Guernica, New Letters, Poetry, Poetry International, VQR and others.

Outstanding Senior nominations

By ANN SCHWARTZ
Clear Lake Grange 692 in the Glen area was chartered in 1936. Founded in 1867, a Grange is a family and community organization with roots in agriculture. It has now opened its membership to all people. There is a Junior Grange program for children

aged 5 to 14, with adult membership starting at 14. The Clear Lake Grange is seeking nominations for the Outstanding Senior Citizen Award in Aitkin County. It is sponsored by the Clear Lake Grange and Aitkin County Fair Board. Nominations are due to June 15. Nominate seniors

aged 70 and over to be honored at the Aitkin County Fair on July 8. Nominations forms are available at Aitkin County CARE, 20 3rd St. NE Aitkin; ANGELS of McGregor and by contacting Roxy Wigton at 33514 Dove St. Aitkin MN 56431; 218.927.4558 or email appelwigton@gmail.com

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Book Sale

Friends of the Aitkin Library are hosting their spring used book sale on Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Aitkin Library Community Room. Masking is required.

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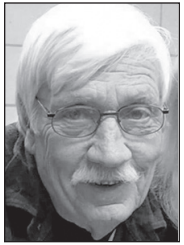
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OBITUARIES

RUSSELL BOWERS



Russell Wayne Bowers, 71, of Palisade died Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at his residence.

In keeping with Russell's wishes there will be no formal services. Burial will be in Rockwell Cemetery, Rockwell, IA.



He was born May 4, 1949 in Mason City, Iowa to Edwin and Wava (Burgess) Bowers. He grew up in Mason City, IA and graduated from Mason City High School. He was a U.S. Army Veteran serving in the Vietnam War. Since his childhood Russell has been coming to his family cabin on Thornton Lake in Aitkin County. He worked at Lehigh Portland Cement

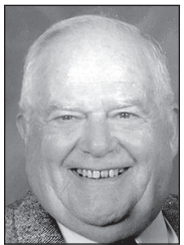
Co. in Mason City, IA. for 10 years. He moved to Minnesota where he owned and operated Aitkin Surplus & Pawn store and traveled to gun & trade shows. He loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting, bee keeping, and flying model planes and working on his model trains.

Russell is survived by the love of his life, Cindy Baker of Palisade; children: Jason (Nicole) Bowers of Mason City, IA; Tamela (Scott) Harris of Mason City, IA; three grandchildren; great-granddaughter, Briella; special nephew: Gabe (Mellisa) Leach and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Shauna Jones.

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

EDWARD SPIEL



Edward "Ed" Paul Spiel, 84, of Aitkin, formerly of St. Paul, died peacefully on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at his home with family present.



A Mass of Christian burial will be held Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 11 a.m. in St. James Catholic Church, Aitkin with Father David Forsman officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at a later date in Holy Cross Cemetery, Holy Cross, IA.

Ed was born October 20, 1936 in St. Paul to Edward Gilbert and Lucille (Boyer) Spiel. Ed is a Veteran of the United States Marines. Ed married Marjorie Schneider on June 25, 1983 in St. Paul. He was a Precision Machinist and a Tool and

Die Maker who owned and operated Edwards Manufacturing Inc. of Eagan. Ed is a member of the Aitkin Knights of Columbus, a Fourth Degree Knight of Minnesota assembly #549 of Brainerd as well as Aitkin American Legion Lee Post #86. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, hunting, traveling and time with his family.

Ed is survived by his best friend and wife of 38 years, Marjorie Spiel of Aitkin; sons: Edward Anthony "Butch" (Patricia) Spiel of Coon Rapids and Edward Earl "Rusty" (Deborah) Spiel of Isle; daughter, Kathy (Jim) Wilson of Dayton, OH; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sister, Helen (Sherman) Bowlds of Nashville, TN; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Ed is preceded in death by his parents and three brothers: Doug, Tom and Buckey.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home.

STANLEY VAN EPPS



Stanley "Stan" Heath Van Epps, 73, of Aitkin, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at his home.

Services will be Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 1 p.m. in St. John's Lutheran Church, Aitkin with Pastor David Becker officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the 1 p.m. Service at the church.

He was born June 18, 1947 in Rockford, IL to Walter and Jennie Van Epps. Stan graduated from the U of M and worked for the MN DNR Fish and Wildlife in Aitkin. He was a member of The National Wild Turkey Federation. Stan enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling, going to Twins games, gardening, canning and especially spending time with his family.

Stan is survived by his three daughters: Brenda (Chris Seidel) Larson of Brainerd, Jennifer (Nick) Elmquist of Brimson and Tammy (Jami) Packer of Aitkin; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren: Dixie Merrell, Finley Larson (Due June 2021) and Baby Packer (Due Nov. 2021); sister, Sharon Van Epps; other relatives: Roddy Larson Jr. of Aitkin, Paul Holm of Fergus Falls, Bob Lamke of Palisade, Laurie Holm of Big Fork and Barbara Amundson of Aitkin; several nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

Stan is preceded in death by his parents; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Marius "Mossy" and Connie Holm; sister-in-law, Rita Lamke; nephew, Reese Holm and baby niece, Kathy.

To leave an online condolence, go to: www.srtfuneral.com. Arrangements are with Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Aitkin.

FRANK TAYLOR



Frank R. "Bob" Taylor, 83, of Deerwood died on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at the Cuyuna Regional Care Center in Crosby.

A Memorial Gathering will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby. Burial will be at the Lakewood Cemetery in Crosby.

He was born in Brainerd on October 24, 1937 to Frank H. and Alice (Meligan) Taylor. Bob married Lois Gross on March 11, 1956 in Iron Hub. He was a former Draftsman with Control Data and General Mills in the Twin Cities; a former Scorpion employee and owned and operated Western Auto Hardware in Crosby; a former property manager for Ernst In-

dustries in Crosby and a retired local self-employed Plumber; was a past board member for Deerwood Township; was a former President of the Cuyuna Range Conservation Club and was a member of the Wealthwood Gun Club. Bob had a love for hunting and fishing with his family. He was known for his quick wit and loved visiting and telling stories.

He is survived by his wife, Lois; son, James (Sandy Northburg) Taylor of Crosby; daughter, Lisa (Brendan Hiles) Taylor of Breezy Point; sister, Debra (Steve) Wiebel of Zimmerman; ten grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

Preceding Bob in death are his parents; brother, Michael "Mick" Taylor; an infant son and a grandson, Cody Sullivan.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

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