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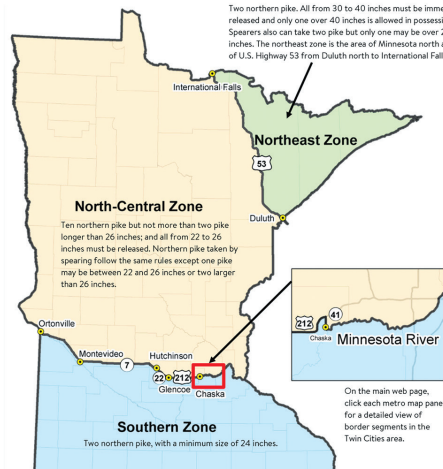
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Prepare for northern pike zones this fishing season



North central and southern border: From the South Dakota border and Otterville, east along Minnesota Highway 7 to Hutchinson, south along Minnesota Highway 22 to Glenwood, then east along U.S. Highway 22 to Chaska, south along Minnesota Highway 41 to the Minnesota River then east along the Minnesota River to the Mississippi River and Wisconsin border. Parts of the Minnesota or Mississippi River that form portions of this border are in the southern zone.

inland waters and reflect the differing characteristics of pike populations across the state:

North-central: Limit of 10 northern pike, but not more than two pike longer than 26 inches; all fish 22 to 26 inches must be released.

Northeast: Two northern pike; anglers must release all fish 30 to 40 inches, with only one fish over 40 inches allowed in possession.

South: Two northern pike; minimum size 24 inches.

The DNR implemented the zone regulations in 2018 following extensive public input and comments. In the north-central zone, the northern pike regulations address angler concerns about the over-abundance of small, or hammer-handle, northern pike.

In the southern zone, where reproduction is limited, the regulation is designed to increase pike abundance

while also increasing the size of fish harvested. In the north-eastern zone, the regulations aim to protect large pike.

"Northern pike can be delicious table fare. We encourage anglers to know the regulations and give a meal

of pike a try," Bethke said. "Northern pike require a little more work while filleting, and anglers can check the DNR website and other online sources for how-to videos on cleaning northern pike."

Throughout the state, special regulations that cover individual lakes, rivers and streams remain in effect and take precedence over the zone regulations. The northern pike zone regulations do not apply to border waters.

Author Hasskamp book signing

Author Joan Hasskamp of Crosby will be holding a book signing of her recently published humorous memoir entitled, "We Don't Care Who Wins as Long as Joan Loses" from 5 - 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18 at the Jessie F. Hallett Memorial Library in Crosby. Books will be available for purchase.

Published in 2021, the book is packed with memorable characters and hilarious misadventures and life-lessons. Whether she's involved in covert chick smuggling operations or evading a goat in a bar, the author rewards readers with unexpected chuckles that will keep them reading long past their bedtime. "Fact is always stranger (and funnier) than fiction," Hasskamp added. "And this book is proof of that!"

Hasskamp admits to always using humor and her upbeat outlook to navigate life even when it was challenging or uncertain. Gifted with ability to see life through a different (and humorous) lens, she has enjoyed over six decades of being true to herself while never being afraid to laugh at herself.

After a lengthy and productive career in social services, Hasskamp found herself with extra time on her hands after retirement and decided she should do something constructive.

"My first thought was to vacuum. I quickly came to my senses and dismissed that awful idea. The more I considered my options, I figured I might as well write something. That way, I can sit in a chair, look out the window, monkey around on Facebook, Google useless information and still be able to tell people I am a writer. The idea was so brilliant I could hardly believe it came from me!"

The result was her "half memoir/half hysterical non-fiction" book, We Don't Care Who Wins as Long as Joan Loses. Using her humor and upbeat outlook on life, the author shares "mostly true" stories from childhood to adulthood while providing a wildly entertaining ride filled with gentle lessons about being able to laugh, live, and love while owning one's uniqueness as well.



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Chain reaction: Crow Wing SWCD’s success protecting Big Trout Lake water quality sparked similar stormwater projects elsewhere in the Whitefish Chain



In Crosslake, a stormwater retrofit for Island Loon Lake replaced drainage that sent stormwater directly into the lake. The Crow Wing SWCD project involved the county highway department, the city, the Whitefish Area Property Owners Association and the Crosslakers. It drew from Clean Water Funds from BWSR.

Photo Courtesy of Crow Wing SWCD

The Clean Water Fund project that protects Big Trout Lake’s cold-water fish habitat by treating pollution-carrying stormwater became a catalyst for similar water-quality work at two more sites along Crow Wing County Road 66.

From Manhattan Beach to the town of Crosslake, over the span of 4 miles the highway threads its way past five lakes in the Whitefish Chain. Built 40-some years ago, the road pre-dates the sort of stormwater treatment that allows sediment — and the

algae-feeding phosphorus it carries — to settle out before it’s discharged.

“There wasn’t a problem with the road. The problem was the storm sewer collection going directly to these high-quality water bodies,” said Assistant Crow Wing County Engineer Rob Hall. When the road was built, curb-and-gutter was installed where it was needed, so was the storm sewer. “You drained it to where water had always drained, which in this instance was the nearest lake.”

The \$388,000 Big Trout Lake project installed pipes that channel stormwater runoff to three underground sediment collectors. It drew from a \$310,000 Clean Water Fund grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Work finished in 2018

The system treats runoff from 121 acres, keeping an estimated 40 pounds of phosphorus out of the lake each year. Once it enters the lake, each pound of phosphorus can produce up to 500 pounds of algae — which can affect water quality. Decomposing algae also reduces dissolved oxygen in the water.

Water clarity is affected by additional factors including

invasive species, wave action, water temperature, precipitation and ice-out. Over the past four years, Big Trout Lake’s water clarity averaged 14.9 feet — an increase of 1.6 feet compared with the longtime average from 1992 through 2016.

Deep and cold, Big Trout Lake supports Crow Wing County’s only population of stocked lake trout. Sandy beaches are part of what attracts lakeshore property owners. The county’s assessed value for Big Trout lakeshore lots and homes exceeds \$213 million.

“That’s an important resource, and it’s a resource worth saving,” Jeff Laurel of the Whitefish Area Property Owners Association said during a 2017 site visit.

The WAPOA board set a precedent when it agreed to pay 75percent of the estimated \$1,500 annual routine maintenance cost to pump out the sediment collectors. Manhattan Beach will pay the balance.

Crow Wing County Highway Department staff reviewed the plans. The county owns the system, will handle any safety concerns that arise, and eventually will be responsible for replacing it. The highway department was more involved with subsequent stormwater projects in Crosslake.

“This project is definitely a catalyst,” said Crow Wing Soil & Water Conservation

District Manager Melissa Barrick.

“I think that Big Trout project really helped forge a stronger partnership. People saw what we did, and then citizens wanted to be involved. It corresponded really well with the city of Crosslake’s comprehensive plan,” Barrick said. “The combination of the citizens, the city and the county really helped to bring a larger perspective to that entire corridor.”

Hall met once a month for about five years with the Crosslake Water Quality Work Group, which is composed of county, city and community members. The aerial maps the county highway department created to clearly show the stormwater treatment system — its catch basins and manholes and the drainage path — helped the group prioritize drainage projects, starting with Big Trout Lake.

One Crosslake stormwater treatment project finished in 2020. Another will coincide with a planned sanitary sewer expansion. Both received Clean Water Fund grants from BWSR.

A \$608,000 targeted stormwater retrofit for Island Loon Lake addressed declining water clarity. With a \$475,000 Clean Water Fund grant awarded in 2019, the SWCD worked with the county highway department, city of Crosslake, the WAPOA and the Crosslakers — a

citizen-led group focused on the city’s future — to install three underground sediment collectors and a 13,500-square-foot basin to capture runoff. The work will reduce phosphorus-loading by an estimated 6 pounds per year. Because nutrient levels are low, small changes can dramatically affect the lake’s ecosystem and water clarity.

The system replaced drainage that sent stormwater directly into Island Loon Lake.

The county reviewed plans and contributed \$50,000. Crosslake bought the 2.59 acres where the pond was built and contributed more than \$75,000. The city is responsible for sediment collector clean-out and stormwater pond maintenance.

Crosslake Public Works Director Ted Strand explained the lakes’ significance:

“I always say the quality of part of our life is the quality of the water. We protect our waters, we protect our quality of life. The quality of our life goes down, our property values go down, people don’t want to recreate here,” Strand said.

The community of about 2,000 expands and contracts with the seasons. About 1,000 full-time residents stay through the winter. Strand sees the fluctuation reflected in water use. In early April, the public works department was treating about 30,000 gallons of water a day. Over

Continued on Page 7

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Aitkin County Yard Waste Compost Site

Beginning May 20 will be Open on Thursdays and Fridays noon - 4:00 p.m.

The Site will be Closed this Fall at a Yet To Be Determined Time.

The yard waste composting site is adjacent to the Oak Ridge Demolition Landfill, which is located 5 miles south of Aitkin on Highway 169, and then right on 310th Lane. Access is through the Oak Ridge Demolition Landfill.

Leaves, Grass Clippings (No Plastic Bags), and Brush Less Than Four Inches In Diameter **ACCEPTED**

NO TREE STUMPS!

Site will be monitored and citizens are strongly encouraged to not bring prohibited materials. Prohibited materials could result in the closing of the facility.

Questions can be directed to the Aitkin County Environmental Services Department at 218-927-7342 or aitkinpz@co.aitkin.mn.us.

READER RIBBETS

Numbers don't lie

According to the CDC 2,854,838 Americans lost their lives in 2019. With the pandemic and two weeks left in 2020. 2,835,533 lives were lost. Rep Jim Jordan pressured Fauci on the lives lost in America. Fauci said 560,000 Americans lost their lives in 2020 from the virus. The death toll in 2020 with the 560,000 added should have been 3,354,838. It is important to note what Fauci didn't say, he didn't say more lives were lost, just that the virus killed 560,000 plus Americans. If numbers don't lie, it appears Fauci does.

In 2019, 44,553 Minneso-

tans lost their life. In 2020, the numbers reported are up 15%, 52,230, the virus is listed as the major driver, but opioid overdoses and suicides increased dramatically, the experts didn't break the 15% down, it appears it will make Walz a liar too.

Walz allowed Minneapolis to burn, gave his adult daughter access to confidential information that she shared with the public and rioters. Walz has caved to the pressure of the churches lawsuit and has allowed people back to worship. It appears the only way Walz will display integrity, morals, and ethics is to be sued. Let

Them Play MN is an organization that has discovered Walz participated in a plot to blame the deaths of long-term care residents on youth sports. It shouldn't require lawsuits to get Walz out of office, it does require the pressure of our voices on a daily basis demanding he resign. It requires our silent, spineless elected officials to retaliate, open their mouths and live up to their oaths of office and demand Walz resign along with us. 651-201-3400 do your part for your family, friends, neighbors, demand Walz resign immediately.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood

Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

Many of you have voiced concerns about a bill that would radically alter chartable gambling electronic bingo and pull-tab regulations. The legislation was added to an omnibus commerce finance bill at the last minute after regular committee deadlines.

Electronic bingo and pull-tab charitable gambling handheld devices would have to be reworked and replaced with new games that only look and operate like paper bingo cards and paper pull-tabs. This form of electronic charitable gambling was created to raise public money to help pay for building the Viking's Stadium.

Initially, the electronic games were not very popular. Over time, the companies that design and build the games and the local charitable gaming groups were able to build a customer base that does generate enough annual revenue to pay for the stadium bonds and then

some.

This is not the way to reward the hard work and success of our local charitable gambling organizations. In fact to much of the revenue they raise is going to Saint Paul and not staying local. I continue to push legislation that allows more of the funds raised by local charitable gambling organizations to stay in our local communities.

Please be assured I will continue to oppose this misguided effort. I expect that this very bad section of the bill will not survive the joint conference committee that is reconciling the house and senate versions of this bill. Please join me in monitoring what the conference committee does with this item. You can track action on SF 972 at this link.

This week we sent a \$7.8 million public safety assistance bill to Gov. Walz's desk for signature. The bill provided funding for the Emergency Manage-

ment Assistance Compact that reimburses out-of-state law enforcement from Iowa and Nebraska that traveled to the Twin Cities to provide public safety assistance for the Derek Chauvin trial. The bill also pays for the huge amount of overtime provided by our State Patrol Troopers and DNR Conservation Officers that were ordered into the metro area to deter civil unrest.

I was pleased to join 107 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle that voted to support our men and women in law enforcement. It should have been a unanimous vote. I am disappointed that the 25 no votes came almost exclusively from the House metro legislators that live in and directly represent the very areas that were most at risk for civil disorder. Public safety is everyone's responsibility.

**Representative Dale Lueck
Minnesota House District 10B**

Reforming Minnesota's CIP

The Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) Act, a bill many years in the making, will modernize the Minnesota's Conservation Improvement Program (CIP). Enacted in 2007, CIP requires all gas and electric utilities to spend a portion of their revenues on energy conservation. The program has delivered real savings to Minnesotans on their energy bills through the adoption of technologies like LED lighting and Energy Star® rated appliances, providing more than \$6 billion in net benefits to the state and supporting over 45,000 local jobs in every corner of Minnesota.

However, the program has become outdated and needs to be adapted to embrace beneficial and impactful new technologies and evolving trends. The ECO Act would modernize and expand CIP to recognize and respond to emerging technologies and consumer behaviors and demands. ECO would

also include load management and efficient fuel-switching, expanding CIP's ability to support local job opportunities by unleashing technology innovation and creating new utility programs to incentivize and install these technologies, saving customers energy and money. Currently, CIP does not take these things into account, all of which yield measurable and long-term environmental benefits.

Opponents, including the propane and other delivered-fuels industries, claim that ECO will harm their industry by forcing changes in fuel sources. This is not true. The bill neither imposes nor authorizes any forced changes in fuel sources; any change will be the decision of the individual consumer.

ECO will increase and expand workforce opportunities all over the state, by adding the next generation of technologies to the highly successful energy efficiency programs offered

through CIP. The bill has broad stakeholder support, including the Minnesota Department of Commerce, utilities of all sizes and types, a broad group of non-profit advocates and associations that represent local electrical contractors.

We appreciate authors Sen. Jason Rarick and Rep. Zack Stephenson and other legislators from both sides of the aisle working for this much needed reform. The ECO Act has passed in both the House and Senate Energy Committees. The House recently passed the bill with bipartisan support, and we urge the Senate to bring the bill up for a vote and complete the task of passing the ECO Act.

You can advocate for protecting conservation goals, providing flexibility and putting consumers in control of what fuels they use by telling your Senator you support the ECO Act.

**Sarah Cron, CEO
Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative**

Artist submissions wanted

Submissions are now open for Crossing Arts annual exhibition 'Salute To The Arts' which will be on display from June 11 - July 3. The deadline to submit your work is Friday, May 14.

Crossing Arts is looking for your best work yet from the past year. This exhibition is open to residents of Minnesota. Artists may submit up to two pieces for consideration. Artwork must have been created after June 2020 and not previously exhibited with

Crossing Arts. The submission fee is FREE for Crossing Arts members and \$5 per piece for non-members. Submission fees are non-refundable.

All mediums will be considered, including, but not limited to painting, photography, drawing, printmaking, mixed media, fiber, and sculpture.

Artwork will be juried by the Crossing Arts Gallery Committee, and judge, Dana Sikkila, will select first (\$250), second (\$100), and third (\$50) place cash awards for

selected pieces. In addition, each of the three winners will receive a free one-year membership to Crossing Arts.

For more information, the full list of rules and artwork submission visit www.crossingarts.org/calls-for-art.

Crossing Arts is a 501c3 nonprofit located in the heart of downtown Brainerd at 711 Laurel Street. Contact Crossing Arts at 218-833-0416, info@crossingarts.org.

Mother's Day musings— so moms get their own day huh? what?



Bea Wolleat, Ann Schwartz's mother, almost 80 years ago with her oldest child Meridee. I wonder if she would be so thrilled if she knew she would birth and raise five more, not getting them out of the house until she was 63.

Photo from the Ken Wolleat collection

By ANN SCHWARTZ

The toddler is all smiles, looking around the church nursery, until her gaze does not find her reason for existence, Mama. Desperately, the little girl looks back at the

scary baby sitter, then around the room again and back to the horrible apparition who is her caretaker for the next hour. Her face drops and the howls begin:

"I want Mama. Mama.

Mama."

A dear friend's mother passes just before Mother's Day and with her goes a giant piece of the old neighborhood and memories of the days when they all were our mothers -- ready with a kind word or cookies and Kool-Aid.

Watching your grandchildren, you see a blend of yourself and your parents and your children all rolled into one. It is a miracle.

Such are my musings as Mothers Day 2021 is upon us

Random mother facts

These facts were collected and I in no way take credit for originating any of them.

The Minnesota DNR wants you to know that mothers can fish free the weekend of May 8, but fishing opener for walleyes, pike, etc., doesn't start till the weekend after. Fishing opener, May 15, is as late as it can possibly be this year, based on being two weeks prior to Memorial Day, which is the last day of May this year.

Percent of mothers who manage the children's schedules: 54 percent.

Today, the average family has just under two children. Families averaged seven children in 1800; four in 1880; close to four in the baby boom of 1960 and about two from 1980 to the present day.

About 43 percent of mothers giving birth are not married, compared to 17 percent in 1990. This varies according to the mother's education level and ethnicity.

The average age for first-time mothers is 26 and it is steadily increasing.

Fabulous mom quotes

Motherhood is the exquisite inconvenience of being one person's everything.

If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way your mother taught you.

For mothers of young ones

I know, mothers of babies and toddlers and grade-schoolers, you are tired from getting up at night, from changing diapers, washing clothes, wiping noses, keeping track of it all and never being able to go the bathroom alone.

But the day will come, mark by words, when you will miss holding that little

hand in yours, when that little one will pull away from you in public, and, later, walk three steps behind you and pretend that they have never met you.

But copy that little handprint today and keep it because:

You always clean the fingerprints that I leave on the wall

I seem to make a mess of things because I am so small

The years will pass so quickly

I'll soon be grown like you
And all my little fingerprints
Will surely fade from view
So here's a special fingerprint

A memory that is true
So you'll recall the very day
I made this just for you.

Hey you, yeah, you, reader: Dry your eyes and blow your nose and go call your mother already!

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HUEVOS RANCHEROS 12 Bacon, refried beans, two eggs, corn tortillas, cheese, ranchero sauce, served with	HAMBURGER STEAK 15 Served with sauteed mushrooms and onions, with mashed potatoes, and vegetables.

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OBITUARIES

DENNIS HERBST



Dennis Martin Herbst, 78, of McGregor, died unexpectedly on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at his home.

To honor Dennis's wishes, no services will be held. Memorial donations can be made to your local animal shelter.

Dennis was born February 2, 1943, to Ervin and Eleanor Herbst. He married Judy Voltin on February 10, 1964. His early years were spent helping on the family farm near Duelm—hunting, and fishing with siblings and friends. His family moved to Mounds View, when Dennis was 13 years old. That year, with a jug of water and a bag of sandwiches, and by himself, he drove a farm tractor from Mounds View up old Highway 10 back to the family farm, after tilling a large garden at their new home. Dennis always remained a heavy equipment operator at heart. He was a long time member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49. Before retiring to his cabin on Big Sandy Lake, he was co-owner, heavy equipment operator and estimator of Herbst & Sons Demolition Inc. and Central Sandblasting Inc. The demolition company demolished the Elk River Nuclear Power Plant, the first such operation in US history. In his youth Dennis was known for his wild antics, sense of humor, yet loving and kind nature. Through the

years he enjoyed motorcycles, fireworks, hunting, boating (full throttle), snowmobiling (also full throttle), walks in the woods, tinkering in his garage, old Western movies, his iPad, being a lifetime member of the SnoBaron's Snowmobile Club, and daily reading of periodicals and books on his Kindle. He especially loved fishing trips with family and friends to the Winoga Lodge island outpost cabin flying out in a bush plane from the main lodge in Souix Lookout, Ontario. Dennis also had an enduring love for animals. During his life he adopted numerous rescue dogs. Dennis was a caring person who took gratitude in helping others he came in contact with. Known for his strength, sense of humor, kindness and compassion.

He is survived by his loving wife, Judy; daughters: Denise Herbst and Lynn Herbst; two grandsons: Alexander Bovitz and Victor Bovitz; siblings: Ervin (Caryl) Herbst Jr., Charles (Joyce) Herbst, Diane (Merl) Kittleson, Mary (Phil) Carlson, Russell (Diana) Herbst, Michael (Sue) Herbst, and Debra (Brian) Norman; brother-in-law, LeRoy Dahler; and many nephews, nieces, relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his most recent beloved companion, Bingo, who was adopted from his local animal shelter.

Arrangements were with the McGregor Funeral Home and Cremation Service in McGregor. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

PATRICIA WHITNEY

Patricia Elizabeth Whitney, age 80 of Crosby died at her home on April 30, 2021. A June

service is being planned. Arrangements are pending with the Koop funeral Home in Crosby.

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JOYCE ANGELINE FISHER



Joyce Angeline Fisher, 92, of Arden Hills formerly of Crosby, died peacefully in her sleep on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at Johanna Shores Care Center in Arden Hills.

A private family service is being held. Burial will be at the Lakewood Cemetery in Crosby.

She was born in Milwaukee, WI on June 22, 1928 to John T. and Alpha Levina (Torgrud) Johnson. She loved cleaning and spent many years cleaning at the First National Banks of Crosby

and Deerwood. She was a long-time member of the Assembly of God Church in Crosby.

Joyce is survived by three sons and daughter-in-law: Mike and Cindy Knitter of New Brighton, Pat Knitter of Minneapolis and Bud Fisher of Deerwood; two grandsons: Ryan and Ben; two great-grandsons: Merritt and Everett and one great-granddaughter, Calloway. (After four sons, two grandsons and two great grandsons, the first girl finally came last year.)

Preceding Joyce in death are husband, Al; son, Jack; brother, Merle; and sister, Gail.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

RICHARD GANSEVELD



Richard R. "Dick" Ganseveld, 82, of Inver Grove Heights formerly of Deerwood died on April 29, 2021 at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis.

Following Dick's wishes, no services will be held. If desired memorials can be given to a charity of choice in lieu of flowers.

He was born on April 30, 1938 in Madison Township, Minnesota. Dick was a retired Police Officer, serving 33 years with the Minneapolis Police Department and 22 years with Crosby

Police Department. He was an Avid outdoorsman and a dedicated family man.

He survived by his children: Lynn Walter, Jill Graff, Jennifer Seelhammer, David Ganseveld, and Julie (Rob) Murphy; grandchildren, Kirby (Emily), Andrew (Stacy), Cody (Brittany), Emma, Wayne III, Wyatt, Chaise, and Taylor (Adam); great grandchildren, Leo, Nora, Marnie, Brody, Isaac, Calvin, Henrik, Rowan, Finley, and Scarlett.

Dick's loving wife of 55 years, Joan preceded him death in 2015.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

STANLEY SKRZYPEK, JR.



Stanley Joseph Skrzypek, Jr., 63 died Monday, April 26, 2021 in Aitkin.

A Graveside Service was held on Friday, April 30, 2021 at Rabbit Lake Cemetery, Aitkin with Pastor Dallas Smith officiating.

He was born March 16, 1958 in Minneapolis to Stanley Joseph and Genevieve Caroline (Olson) Skrzypek, Sr. He worked many different jobs but mostly he enjoyed his job as a cook. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting, and being with his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Stanley is survived by his close friend: Enira Carmichael and her children: Eva, Jeffery, and Christy; grandchildren: Mya, Tayah, Hailey, Natalie, Chayann, and Niko; brothers: Darrell (Judy) Skrzypek, Dennis Skrzypek, and Richard (Penni) Skrzypek; sisters: Linda Hunter and Sherry (John) Fuss; special nephew, Chris; special niece, Genny; and many other relatives and friends.

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

Births, Open Houses, Engagements, Weddings & Community Events are published **FREE!** Send your e-mail to hopper@crosbyironton.net

CHURCH DIRECTORY

* 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 Espeseth; SS at 9:30; Worship at 10:45

Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; hillcityyagchurc@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 Jim Stephens, 218-829-3191; SS 9:00, Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m., Wed. Classes and Clubs 6:30 p.m.; fbcbainerd.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 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 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 Kenny Holm, 218-792-5530 Worship 9:30; 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy. 6 bridge

Palisade/Waukenabo Twp. — Hilltop Chapel, Pastor David Hoffman; 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. Lijla 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, Rev. Joyce A Rush Services are online at 5 pm Saturday. Call the church 218-829-3834 and leave a message with your email address to receive a Zoom invitation.

EVANGELICAL FREE
Baxter — Lakewood EFC, Pastor Rick Foster; Worship at 9 & 10:30; Wed for all ages 6:30 pm

Crosslake — Pastor Mark Holmen; Call for Service Times at 218-692-4141, email thelogchurc@crosllake.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 Sun. 10am (also available live streamed on YouTube and radio broadcast on KKN 94.3FM), and

Wed. 5:45pm; contemporary services on the 2nd & 4th Sundays; community meals Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. at 12noon; community food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. 9am – 4pm.

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.ppopbaxter.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 10:30 am. (www.ilchurch.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 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 10:30 am 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 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.

Rosburg — 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 Irontale 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 Hornstad; 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.

Call **Jim Blakesley** Appliance Service & Repair 218-927-2027 Toll free: 1-888-450-8845

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OBITUARIES

JEFFREY SMITH



Jeffrey Michael Smith, 65, of St. Cloud formerly of Crosby died on February 19, 2021 at St. Benedict's Senior Living in St. Cloud.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crosby. Burial will be at the Lakewood Cemetery in Crosby. A visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers.

He was born on December 7, 1955 in Duluth to Erling and Delores (Landowski) Smith. Jeff was a former employee of the City of Crosby and Cragun's Resort in Brainerd. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crosby.

Jeff is survived by one brother, Al (Kathy) Smith of Crystal; one sister, Dorethea "Dolly" (Steve) Kenworthy of Duluth and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding Jeff in death were his parents.

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

HERMAN JANZEN



Herman H. Janzen, 83, of Aitkin, died Monday, January 25, 2021 at his home.

A Memorial Mass will be Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 11 a.m. in St. James Catholic Church, Aitkin. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment with military honors will be in St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery, Aitkin.

He was born December 25, 1937 in Aitkin to Henry and Ann (Franz) Janzen. Herman graduated from Aitkin Public School in 1955 and later received a degree in Accounting and Economics from St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. After graduating, Herman worked for Hartford Fire Insurance in Chicago, IL until he

entered the Army in 1961. After completing his military service, Herman worked as an Auditor for the Federal Government in Seattle, WA until retiring in 1993. Herman retired to Wenatchee, WA where he enjoyed camping in the mountains, hunting deer and elk and trout fishing. In 2014, Herman returned to Aitkin.

Herman is survived by his sisters: Barbara (Jeremiah "JJ") Sullivan and Mary Schrupp, both of Aitkin; brothers: Warren (Dianne) Janzen of St. Cloud, Gerald (Mary) Janzen of Wayzata, Greg (Karin) Janzen of Andover and Tim Janzen of Bloomington; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Herman is preceded in death by his parents.

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

LARRY MINDRUM



Larry Dale Mindrum, 64, of Palisade and Aitkin died Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at his residence.

A Celebration of Life will be 1 to 4pm, Saturday, May 15, 2021 at the Rustic Trail in Palisade.

He was born November 25, 1955 in Aurora to Lamberth Richard and Lorraine Helen (Weimer) Mindrum. He worked in construction and excavating. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and playing Cribbage.

Larry is survived by his daughter and son: Melissa

Mindrum and Jeremy Mindrum (Frannie Horner); six grandchildren: Daisy, Merrik, Dominic, Mason, Mikaela, and Grayson; sisters and brothers: Linda Harwig, Lynn Mindrum (Steven Evans), Lester (Barb) Mindrum, Lonnie Mindrum, Kim Mindrum, and Lee-ann (Patrick) Huff.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Leslie and two great-nephews: Luke and Brandon Harwig.

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

CURTIS JOHNSON



Curtis E. "Curt" Johnson, 91, of Aitkin, died Thursday, November 19, 2020 after a brief battle with COVID-19 at Aicota Health Care Center, Aitkin.

A Celebration of Curt's Life will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin with Pastor Dawn Houser officiating. Visitation will begin one hour prior and a Masonic Service will begin at 10:30 a.m. The Celebration will be held in conjunction with his brother Wayne Johnson's Celebration Service. In lieu of flowers memorials are preferred to the Shriners Hospitals for Children, University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center or Second Harvest Heartland.

Curt was born July 10, 1929 at Ironwood, MI to V.H. "Herb" & Emma "Peg" (Miller) Johnson. When Curt and his brother Wayne were young, the family moved to St. Paul, where he attended public schools and graduated from Monroe High School in 1947. Curt took some time to enjoy life after he graduated. He worked on the crew of a sprint car owned by some friends, took a cross-country car trip that went through Niagara Falls, New York City and stopped at the Indianapolis 500 on the way back to Minnesota. He sold used cars as "The Smiling Swede" and hauled new Fords from the Ford Plant in St. Paul to the western states for K.W. McKee. He also attended the University of Minnesota. Curt met his wife Audrey Van Kleek during the early fall of 1954. They were engaged just before Christmas that same year and were married in St. Paul on May 7, 1955. Shortly before meeting Audrey, Curt began working for Northern States Power Co. as temporary street crew worker for the gas

utility. He later became a laborer and proud IBEW member for the substation construction division of the electric utility. That job grew into a truck driving position hauling materials to construction sites around the five-state area and ultimately to the office manager for that division at NSP Headquarters in Minneapolis, where he retired after 33 years of continuous service in 1988. It was then that he and Audrey achieved a long term dream of building their retirement lake home on the family property (the former Echo Inn Resort purchased by his parents in 1949) on Big Pine Lake. After he and Audrey bought their first home in North St. Paul, he soon joined the local Jaycees, where he achieved the position of president. He was also a city councilman and mayor there for 28 years. Curt started his lengthy memberships in the Lions Club and Masons in North St. Paul and carried both with him when he moved to the lake, where he was an active member of the Bay Lake Lions, Mystic Lodge 213, A.F.&A.M. and the Aadzuhman Shrine Club. He was a 32° Scottish Rite Freemason and served the Lord as a lay leader and delegate to the MN United Methodist Conference at the Pine Lake Methodist Chapel.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Audrey; son, Gary (Teresa) Johnson; three grandchildren: Jessica Gibson-Brown, Jeremy (Abby) Gibson, Justin (Beth Paris) Gibson; six great-grandchildren; one great-great grandson; and countless extended family members, friends, and lodge brothers.

Curt was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers: Wayne Johnson and Harold Ness.

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

JACK BLAKESLEY



Jack Blakesley, 73, died Monday, February 15, 2021 with his dog, Faith, in a trailerhouse fire at Emily.

A Military Ceremony will be held on Friday, July 9 at 2:00 p.m. at Camp Ripley and a Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 10 at 2:00 p.m. at the Aitkin American Legion.

He was born July 10, 1947 in Aitkin at Drapers Maternity Home to Lester and Alta May (Woodrow) Blakesley. He

graduated from Aitkin High School in 1965. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam in the Army. When coming home, he joined the Army Guard. Later, he transferred to the Air Guard in Duluth, where he served two tours of duty in Iraq. He retired from the Air Guard. He also worked for 10 years with Minnesota Forestry in Deer River. The rest of his life, he logged.

He is survived by his brother, David Blakesley; three sisters: Judy Carpenter, Cambridge; Leslie Peter, Palisade; Linda Blakesley, Aitkin; 10 nieces and nephews; many relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Improving health and wellness

Although Americans are living longer these days, more are also developing chronic illnesses. About 80 percent of older Americans have at least one chronic health condition. One in three older adults age 65+ will fall, and 40 percent of all hospitalizations are a re-

sult of falls. Do illness and aging always go hand-in-hand? The answer is a surprising, but resounding, NO.

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Wild mushroom class and hunt at Ruttger’s

Ruttger’s Bay Lake Resort in Deerwood has announced a wild mushroom identification class and morel hunt on Saturday, May 15, 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.

The event is presented by Mike Kempenich, owner of Gentleman Forager, founder of Forest To Fork, and the former mushroom identification instructor at the University of Wisconsin and Minnesota extensions.

Kempenich will be instructing a fun class on how to positively identify four species of delicious Minnesota Mushrooms: morel, puffball, black trumpet and oyster.

“Don’t you deserve a day or weekend of adventure and fun?” said Kempenich. “Venture out this Spring with us at the beautiful Ruttger’s Bay

Lake Resort. You will learn to positively identify four species of delicious Minnesota mushrooms, and then come with me to go hunt for some morels. I am not sure what will be the highlight of the trip—the class, the hunt, or relaxing at the resort. For me, it will be all of the above!”

This learning experience includes enjoying some spectacular mushroom dishes created by Chef Erik Rasmussen. After the class, you’ll head out with Kempenich into the forests to put your new knowledge to the test, hunting for some highly prized morels! Whether you make it a day trip or treat yourself to a weekend excursion, you’re guaranteed to enjoy some wild fun.

Chain reaction | Continued from Page 2

the July 4 weekend, with the cabins and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers campground full, it will treat about 100,000 gallons a day.

“It’s a great cooperative project between the county and the city. We’re very thankful that we got the grant and the funds to move forward with some of these projects. Water quality is key. We have a very active WAPOA and a very active lake association. We’re all a part of the team,” Strand said.

Without the Clean Water Funds, Strand said the direct pipe to Loon Lake likely would have remained in place.

The second Crosslake project draws from a \$315,000 Clean Water Fund grant for runoff retrofits, awarded in 2020. Partners will contribute \$78,500 in matching funds.

That water-quality work will be coordinated with the city’s planned sanitary sewer expansion under County Road 66, which will close the road and expose the storm sewer.

It will address the high ratio of impervious surfaces surrounding the high-value lake, which the Pine River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan and the county’s water plan identified as a priority concern. Working with five landowners, the SWCD will partner with the county highway department, city, WAPOA and Crosslakers to build four stormwater retention basins that can store 15 acre-feet of water a year.

The project is in the design stages

The sanitary sewer expansion will accommodate

growth. Septic systems handled wastewater until the city treatment plant was built about 20 years ago. It’s designed to handle about 150,000 gallons per day. The planned expansion will increase its capacity to 175,000 gallons per day.

The highway department is working with the sanitary sewer project designer. The county will contribute a \$37,500 match. The city bought a parcel, less than 1 acre in size, to install a stormwater pond.

“Between the water quality group and the city and the county, if they needed to find and budget for \$300,000 to \$400,000 each time one of these big improvements or mitigation projects is done, I don’t know if any of these would be done at this point,” Hall said. “The funding is the

key. We can have all the great ideas and data we want, but you still need that bankroll to make these things happen.”

Next, Hall said the work group is seeking ways to fund a project near the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers campground in Crosslake that addresses stormwater discharge to the Pine River, which flows out of the Whitefish Chain to the Mississippi River.

“They’re looking out for overall water quality, not just what’s in their backyard, so I give them credit for that,” Hall said.

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources’ mission is to improve and protect Minnesota’s water and soil resources by working in partnership with local organizations and private landowners. www.bwsr.state.mn.us

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