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Many hands make light work at Woock Field in Aitkin



Aitkin Baseball Coach Jeremy Janzen thanked the lighting donors and recalled how the project began.

By ANN SCHWARTZ

It took a village and the surrounding area to allow the Aitkin Baseball Team to play under the lights. The lighting of the field was celebrated at a home game on May 6. They ended up fleeing the Pine City Dragons 10-0.

A drive through sloppy joe supper was held. Prior to the game, Coach Jeremy Janzen took the mike and talked about all the improvements made to the field over the last 11 years, including a press box, batting cages, scoreboard, lights and more. Many local businesses, families, individuals, contractors and even students were announced as contributors.

Jeremy said he was talking

to some folks at a basketball game and was asked about putting lights on Woock (the baseball) field. "It will never happen," Jeremy replied.

Jerry Holm, owner of Mayer Electric and local philanthropist, found out about the idea. "Cheri (his wife) knows that Jerry won't take no for an answer." He heard of lights that were available and the project picked up steam.

Through the efforts of Jerry, boosters, families, businesses, foundations and utilities, the lights were brought to Aitkin and mounted, ready to sink the poles.

"Just before we got the lights in the air Scott Nutting

said: 'I don't know if those old incandescent lights are going work and don't know if we can get passed at the state level.'"

So, within a month, an additional \$40,000 was raised to get the proper bulbs.

"I'll now ask Dave Cluff of Aitkin Public Utilities and vice president of the Quarterbacks, to flip the lights on one at a time," finished Jeremy.

A cool and cloudy evening let the lights shine as they were flicked on one at a time, to cheers, and the donors were recognized. Check out the field and the sign with all the donors next time you are by Aitkin's City Park. Red

highlights and the new red scoreboard look sharp with the Gobbler uniforms.

With that swoosh of lights,

the boys of summer took the field and won one for the lights?



Part of the celebration included a drive through sloppy joe supper.



Lighting donors were recognized for their efforts: (left to right) Georgette and George Ehnstrom, Alex White, Roger Sorben, Jerry Sultvedt, Rick Liljenquist, Dr. Jonas Kylvonen, Kelly Holm, Jason Espeseth (B&L Concrete), Hugh Janzen, Jerry Holm and Dan Jones.

Ann Schwartz photos

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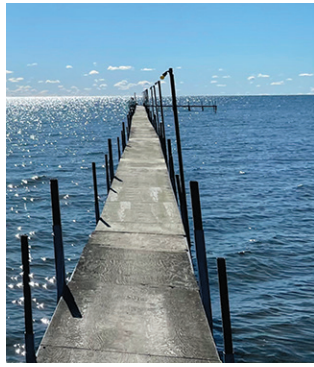
Mille Lacs ready for opener

By ANN SCHWARTZ
Lots of hustle and bustle and boats taken out of storage was the story in the Garrison area the week before fishing opener.

Early-season walleye anglers on Mille Lacs Lake will be able to keep one walleye 21-23 inches long or one longer than 28 inches. Sum-

mer will bring catch-and-release walleye fishing, with a mid-season closure, before the potential for a one-fish limit returns in the fall.

According to Wayne Schmalz of Garrison Sports, "I am hoping see the launches full this summer and the anglers being able to catch and keep one walleye should



The big lake is ready for the fisher people this weekend.
Ann Schwartz photos



This launch boat from Garrison Sports was being welded in time for fishing opener.

Cold water during fishing opener

Mother Nature gave Minnesotans extra ice-free days this spring on many of the state's water bodies, but relatively cool weather since then—including overnight lows in the 30s—means the water temperature may be lower than people expect. As anglers prepare to hit the water for Saturday's fishing opener, it's vital they keep this in mind and put their safety first.

"The date on the calendar isn't helpful in determining the temperature of the water," said Col. Rodmen Smith, DNR Enforcement Division director. "This year's opener is later in May than usual, but in many places the water temperature remains dangerously cold. Anglers need to be aware of that fact, and plan accordingly."

About 30 percent of annual boating fatalities happen during the cold-water season, when the water is less than about 70 degrees, and often involve the victim not wearing a life jacket. Swimming ability means little after an unexpected fall into cold water, as even strong swimmers can succumb to the debilitating effects of cold water within minutes.

"The law requires anyone younger than 10 to wear a life jacket when boating, but

we urge everyone to wear a life jacket when they're on or near water. This is especially important when water temperatures are low," said Lisa Dugan, DNR Enforcement Division recreation safety outreach coordinator. "It's the easiest and most effective way to prevent a tragedy."

The DNR also offers the following tips for staying safe as this fishing season gets underway:

Don't head out alone, and always tell someone on shore where you are going and when you plan to return.

Keep the floor of the boat free of clutter to avoid tripping and falling into the water.

Ensure boat is equipped with safety equipment such as life jackets, communication and noise-making devices, and a first-aid kit.

For additional tips on staying safe on cold water, including what people should do if they fall in, visit the DNR's cold water dangers webpage.

Anglers and waters

There are about 1.4 million licensed anglers in Minnesota.

About 500,000 people are expected to fish on Minnesota's opening day of the walleye and northern pike season.

Minnesota has 11,842 lakes, 4,500 of which are considered fishing lakes. There are over 16,000 miles of fishable rivers and streams.

Average annual expenditure per angler in Minnesota is about \$1,500.*

Participation and the economy

Fishing contributes \$2.4 billion to the state's economy in direct retail sales, ranking Minnesota third in the nation for angler expenditures.*

Fishing supports nearly 35,500 Minnesota jobs.**

Minnesota ranks second in resident fishing participation at 32 percent, second only to Alaska.*

Most resident anglers are from urban areas. However, a higher percentage of people living in rural Minnesota fish compared to the percentage of people living in urban areas who fish.*

Fishing habits

Significantly more time is spent fishing on lakes than on rivers and streams.*

The average Minnesota angler spends 15 days fishing each year.*

Walleye are the most sought-after fish in Minnesota, followed by northern pike and muskie combined, then panfish, bass, crappie and trout.*

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Grand opening of Brainerd Public Schools Performing Arts Center

There will be a grand opening celebration of the Brainerd Public Schools Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, May 26 at 6:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and to ensure ev-

eryone's safety, required mitigation strategies will be enforced, including face coverings, social distancing, and limiting the number of guests.

Approximately 400 guests will be allowed in the 1,200

seat facility. Tickets are free, but must be reserved. A maximum of two tickets can be reserved by each invitee for you, family, friends, or professional partners. Tickets can be reserved at www.tinyurl.com/PACopening.

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READER RIBBETS

Oust them all

It is said Minnesota remains under executive order because the vaccines are only approved for emergency use. The Minnesota Mistake now provides an incentive, stating when the state reaches 70 percent vaccination, no more masks. After claiming there were no effective treatments, Walz had to confirm hydroxychloroquine does treat the virus so why would the state need an experimental, emergency vaccination, if treatment is and has been available? Another question,

where is the do no harm medical profession? They support and administer a vaccine to a healthy person when the vaccine may cause harm, death, or any number of complications.

Walz allowed Minneapolis to burn, he gave his adult daughter access to confidential information which she shared with the public and rioters. Walz caved to the pressure from the lawsuit brought by several churches, revealing his immoral, unethical, abuse of power.

Walz tried to link youth sports to deaths in long-term care facilities and is being sued on multiple violations of the State and U.S. Constitutions.

Our silent, spineless, ineffective, elected officials write updates to distract us from the fact they violated their oath of office. Their failure to represent We the People means we must use our voices to demand Walz resign immediately. 651-201-3400 and use our votes to oust the others when the time comes.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood

Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

Happy Mother's Day, please take time this weekend to honor those that provide the gift of life.

Yesterday, the Governor announced a timeline for relaxing some of the COVID-19 restrictions that have been in place for the past 14 months.

Effective May 7:

Capacity limits for outdoor dining, events, and other outdoor get-togethers is ended. Outdoor mask requirement ended except at large venues with over 500 people.

Bars, restaurants, food and beverage services may return to normal business hours.

Effective May 28th:

Remaining capacity and distancing limits end, including for indoor events and gatherings.

Face coverings still required indoors and for outdoor events that exceed 500 people.

Businesses must maintain plans – per the state's universal guidance document.

Effective July 1 (or earlier, if 70 percent of Minnesotans

age 16 years and older have received at least one dose of the vaccine):

Remaining face covering requirements and the requirement for preparedness plans end.

It's a move in the right direction and long overdue. We are long past the time when we should be returning the responsibility to make personal health choices back with individuals and not be dictated to by Saint Paul.

Areas where the governor has not relaxed emergency restrictions yet include:

The Safe Learning Plan for schools will continue until the end of the school year to protect students, teachers, and staff.

The eviction moratorium, a ban on price gouging, and eligibility exemptions for people who receive state services remain in place.

During these final 10 days of the legislative session we will chisel out the next two-year state budget from myriad of

what I believe are unreasonable proposals. They include raising taxes by billions of dollars while we have billions in surplus dollars available, unilaterally giving California control of our auto emission standards, destroying local electronic-tab charitable gambling and upending our public safety policies with respect to how law enforcement operates.

While we have challenges ahead, I believe that there is enough common sense in both the House and Senate to separate the wheat from the chaff by May 17th when the constitution requires us to adjourn.

It is time to stop using the pandemic as justification for forcing policy changes that simply do not make sense and as an excuse for unbridled excessive government spending and tax increases.

Once again, happy Mother's Day.

*Representative Dale Lueck
Minnesota House District 10B*

Downtown Committee meeting

The Cuyuna Lakes Chamber's Downtown Committee will meet Tuesday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

The mission of the committee is to provide a platform for business members and community leaders to discuss upcoming events and issues in the Cuyuna Lakes and im-

plement projects to promote a healthy local economy.

Their current focus is to help area businesses prepare for, and withstand, the construction season. Information is available on the C-I Sidewalk Scoop Facebook page, or sign up for email updates on the MnDOT website re-

garding the 2021 Hwy. 210 project.

Interested business members and other stakeholders are encouraged to contact Executive Director Brielle Bredsten at brielle@cuyunalakes.com or 218-546-8131 to learn more.

Cuyuna Lakes Chamber BAH

Join Rafferty's Pizza and Crosby Lofts as they host Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours on Thursday, May 20 from 5-7 p.m.

Bringing you an evening of socializing, raffle prizes, beverages, appetizers and more. You are invited to learn more about Raf-

ferty's Pizza and Crosby Lofts, and gain exposure to your own business by attending. Chamber members will have the opportunity to pass the microphone and introduce themselves to the group, so bring business cards and get ready to network and build relationships while enjoying hors d'oeuvres, refreshments

and more!

Attendees are encouraged to bring door prizes for raffles drawings. As a courtesy to the host, advanced registration is recommended. To make your reservation, register on www.cuyunalakes.com, or contact the Chamber at 218-546-8131 or courtney@cuyunalakes.com.



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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.

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.

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

ELEANOR HARTSHORN



Eleanor "Ellie" Joy Hartshorn, 83, Aitkin, died Sunday, May 2, 2021 at home surrounded by her family. Ellie was born Dec. 1, 1937, in Cloquet to parents, Wallace and Mildred Lambie. She grew up in Superior, WI. On March 27, 1956, Ellie married Robert Hartshorn. They lived in Maplewood where they raised their three sons. Ellie worked as a waitress and bookkeeper. They moved to Garrison after their sons were raised. Ellie waitressed at the Blue Goose for 20 years

and was known and loved by all of her patrons and coworkers. She also enjoyed her gardens and watching birds. She was a great cook and the family lover her meatballs! Ellie is survived by her husband of 65 years, Robert; three children: Robert Hartshorn Jr., Forest Lake; Richard (Terri) Hartshorn, Aitkin; and John Hartshorn, Maplewood; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brothers, Wallace and William Lambie. She was preceded in death by her parents, Wallace and Mildred Lambie; sisters: Shannon Magen, Eildy Shepard and Sheryl Lambie; brother, Dan Lambie; and grandson, Jason Hartshorn.

CARMON HARRIS



Major Carmon (Callahan) Harris, 86, died on Sunday, January 17, 2021. A memorial service will be held on May 22, 2021, at 11 a.m. at The Salvation Army 208 S 5th Street, Brainerd. Please contact Pamela Calloway (727)272-5699 if you wish to attend. In lieu of flowers, you may donate to the Salvation Army in Memory of Major Carmon and Eugene Harris or Hospice if you wish. If you would like to send sympathy cards, you can send them to Pamela at 3324-36th Street N, St Petersburg, FL 33713. She was born on January 6, 1935, one of nine children. Carmon proudly and dutifully served God and the Salvation Army throughout her life,

always following God's path for her. Carmon met her husband, Gene, while in training college and they married in June of 1958. After years of being Corps Officers, Carmon and her husband began working in the Adult Rehabilitation Center in 1973. She also obtained her R.N. to help with her work within the ARC. Then, in 1998, they both retired to her hometown of Brainerd, MN to be closer to family. She is survived by her two remaining children, Pam and Rod; siblings: Betty, Dolly, Karen, and Jerry (with whom she could call her closest friends); 11 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Carmon is now reunited with her late son, Bruce and her late husband. Arrangements were with Brenny Family Funeral Chapel- Baxter.

ARNE SWANSON



Arne A. Swanson, 89, of Aitkin died Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at his home. A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 11 a.m. from St. John's Lutheran Church at Cedarbrook with Rev. David Peterson and Vicar Michelle Ruen officiating. Burial will be in the Forest Cemetery in Kimberly Township of Aitkin Co. Military Honors will be provided by the Aitkin American Legion Post and the Aitkin VFW Post. Visitation was Friday, May 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and also one hour prior to the service at the church Saturday.



Arne was born July 27, 1931 in Chicago, IL to John A. and Myrtle H. (Anderson) Swanson. He grew up and attended schools on the south side of Chicago. He delivered papers and one of his customers was Al Capone. In high school he played football and wrestled. He had a try out with the Chicago Bears when he finished high school. He also loved souping up cars and he had a 1940 mercury that he enjoyed. He also raced Stock Cars at Soldier field in his younger days. He had worked at the Ford Co. in Chicago doing repair work. Arne was a veteran of the United States Army who served in the Korean War from 1952 to 1953 where he earned two Purple Hearts. Upon his discharge he worked at American Airlines at O'Hare Airport. He had serviced the plane which John F. Kennedy was using during his presidential campaign. He also

had acquired one of Kennedy's written speeches that he had used on his campaign. He also started working for the U.S. Post Office and Bell Telephone while in Chicago. He moved to Minneapolis and worked a time for the Horner Box Company. He moved to Aitkin in 1969 and started working at the Post Office part time and also for the Aitkin County Land Department. He also worked for Lampert Lumber (now Home-town Lumber) in Aitkin and also at the Freedom Gas Station in Aitkin where he met his wife. He married Marta Rono on August 20, 1983. Arne began working full time for the United States Postal Service until he retired from federal employment in 1993. Arne also worked as a part time School Bus Driver. He was a member of the Aitkin American Legion, Aitkin VFW, Aitkin DAV and was a past commander of the Aitkin DAV as well as a member of Aitkin VFW and Aitkin Legion Honor Guard. He enjoyed bowling, golfing, hunting, fishing and spending time with his grandchildren.

Arne is survived by his wife, Marta Swanson of Aitkin; children: Rick and Anne Swanson of Lafayette, LA; Susan Swanson of Lafayette, LA; Amanda and Dustin Voller of Aitkin; John Swanson and Miranda King of Aitkin; two grandchildren: Bree and Hunter Voller; sister, Betty Lou Meents of Waseca, IL; brother-in-laws: Donald Suhr of Highland, IN; Russell Rono of Crosby; Robert Rono of Crosby; Randy (Bobbye) Rono of Pine River; and sister-in-law, Pam (David) Straka of Brainerd. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters: Bette Margaret Suhr and Arlene Nelson. Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

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* 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. Pakkie; Worship 9; SS 10:30.
Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449
- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Aitkin — Heritage Church, Rev. Hayden Loven ; Sunday Morning Service 10:45
Crosby — Pastor Dustin McCaleb; Worship 10:30
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeseth; SS at 9:30; Worship at 10:45
Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; hillcityagchurch@gmail.com; 218-697-2662
Palisade — Pastor Ed Sornberger; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726
- BAPTIST**
Aitkin - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617, Worship 9: 30 and 11, thejourneynorth.com
Baxter - The Journey North, Pastor Mark Bjorlo, 218-824-5617, Worship Saturday 5, Sunday 9, 10:30, 11:45, thejourneynorth.com
Brainerd* - Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Jim Stephens, 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.ihmstemple.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. Lijia 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 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 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.poppbaxter.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.goodshepherdfreechurch.org
Brainerd - Laestadian Lutheran Church; 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. (www.lchchurch.org)
Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th Street Brainerd - Pastor Hans Anderson Worship times September through May are 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Summer Worship time is 9:00 a.m. Phone: 218-829-5147 Website: www.trinitybrainerd.org Email: trinity@trinitybrainerd.org
Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9 Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA); Worship 8:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.
Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7 pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910
Crosslake —(ELCA), 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. Lovaa; 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)
Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9 (winter) 8:30 & 10 (summer); Fellowship after first service; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.
McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.
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 Savors ELCA; Pastor Peter Rosenkvist, Worship 9.
Palisade* — Bethel (ELCA), Rev. Wm. J. Sass; Worship 9:30. Pequot Lakes* - Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA) Rev. Stephen Blenkush Worship 9:00 a.m., SS 9:15 a.m., Fellowship 10:15 a.m. Wed. Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Rossburg — Bethesda (ELCA); Comm. 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.
Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor Ron Staudinger; 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays 10 am; 41163 Kestrel Ave 3.3 mi. South of Hwy 210
Thor — Zion, Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.
Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.
Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua Reinke; Worship 10:30; Bible Study and Sunday School Sun. 9:30; Lent services Wed. 5:30 pm.
- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**
Brainerd—Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30 am, 523 SE 11th Street, Brainerd, 218-454-0984
- PENTECOSTAL**
Emily — Cornerstone Church; Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.
Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Irondale Town Hall*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 pm. Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, Pastors Ken and Ron Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585
- PRESBYTERIAN**
Crosslake — Pastor Tony Oltmann, 218-692-4769; Worship 10; Fellowship 11:15; Bible study on Wednesdays at 10;14444 Daggett Pine Road just passed the Community Center; www.crosslakepres.org
McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9.
McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm.
Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.
- REFORMED**
Crosby — Lifespring Church, a member of Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals, 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, www.visitlifespring.com
- SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**
Aitkin — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 9:30 a.m., Bible Study 10:30 a.m.; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; www.aitkinadventist.org; 423-805-0933
- Brainerd — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 11:20 a.m., Bible Study 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study & Prayer Mtg. Wed. 6:30 p.m.; 2910 Oak Street, Brainerd, 218-829-1676
- UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**
Pequot Lakes — 28877 State Hwy 371, Pequot Lakes 10:30 1st and 4th Sundays. 218-330-3476
- UNITED METHODIST**
Aitkin* — Pastor Dawn Houser; high school & adult SS 9; Worship 10:30; fellowship follows, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible & Brew at 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.

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Governor Walz announces timeline to end State COVID-19 restrictions

Governor Tim Walz announced a three-step timeline to end nearly all state COVID-19 restrictions by May 28, and end the state-wide masking requirement once 70 percent of Minnesotans age 16 years and older get their vaccine, or by July 1. The announcement comes as more than 2.6 million Minnesotans have gotten their shot and the state is on track to vaccinate 70 percent of Minnesotans by the end of June.

"Our nation-leading vaccination effort has put us in a strong position to safely transition toward life as we used to know it," said Governor Walz. "The pandemic is not over and we have work to do. But from the State Fairgrounds, to doctor's offices, to retrofitted Metro Transit buses that deliver vaccines where they're most needed,

Minnesotans now have more opportunities than ever to get the vaccine when and where they want to. As cases recede, more people get vaccinated every day, and vaccines are readily available to all who want it, we can now confidently and safely set out our path back to normal."

The most at-risk Minnesotans – seniors, long-term care residents, assisted living residents, educators, and front-line workers – have gotten their vaccines. Nearly 90 percent of Minnesotans over the age of 65 have gotten at least one dose.

"Thank you, Minnesota. For the past year you've made sacrifice after sacrifice. And now that we have three safe, effective vaccines that are widely available, we can begin to think about what life will look like after this pandemic," said Lieutenant

Governor Peggy Flanagan. "We know that barriers still exist for many Minnesotans who want to receive the vaccine, especially those in underserved communities, and our work to connect them through community clinics and pharmacies, mobile vaccine clinics, and other targeted strategies continues. Our path forward now relies on Minnesotans getting the vaccine."

"I know the last year has tested us. But we made those sacrifices to save lives until a vaccine could keep Minnesotans safe," Governor Walz continued. "We all now have the ability to protect our loved ones. So go get your vaccines, Minnesota, and do your part to finally put this pandemic behind us."

Since mid-April, COVID-19 cases have declined. Hospitals are seeing fewer ad-

missions and vaccination progress has relentlessly pushed forward. Vaccines held COVID-19 variants at bay and avoided having them overwhelm our state.

The three-step process will end nearly all state COVID-19 restrictions by May 28, and end the state-wide masking requirement by July 1 at the latest.

Step one took place at noon on May 7. It includes initial steps to relax some restrictions, primarily in outdoor settings.

- Removes limits for outdoor dining, events, and other get-togethers, and ends the mask requirement outdoors except at large venues with over 500 people.

- Eliminates the state-established mandatory closing time for bars, restaurants, and food and beverage service at other places of public accom-

modation.

The **second step** begins on May 28. Remaining capacity and distancing limits will come to an end, including for indoor events and gatherings. The requirements that will remain include:

- Face coverings indoors and for outdoor events that exceed 500 people.

- There will be no new safety requirements for businesses, though they must maintain their plans to keep their employees and customers safe – as they have from the beginning of the pandemic – guided only by a minimal universal state guidance document.

The **third step** takes place once 70 percent of Minnesotans age 16 years and older – 3,087,404 Minnesotans – get at least one dose of the vaccine, but no later than July 1.

- The remaining face covering requirement and the requirement for preparedness plans will end. Work on vaccines will continue, and local jurisdictions and entities may set their own mask policies.

Because the youngest Minnesotans are not yet eligible for the vaccine, the Safe Learning Plan for schools will continue until the end of the school year to protect students, teachers, and staff in schools.

Additional protections will remain, including the eviction moratorium, a ban on price gouging, and eligibility exemptions for people who receive state services. The State will continue its emergency efforts to get Minnesotans tested and vaccinated and will continue to monitor the virus and the growth of variants in the months to come.

Additionally, local jurisdictions and businesses may still

require masks and have other requirements beyond July 1.

"Minnesotans made today's announcement possible through their hard work and perseverance," said Minnesota Department of Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm. "This is a day for us to celebrate the progress, while also recognizing the work that remains to be done. So long as the virus remains a threat to people anywhere it is a threat to people everywhere. That means we need to be watchful and keep up the good work that got us to this point. If you are eligible for a vaccine and haven't received one yet, now is a great time to get one. Your decision helps protect your family, your community, and all Minnesotans."

"Today, we can celebrate the final steps we are taking to reopen our economy," said DEED Commissioner Steve Grove. "Countless businesses and hundreds of thousands of Minnesota employees have made extraordinary sacrifices to keep our communities safe this past year, and today we're taking steps to lift restrictions and begin the path towards normal operations. Let's keep our economy moving by getting out there and supporting the local businesses we love."

Minnesotans can visit VaccineConnector.mn.gov to make a vaccine appointment at a Community Vaccination Program site or use the Find Vaccine Locations map to locate a provider near them.

Executive Order 21-21 was approved on March 15, 2021 by the Minnesota Executive Council, which is made up of Governor Walz, Lt. Governor Flanagan, Attorney General Keith Ellison, Secretary of State Steve Simon, and State Auditor Julie Blaha.

Tune up your tackle box with lead-free tackle

By JANET SMUDE, AITKIN COUNTY SWCD, FOR THE MILLE LACS LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP

Fishing tackle is often made of lead – a toxic metal that can affect the nervous and reproductive systems of mammals and birds. Today there are numerous lead-free options for tackle including tin, bismuth, steel, and more.

Lead can poison wildlife like loons and eagles that inadvertently swallow tackle made from lead. Loons dive to the bottom of lakes in search of stones to grind their food, where they can swallow lead sinkers. Eagles can ingest lead by swallowing fish with a sinker or jig still attached to, or in its body. A fragment of lead no bigger than a grain of rice is enough to kill an eagle. There is almost no bodily function of an animal that isn't adversely affected by lead. It can cause permanent damage to the brain and kidneys, sometimes resulting



in death. Lead is toxic to people too! Non-lead weights are a great choice for kids' tackle boxes. These weights are nontoxic and safer for youngsters to handle. Inexperienced anglers tend to lose the most sinkers, so you'll be reducing the amount of lead left behind. If you lose just one lead sinker each time you go fishing, it adds up thousands of pounds when multiplied by the millions of Minnesotans who enjoy fishing each year.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has a variety of resources relating to lead-free tackle, including a list of manufacturers of lead-free tackle. Check them out at www.pca.state.mn.us/living-green/non-toxic-tackle-get-lead-out.

Ask for lead-free tackle at your local sporting goods or bait and tackle store.

Start the fishing season right by switching to lead-free fishing tackle.



Photo: Carrol Henderson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Stones from the gizzard of a loon that died from lead poisoning

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Deerwood Technologies scholarships

Deerwood Technologies is pleased to announce the presentation of \$500 scholarships to two area graduating seniors – Madilyn Bodle at Crosby-Ironton High School and Justine Johnson at Aitkin High School - both plan to attend

higher education institutions.

To qualify for the scholarship a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better. Applicants are asked to submit an essay of 100 words or less and answer this question: "How can technology benefit disadvantaged individuals, societies and countries?" Applicants also provided a list of their community involvement and volunteer activities. An employee committee "blind referees" student scholarship applications to select annual recipients.

Deerwood Technologies' scholarships are 100% funded through events (recycling drives and other fundraisers)

promoted, coordinated and staffed by employees and their families.

Scholarship payments will be issued to the institution of choice after the student has successfully completed his or her first academic term.



Crosby-Ironton High School student Madilyn Bodle



Aitkin High School student Justine Johnson

Welding students place in skills competition

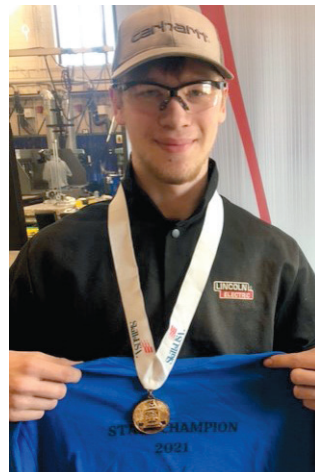
Two Central Lakes College welding students earned top honors in the 2020-21 SkillsUSA Minnesota conference. The competition, held each year, brings welding students from across the state to compete in the individual welding competition.

CLC PSEO student Ethan Strong competed in the high school division. He placed second place, earning a silver medal.

CLC student Caleb Hasbargen competed in the college division and won first place, earning a gold medal. Has-

bargen will now compete at the national leadership conference held in June.

"I am very proud of both the students. Both share a personality of always wanting to improve and make every weld better than the last," said CLC Welding instructor David Otto. "They are what we call 'FILOs', or first in, last out. They are usually the first one to school and the last ones to leave. This is something that employers in our field look for, and the results of their hard work showed at this competition."



CLC student Caleb Hasbargen won first place, earning a gold medal.

Mille Lacs Energy Annual Meeting



The 2021 Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative (MLEC) Annual Meeting was held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 6 at the Grand Casino Mille Lacs. The meeting was a drive-in style and took place outside in the parking lot. Members stayed in their vehicles and

listened to the meeting via radio broadcast. There were 47 registered members in attendance.

The theme for the meeting was "Strength Moving Forward." Members heard comments from Board President, Harold Harms, who talked about MLEC's stability throughout the past year and the cooperative's strengths including its leadership, employees, and wholesale power provider (Great River Energy).

CEO Sarah Cron talked in detail about how MLEC has successfully navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and how the cooperative has given back to members during these unprecedented times.

Cron also discussed the potential new operations center. Lincoln Messner, MLEC Accounting & Finance Manager, gave a summary of the cooperative's financials throughout 2019 & 2020. Members followed along in their Annual Report booklets. An electronic copy can be found at www.mlecmm.net.

Due to the meeting format, members were asked to submit questions ahead of time. Questions regarding solar panels, building a new operations center, and job titles were all addressed live during the broadcast.

Per MLEC Bylaws, Article II, Section 8, Carol Pundt of District 2 and Don Appel of District 5 were re-elected by acclamation.

Bruce Robinson was re-elected in District 6 and Michael Reem re-elected in District 7.

Several door prizes were given away for those in attendance. All prizes were mailed to ensure the safety of members and employees. Prizes included multiple gift cards, bill credits, and Grand Casino gift certificate packages.

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Pharmaceuticals (Pill icon)

Used Oil (Oil drop icon)

Recycling (Recycling symbol icon)

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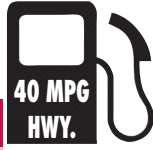




2020 NISSAN VERSA SV CVT

122-hp 1.6-liter DOHC 4-cylinder Engine, Automatic Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Detection, Rear Automatic Braking, Lane Departure Warning, High Beam Assist, RearView Monitor, Bluetooth, Hands-free Phone System, Bluetooth Streaming Audio, Cruise Control, Nissan Advanced Air Bag System, Apple CarPlay - Android Auto, Blind Spot Warning Rear Cross Traffic Alert, SiriusXM Radio, Intelligent Driver Alertness, Advanced Voice Recognition and Much More.

VIN: 3N1CN8EV6LL849206
 Stock Number: 4N200067
 Model Year: 2020
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 Stock Number: N210025
 Model Year: 2021
 Model Code: 22011



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