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

Roundabout meeting

Vol. 22 · Issue 44

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

Sat., October 30, 2021



LLCC FISH FRY **FUNDRAISER** Page 2

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Crow Wing County is hosting a public information meeting to discuss the intersection improvement project at the junction of State Highway 210 and County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 31 in Crosby. at

6:00 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 9

at the Crosby City Hall (2 2nd

St SW, Crosby, MN 56441.)

Improvements will consist of a roundabout intersection and lane reconfiguration along CSAH 31. Project construction is scheduled for the summer of 2023.

This project will seek to

improve a variety of well documented challenges that are located at the existing junction. This will be accomplished by using current safety design standards, best management environmental practices, and working cooperatively with State and Local Agencies.

The meeting will begin with an introduction to the project, followed by public comment. Maps and other pertinent information relating to this project will be available for public view.













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The Hamilton and Johnson family and friends enjoyed pumpkin carving on a sunny autumn afternoon in rural McGregor.



Lillian Johnson and Eiley Kaehler finish the day as pumpkin heads. Sarah Hamilton Johnson photo

Gobblers trounce Pequot Lakes

By ANN SCHWARTZ

The Aitkin Gobbler football team and Coach Alan Hills soundly defeated the Pequot Lakes Patriots 32 to 0 in Section 7A quarterfinal action this week in Aitkin.

Early in the first quarter, Zack MacDonald set the stage by scoring on an interception. A two-point conversion sealed the deal for the 8 to 0 early lead.

There was a series of great plays by the Gobblers and

misfires by the Patriots, who turned over the ball on downs deep in Gobbler territory and failed to score in the first half. The teams took the halftime break with the Gobblers' lead at 16 to 0.

In the second half, Jackson MacDonald pulled off a second interception and there were many spectacular running plays by the Gobblers. Once again, Pequot fell apart when coming anywhere near the goal line. The Gobblers'

ended up killing time for the last two minutes, with the roaring crowd brought on by Jack MacDonald. The Aitkin Quarterbacks supplied free tickets to all Aitkin 7 to 12th graders to fill the stands. The ending score was 32 to 0 in favor of the Gobblers.

The Gobblers play Saturday, October 30, at 2 p.m. at Aitkin's Veterans' Field. It should be a great match-up, with #2 Gobblers facing the #3 Two Harbors.

Famous Phenologist highlight of Long Lake Fish Fry Fundraiser

Long Lake Conservation Center is hosting Phenology Fish Fry with John Latimer on Saturday, November 13.

The event includes an hour and a half nature hike through Long Lake, including our sphagnum bog, led by John Latimer, one of the region's best and

most beloved phenologists. After the nature hike, guests can enjoy comradery with other nature lovers before sitting down for a classic Minnesota fall feast: fried Red Lake walleye with locally harvested wild rice, plus salad, bread and dessert. The hike begins at 4 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m.

Admission is \$40 per per-



Long Lake Conservation Center's Phenology Fish Fry Fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 13

son and is limited to the first 125. All proceeds will go towards scholarships so students can attend nature school at Long Lake. The event is made possible thanks to support of the Long Lake Conservation Foundation, a 501(C)3 that supports Long Lake Conservation Center.

For nature lovers, or outdoor enthusiasts, Latimer

needs no introduction. As a mail carrier in rural Grand Rapids, Minn., for 35 years, he has passed the time by observing and recording seasonal changes in nature, learning everything he could about the area's weather, plants and animals, and becoming an icon among area naturalists. Latimer hosts a popular weekly Phenology show on KAXE radio.

The Phenology Fish Fry with John Latimer is part of Long Lake's autumn fundraising campaign that also includes the Nature 4 Kids Scholarship Fundraiser.

For more information, go to https://www.longlakecc. org/phenology-fish-fry, or contact Dave McMillan at 218-768-4653 or dave@ longlakecc.org.



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- Free oil recycling at the landfill and several drop-off locations within the County. Visit our webpage for drop-off locations: www.crowwing.us and search "oil."
- Demolition materials may be disposed in the demolition landfill for a fee Large appliances, electronics, tires with or
- without rims, scrap metals, glass, and plastic can be disposed at the site for a nominal fee for

To schedule an appointment or for questions please call 218-824-1290.





3

READER RIBBETS

Aitkin schools capital projects levy

The 2021-22 school year is in full swing with students back in class and participating in a wide range of activities. Like the rest of our community, I wish the threat of the pandemic was behind us, but we will continue to manage as effectively as we can to keep our students safe and in the classroom for the full year.

You may have noticed that the school board and administration have been addressing a number of important decisions impacting the financial future of the Aitkin school district. This has been part of a year-long effort to stabilize our finances, invest in needed facility improvements and make a longrange plan for the district.

Most rural school districts in Minnesota are facing the same challenge as Aitkin. With the overwhelming majority of funding for school district operations coming from the State of Minnesota, we are forced to adapt when enrollment drops or when other state priorities impact education funding. Our school district receives \$1 million less each year from the state than we did three years ago, and inflation has worsened that gap. Since a school district cannot deficit spend, we have to roll up our sleeves and balance our general fund every year, no matter how much state funding

has declined. During my time as superintendent, we have annually cut programs and/or staff positions. I believe that a fundamental part of my job is to manage the budget well. However, I am also certain that continual cuts will threaten our mission of empowering students to be life-long learners and successful in their careers. A plan to stabilize our budget issues is critical for our district's future.

We now have that plan. Thanks to federal COVID-relief grants, we can address the financial impact of the pandemic on our schools with investments in improved HVAC and temporarily restoring a few staff positions. These funds are one-time grants, so we need to be careful that our investments won't simply delay difficult budget decisions for a few more years.

We have also proposed a 10-year capital projects levy, which will be decided by voters as a November referendum. The capital projects levy will allow us to make needed repairs in our schools, update technology, invest in career and technical education and return to a regular bus replacement schedule. You can learn more about this plan at allfor1aitkin.org.

Why a capital projects levy? Two reasons. First, we can use this levy for some expenses that would often require funding from our general fund, which will reduce the chances of a future deficit. Second, a capital projects levy spreads the property tax impact more evenly across more types of property. The tax impact on homeowners will be 60% less than with an operating levy, which is the most common type of general fund levy used by school

districts. If approved, the owner of an average-valued home in the city of Aitkin will see a \$3.00 per month increase from this referendum, while those in the remainder of Aitkin County will see a \$6.00 increase, primarily because of the higher value of homes in those areas.

Local voters will decide whether to approve this levy on Nov. 2. With approval, we believe we will have a financial

Combined polling places for school district elections for the Aitkin School District capital projects

Aitkin, Farm Island, Hazelton, Morrison, Nordland, Spencer Townships and unorganized territory in

City of Palisade, Fleming, Libby (West), Logan, Verdon, Waukenabo, and Workman Townships and

Aitkin County; and Dean Lake, Deerwood, Rabbit Lake, and Ross Lake Townships in Crow Wing County.

plan in place that can sustain us for the next several years. If voters reject the referendum. significant budget cuts will be necessary next year to avoid a deficit, which would likely mean losing eight to 12 teaching positions.

But this financial plan isn't the end of our work. Over the next few years, the school district needs to implement plans to stabilize and increase enrollment. We have a great story to tell, and working with our community leaders, we are confident we can help attract new families and businesses to this area once our budget is stabilized.

Finally, the school board is working on a long-term master plan for the property the school district owns just southeast of the city of Aitkin. I believe it was wise for the district to have made the land investment, but I also agree that the uncertainty about any future use of this land has been confusing to residents. The board has spent the past six months looking at preliminary versions of a plan for that land, but any final land-use decisions will not be made without extensive community input. If that land is to be used for school buildings down the road, it will require voters to approve a plan through another referendum.

There are a number of issues being discussed by the school board and the administration. All of this work is focused on one goal-provide a great education for the students who live in this area. If you have questions about any parts of this plan, please call me at dstifter@ isd1.org or at (218) 927-7100.

Thank you. Dan Stifter, Superintendent **Aitkin Public Schools**

Your voice matters

It is with great appreciation and humility to everyone supporting the letter campaign against Walz and others. Thank you. It is wonderful you're like minded, but that is not enough. Your voice needs to be heard; it can't come from one source. There is zero productivity when you attend meetings and the meeting becomes your only involvement, you must act outside the meeting and have the confidence like-minded people are acting too. Sadly, most are not acting outside of the meeting. It's like filing anonymous complaints or sending anonymous letters hoping someone else will stick their neck out for you. If it is important to you, your neck must be on the line. Using anonymity is cowardly, weakens the soul, and turns your cause to worthless whining.

Stand up, speak up, we the people are in charge and if our elected officials refuse to listen, we get louder, not violent, but louder, that is when your voice matters. Elected officials are afraid of public opinion, they know when it's bad, the chances of remaining in office are dramatically reduced, even hopeless, and most resign their position.

Your frustration is real, it needs to be heard, tell those you are frustrated with, don't hand off your issues, deal with them, write your own letter, make your own demands. The intention is to fix things that are broken, stop the abuse of power, loss of integrity, and make sure the public trust works for all. If by chance we don't agree with the issues, or the methods, it is not a deal breaker. We must stand united against all forms of abuse of power, violation of the public trust, and hold elected officials accountable or remove them from office...

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood

October

30th - Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo Holiday Bazaar and Raffle, 9am-1pm, along with a cookie walk, bake sale and lunch: creamy turkey sandwiches, chips, bar, and a drink (available to go too!)

30th - Downtown Brainerd Spooktacular! Monster Mash Flash Mob Dance led by Spirit Movement Dance Studio at 11am. All costumed children are welcome to learn how to Monster Mash in the ally adjacent to Bargains on 7th, then at 11:30am, groove down south 7th St. along to the Monster Mash to kick off trick or treating. Kids can stop by the Spooktacular Kids Activity Area on south 7th St. to paint pumpkins, play in a pumpkin sensory zone, decorate cookies, drink hot apple cider plus more, and enjoy live music by Bruce Archer from noon-3pm.

30th - Trunk or Treat with Prizes 4-6 p.m. Jacobson Park and Recreation Area

30th - Northland Arboretum Low Scare Trail 4-6 p.m. \$5 per person.

30th - Nisswa Fire Department Haunted Barn and Hayride 5-7 pm Not So Scary and 7-9pm Scary; bonfire, games and concessions

30th - Aitkin Moose Lodge 1060 at 7:30pm, live music by Electric Steel, costumes encouraged. Moose members no charge/public \$5 cover. 31st - Halloween Trunk-or-Treat in Ironton 2-4 p.m. outside the Ironton Fire Hall located at 309 Third Street

in Ironton sponsored by the Ironton Fire Department Auxiliary. Then return for the Halloween Spooky Maze 5-8pm. Travel through the maze until you reach the end for free cookies and beverage 31st - Halloween Trunk-or-Treat at First Lutheran Church, Aitkin, 2-6pm with 4pm brats and hot dogs.

31st - Lions Halloween Trick-or-Treat 2-4 pm at Schaefer's Food Parking Lot, 3962 Smiley Road, Nisswa free hot dogs and candy given out to those 12 and younger. 31st - Trick or Treat at the Aitkin Moose Lodge 1060 at 3-6pm free hot dogs, chips and candy.

31st - Hill City Community Trunk-or-Treat 4 -7pm on 204 Main Street, Palisade

31st - Palisade Trunk-or-Treat 4 p.m. on Lake Avenue, Hill City

31st - Light of the Cross Lutheran Church in Garrison Trunk & Treat event from 4-7pm. Come and see the goblins and witches and get some goodies.

31st - Members of the Cuyuna Fire Department and the Cuyuna Police Department will hand out candy at the Cuyuna Fire Hall to trick-or-treaters 4-8 pm. The fire hall is located at 24849 Minnesota Avenue

31st - Trick or Treat at the Deerwood Fire Hall 4-8 pm.

31st - Trunks for Treats at Salem Lutheran Church parking lot in Deerwood 4:30-6 p.m. There will be decorated trucks and hot dogs and treats. The event will also include an "All Saints Day" area for remembering loved ones who have passed away.

31st - Trunk-or-Treat at the Emily Fire Hall on County Road 1. Walk along the decorated "trunks" for candy, and enjoy a hot dog, chips water, hot cocoa, bonfire, games and prizes. Treat bags are provided by the Outing Area Chamber.

31st - Crosslake Lutheran Church Trunk 'n Treat at 5pm. There will also be a bounce house and there will be games inside in the church Fellowship Hall.

31st - Žion Lutheran Church Trunk-or-Treat 5-7 p.m. 220 N 8th St #3402, Brainerd

31st - Hot chocolate and candy at the Crosby Fire Hall 5-8 pm.

31st - Halloween at CRMC in Crosby. Children can roam along the Spooktacular Candy Trail at 5 p.m. up to the main entrance of CRMC's Care Center in Crosby. Children age 10 and younger are welcome to trick-or-treat outside of each resident's room and greet them through their festively decorated windows. 31st - Trick or Treat at the Crosby Police Station starting at 5:30 pm. November

5th - Cromwell Hunter's Supper at the Cromwell Area Community Club 4-7pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion: turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, roll and pumpkin pie. Tickets for this event are \$12 for adults; \$5 Ages 5-10; and 4 and under free. All proceeds go towards Cromwell community improvement. Remember – you don't have to be a hunter to attend!

5th & 6th - Friends of the Aitkin Library Book Sale 9-3 All hardcover books are \$1 each, and everything else is \$.50 each. Bag sale on Saturday afternoon - all you can fit in a bag for \$3.

Computer program

Palisade Fire Hall, 109 1st Avenue NW, Palisade-

Com.unorganized territory in Aitkin County

levy on Tuesday, Nov. 2 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. are as follows:

Glen-Kimberly Town Hall, 32631 Dam Lake Street, Aitkin-

Journey North Community Church, 810 2nd Street NW, Aitkin-

Avelsgard letters every week for the last month or two, I might be wrong but I think that Kelly Avelsgard is a pseudonym for a computer program. A fairly competent programmer could write a program that would turn out a letter comparable to the Avelsgard letters without

After reading the Kelly breaking a sweat. For example:

Glen, Kimberly, Lakeside, Lee, Malmo and Wealthwood Townships in Aitkin County

Who = (Goddard, Walz, CRMC, CDC, etc)

What = (evil, greedy, bi-

ased, incompetent, etc.) Should = (retire, quit, be

fired, get sued, etc.) Connectors = (is, and, also,

therefore, etc.) and so on.

Most first year programmers could write a short program that would choose one (or more) from each category and flesh them out with appropriate statements. There you'd have your typical Avelsgard letter.

What do you think folks? Jim Lease, Deerwood







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OBITUARIES

IOLA OLSON

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Iola F. Olson, 87, of Hutchinson died on Sunday, Oct.17, 2021, at Harmony River Living Center in Hutchinson. Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, November 27, 2021, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Lions Park Pavilion in Victoria. Iola Fay Olson was born on

August 6, 1934, in Staples. She was the daughter of Roy and Eleanor (Hodges) Nichols. She was a graduate with the Crosby-Ironton High School class of 1952. On January 11, 1953, Iola married Axel Olson in Deerwood. They resided in Deerwood, Tipton CA, Mountain Iron, Hinkley and made their home in Hutchinson in 1973. They moved to Garrison for 20 years during retirement before moving back to Hutchinson. Iola and Axel

shared 60 years of marriage until the passing of Axel on November 25, 2013, lola was employed as a secretary at various businesses and also playing the piano and organ for Bethlehem United Methodist of Hutchinson, Community Alliance and Light of the Cross Lutheran in Garrison. She was a member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church in Hutchinson.

Iola is survived by her sons and daughters-inlaw: Steven and Sharon Olson, Brad and Susan Olson, Mark and Kathy Olson, Kevin and Jodi Olson and Scott and Luci Olsoni; 15 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren and three siblings. Iola was preceded in death by her parents; hus-

band, Axel Olson; brother, Elmore Nichols (Nick). Arrangements were by the Dobratz-Hantge Funeral Chapel in Hutchinson. Online obituaries and guest book available at www.hantge.com.

JUDY LONG



Judy Ann (Carlson) Long, 76, of Aitkin, formerly of Fridley, died Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, at Riverwood Healthcare Center in Aitkin.

Due to COVID, the family has decided on memorial service to be held at a later date. She was born September

27, 1945 in Rochester to Ramon Cecil and Ruth Vivian (Rock) Carlson. She graduated from Fridley High School in 1964, and St. Cloud State in 1968. Judy married Gerald Donald Long. After teaching for several years she became a stay-at-home mom until her daughters were in school and then eventually retired from Fridley Schools in 2005. Gerry retired soon after and they moved north to their home on Farm Island Lake. Judy is survived by her husband of 48 years Gerry; daughters and sons-in-law: Jennifer and Jeff Koroll and Janel and Mike Boyle; three grandsons; sisters and brothers-in-law: Vickie and Mike Mass, and Paula and Les Reil; brother: Jeff Carlson; sisters-in-law: Lisa and Lori Long;brothers-in-law: Mark and Dennis Long; eight nieces and nephews; and seven grandnieces and grandnephews.

She was preceded in death by father Ramon Carlson, mother Ruth (Rock) Carlson, and brother Neil Carlson.

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

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BRUCE BLOMBERG



Bruce Harvey Blomberg, 50, of McGregor died Friday, Oct. 22, 2021 at his residence in McGregor.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Friday, October 29, 2021 at Aitkin United Methodist Church with Pastor Dawn Houser officiating. Visitation

was one hour prior to the service at the church. He was born March 23, 1971 to Harvey Duane and Judith Aileen (Thorne) Blomberg. He graduated from Aitkin High School, Class of 1989. Bruce was employed at Ukura's Big Dollar in McGregor as a meat cutter. He thought of his coworkers as family and was very proud to be a part of the McGregor Community. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, bowling, darts, softball, watching Minnesota Sports, and singing karaoke. Bruce was a "Jack of all trades" mechanic and woodworker. He was a member of the Aitkin United Methodist Church.

Bruce is survived by his parents: Harvey & Judith Blomberg; brother and sister-in-law, Bradley and Debra Blomberg of New York Mills; sisters and brothers-in-law: Brenda and Mike Dahl of Roseau, Bethanie Ambuehl and Rick Meyer of McGregor, Barbara Blomberg of Aitkin; nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

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

HAROLD O'BRIEN



Harold Raymond O'Brien, 88, of Outing died on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021 at his home. Funeral Services were held

1:00 p.m. Friday, October 29, 2021 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Outing. Burial was at the Pine Ridge Cemetery in Emily. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the church

He was born on March 15, 1933 in Shovel Lake to Melvin and Margaret (Beto) O'Brien. In May of 1953, Harold was drafted into the U.S. Army. After serving in Korean and Japan, Harold was discharged in April of 1955. On June 1. 1957 he married Milea Mathilda Nichols, Harold was a member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church

on Fridav.

in Outing; the Fifty Lake-Crosslake American Legion, Post 500; and the AARP. Harold was an avid hunter, and was a member of the Outing Gun Club, serving 20 years as President; and was life member of the NRA. In 2002 he participated on the Village Inn Trap League Team. Harold is survived by two sons: Allen O'Brien

of Outing and Raymond O'Brien of Minneapolis; two daughters: Robin O'Brien of Remer and Lin Winters of Fort Sill, OK; sister, Mary Blanchard of Blaine; and brother, Robert O'Brien of Brainerd; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Preceding Harold in death are his parents; wife

Milea; four brothers: Charlie, Joe, Eugene and Dan O'Brien; three sisters, Helen Holt, Loretta Olds and Dorothy Pfluger; one grandson, Toby O'Brien and one great-grandson.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

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CHURCH DIRECTOR

40

* 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 - Interim Pastor Mark Boone; Sunday Morning Service 10.

Crosby — Pastor Dustin McCaleb; Worship 10:30 Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espe

at 9:30, Worship at 10:45 Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; hillcityagchurch@gmail.com; 218-697-2662

Palisade — Pastor Ed Sornberger; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

Aitkin - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617. Worship 10:30, theiournevnorth.com

Baxter - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines. 218-824-5617, Worship Saturday 5, Sunday 9 & 10:30, 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. aitkinchurch.com 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. Gabriel Waweru, Sat.4:30; Sun.

10:00 and St. Mathias Sunday 8:00. Brainerd — St. Francis, Fr. Michael Garry, 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. 8, Fri. 8, Sun 8:30 & 10:30 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; Con-

fession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101. Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Anthony Craig, Mass Wed. 9 & Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5

pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483 Hillman — Holy Family; Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only

through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt. McGregor - Holy Family, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8 am. Confession 7:15-7:45 am.

Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Baxter, Lakes Area — Nondenominational; 7001 Highland Scenic Road; Bible Study every Wed. 7 pm; Worship 10:30-11:30. 218-828-1362

Tamarack — Pastor Terry Banker, 608-475-1528, Worship 9:30; SS 10:45; Wed Youth 4 pm.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10

COMMUNITY

Aitkin - Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959

Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene-Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10:45, SS 9:30 -16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005 Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9

Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30;

Wed. BS 6:30 pm Jacobson — Jacobson Community Church, Pastor George Collins, 218-252-5938, Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm Kimberly - Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult

Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256. McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 10: 99 South 1st Street (at the McGregor United Methodist church [shared] in downtown McGregor) Pastor Joel

McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm.

Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ron Christenson; Service 11 & 6 pm. Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536. Merrifield — Ossipee Community, SS 10; Service 11; Wed.

Bible Study Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Richie Bean; Service 10; Fellowship 9:30-10

Outing* - Narrows Community Church, Pastor Kenny Holm, 218-792-5530 Worship 9:30; 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy. 6 bridge

Palisade/Waukenabo Twp. — 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.

EPISCOPAL

Aitkin — St. John's, Holy Communion or Morning Prayer 9 Brainerd* — St. Paul's, Rev. Joyce A. Rush. In-person worship service at 10 am Sunday. Online at 5 pm Saturday. Call the church 219-829-3834 and leave a message with email to receive a Zoom invitation.

EVANGELICAL FREE

Baxter - Lakewood EFC, Pastor Matt Nagel; Worship at 9:00 and 10:45. Wednesday 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;

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

Aitkin - Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun each month.

Aitkin - (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton; worship Sun. 8am, and 10am (10am service also available via livestream on YouTube - First Lutheran Church, Aitkin and broadcast on KKIN 94.3 FM radio), Wed. 5:30pm with supper; Sun. school at 9am, take out community meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9am-4p

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.princeofpeacelutheran.church Beaver Township -

Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun., 10:30. Brainerd* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at www.

goodshepherdfreelutheran.church, 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052 Brainerd - Laestadian Lutheran Church; 1501 So. 8th St. Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. (www.llchurch.org) Brainerd - Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th

Street Brainerd - Pastor Hans Anderson Worship times September through May are 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Summer Worship time is 9:00 a.m. Phone: 218-829-5147 Website: www.trinitybrainerd.org Email: trinity@trinitybrainerd.org

Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9 Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Cedarbrook - St. John's (ELCA); Worship 8:30; Holy

Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun. Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson;

Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40. Crosby —Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7 pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910

 $Crosslake -- (ELCA) \ www.crosslake luther an.com ~218-692-$ 3682 Kristin Oltmann, Pastor • Kurt Hagestuen, Pastor Labor Day-Mem. Day: Sun. 9:30am, Wed. 6:15pm Mem. Day-Labor Day: Sun. Indoor 8:30am, Outdoor 10am14019 Daggett Pine Rd

Crosslake - Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Leslie Uhrinak; Worship 9:30 with every Sunday Communion, Fellowship 10:30, Adult Bible Class 11, 218-692-4228, www.missionofthecross.org

Deerwood — Salem (ELCA). Pastor Michael Briggs: Worship: 9; Sunday School 9:15.

Garrison - Light of the Cross (ELCA), Pastor Juli Sutton-Deem: Worship 9 SS 9: 320-692-4773 or 877-406-9101. Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (LCMS), Rev. Tom Petersen. Worship 10 with Communion Every Sunday. Adult Bible Study 8:30am, Sunday School Sept-May, 8:30am. Fellowship 11am. 320-692-4581. www.shepherdofthelake.org. Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month

Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor M. Eckert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.

Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9:30, SS 10. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)

Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 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.

lachen Rd.; Worship 9:00 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and Bible study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N) Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9 (winter) 8:30 & 10 (summer); Fellowship after first service; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.

Lake Shore — Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Inter-

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

McGrath - Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (ELCA), Pastor Ericka Foss; Worship 9, Fellowship

follows, SS 10. McGregor — Our Savior's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua

C. Reinke; Worship 9; SS 10; Bible Study Tue. 9, Wed. 7 pm Outing — Our Saviors ELCA; Pastor Peter Rosenkvist,

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

Brainerd-Remnant Ministry Center, Pastor Ben Davis, Worship service is Sunday at 10am, 512 S 8th St., Suite 2, 218-829-2989.

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

REFORMED

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.

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* — Aitkin - Pastor Dawn Houser; Worship 10 am, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible & Brew, Facebook live. Crosby/Deerwood* — Cascade, Reverend Dr. Genia Garrett;

Worship 9:45; fellowship follows. Cutler — Pine Lake Chapel, Worship 9, fellowship follows. Cromwell — Pastor Tim Homstad; Worship 10; SS 9

Emily* — Pastors Luke and Bethany Nelson; Worship 8:30; fellowship follows. Fleming* — (Northern Lights Parish) SS 9:15; Worship

10:30; fellowship follows. Hill City — Pastor Roger Lynn; Worship 10

3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

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-

WESLEYAN

Emily — Rev. Jason Gressman; Worship 9; Friendship Time 10; SS 10:30; Wed. Activities 6:30 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.

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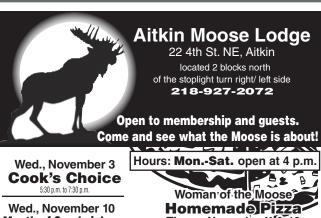


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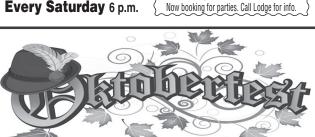
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Warm cheerful attitudes at Ruttger's Oktoberfest despite cool temps



Friends Diane Toner and Sarah Cheny were pretty in pink plaids and "Best Weekend Ever" hats. Ann Schwartz photos

By ANN SCHWARTZ

The autumn day dawned bright, nippy on Tuesday, Oct. 23 with no wind or rain in sight.

People responded in droves and descended on Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort for the Oktoberfest Weekend. For many, meeting up with particular friends and family is a special part of this autumn tradition. Cries of greetings were heard and hugs witnessed.

In speaking to some fest-goers, it was apparent that locals were in short supply and many made the trip from Twin Cities or further afield to drink beer in the open air, listen to polka dance music, mingle, and visit pop-up stores and sales in the Bay Lake Village.

"I am from Serpent Lake and

my friend is from Little Rock and we have been dear friends for a long time," said Diane Toner and Sarah Cheney.

Karen Novak of New Brighton, came up especially for this fall tradition in Minnesota. She carried a unique and



Kim Novak of New Brighton was excited to spend the day with family members. Her artistic walking stick helped her navigate the grounds.

classy carved walking stick. Another group of four related women: Vicki from Elgin; Lisa, Aitkin; Kensey, Elgin and Kay, Plainview. were resplendent in buffalo plaid.

So much so that Jimbo from St. Louis Park wanted to meet the women and show off his own plaid duds.



Paul Trevy from Bay Lake was enthusiastic.

Paul Trevy from Bay Lake was one of the few in full



Jack Ruttger was festively dressed including his Tyrole-

Jack Ruttger, 91, made his way around greeting folks and



The buffalo plaid gals: Vicki, Lisa, Kensey and Kay celebrate Ruttger's Oktoberfest in style.

sporting a Tyrolean hat.

"I am Weston Hershey, 25, Edina. I drove to my friend's cabin to attend Oktoberfest." said Hershey, visiting a jewelry booth.

Michael Dowe, 26, was also at a buddy's cabin in the Bay Lake area. "Everything is beautiful, "Dowe enthused. "I love the camaraderie of all the folks and fall in Minnesota. The pop-up shops are great and the cold beer is an extra bonus."

There were many grandpar-

ent types to be seen along with young parents and toddlers and small children. However, middle-level children like my 9-year-old granddaughter were scarce and even more so teens like my 14-year-old grandson.

However, the kids enjoyed people-watching, treats and a snapping bonfire.

There is a special feeling in the air to have seasonal festivals revived—giving us time to make memories with friends and family once again.



Jimbo from St Louis Park must have gotten the buffalo plaid "memo" too.



Weston and Michael enjoyed a weekend away from the Twin Cities.

Aitkin American Legion donates



Sandy Judge, of "Never Surrender Inc" is shown accepting a donation of \$715 from Lori Croaston, Paula Bellin and Barb Jones. The funds were raised during the 16th annual fall bus tour sponsored by the Aitkin American Legion.

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