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Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club operates like a business



This fall before the snow flew the Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club accepted delivery of a new Pisten Bully groomer. From left Trail Coordinator Dean Fisher, Club President Steve Pearson and Shop Manager Al Pearson. Photo from Mille Lacs Trails.

By ANN SCHWARTZ

In anticipation of the snow season, Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club accepted their new Pisten Bully Groomer in October 2021.

"It cost about \$250,000," explained Trail Coordinator Dean Fisher of the club. It has two tracks on it, rather than four, Fisher explained, so they can go over swamps and creeks with it without getting stuck.

To maintain their 150 miles of trails, they have a full fleet maintained by Al Pearson. There is an old pickup truck, a gooseneck trailer, three groomers, two snowmobiles, two ATVs and a skid steer with a grapple, bucket and brush-cutter attachments.

"Al Pearson keeps everything going unless it is a major repair," Fisher explained. For example, the 300-plus mile pickup needs

a transmission and that will be outsourced.

Social and recreational purpose

The snowmobile club is a leader in the social life in the Glen Malmo area. They just finished a Santa event for families and in February they will have a meet and greet with hot food and drink to attract snowmobilers to their Fred White Memorial Shelter. They also teach snowmo-

bile safety classes for youths and give donations from to many charitable causes in the area.

"We fund our operations through a yearly Minnesota Grant in Aid trail grant and from pull tabs sales around the Mille Lacs Lake and Aitkin areas."

They give a substantial amount of their proceeds away to children's programs of all kinds, veterans, people with a health crisis and many other needs in the area.

For example, in the charitable gambling report filed in December 2020, they sold \$5.3 million in pull tabs in the previous year. Of that, prizes were over \$4.5 million, netting \$835,156. Allowable club expenses totaled \$449,150 plus \$2,450. Charitable giving was \$88,962. Taxes and fees took an additional \$270,483, leaving the club with \$107,723 of retained cash.

Grooming

It is a gargantuan job for Fisher and Joe Emory to maintain the trails. The 150 miles is more like double that due to having to go over areas forward and back. "We usually go out early in the morning or at night," Fisher explained.

"The shortest run takes about four hours and the long one can be up to 12 hours."

Their trails meet up with those of other clubs: Aitkin Sno Drifters, Mille Lacs DriftSkippers and Tamarack Sno-Flyers.

They would like to see 8 or 12 inches of snow for a good base. This year, as of press time, there was less than eight inches of snow on the ground. The groomers were pulling a packer wheel behind a four wheeler and packing everything down first.

Grooming is rather lonely and perilous with creeks and swamp water all over the routes. "We cut the ice with a chainsaw that is marked by inches and we want at least 12 inches of ice to put the groomer over it," noted Fisher.

Preparing the trails, volunteers cut away "faceslapper" branches and remove brush. Trees are cut at the base and later removed by the skid steer. Over 30 volunteers get a free breakfast for helping out.

"We really appreciate that land owners that let our trails go over their land," said Fisher.

Continued on Page 2

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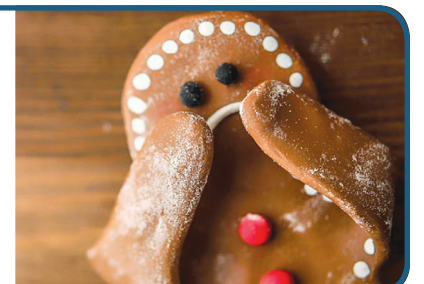
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Chief Jesse Smith (left) and Sergeant Joe Garcia of the City of Cuyuna Police Department.

New radar units put Cuyuna police communication on the fast track

The Cuyuna Police Department's radar unit was sorely in need of an upgrade. The unit was nearly 30 years old and its aging technology affected accuracy and frequently experienced interference. Through Community Match Funds, the department upgraded to a state-of-the-art 800mhz, digital-encrypted squad radio, antenna radar, and office-base radio.

"It was like going from a Pinto to a BMW," said Chief Jesse Smith, Cuyuna Police Department. "People who love radar, love running this new unit. The smart tech allows the ability to track speed from front or back and it transitions automatically to moving or not moving."

The technology upgrade was especially timely as it corresponded with major state highway detours in the area, which routed additional traffic through Cuyuna for several months during the summers of 2020 and 2021. The detours brought increased public safety concerns due to impatient drivers.

"We really appreciate Sourcewell's support in making this happen," said Chief Smith. "This radar was extremely important—a huge deal in allowing us to do our jobs effectively. We're so happy it could happen now, instead of having to budget for years for it to happen. Now we can do our jobs

much more effectively."

The Cuyuna Fire Department is currently transitioning to the new radio system, which is also used by the Crow Wing County Sheriff.

In addition to the public-safety benefits of monitoring the roadways, the new technology allows the Cuyuna officers opportunities to engage in conversations about it with area residents. As they demonstrate the improved capabilities of the technology, the officers can build relationships with the community—explaining that they pursued acquiring this new technology because ensuring the safety of the community they serve is of utmost importance.

DNR certifies new muskie record



Nolan Sprengeler (left) of Plymouth and Kevin Kray of Otsego hold the state-record muskie after Sprengeler caught it Monday, Nov. 22, on Lake Mille Lacs. Nolan Sprengeler photo

An angler caught a muskellunge weighing 55 pounds, 14 ounces, from Mille Lacs Lake that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has certified as a weight-based state record. The previous record was a 54-pound muskie caught from Lake Winnibigoshish in 1957. Although news of the fish has spread quickly in the news and social media, a

record is not official until the certification process is complete.

Nolan Sprengeler caught the muskie on Nov. 22, with friends Kevin Kray and Zack Skoglund. Their plan was to fish the afternoon until after moonrise, which was about 8 p.m. After some delay due to low water and frozen water at accesses, they eventually broke some ice to get Sprengeler's boat in the

water after sunset.

"On our last spot of the evening at about 9 p.m., I felt a tap on the end of my line. I fought the fish to the boat and Kevin Kray netted it for me. The fish measured 57.75 inches by 29 inches," Sprengeler said. "After trying to revive the fish for about an hour we realized she wasn't going to make it. We made the decision to bring the fish in to get weighed on a certified scale."

Sprengeler brought the fish to be weighed on a certified scale with witnesses the next morning, had it identified at a DNR Fisheries office, and then dropped off his catch with a taxidermist.

The DNR announces new state records in news releases, on social media and on the DNR website. Find current records and guidelines for each type of state record at mndnr.gov/recordfish.

Long Lake scholarship fundraising

After emerging from a COVID-forced shutdown and facing continuing pandemic-related challenges, Long Lake Conservation Center launched Nature 4 Kids, a scholarship fundraising campaign that runs through the end of the year.

The fundraiser asks individuals, businesses and civic organizations to donate scholarships so that children can attend nature school field trips or summer adventure camps. These scholarships will directly allow children in need to experience nature, as well as offset costs for budget-strapped schools.

"If you are one of the hundreds of thousands of people who has been impacted by Long Lake, we hope that you will pay it forward so that another generation of young people can learn to love and respect nature," Long Lake

Manager Dave McMillan said. "With your help, Long Lake has a bright future."

Scholarships allow students to attend Long Lake for outdoor adventure camps, daylong excursions, or traditional three-day, two-night immersive nature school field trips. These field trips are active, hands-in-the-dirt, hiking, digging, skiing, connect-with-your-world explorations of nature and our role in it.

"When you donate a scholarship, you are truly giving the gift of nature to a young person," McMillan said.

Since reopening in June after being closed for nearly a year and a half, Long Lake has welcomed schools from around the state, and hosted firearm safety training courses, as well as various retreats, reunions and meetings. Though the reopening was smooth, the lingering

effects of the pandemic can still be felt. A dozen schools cancelled their normal trip to Long Lake due to COVID, representing a loss of more than 33% of total revenue, McMillan said.

Long Lake is an enterprise of Aitkin County, but is self-funded. Though it receives support and services from the county, it is not designed to receive taxpayer dollars. The fundraiser was made possible by the Long Lake Conservation Foundation, a 501(c)3 that supports the Conservation Center's mission of environmental education and in particular, the teaching of wise-use of our natural resources. All gifts are tax deductible.

If you would like to donate to Long Lake, go to llcfoundation.org/scholarships, or contact Long Lake at 218-768-4653.

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Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club | Continued from Page 1

er. "We usually thank them with a gift card to a local business.

New groomer

The club traded in a

used Tucker groomer to get \$115,000 toward the Pisten Bully. Fisher has been grooming trails for six years and learned on the job and from his predecessor. There are a lot of elements to weigh such as ice, not getting stuck, waiting till roads and driveways are plowed before grooming and the risky grooming of

ditches along Hwy. 47.

The Club has over 200 members with family memberships and welcomes new members. It takes a fleet of vehicles and gadgets and a crew, supported by scores of volunteers, to keep snowmobile trails groomed so riders can have fun on the weekends.

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READER RIBBETS

Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

The Minnesota Office of Management and Budget announced a whopping \$7.746 billion surplus for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 biennium. The FY 2022-23 biennium began this past July 1st and runs through June 30th, 2023. \$7.746 billion is the largest projected budget surplus ever in the state's history.

The \$7.746 billion figure includes a carry-forward of \$3.1 billion from excess tax collections in the previous 2-year state budget. The remainder of the surplus is indeed a forecast, representing the projected difference between future tax collections and authorized state agency spending during this biennium.

The \$7.746 number is not the whole story. The state also carries \$2.656 billion in the emergency reserve account, a \$350 million balance in the cash flow account, and about a \$312 million balance in the stadium reserve account.

True to form

I recently asked someone to give Crosby a break, or at least tell both sides of a story when they write. I asked about documents he alludes to, but never discloses. I wondered about his qualifications for assessing other people's job performances, and I was very curious as to how he judges moral high ground. Evidently, I hit a nerve. Instead of addressing any of those issues, the response was ranting sarcasm, personal attacks, and vague warnings. This person will not give his credentials, but he was quick to question mine.

As for using accurate, verified information, I've been reading this paper for years, not months. I am also unaware that credentials were required to ask someone to give balanced coverage. Considering the content of his recent and past articles, giving someone else advice about not making things personal is a bit ironic.

Qualifications

What qualifies a person to write letters attempting to hold people accountable?

The brutal onslaught of abuse of power that is the case of Jim Hunter comes to mind. Crosby ignored the signs of abuse, they called the findings in two failed arbitration cases: not serious, the arbitrator lied, or the arbitration process is flawed. Seven charges filed on hearsay, zero evidence, and they couldn't prove it. The unchecked, rampant, abuse of power of the former Crosby police chief and lieutenant are legal battles that continue to this day.

To believe what was done to Jim, the fired Crosby officer,

Crosby deserves better

The city of Crosby is doing very well. Downtown is the best it's been in years and houses are selling quickly. Some of this is because the economy is doing well. Let's remember that most of this is due to the locals making this city great.

I worked for the city my entire career and worked with people who took pride in Crosby. That's how we got where we are today. It wasn't by chance.

\$52.3 billion in general fund spending is authorized for the current biennium, the current projection indicates the state will end up collecting about 15% more taxes than is needed to meet authorized FY 2022-23 agency spending.

We often hear "government has a spending problem." Consider that despite an extreme hit to our economy due to COVID, Minnesota continues to wallow in billions of surplus tax collections.

I believe "Minnesota has a huge taxing problem" also applies. What do we do? First, we do not create a bunch of new entitlement programs to spend the excess tax collections. Second, we don't send lump sum bank deposits out to everyone in Minnesota that has a pulse.

Here are a few suggestions: Immediately use unspent federal COVID relief dollars still in the governor's federal COVID checkbook to pay back the over \$1 billion

As for the legal protection required, I spent years in the legal field, but thanks for the warning.

A previous article referred to secretly recording someone as necessary and legal. Minn. Statute 626A.02 says that as long as you are a party in the conversation, you can record without notifying the other party. Left out, was the part of the statute that says it is illegal to communicate that conversation or publish it without permission. My understanding of illegal and unethical conduct comes from years of training, education, and experience in the legal and law enforcement fields.

I used the word misinformation, to describe the content of that author's articles. For nearly two decades, I assessed information for its intelligence value. Misinformation is a form of lying. It may be accidental or deliberate. Intent can

wouldn't be done to us, is profoundly naïve—it can, it will, the only unknown is when.

We must think about injustice before it happens to us. If people who abuse their power are not immediately removed from office, the abuse of power's next stop is our doorstep. Goddard's amazing lack of judgment—banning two police departments from our offices, misleading us on the law, attempting to embarrass, demoralize, and discredit those departments for a friend—is an abuse of power we can't ignore. His actions were about hiring his friend as an unlicensed part-time background investigator for his office, the

It's time to pay attention. One after another, employees who have worked for the city for many years are leaving. We need to make changes to keep these good people. The history that the city loses when they quit can't be replaced. I'll say it again, these are good people we are losing, and we all suffer. The roads aren't getting plowed, and the holiday decorations, are in boxes.

Minnesota borrowed from the federal government to bail out the state's unemployment insurance account. The governor slammed the doors shut on Main Street businesses, forcing massive layoffs. Pay that loan back now, do not drive Main Street businesses back into extremis with huge increases in their unemployment insurance premiums.

Finally, stop collecting state income taxes on seniors' Social Security retirement checks. Eliminate the health-care user's tax, a 1.8% hidden sales tax you pay every time you access any form of health-care. Kill the state business property tax (remember that's a temporary tax created to fix a budget hole created during the Ventura Administration).

Minnesota should not be collecting billions of excess tax dollars. This is an opportunity to fix Minnesota's taxing problem.

**Representative Dale Lueck
Minnesota House**

be determined by analyzing how the story is crafted, and comparing that to other known, verifiable information. When what's stated is known to be untrue, it is a lie by admission. If what's stated purposely leaves out parts of the story, that if discovered changes the narrative, it is a lie by omission. The purpose with both is to distract, deceive, or discredit.

Old news, re-hashed repeatedly with generous amounts of negative misinformation to help re-enforce a one-sided point of view, is not fair or accurate. Unfortunately, in this case, there is no sign of things changing for the better. Engaging in character attacks, because someone pointed out factual errors, tells a great deal about the person doing the attacking. I'd can't help but wonder what kind of anger it takes to fuel that fire.

Dan Stiner, Crosby

friend is a former officer in the legal battle with Jim Hunter and the fired officer. The fired officer is employed with the Deerwood and Ironton departments, coincidence, extremely doubtful, and Goddard hired his friend.

We are all forced to do things we are not qualified for, but the qualifications appear simple: be concerned, accurate, tell the truth, be relentless, and don't make it personal. Pray our efforts are moral, just, peaceful, and good.

We cannot ignore Goddard's abuse of power, it will be a larger problem tomorrow. Crosby is an excellent example.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood

Is this what you expect from your taxes?

Our city deserves better, but I can't do it alone. [Council member Chris [Ryan] and I need your help. Talk to your mayor and council members. The city needs positive leadership and attention to the basics of running a city.

Paul Heglund, Crosby

More Ribbets on Page 6

OBITUARIES

DAVID ROTH



David Sterling Roth, 78, of Starbuck, Deerwood and McGrath died Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

A Funeral Service was held at 11 a.m., Friday, December 17, 2021 at the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby. Visitation was two hours prior to the service. Burial will be at the Pliney Cemetery in McGrath at a later date.

He was born December 17, 1942 at the Rush City hospital to Sterling and Ruth (Loomis) Roth. David grew up with his younger sister, Irene, on a dairy farm near McGrath. David married Mary Lou Erickson from Finlayson on June 7, 1963 at the Calvary Presbyterian Church in McGrath. They lived a few years near the Twin Cities and in Wausau, WI before purchasing David's grandfather's farm near McGrath and settling down to raise their two children Renee and David Jr. After their children left home, they moved to Deerwood. Dave worked for his cousin Harlen Roth for over 20 years as a mechanic and gravel crushing machine operator. He often worked away in northern Minnesota regions. David spent his final years, until his health required him to reluctantly retire, working as a OTR truck driver for Nelson Trucking Deerwood and

lastly Revelle Trucking McGregor. With his best buddy, Welsh Corgi "Cody" in the seat beside him. David enjoyed fishing the Brainerd Lakes or motorhome camping with Mary Lou, often taking a grand kid or two along. He enjoyed socializing most mornings at the cafes in Crosby-Deerwood area. David liked to tell a good joke and was a big teaser. David and Mary Lou relocated to the Brooten area when their health required more family help. David and Mary Lou were both living at the Minnewaska Lutheran Home in Starbuck, the recent year.

David is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary Lou; daughter and son-in-law, Renee and Michael Bjork of Brooten; son, David Jr of Pine River; former daughter-in-law of 28 years, Kerri Roth of Brainerd; 12 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren and grandchild due in December 2021; sister, Irene Ripka of Ogilvie, three nephews: Darrin (Lynn) Bier, Kevin (Melissa) Bier, Ryan (Mandi) Bier and their sons and daughters;

David is preceded in death by his parents; his stepfather, Fred Rezabek; grandparents, father-in-law, Enio Erickson and mother-in-law, Sadie Erickson and infant grandchild, Cody Roth.

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

RITA LINDBERG



Rita (Burriss) Lindberg, 93, a 21 year resident of Crosslake, and formerly of Coon Rapids, died on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

Celebration of Life will be on December 20, 2021 at The Mill Site located at 111 Harrison St., Anoka, MN 55303 from 11a.m. - 3 p.m. with Memorial service starting at noon. Buffet will be served. Internment and burial will be in the late spring/early summer of 2022 at Morningside Memorial Gardens, Coon Rapids.

Rita had a passion for travel, camping, feeding the birds and bird watching, sewing, crocheting, puzzles, reading, planning and cooking fantastic meals, noteworthy deviled eggs and baking cookies. She had a hard time passing up an

interesting new recipe or an invite on a trip. She was a master seamstress and could design, create and sew to a finished product.

She is survived by son, Craig (Robin) Lindberg; daughter, Karen (Rick) Berglund; eight grandchildren: Jeremy (Jolene) Balfany, Joshua (Mya) Balfany, Travis (Ashley) Balfany, Tanner (Jenn) Balfany, Ketti Lindberg, JohnLars (Emily) Lindberg, Melissa (Ryan) Westervelt and Bradley (Celina) Berglund; 15 great-grandchildren; sisters, Ruth Kaufert and June Johnson; nieces, nephews and other extended family.

Rita is preceded in death by her husband Lawrence Lindberg; parents, Art and Mae Burriss; sister, Ruecel (Burriss) Branom.

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

More Obituaries on Page 4

COMMUNITY EVENTS

December

18th - Registration deadline for the free Christmas Meal on Fri., Dec. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Ironton American Legion will be serving Ham, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Stuffing & Green Bean Casserole. Call 218-546-5975 to reserve your free meal.

18th - Cuyuna Fire Department Christmas Open House, 1-5 pm at the Cuyuna Fire Hall. Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit 2-4pm. Lunch will be served and there will be door prizes, treats and photo opportunities.

18th - Santa and Grinch will be at the FireShack in Ironton 2-5 pm. You may take photos, if you wish.

18th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike 7:30-8:30pm. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots and plan for an hour hike. If it's cloudy, bring a headlamp. Warm up after the hike with hot chocolate and cookies. \$10 Arb members/\$20 non-members. To register, stop by Northland Arboretum at 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd or call 218-829-8770.

19th - Breezy Point Figure Skating Club and the Aspire Program holiday exhibition showcase at 6:15 p.m. at the Breezy Point Ice Arena. Concessions will be available. The cost of admission is a donation of winter items for Eagle View Elementary School or monetary donations toward the Lakes Area Food Shelf.

25th- 27th Sertoma Winter Wonderland, 5:30 - 8:30pm, Northland Arboretum at 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd . Purchase advanced tickets before 4pm.

2022 January

4th & 18th - Northland Arboretum guided snowshoe hike through the woods, 1-2:30pm. Presented by April Sandhoff and DeAnn Caddy. \$5 for Arb members or \$10 for non-members. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots and plan for an 1.5 hour hike. Snowshoes available for rent at the Arb.14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd.

15th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike 7:30-8:30pm. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots and plan for an hour hike. If it's cloudy, bring a headlamp. Warm up after the hike with hot chocolate and cookies. \$10 Arb members/\$20 non-members. To register, stop by Northland Arboretum at 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd or call 218-829-8770.

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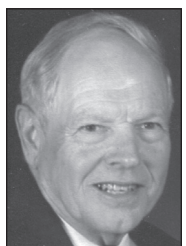
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OBITUARIES

RONALD GRAY



Ronald Gordon Gray, 89, of Bay Lake Township died on Friday, December 10, 2021 at his home.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at the Deerwood Baptist Church in Deerwood. Burial will be at the Bay Lake

Township Cemetery. A visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.

He was born on July 4, 1932 in Brainerd to Gordon and Gladys (Peddycoart) Gray. Ron graduated from the Crosby-Ironton High School class of 1950. He was a U.S. Navy Korean War veteran. Serving on the U.S.S. New Jersey and U.S.S. Des Moines. He married Florence "Bev" Maghan on September 12, 1958. He earned his

BS Degree for St. Cloud State University and his Masters in Music Education from the University of Idaho. Ron served the school districts of Silver Bay, MN; Plum City, WI; Ashland, WI and Blue Earth, MN, teaching music, coaching tennis and golf. His career spanned 33 years. Some of Ron's interests include hunting, fishing, playing tennis, basketball and golf.

Ron is survived by his wife Bev; three sons: Russell (Kathy) Gray of Augusta, GA; Clare (Patsy) Gray of Hickory, NC and Darian (Jeanine) Gray of Savage; one brother, Milo (Arline) Gray of St. Croix Falls, WI; and four grandchildren.

Preceding Ron in death are his parents, Gordon and Gladys Gray.

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

HUBERT LINDBLAD



Hubert Frans Lindblad, 91, of Outing and Breckenridge died on Friday, December 10, 2021 at the Twin Town Villa Assisted Living Community in Breckenridge.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 16, 2021 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Outing. Burial was at noon on Friday, December 17 at the Hillside Cemetery in Minneapolis with full military honors by the Kraus-Hartig VFW Post with reception following.

He was born on January 14, 1930 in Willmar to Frans and Marvel (Knutson) Lindblad. Hubert was a U.S. Army veteran serving in the Korean

War. On October 11, 1953, he married Iris Elizabeth Thunberg in Braham. He was a lifetime member of the Kraus-Hartig VFW Post 6587 in Spring Lake Park.

Hubert is survived by his son, Wayne (Marcia) Lindblad of North Oaks; daughter, Connie (Peter) Jensen of Breckenridge; five grandchildren: Sarah (Mark) Steiner, Kristofer Lindblad, Erika (Bryce) Wetzel and twins Brent and Kort Lindblad; four great-grandchildren: twins Aaron and Dylan Steiner, Kaitlyn Steiner and Mia Wetzel; brother, Waldron Lindblad of Colfax, WA; two sisters-in-law: Nancy Lindblad of Edina and Barbara Sorkilmo of Elk River.

Preceding Hubert in death were his parents; his wife Iris in 2013 and one brother, Ralph Lindblad. Arrangements are with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

WILLIAM YOUNG



William F. Young, 56, of Brainerd, died on Monday, December 13, 2021 at Es-sential Health - St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Nelson-Doran Funeral Home.

William was born on November 30, 1965 to Ellsworth 'Red' and Eva (Kraklau) Young in Brainerd. For 35 years his favorite hobby and biggest passion, was racing at BIR and working on his race car. This was something he was proud to have eventually got to share with his son. William was a supportive, generous, and loving father. He

could be described as a family man, and the type of person who would do anything for anybody. William loved his family and friends dearly. Many saw him as a role model and would turn to him for advice and guidance.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Karleen Young; three children: Cassandra (Daniel) Hanson, Jeremy Young and Courtnee Young; two grandchildren: Harper and Henry Hanson; siblings, Scott (Shirley) Young and Byron 'Barney' Young.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers: Robert 'Bob' and Gerry Young.

Arrangements were with the Nelson-Doran Funeral Home, Brainerd.

TAMIE SWANSON



Tamie Lynn Swanson, 58, of Baxter, died on Monday December 13, 2021.

Services will be held on Saturday December 18, 2021 at 11a.m. at the Baxter Elementary School in Baxter. Burial will be at the Baxter City Cemetery.

Tamie was born on October 9, 1963 in Warren to Halward and Ardelle (Tangquist) Anderson. She graduated from Marshall County Central High School in 1982, and went on to graduate from Northland Community College in 1984, and Moorhead State University in 1986. She then completed her Masters Degree in Education at

Southwest State University. Tamie married the love of her life, Hal Swanson, on June 21, 1986. Tamie had a great love and passion for teaching. She spent 33 years teaching First Graders at Baxter Elementary School. Students and faculty describe her as an awesome teacher. Tamie also enjoyed traveling, the lake and having campfires, dancing, playing piano, feeding the birds, and gardening.

Tamie is survived by her husband of 35 years, Hal; children: Randie (Nate) Blumhagen and Camden Swanson (Kristin Blanch); mother, Ardelle Anderson; grandson, Carver; sisters: Diane Anderson and Shelly Melby; sisters-in-law: Kari Frisch, Jani Wiebolt, and Kathi Jo Arbues, and her brothers-in-law: Michael Wiebolt, Rick Arbues, Doug Haven, and Jon Melby; nephews: Ryan (Christine) Arbues, Spencer Arbues, Michael (Jenna) Wiebolt, Nick Haven, Kyle Haven, and Ben (Brianna) Wiebolt, her nieces Alexis (Matthew) Engum, and Morgan Melby.

She is preceded in death by her father Halward, her father-in-law Lenord, her mother-in-law Marlys Swanson, and many aunts and uncles.

Arrangements were with Brenny Family Funeral Chapel.

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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. 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 — Interim Pastor Mark Boone; Sunday Morning Service 10.
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; hilcityyagchurch@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 10:30, thejourneynorth.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.thechurchontheisewerroad.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 Wawer, 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: Tues. Noon, Thurs. 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; 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. — 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 thelogschurch@crosslake.net
Isle — Pastor Mark Lee; Sunday School 9:00 am; Worship 10:30 am, Sun. Youth group 6:00 pm, Wed. Adult Prayer 6:30 pm and Kids Connect 6:30 pm
Malmø — 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 — (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.princeofpeace-lutheran.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.crosslakelutheran.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 10am 14019 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. 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; handicap 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)

Malmø — 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. 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 Ironton 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* — 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
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 — Rev. Jason Gressman; Worship 9; Friendship Time

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

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READER RIBBETS: Mayor asks you to let council know what you think

As Mayor of Crosby, my management preference is to deal with issues in a professional businesslike manner. This is opposite the style of Council member Ryan. Ryan prefers to create chaos, then he can boisterously come in as the hero to save the day.

As a member of the personnel committee Ryan was very well aware that we were extremely short staffed especially the last two weeks. He should have also been aware that the two active workers left have not had a day off including weekends-in over 2 1/2 weeks. In fact, Ryan met with the City Administrator on

Friday to approve hiring two new employees.

But instead of addressing the Christmas Light installation delay privately on Friday, and creating a solution, Ryan decided to do this:

At the public council meeting on Monday, Ryan threw the city crew under the bus. He demanded we hire subcontractors to do the work - even though the calvary was on its way. He shoved the crew and their efforts aside. I voted against this because I knew the crew on overtime, was going to get the job done early this week and sure enough, they got most of it on they next day.

Yes, we have had turn over in the Public Works. Starting soon, we will have some new staff and the new foreman will return from Military Duty and take the helm.

It is a time for encouragement, a time to rebuild and improve. This is hard to accomplish with council members that only see the bad.

I will be working hard behind the scenes to offer any help and encouragement I can.

This will require committee members with new ideas and solutions and yes, there will be committee changes made in order to accomplish this.

My choices for the committee assignments will take into account a wide variety of issues:

First off, who is new and inexperienced and what committees will help them understand the issues the council will face in the future.

Second, who is already aware of how the system works and can provide their input through council votes, giving others the chance to grow in their knowledge.

Next, who will possibly be absent next year.

Lastly, who is critical to providing the skills necessary to complete the committees task. I will be trying to accomplish all of this in order to leave the council in a better position at the end of the next year - ready to go for whoever is on the next council.

Council member Ryan has a few items he wants changed - one being the city ordinances for nuisances.

This has been delayed and a workshop will be forthcoming. At that workshop, Ryan intends to add further restrictions to resident's use of their property and parking rights. He also wishes to explore the notion of

arresting people if they receive too many violations. I strongly oppose these two measures and believe that the existing ordinances are sufficient. I recommend all residents keep an eye out for the workshop and attend it if you want to know the scope to the proposal being made.

Coming up on Monday, December 20, there will a Planning and Zoning Public Hearing at 6 p.m. in the council chamber. Included in this hearing is a revision to the Comprehensive Plan that adds the following to the Goals Section of the plan:

Protect the residential character of neighborhoods by creating and enforcing short-term rental ordinances.

If you have any input you

would like heard on this subject, please attend this meeting. The council will need your input in order to vote appropriately for this change. Pro or con - this is your chance to let your council know what you think.

Send in a letter if you can't attend.

Council member Ryan is grateful my term as Mayor will be over in twelve months. As member Ryan has repeatedly commented on how he he is glad he has only a few meetings left, one thing appears to be certain - Ryan doesn't want to be on the council next year. I, on the other hand, will be throwing my hat in the ring again.

Diane Cash, City of Crosby Mayor



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Man found dead

Crow Wing County Sheriff Scott Goddard reported on Dec. 9 at approximately 10:07 p.m., the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office responded to an unresponsive male in the City of Trommald. Upon arrival, deputies found a 37-year old male deceased. The name of the male is being withheld, pending the notification of family. The male was transported to the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office for an autopsy. The death remains under investigation by the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office. Foul play is not suspected. The Sheriff's Office was assisted by Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Ambulance Service.

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