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## In a fight for his life Hermans has rare, one in a million cancer

Article reprinted with permission from the Aitkin Independent Age By JEANNE **SCHRAM** 

Chad Hermans was in the prime of his life and pursuing a degree in business marketing and communications in 2021 when he was struck

The 2008 graduate of Aitkin High School had put in two and one half years toward that degree when in May he suffered severe abdominal pain. Tests and scans re-

vealed a large tumor which turned out to be two, then 20, then hundreds.

The next few months turned dire leaving him bedridden and catheterized suffering excruciating pain. Moving his care and surgical plans to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, those few abdominal/ groin tumors turned into +20 tumors on scans. In July, a surgical team removed 200 plus tumors with a thousand still remaining.

In August, Hermans was officially diagnosed with



Chad Hermans spends more time in hospitals than he does at home. He is battling rare, malignant peripheral nerve sheath sarcoma.

MPNST (Malignant Peripheral Nerve Sheath Tumor) sarcoma, stage 4. An extremely rare one in a million cancer in which this soft tissue aggressive sarcoma covers and grows over the nerve cells. The largest tumor removed out of Chad's abdomen was roughly the size of an NFL sized football and there was a softball sized tumor in the groin. After the removal of hundreds more, his intestines, prostate, bladder and rectum were pulverized leaving behind an ostomy.

spread to his liver and right lung," said his aunt Melanie Poelvoorde. "With a dire prognosis, he continues to fight. Duluth hospital now works with Mayo in hopes of shrinking or slowing down the growth.

www.newshopper.net

"Although Chad has health insurance, it doesn't cover all the costs as his mom and two brothers care for him." added Poelvoorde. "He depends on his close relatives for

transportation for his

appointments, tests and scans while depleting his entire savings. His mom continues to fight along with him doing

"It has since the best she can financially. All of this is taking a huge toll on Chad and his family and having help with the finances would lift a huge weight. If you can find it in your hearts to donate anything would be such a blessing. Please keep this fighter in your prayers." The family

> Susan and the late Butch Hermans adopted five children who had the same birth mother. The family moved to Aitkin from St. Paul.

Chad enjoyed sports, especially basketball, football, baseball and boxing.

"My mom (Susan) has been my emergency line and caregiver since tumors were first discovered in May," said Chad. "The sarcoma is in Stage 4 with a 20% survival rate in five years. It's a slow but aggressive cancer as we have seen it turn twice already. Hundreds of tumors are still inside me but I am resilient, strong, and a fighter."

Chad has been undergoing chemotherapy and radiation to fight the cancer.

"He is 31, ambitious, athletic, independent and looking forward to a bright future," said Poelvoorde. "With such a growth mindset, he strived working hard and excelling at college."

College is on hold for now. Poelvoorde has set up a Go-FundMe page for Chad and his family. Those who wish to help the family with medical expenses can search for Chad mpnst sarcoma on GoFund-Me or mail a donation to the Hermans family at 208 3rd Ave. SE, Aitkin, MN 56431.

"I believe in God and miracles do happen," said Chad.

## Bicycles on sidewalks in Crosby



Plan to attend the Crosby Bike Safety Committee meeting on Monday, Jan.

24 from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. at Crosby City Hall on 2 Second Street SW.

The Bike Safety Committee is proposing a plan to allow bicycles LEFT | RIGHT | on the sidewalks in the Crosby business district extending

to the clinic, hospital and grocery store.

By attending the meeting you will have an opportunity to view the proposal and provide feed-

back before it is presented to the city council





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## Aitkin's Jaques Art Center celebrates world-renowned wildlife artist



Pam Andell, director, explained about the prizes available to those in attendance. Photos all by Ann Schwartz

By ANN SCHWARTZ

An air of a party permeated the Jagues Art Center in Aitkin for the Chamber Business After Hours on January 14.

Visiting, joking, consuming goodies and drawing for prizes consumed the remainder the Business After Hours evening. It is clear that roaming the hills and vales of Aitkin County, plus dissecting and stuffing its animals, led Jagues to truly capture nature in all of its awe and beauty.

The exhibit is on display through March 5. The Jaques Art Center is on Hwy. 210 in Aitkin just east of the court-

Tuesday through Saturday. The present exhibit features 80 works by Jaques Art CenterHe and his family moved to Aitkin when he 16 and farmed on the Mississippi River north of

Aitkin. He loved hunting

and taxidermy and owned

a taxidermy shop here for

house and is open from 11-4

about 17 years. "When he was 19 he went to work for the local taxidermist, but the guy didn't have any money to pay him. He skipped town and left the shop to Jaques," said Barden Heft, who gave a talk on the exhibit. "He spent his weeks doing taxidermy and sleeping in his shop and on the weekends he hiked to



Barden Heft shares some of the life story of Francis Lee



This bobcat by Jaques Art Center is on display.

the homestead to visit. Those were lonely times."

Heft noted that the Chatelle family recently donated a cub bear that was stuffed by Francis. Also, the local center owns over 100 Jaques pieces and has the second largest collection in the world, after the Belle Museum in St. Paul.

At 36, Jaques sent a painting to the Natural History Museum in New York. They were so impressed that they painted dioramas for that museum. His largest one was 72 feet long and he spent 18 years there. He met his wife Florence Page there and she became an author. They collaborated on books together. In 1952, Jaques returned to

brought him east and he Minnesota to work at the new Belle Museum of Natural History, which was donated by Francis Ford Belle, the founder of General Mills. The second incarnation of the museum is still open at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities.



Mikaela is Jaques Art Center's office assistant (left) and Taylor is the director of the Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce.

## **Brainerd Jaycees America's Ice Fishing Tournament**

The Brainerd Jaycees are excited to present America's Ice Fishing Tournament, scheduled for January 22, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Last year, the Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza shifted their onice tournament to a virtual event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event had 4,700 registered participants across the state of Minnesota and raised \$125,357.17 for local charities and non-profit organizations. With the success of last year's tournament, the committee decided to organize a completely separate, new virtual ice fishing tournament.

This year, the event is open country-wide to all ice fishing anglers and will be hosted through the Fish-Donkey app. Eligible species

or \$25,000 cash. The 500 prizes, with a total value of over \$67,000, will be scattered throughout the top 2,000 places based on

for the tournament are wall-

eye, northern pike, crappie,

perch, and sunfish. The entry

to win one of 500 prizes

including a new F-150 truck

Contestants are eligible

fee for the contest is \$50.

point-awarded fish values. Fish length will be entered into the app to the closest one-fourth-inch increment.

The tournament officials will convert that length to the corresponding point value for that species. Participants are subject to

all applicable licensing requirements, as well as local, state, and federal laws. For more information on tournament rules and a complete breakdown of the length-topoints conversion scale, visit www.virtualicefishing.org.

Tickets for the event are on sale now through the FishDonkey app. Visit www. vitualicefishing.org for more information and follow the event's updates on Face-

(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022)

#### **CITY OF CUYUNA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO WHOM IT MAY CON-CERN: Notice is hereby given the Cuyuna City Council will convene for their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cuyuna Fire Department to conduct the following public hearing:

Rezoning Application RZ-01-22 to rezone the following parcels: 19090500, 19290510, 19290512, 19290517, 19290518, 19290519, 19290520 19290521 19290522, 19290523, 19290524 from "Open Development/Extraction District, (Open)" to "Single and Two-Family Residential District (R-1)." This rezone better reflects the current and future use of the area.

All interested persons are invited to attend these hearings at the Cuyuna Fire Department, 24849 Minnesota Avenue, and be heard or send written comments to City of Cuyuna, PO Box 536, Deerwood, MN 56444 or via email at amanda.peterson@sourcewell-mn.gov. A staff report is made available at the Cuyuna Fire Department typically one week before the scheduled

Dated this Jan. 17, 2022 AMANDA PETERSON, Community Development Administrator City of Cuyuna

Tell'em you saw it in the NewsHopper

Deadlines are Mondays at Noon

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., January 15 & 22, 2022)

#### **NOTICE AND REQUEST FOR BIDS BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP**

The Town Board of the Town of Bay Lake will accept sealed bids for Bituminous Reclamation, Aggregate Base Class 5, Bituminous Paving, Class 1 Shouldering, Mailbox Support:

Nel's Johnson Road - 4485 LF by 20 feet wide Obrien Road - 1480 LF by

20 feet wide Clearwater PT Road - 4940

LF by 19 feet wide Road project to be completed prior to 9/01/2022.

Plan and specifications examined and obtained from the Town Attorney: Virginia J. Knudson, Borden/ Steinbauer, Kreuger & Knudson, P.A., 302 South Sixth Street, PO Box 411, Brainerd, MN 56401 (Telephone 218-829-1451; e-mail vjknudson@brainerdlaw.com). Bids must be received by the Town Clerk by 7:00 o'clock p.m. on the 12th day of April, 2022. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive irregularities. Authorization for the sealed bidding process to be completed by Donald Hales and Virginia Knudson.

The successful bidder must be a "responsible contractor." The term "responsible contractor" means a contractor as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.285, subdivision 3. Any prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that does not meet the minimum criteria or fails to comply with the verification requirements is not a responsible contractor and is not eligible to be awarded a construction contract for the project or to perform work on the project.

Dated: January 4, 2022 CAROL PUNDT, Clerk Bay Lake Township 8.2

# **Needle-Felted Painting Workshop**



Crossing Arts will present Needle-Felted Painting with artist Lisa Jordan, on Saturday, January 29th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Using a special needle and wool, students will learn to needle-felt a highly textured, 5 inch x 7 inch three-dimensional "painting" of a spring

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Students will be provided with all the wool and materials needed to complete their painting, and will keep their mats, needles, and leftover supplies after the class. Studentswill discuss techniques for creating texture, blending color, and making shapes.

Lisa Jordan has been felting since 2006. She enjoys sharing this medium with others and has taught throughout the state. By day she is the Director of Crossing Arts.

This class is \$55. Limited to six students. Each participant

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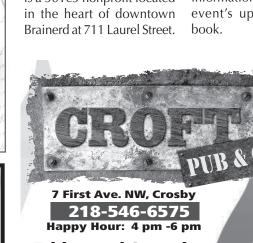
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must be 12 years or older. Masks are required. This class will be held at Crossing Arts in downtown Brainerd. Crossing Arts members, as a benefit of membership, will receive a \$10 gift card when attending the class. Please re-register for this

class to reserve your spot at 218-833-0416. Cancellations made less than 24 hours before the class begins may not be eligible for a refund. For more information con-

tact Crossing Arts at 218-833-0416, info@crossingarts. org. Our hours are Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Second Saturday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Crossing Arts is a 501c3 nonprofit located



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Never dump household hazardous waste such as pesticides, fertilizers, paint or solvents down the toilet, down the drain, into a storm drain, open waterway or ditch. Beyond posing a threat to our health and environment, such dumping is illegal.



**Crow Wing County Household Hazardous Waste Facility** OPEN Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Read the Warning Labels: A product has one or more hazardous properties, if it shows the

single words: Corrosive, Flammable, Caution, Warning, Danger, Poisonous, Toxic, Explosive or Reactive. It does not become any less hazardous when you throw it away.

Please Note: The Household Hazardous Waste Facility DOES NOT ACCEPT Florescent Light Bulbs, Business or Farm Hazardous Waste.

The Collection Site is at the Landfill **Nine Miles Southwest of Crosby** on Highway 210

For more information call **Crow Wing County Land Services at 218-824-1010.** 

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## Woman dies in snowmobile crash

A snowmobile crash resulted in the death of a Rockford woman on Saturday, Jan. 5 north of McGregor on the Headquarters Trail in Savanna State Park.

Aitkin County Sheriff reported that Susan Sutton, 55, of Rockford, was following family members on

her 2021 Ski-Doo snowmobile shortly after noon. Her machine left the trail and collided with a tree, causing head injuries to Sutton.

Sutton was wearing a helmet and lifesaving efforts were applied by family members and a passerby. Sutton was pronounced

dead at the scene at 1:42 p.m. Alcohol did not appear to be a factor in this accident.

Responding were the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office, Minnesota DNR, McGregor Fire Department, McGregor Ambulance and Life Link Air Ambulance.

#### IRMA CRAGUN



Irma Mary Kathleen Cragun, 87, of East Gull Lake peacefully died Monday, January 10, 2022 in her home with Dutch by her side.

Service was held on Monday, January 17, at Cragun's Resort, 11000 Craguns Drive, East Gull Lake.

Irma was born September 1, 1934, in Powell River. British Columbia, Canada. She was the daughter of Angelo and Elena Culos who both immigrated from Italy. She was her high school's student body President and after graduation went on to attend nursing school on a scholarship at St. Paul Hospital in Vancouver. She then worked as a Registered Nurse in Powell River before venturing out to see more of the World. She visited San Francisco and moved there and worked at three different hospitals over five years, which is when she met Dutch Cragun at a dance. Irma continued to travel the world in addition to working and dating Dutch Cragun. The couple married in 1965. Irma worked at St. Joseph Medical Center before devoting herself fulltime to Cragun's - a family resort owned by Dutch's parents at the time. She was named Secretary/Treasurer of Cragun's long before she and Dutch owned the property outright. Irma was instrumental in the expansion of the resort- What began as a 12 cabin, ten room resort has grown to encompass nearly a mile of Gull Lake Shoreline with over 200 hotel rooms, 69 cabins on Gull Lake with a 54-Hole Course just down the road

with a beautiful club house. The resort is now the largest, all-season resort in Minnesota, and she oversaw everything for many years- From the grounds, the food and beverage, the books, etc... When she retired it took four people to replace her. She also designed and built their new home in 2016 and she liked to tease Dutch - that he could live there, as long as his rent was on time. The home is across the lake from the resort and Irma and Dutch often looked out with pride at what they built, the family they created with guest and employees over the years, and the memories they have helped thousands of families create. Irma and Dutch were members of the 52 somes, a dance cub in the Brainerd Area. She also estab-

lished the Heartland Symphony Orchestra Ladies

Auxiliary. She arranged the first outdoor art show

at Cragun's, which evolved into the "Arts in the

Park". She enjoyed gardening, rock collecting

and geography. She never lost her passion for

travel and continued to do so worldwide. She

especially enjoyed sailing. She and Dutch, along

with friends would take trips to waters all over the

world. Along with Dutch, she was on the Board

of Directors for Ski Gull for years and credited

for helping keep it operating. She contributed to over 35 charities on a regular basis. She is survived by her husband Merrill (Dutch) Cragun; brothers, Kenneth Culos and Wayne Culos of Powell River; and her many nieces and

She was proceeded in death by her parents; sister, Lucy and brother Anthony.

For more info, call 218-828-5051.

#### LOIS JUNTUNEN

nephews.



Lois Juntunen, 83, died Saturday evening, January 15 2022, after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer just a week before.

Lois' service will be held in Brainerd, Minnesota at the Nelson Doran Funeral Home on Saturday, January 29,

2022 at 11 a.m. There will be a celebration of life in late spring or early summer.

Lois was born September 16, 1938 to Helen and Stephen Tougas, the oldest of six siblings. She spoke fondly of her early days on the farm, eating fresh healthy farm-raised foods, attending country school and spending time with family. After attending business school, she married Rodney Gordon and gave birth to five children. The family's early days were in Minneapolis where Rodney finished his engineering degree while Lois and her three girls (Jill, Kelly and

Cindy) hung out in the University Quonset Huts. They moved to South Dakota for Rodney's first job where both Dan and Jennifer were born. The family later moved to Brainerd. She always said that family was most important to her. Lois married Leonard Juntunen in 1979. They spent much of their time at their lake home on North Long Lake where Lois loved to plant flowers, walk and rollerblade the Paul Bunyan Trail, bowl and play bridge with friends and entertain children and grandchildren who loved playing at the lake. She attended and was an active volunteer at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brainerd. In her last few years, she moved to Duluth to spend more time with family where she loved watching the waves and dipping her toes in the big lake.

Lois is survived by four of her siblings, five children, nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, three stepchildren and their children and grand-grandchildren.

For more info, call 218-829-4755.



Erik Duus, 94, of Brainerd, died Sunday, January 16, 2022, at Whispering Pines Good Samaritan Village in Pine River.

A Celebration of Erik's Life will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at First Lutheran Church in

Brainerd. Gather one hour prior to services and to stay for a reception to follow. Memorials preferred to InterFaith Volunteers of Brainerd.

Erik Martensen Duus was born November 29, 1927, in Tyler, MN to Einer and Ingeborg (Martensen) Duus. Erik graduated from New London High School before attending Grand View Junior

College in Des Moines, IA. He graduated from Augustana College in Rock Island, IL. For one summer he studied Atomic and Nuclear Physics at Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland, OH. On August 3, 1951, he married Dagny Jessen of Lexington, NE. They were blessed with three children: Ava (Dennis) Hintz, of Glen Ullin, ND; Daniel (Denice) Duus, of Prairie City, IA; and Mark (Marlyn) Duus, of Brainerd and six grandchildren: Shannon Duus, Mara Hintz, April Hintz Stenberg (Titus), Joy Duus, Melody Duus, and Jacob Duus.

In addition to his immediate family, he is survived by his sister, Zita and brother, Leif. Erik was preceded in death by his wife, Dagny

and granddaughter, Jessica.

For more info, call 218-829-4755

#### **GORDON ROSEN**



Gordon Wesley Rosen, 81, of Fort Ripley died at his home on Friday, January 14,

A Memorial Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 28, 2022 at the Wesleyan Church in Emily. A visitation will be one hour

prior to the service at the church.

He was born on February 18, 1940 in Montevideo to Claus and Ruth (Scharf) Rosen. Gordon was a retired local Home Builder and Mason. He also had a career in printing. He was a past president of the Minnesota Trapper's Association and past National Trapper of the Year. He was also a local Bear Hunting Guide, an avid gardener, being known for donating Pumpkins with Law Enforcement and enjoyed singing and

Gordon is survived by his son, Jim (Sally) Jonsten of Sebring, FL: five daughters: Kathy (Pat) Condon of Fifty Lakes, Debra (Steve) Thompson of Highland, MI, Jennifer (Bill) Theyson of Fort Ripley and Palestine TX, Barb (Hal) Blechinger of Lake Elmo and Joan Berry of Fort Ripley; sister, Joan Haugland of Montevideo; 16 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Preceding Gordon in death are his parents, his wife Alice in 2018; two brothers, Jess and George Rosen; two sisters, Elaine Hudson and Nancy Beaman; and son-in-law, Chuck Tschida. Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

#### KERRY MCCOLLISTER

Kerry Marta McCollister, 36, of Deerwood died on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at her home. A spring Memorial Gathering is being planned.

Arrangements are with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

More Obituaries on Page 4

Send Your Photos, News and Community Events to hopper@crosbyironton.net

## READER RIBBETS

## Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

Big news! Talon Metals recently announced an agreement with Tesla to supply 165 million pounds of nickel concentrate that will come from the Tamarack Project located in Northeast Aitkin County.

That's great news for our region of Minnesota. It's a clear indication of the project's viability. Current market value of the nickel under contract is about \$1.5 billion.

The agreement covers six years in which the \$1.5 billion of nickel concentrate is to be produced. Tesla is a major manufacturer of electric vehicles. The Tamarack Project has the potential to produce the nickel needed to manufacture batteries for 10s of thousands of electric vehicles.

Henri van Rooyen, CEO of Talon recently commented, "This agreement is the start of an innovative partnership between Tesla and Talon for the responsible production of battery materials directly from the mine to the battery cathode. Talon is committed to meeting the highest standards of responsible production that is fully traceable and that has the lowest embedded CO2 footprint in the industry. Talon is excited to support Tesla's mission to accelerate the transition to renewable energy."

This is a great opportunity for Minnesota to actively participate in producing the material needed to power the electric vehicles which are an important future alternative to the gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles of today.

The major steps ahead include an extensive environmental review of the mining plan the company will put forward. The detailed information from the environmental review will provide the basis for what the project is allowed and not allowed to do. Those requirements are then detailed the variety of state and federal

permits required for a project

of this scope. Minnesota's mining regulations represent the gold standard in ensuring both the environment and worker safety are protected. Currently, most of the world's non-ferrous minerals are mined in nations with lax environmental and worker safety regulations. This is an opportunity for the US and Minnesota to lead the way in demonstrating how to safely produce the minerals needed to power the electric vehicles that the market will demand.

As I stated in a recent news release, "This agreement shoots a gaping hole in the recent unfounded speculation by anti-mining groups and some individuals that attempt to discredit Talon's stated goal of producing mineral resources that will be used in the manufacture of future electric vehicles."

Representative Dale Lueck Minnesota House District 10B

## What is My CIVIC ACTION

I am new to this area and enjoy your publication, as it gives a great overview of what is going on in the area and it's FREE!

That being said, the "debate or discussions" going back and forth are, well, getting boring and I am more excited about where our world is going AND what I can do to make a difference, let me share.

My past life was spent in East Otter Tail County raising two kids and running my own business. I was an active parent. Along with my children, we participated in 4-H, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Trap shooting, Pathfinders and LEOS. After they had both graduated, I retired from my service positions, closed my business and moved on.

I have been a resident of

Aitkin County for 18 months. The last 12 plus months I have spent time researching and TRYING to figure out What In The World is going on In This

One of the first things I did was learn about Sheriff Mack. He is an Arizona Sheriff who started CSPOA (Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association). Through speaking with Sheriff Guida, I am relieved to know that I live in a Constitutional county. I'm taking an on-line course through-Hillsdale College called Constitution 101, I would suggest this class - it's FREE!

I decided to attend a presentation put on by The American Experiment and Take Charge MN. What an eye opening experience this was, I left there with a sickened stomach, if

you do not know what CRT is research and find out. It is EVERYWHERE.

I have attended multiple republican meetings. I have had discussions w/ people regarding election fraud. I have spent hours listening to people tell their personal stories. I attended the last two freedom rallies at the MN Capitol. I subscribe to The EPOCH Times, I watch One America News and Right Side Broadcasting Network, all three faith based news outlets.

While I don't know exactly WHAT is going on, with my God given intuition, I KNOW there is definitely some-thing going on.

This is My Civic Action ~ I am a Conservative Patriot and a Proud American.

Diane Webb-Skillings, **Aitkin County** 

## Don't be surprised

Police Department wanting to Order violation against Jim Hunter. The civilian was advised the party who had the order was the one who had to file the complaint. The civilian stated words to the affect: "Don't you know who I am?" During the power rant, the individual claimed they were Kim Coughlin. The Aitkin officer remained professional but could not assist the civilian. It's baffling to think a person would give an officer a fake name in a situation as serious as this, or why anyone would

A civilian entered the Aitkin pretend to be someone else for nefarious purposes. Not file a Harassment Restraining sure a third party, without legal authority, can file a complaint against anyone on behalf of another, it's ludicrous to file false complaints on anyone. Coughlin, of all people should, know the law. Kudos to the Aitkin officer for preventing a false complaint. The unknown individual who provided this information could not confirm the date when this occurred, Mr. Hunter was only able to confirm he was contacted by the Aitkin police, the date was not recalled.

Therefore, the letters must

continue, when people who abuse power are not held accountable, they pose an immense risk to the public. Believing they can file false complaints on anyone, anytime, just based on who they are. Gives credence the phrase, beer is good, God is great, people are crazy. People need to be held accountable for their actions, the loss of employment, forced to resign, are good peaceful options. Don't be surprised if this kind of behavior continues, or more frightening, escalates, the warning signs are in place.

Kelly Avelsgard, Deerwood

January

22nd - Brainerd Jaycees America's Ice Fishing 8am-3pm. Open country-wide to all ice fishing anglers and will be hosted through the FishDonkey app. Eligible species for the tournament are walleye, northern pike, crappie, perch, and sunfish. The entry fee for the contest is \$50. Contestants are eligible to win one of 500 prizes including a new F-150 truck or \$25,000 cash. www.vitualicefishing.org

22nd - Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championships at the St. Francis School Gymasium at 9am. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14, as of January 1, 2022 are invited to participate in the local level of competition. Participants can only compete in one local event. For entry forms or additional information contact Leonard Skillings 218-232-6688 for those in Brainerd, St. Mathias, Pillager, Crosslake, Peqout Lakes, Pine River and Emily.

22nd- Annual March For Life - Participants should gather at the corner of South Sixth and Oak streets in Brainerd. The march will begin promptly at 11:30am to the Courthouse for an outdoor rally. Signs and banners will be provided. Please plan to join the marchers to support the unborn. This march is being sponsored by the Crow Wing County Chapter of MCCL.

29th - Crossing Arts Needle-Felted Painting with artist Lisa Jordan 10am-1pm. Students will be provided with all the wool and materials needed to complete their painting and will discuss techniques for creating texture, blending color, and making shapes. This class is \$55. For more information contact Crossing Arts at 218-833-0416, info@crossingarts.org.

30th (Changed from 23rd) - Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championships at the Crosby-Ironton High School Gymnasium at 12:30pm. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14, as of January 1, 2022 are invited to participate in the local level of competition. Participants can only compete in one local event. For entry forms or additional information contact Justin Smith at 218-330-1431 if you in the Crosby-Ironton, Aitkin and McGregor areas.

**February** 

5th - Cuyuna Lakes Chamber Fishing Tournament and Scorpion Homecoming on Serpent Lake.

# Hoppers Helper's Service Directory

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## **OBITUARIES**

#### **DAVID SHER**



Anoka died at his home on January 7, 2022.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Aitkin. Burial will be at the Lakewood

Cemetery in Crosby at a later date. A visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

He was born on April 15, 1989 in Brainerd to

David Josiah Sher, 32, of Craig and Lisa (DeCent) Sher. David had a love for his dogs, music, skateboarding and working out at the gym.

> David is survived by his mother, Lisa Mooers of Crosby; one brother, Kyle (Victoria) Sher of Pequot Lakes; two sisters, Tasha (Jeremy) Schmitz of Milaca and Ciara Sher of Brainerd; five nieces, two nephew and one great nephew.

> Preceding David in death is his father, Craig

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

#### SUSAN SUTTON



Susan Diane Sutton, 55, of Rockford, died unexpectedly on Saturday, January 15,

Services will be Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 11 a.m. in First Lutheran Church with Pastor Reggie Denton officiating. Visitation will be one

hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be in Bennettville Cemetery, Hazelton Township, Aitkin County. Memorials are preferred to the University of Minnesota Foundation-Kidney Transplant, PO Box 860266, Minneapolis, MN 55486.

She was born June 1, 1966 in Minneapolis to Loren and Diane (Pommerening) Rachey. Susan graduated from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management. Susan was united in marriage to Michael Sutton on July 11, 1987 in Maple Grove. She worked as a Financial Director for Patterson Thuente IP of Minneapolis for 30 years. Susan was very adventurous and enjoyed 4 wheeling, jet skiing, traveling, gardening and cooking (her specialty was homemade spaghetti sauce with fresh tomatoes from the garden). Susan also enjoyed painting. She was the spark plug of the family, was very detail oriented and pushed her kids to be the best they could be.

Susan is survived by her loving husband, Michael Sutton; son, Richard "Rick" Sutton; daughter, Katelyn "Katy" (Nicholas) Kenemore; parents, Loren and Diane Rachey; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Jerome and Joyce Sutton; sister, Nancy (Jeff) Quale; nephews, Tony and Luke Quale: other relatives and many friends.

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

& Cremation Services

McGregor, MN

218-768-3136

#### **CARRIE THESING**



Carrie Marie Thesing, 35, died unexpectedly at home in her sleep on Monday. January 17, 2022.

A celebration of life was held on Friday, January 21, 2022, at from 5 - 8 p.m. at Nelson - Doran Funeral Home in Brainerd. The family asked

that attendees wear tie-dye or bright colors in her memory. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred.

She was born on March 24, 1986, to Brian and Marge Caird. After graduating from Pillager Area Charter School, Carrie earned her Massage Therapist Certification from Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Wadena. Most recently, Carrie was employed at Northern Orthopedics where she had a work family that she loved. Carrie was blessed to spend the last eight and a half years of her life with the man of her dreams. She married Matt Thesing on June 29, 2013, and they lived together in Baxter with their fur-child, Dillard AGusGus Thesing,

commonly known to those who love him simply as "Dill". Carrie enjoyed spending time with her husband and friends on camping trips, going fishing, playing a round of golf, and of course the occasional casino trip! She loved owls, Gerbera daisies and sunflowers, and all things tie-dye. Close friends often called her by the nicknames "Care Bear" and "Maynard".

Carrie is survived by her husband, Matt; mother, Marge; sister, Jenny (Emmet) Smith; grandmother, Ida Fuller; in-laws: Kevin Thesing and Dode Pohlkamp, and Joe and Debbie DeRosier; brother-in-law, Chris (Gina) Thesing; and sisters-in-law: Jenny (Aric) Caughey, Jessica Pohlkamp, and Desi (Mike) Faletti: nephews: Ashten, Thomas, William, Andrew, Daric, Joseph, Gavin, Andrew, and Adam; nieces: Zoey, Arica, Jenna, Arianna, Annelise, and Alayna; and many close friends and family.

Carrie is preceded in death by her father; grandparents Clayton and Lucy Caird and Eddie Miller; brother-in-law Michael Pohlkamp; and cousin, Jason Miller.

For more info, call 218-829-4755.

#### **MARY EMORY**

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Merrifield, died on Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

Visitation was held on Sunday, January 16, 2022 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Baxter. Mary was born on July 28,

Koop Funeral Home

32 East Main St., P.O. Box 7 • Crosby, MN 56441

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1953, to Marvin and Mary

(Reikofski) Lorenzen in Norfolk, NE. She was

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Mary Ellen Emory, 68, of married to James Emory on September 22, 1971, and shortly thereafter they made Minnesota their home. Mary retired from Nortech after 17 years of service when the Merrifield location closed. She enjoyed sewing, playing BINGO, gardening, and bird watching. She also enjoyed spending time with her family. Mary will be greatly missed by all those who knew her.

She is survived by her siblings: Marvin (Sonny) Lorenzen, Leona Klipp, and Wally (Marla) Lorenzen; niece, Melanie (Shon) Snyder; great-niece Kenzie (Shawn) Shreve; and

great-great-nieces: Khloe, Karlie, and Bayleigh. Mary was preceded in death

by her parents and her husband, James Emory.

For more info, call 218-828-5051.

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# CHURCH DIRECTOR

\* 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 & 5:30 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 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-

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

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; Sun-

day 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 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 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

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.  $\label{eq:Merrifield-Sipple-Community} \mbox{Merrifield--Ossipee Community, SS 10; Service 11; Wed.}$ 

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 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 Konnect 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 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 Hoad, 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 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: Wor-

ship: 9: Sunday School 9:15. Garrison - Light of the Cross (ELCA), Pastor Juli Sut-

ton-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. (Hand-

icap 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

McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (ELCA), Pastor Ericka Foss; Worship 9, Fellowship 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. Wor-

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.

ship service is Sunday at 9:30 am, 523 SE 11th Street,

#### **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 Mark Ford, 218-692-4769; Worship 9:00 AM; Fellowship 11:00 AM. 14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, just passed the Community Center; www. crosslakepres.org. McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9.

McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm.

Crosby — Lifespring Church, a member of Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals, 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, www.visitlifespring.com

Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.

**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 CHURCH OF CHRIST Brainerd — First Congregational UCC, 415 Juniper St, Brainerd. Sunday worship at 10.00. Pastor; Leslie Moughty.

Handicapped accessible. 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.

 $Onamia - \overset{\cdot}{P} astor \, Rick \, \& \, Judy \, Wilder; Worship \, 11; fellowship$ 10; 2 blks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

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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follows, SS 10.



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

5

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## Snowmobile riders revving their engines across Minnesota

Snowmobile trail conditions vary throughout Minnesota but, in areas where there's good snow, riders have been getting out with gusto. Snowmobile tracks are common sights in road ditches, on trails and atop the ice. This year's busy start to the riding season continues a surge in recent years of people riding snowmobiles to enjoy Minnesota's outdoors.

Gov. Tim Walz declared Jan. 15-23 as Snowmobiling Safety Awareness Week, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officers remind all riders to brush up on safety and prioritize safe rides. So far this year, two snowmobile riders have lost their lives and there have been multiple close calls, including several snowmobile riders who have fallen through the ice. During the past eight snowmobile seasons, more than seven riders, on average, have lost their lives each year.

"We're continuing to see new people get into the sport of snowmobiling and discover the unique way riding the trails connects them with nature," said Bruce Lawrence, DNR Enforcement Division recreational vehicle coordinator. "With more than 22,000 miles of snowmobile trails in Minnesota, opportunities abound. As long as riders make good decisions when they're out riding, snowmobiling is something they can do the rest of their lives."

Lawrence offers the following tips to ensure a safe ride: Stay on marked trails.

clubs work hard to maintain good riding condition on the state's trails. Riders who stay on groomed trails are less likely to strike an obstacle or trespass onto private property. In some parts of the state, wet conditions where trails go through low areas or across lakes mean trails aren't yet groomed. Riders should check trail conditions (mndnr.gov/snow\_depth) before heading out.

Leave the booze at home.

Minnesota's snowmobile is one of two main factors in crashes and plays a role in about 60 percent of those that are fatal.

> Watch the speed. Going too fast is the other main factor in crashes. Many serious and fatal crashes happen when a speeding snowmobiler loses control or strikes an object.

Be careful on the ice. In recent years, nearly every through-the-ice fatality has involved people who were riding a snowmobile or Riding under the influence all-terrain vehicle when they fell through. There must be at least 5 to 7 inches of new, clear ice to support the weight of a snowmobile and rider.

Take a snowmobile safety course. It's required of anyone born after 1976 and recommended for everyone. People with snowmobile safety certification are less likely to be involved in serious or fatal crashes.

Additional safety tips can be found on the snowmobile safety tips page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/snowmobiling/safety.html).

## Minnesota DNR seeking public input on deer population goals

Portions of southeast, Arrowhead and north central areas to be evaluated

Beginning Monday, Jan. 24, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is asking for public input on deer population goals in 28 of 130 deer permit areas (DPAs).

"We're continuing with an online questionnaire this year and adding webinars for those who wish to connect directly with area wildlife managers on this topic," said Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader. "We're excited to have people participate and encourage anyone who has an interest in deer management to give feedback on deer population trends in the areas where they live, work and recreate."

The DNR establishes deer

population goals — how Plains Moraines block; much of an increase or decrease is desired in a deer population in a particular DPA — as part of managing the state's wild deer.

Population goals established in this process will provide direction for management in each goal-setting block for a 10-year period, with a midpoint review at the five-year mark. Goal blocks and the DPAs that comprise them are established based on similar habitat, land uses, deer populations and deer hunter distribution.

The targeted DPAs this

DPAs 117, 118, 126, 130, 131, 133 in the Superior Uplands - Arrowhead block; DPAs 169, 184, 197, 210,

298 in the North Central

DPAs 241, 246, 251, 258,

259, 287 in the Pine Moraines block; and

DPAs 341, 342, 343, 344, 643, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 655 in the Blufflands Plateau block.

Online feedback opens on Jan. 24 and concludes on Sunday, Feb. 13. Participants will be asked to complete on online questionnaire and indicate whether the deer population in a particular area should increase, decrease, or stay the same—and provide their rationale.

Webinars during the last week of January will present information about each goal-setting block, seek participant input and allow DNR wildlife staff to answer participants' questions. Webinars

will be recorded and posted swer questions that will help online for those who can't participate in the live events.

"We strongly encourage people to join us for these webinars," Keller said. "Anyone may participate, regardless of affiliation or knowledge of the process, and we'll present useful information and anparticipants formulate their online responses."

Details about each goal block, how to participate in the process, the webinar schedule and how to access the questionnaire are listed on the DNR's website (mndnr. gov/mammals/deer/management/population.html).

In 2019, the DNR updated its deer population goal-setting process, which previously obtained input through citizen advisory committees and in-person public meetings. The new format allows more participants and encourages varied perspectives.



**REPUBLICANS** 



## **OF AITKIN COUNTY**

**Notice of Aitkin County Republican Precinct Caucuses** 

Tuesday, February

 $As \ required \ by \ MN \ Statute \ 202$ 

You are cordially invited to participate at your local Precinct Caucus to: Elect delegates and alternates and help develop the Republican Party Platform. Sign up to be an Election Judge or Poll Challenger for the 2022 Elections.

You are eligible to participate in the Republican caucus if:

• You will be eligible to vote in the fall election - Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

 You are in agreement with the principles of the Republican Party as stated in the Party's constitution, voted or affiliated with the party at the last General Election or intend to vote or affiliate with the party at the next General Election may vote at precinct caucus. • A Straw Poll will be taken for Governor and other State Offices.

Journey North Church 810-2nd St. NW, Aitkin: convener-Jim Blakesley 218-927-2027 City of Aitkin, Aitkin Twp., Farm Island Twp., Kimberly Twp., Morrison Twp., Nordland Twp., Spencer Twp., Waukenabo Twp., Unorganized T48-27(Blind Lake) Twp., and Unorg. T49-27(Esquagamah)Twp.

McGregor Public Library 111 E Center Ave., McGregor: convener-Kari Abbott 218-768-3011 City of McGregor, City of Tamarack, Beaver Twp., Clark Twp., Jevne Twp., McGregor, Twp. Rice River Twp., Salo Twp., Spalding Twp., Fleming Twp., and Unorg T47-24 (Davidson) Twp.

Grace Lutheran Log Church 48115 Lake Ave.: convener-Tom and Joyce Peterson 612-272-4283 City of Palisade, Balsam Twp., Haugen Twp., Libby E Twp., Shamrock Twp., Turner Twp., Workman Twp., and LoganTwp.

Hill City School 500 Ione Ave.: convener-Dave Lange 218-697-2446

City of Hill City, Ball Bluff Twp., Cornish Twp., Hill Lake Twp., MacVille Twp., Verdon Twp., Unorganized T51-25; T51-27(Lemay); T52-25(Quadna); T52-24(Ruth); T52-22; T51-22; T52-27(Shovel Lake); T50-26(Bain); T50-27(White Elk); Unorganized T50-25 (Hebron) and West Libby Twp.

McGrath Fire Hall 303 Main St., McGrath: convener-Steve Barteima 320-592-3907 City of McGrath, Idun Twp., Millward Twp., Pliny Twp., Seavey Twp., Wagner Twp., White Pine Twp., and Williams Twp.

Mille Lacs Trails Bldg. 31844-235th Lane, Aitkin convener-Travis Leiviske 218-670-0478 Glen Twp., Malmo Twp., Lakeside, Twp. Hazelton Twp., Wealthwood Twp., Lee Twp.& Unorganized T45-24 (Jewett) Twp.



**Aitkin County Republican Convention** Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Fireside Inn, McGregor Registration opens at 9:00 a.m.

Aitkin County Republicans • www.aitkingop.com • P.O. Box 331, Aitkin, MN 56431

Paid for by the Aitkin County Republican Committee

## **MLEC Touchstone Energy award**

Aitkin Youth Fastpitch is MLEC's 2021 Touchstone Energy Commitment to Community Award winner. An award plaque and a \$500 check was presented to the organization on December 15th.

Aitkin Youth Fastpitch was founded in 2018. It began with a small group of parents committed to creating a developmental youth softball league that fosters love of the game, stresses sportsmanship, teaches fundamentals, and encourages community involvement. The program started with one team and 17 girls. Today, it has grown into Touchstone Energy Co-op and provider and employer.

a full program of over 150 girls at 6 different levels! The program continues to have a positive impact on all of the players' families, volunteers in the community, and of course all of the participants. Girls ages 4-18 get a chance to play softball throughout the summer where high quality and memorable experiences are shared.

This is the 18th year of this award recognizing a group that shows a strong commitment to community and is helping make the area a better place to live and work. Mille Lacs Energy Co-op is a

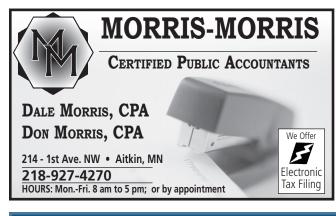
"Concern for Community" is one of the guiding principles.

Aitkin Youth Fastpitch will go on to contend for the statewide Touchstone Energy Community Award, which has a cash prize of \$1,000.

MLEC is a not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative owned by the members we serve. We provide service to over 13,000 members in parts of Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs counties. Our headquarters is located at 36559 US Highway 169, one mile east of Aitkin, MN.

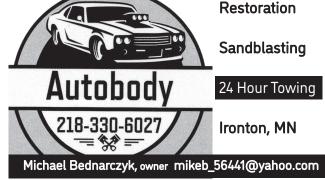
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