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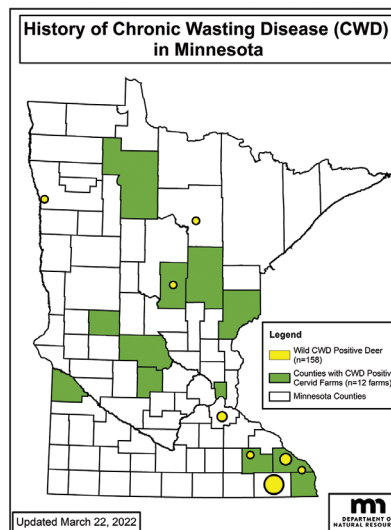
CWD detected in deer

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is updating its chronic wasting disease response plan after the discovery of a wild white-tailed deer infected with CWD within the city of Grand Rapids. The response plan update will better reflect a statewide approach to disease surveillance, management, control and education.

This is the first time CWD has been detected in wild deer in this deer permit area, so the DNR is also taking immediate steps to understand the prevalence of the disease in wild deer in the Grand Rapids area. The agency will work with local road authorities to collect samples from road-killed deer and is exploring opportunities for targeted culling where it can be performed safely.

"We've always looked at CWD as a disease that could impact the entire state, yet implemented disease management actions as needed in each area where CWD was found," said Kelly Straka, the DNR's wildlife section manager. "This new discovery doesn't

Continued on Page 5



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

March
 25th & 26th - Brainerd Lakes Home Show & Expo at Essentia Health Sports Center 502 Jackson Street

April
 1st - Aitkin American Legion color guard walleye dinner. Serve 5-6:30pm at Aitkin American Legion. Cost is \$14.00 which includes: Walleye fillet, potato, salad, vegetable, dessert, beverage. Open to the public.
 5th - Cuyuna Lakes Chamber Fishing Tournament and Scorpion Homecoming on Serpent Lake. Call 218-546-8131 for more information.
 7th - Aitkin Lions will be having a spaghetti dinner at the Aitkin American Legion serving from 4:30-6:30pm. Come and join us. Door Prizes and the proceeds go to the Riverwood Foundation for the Zach Johnson Children Cancer and the Reading program. Cost is \$10 and Kids under 5 are FREE.
 7th - Ranger Made Open House, a new \$3.6 million state-of-the-art student managed manufacturing company located inside Crosby-Ironton High School, 5-7pm. The open house is a Cuyuna Lakes Chamber's Business After Hours Social hosted by C-1 School District and Cuyuna Regional Medical Center and is open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring business cards, network, and build relationships. Soda shoppe refreshments will be served, and door prizes awarded. There is no fee to attend, however, advance registration is requested by calling 218-546-8131 or sending a message to courtney@cuyunalakes.com. Those attending should use the school's north entrance and park their vehicle in the student parking lot.
 29th - St. John's Lutheran Church Carry Out Chicken Dinner, 5-6 pm. Menu: Chicken Breast, Mashed potatoes and Gravy, Dressing, vegetable, and dessert. Pre-orders are preferred by calling 218-927-3170 between 10am-4pm on Monday, April 25 to Friday, April 29. Pick up from 5-6pm. Adults--\$12 for adults, 6-12 are \$6 and 5 years and under are free. located at 324 3rd St. NW Aitkin.
 30th - ATV Safety Field Day in Fifty Lakes, 12:30- 4:00pm. All students must pre-register with Cindy Thompson. Additional information will be sent once registration is confirmed with instructor. To pre-register or for questions contact Cindy Thompson at 763-592-9330 or email cindythompson0203@gmail.com. Requirements: Must be 10 years of age before class start date listed above and have taken the AT-Vcourse.com in order to be eligible to take this class.

READER RIBBETS

Rep. Dale Lueck legislative update

The House Democrats recently blocked a second effort to allow a floor vote on bipartisan Senate legislation that would prevent a significant unemployment payroll tax increase, despite having a historic multi-billion dollar state surplus.

The issue centers around the House DFL majority's refusal to make whole the state's unemployment insurance trust fund, which was depleted when Gov. Tim Walz shuttered Main Street businesses across the state during a lengthy and relentless exercise of emergency powers.

The state borrowed billions from the federal government to allow unemployment checks to continue to flow during the forced shutdown.

The fix is, (1) pay back the federal loan and stop the huge interest payments on the loan, which are estimated to be about \$50,000 per day. (2) Restore the trust fund operating

balance to pre-covid levels to stop the automatic payroll tax increases.

The House has had a veto-proof Senate bill in its possession for a month that does that, including preventing the automatic unemployment payroll tax increases required to restore the trust fund's fiscal integrity.

This is politics at its worst. We have skyrocketing inflation eating up every family's weekly paycheck. Now is not the time to impose additional unemployment payroll taxes, that only fuels more runaway inflation, increasing the cost of food, fuel and other necessary items for everyone.

Gov. Walz, House Republicans, Senate Republicans, and most Senate Democrats support a clean bill to fully replenish the trust fund back to pre-COVID levels.

The House DFL continues to hold that bill hostage and the

March 15th deadline triggering automatic payroll tax increases has now passed. Their bill which is not a full fix, would result in six years of increased unemployment payroll taxes, has been sitting stagnant in a house committee since early February.

One of the excuses the House majority members use justifying the delay in preventing higher unemployment payroll taxes is it would benefit the big box stores, like Walmart, Target and the Amazons of the world.

I got news for them, we have 17 small cities in House District 10B, the closest thing we have to a big box store is a few Dollar General and Family Dollar stores.

Time to stop the nonsense and allow a vote to fix this problem!

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

Stop the suffering, decide to act

Thomas Jefferson wrote, "For the most part, people are inclined to suffer than to fight to remove the cause of suffering."

Goddard deliberately embarrassed the Brainerd, Ironton, Deerwood police departments. Goddard's deputy chief is on a self-imposed 60-day family emergency leave, one surmises it's because of the damage he has inflicted upon his family and the families of his victims. Galles instigated and participated in intimate affairs with subordinates. An employee at a coffee shop fears the deputy chief to the point they request-

ed a police escort home from work.

We must ask ourselves; do we want the highest law enforcement official abusing his power for a friend? Do we want a sheriff and deputy chief feared by citizens? They believe the Code of Conduct does not apply to them. These two can't uphold the simplest challenges of their positions; how can we expect them to uphold the law when they believe they're above the law. Honest men feel no pleasure in the exercise of power over his fellow citizens, these two thrive on it, we, the

residents of Crow Wing County suffer.

Our elected officials are not leaders, they are servants, and they're not listening.

If a mask protected you from others, our voices can be used to protect the victims. We need to be heard by Goddard and his deputy chief, we can and must prevent more victims from their abuse of power. The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity. We must demand their resignations.

**Kelly Avelsgard,
 Deerwood**

OBITUARIES

SARAE EMBREE



Sarae Embree, 16, of Pequot Lakes was instantly killed along with her older sister Ashley in a tragic accident on Saturday, March 19, 2022 when the UTV she was riding in was struck by a truck.

Visitation will be Monday, March 28, 2022 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with funeral services on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Timberwood Church in Nisswa. In lieu of flowers, the family is accepting donations for a future memorial foundation.

Sarae lived the majority of her life in Pequot Lakes with her parent's Brent and Katie and sister Ashley and brother Carter. Sarae's addition to the Embree family via her home country of Guatemala made this a fantastic five! Her spunk was clear from the get-go and became a staple of her existence. From her smile to her infectious

personality, Sarae was a true gift from God that rounded out her family in all the right ways. She was beyond her years and cherished her moments of "adulting." She was independent and adventurous which had her leading her friends and family on all sorts of wild excursions. Sarae saw people in all their blessed humanness and loved every bit of them, no matter their oddities. To be a friend of Sarae was to be blessed by one of God's greatest lovers of people. She loved her friend's deeply and completely wishing for them to experience the love and grace of Jesus as she had over and over again. Jesus was her Lord and Savior who she lived for every day. Her aspirations had her headed towards the U of M and then on to M.I.T. to become a leader in the Biochemical Engineering world so that she could meet the needs of others in the world. Love whoever you meet. Love with wild abandon. Love like Sarae loved.

ASHLEY EMBREE



Ashley Embree, 22, of Pequot Lakes was instantly killed along with her younger sister Sarae in a tragic accident on Saturday, March 19, 2022 when the UTV she was riding in was struck by a truck.

Visitation will be Monday, March 28, 2022 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with funeral services on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Timberwood Church in Nisswa. In lieu of flowers, the family is accepting donations for a future memorial foundation.

Ashley lived the majority of her life in Pequot Lakes with her parent's Brent and Katie and her brother Carter and sister Sarae. From her earliest days Ashley was full of joy, love and compassion. Her bright eyes and wide smile told the story of her outlook on life because of

her relationship with Jesus Christ. Wisdom and determination drove Ashley to work hard not only on school but in the relationships she had with her family and friends. She was on the cusp of graduating from Bethel University with a degree in Social Work desiring to care for and support people from all walks of life in the Twin Cities. She was a wonderful friend. A fabulous sister. An incredible daughter. Ashley's bubbly personality was truly a gift from Jesus and she delighted in lavishing hope and joy to all who came across her path. Although Ashley participated in many different activities, her life was defined by her relationships and how she treated others. She was always grateful for the things that her family did for her and loved to return home to the lake with her family for the comfort and rejuvenation of dad's cooking, her mom's presence and her siblings laughter. Love big. Love deep. Love like Ashley loved.

CALVIN TUPER



Calvin Gene Tuper, 71, of Rabbit Lake Township died on Sunday, March 20, 2022 at his home.

He was born on February 23, 1951 in Grand Rapids to William and Victoria (Hudson) Tuper. He served in the U.S. Air Force National Guard and U.S. Air Force. He retired as Sergeant 1st class from the Army Reserve with 23 years of service. Calvin married Debra Kuntz on November 29, 1975 in Warba, MN. He was a Forester and Wild Land Fire Fighter for the Minnesota DNR, retiring after 41 years of service. He was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Iron Hub, was a former elder and currently a trustee for the church; He was serving as Township Supervisor of Rabbit Lake

Township. Calvin loved operating his small farm in Rabbit Lake Township.

Calvin is survived by his wife, Debra; three sons: Randy Tuper of Iron Hub, Nathan (Tracey) Tuper of Trommald, and Joshua (Audrey) Tuper of Pelican Rapids; 11 grandchildren: Hailey Wassen, Layn Tuper, Kenzie Tuper, Elizabeth Tuper, Jack Tuper, Samuel Tuper, Adria LaForte, Shauntelle LeForte, Dustin LeForte, Skye Teel and Jonah Fuller; 7 seven great grandchildren: Alphonse Wayman, Aurora Wayman, Ashton LeForte, Mason LeForte, Samson LeForte, Delilah LeForte and David LeForte; life-long friends, Art and Marilyn Mai and their family, Larry and Carolyn Hamdorf and their family and many other relatives and friends too numerous to name.

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



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Northern Lakes Lightning Youth Hockey Association takes second place



The Bantam Team of the Northern Lakes Lightning Youth Hockey Association (includes youth from all around the area) took second place at the state tournament this year. The (far left) photo with the sign shows the players when they won their district game. The photo (near left) is with the coaches and players after they took second in the state youth hockey tournament. Jen Rikala photos

LEGAL NOTICE

(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Mar. 26, 2022)
**CITY OF CUYUNA
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given the Cuyuna City Council will convene for their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cuyuna Fire Department to conduct the following public hearing:

Shoreland Ordinance Amendment 02-2022 to amend the Cuyuna Shoreland Ordinance, Section 5.11 by establishing lot size requirements for riparian and non-riparian duplex lots. The proposed amendment is in accordance with the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resource standards.

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 meeting.

Dated this March 19, 2022
 AMANDA PETERSON,
 Community Development
 Administrator
 City of Cuyuna
 6.26

Continental Mills issues product recall on pancake mix

Continental Mills issued a recall on March 19 for a single lot of Great Value Buttermilk Pancake & Waffle Mix, UPC 078742370828, Lot code KX2063, Best By Date of



09/01/2023, due to a potential foreign material contamination. Fragments from a cable used to clear the processing line were discovered in a

limited amount of product. The affected product was distributed nationwide where consumers purchased product through retail Walmart stores. No contaminated product has been reported by consumers to date. No injuries have

been reported to date. If you have recently purchased any of the products noted above, please dispose of the product or please return the product to your store for a replacement or refund. For more information or to receive a refund,

please call the Recall Phone Hotline at 1-800-578-7832 Monday – Friday 7 am to 4 pm PT.

Continental Mills is working with the FDA and retailers to ensure any affected product is removed from the marketplace immediately.

CWD detected in a wild deer in Grand Rapids | Continued from Page 1

make CWD a statewide problem, but it does mean we need to take more of a statewide approach."

While the surveillance outlined in the DNR's current response plan made this detection possible, the finding of CWD in Grand Rapids highlights the need for an enhanced statewide sampling approach.

The enhanced statewide surveillance will include:

- Updating the DNR's CWD response plan this spring

- Investigating options for hunters to use a self-mailing kit for free testing statewide

- Expanding the taxidermist network (Partner Sampling Program) statewide

- Upgrading and improving

current design for self-service stations

The DNR will seek public input as it explores and implements the ideas above and other options for enhanced statewide surveillance.

"The DNR has taken an aggressive approach to managing CWD in Minnesota," said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. "We will continue this strong approach as we address this latest finding and as we update our statewide CWD response plan. The health of Minnesota's wild deer herd remains a top priority for the DNR."

There now are eight areas spread across Minnesota, from north to south, where CWD has been found in

wild or farmed deer. Despite these detections, the disease remains rare in Minnesota. Fewer than 1% of deer have tested positive for CWD in areas where the disease has consistently been detected during the past five years.

Since 2002, DNR has tested 106,000 deer statewide and 153 have tested positive. Most of those cases occurred in southeastern Minnesota.

The DNR received confirmation of the Grand Rapids CWD infection on March 15. A Grand Rapids resident reported to the DNR in mid-February that an adult doe had died in his backyard. DNR staff collected the carcass and submitted a lymph node sample for CWD testing.

Results of a full necropsy showed the deer died from a collision with a vehicle, not CWD. The deer showed no clinical signs of the disease but final test results confirmed the infection.

Active surveillance for CWD has not occurred in the location where the infected deer was found (deer permit area 179) since 2004. The DNR conducted CWD surveillance to the west and north of Grand Rapids in fall 2021 in DPAs 197, 169, 184 and 110 in response to captive deer infected with CWD on a Beltrami County farm. More than 1,800 samples were tested and CWD was not detected. To the west and south of Grand Rapids, a

CWD management zone exists in DPA 604. Surveillance has been ongoing in this area since 2017. Two wild deer detections have been found in the 6,300 deer tested since surveillance began.

More information about CWD and what the DNR is doing to limit disease spread and protect the health of Minnesota's white-tailed deer is available on the DNR website (mndnr.gov/CWD).




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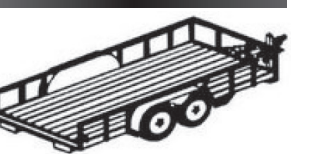
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HELP WANTED CONT.
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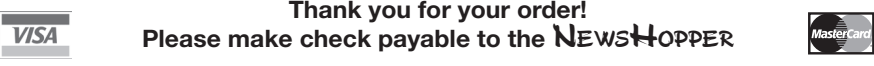
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Cans lead to thousands for housing as Harold's Can-Do spirit lives on



Honest Harold's award honors the late Harold Kvanvig of Aitkin and the recipient is an outstanding Habitat for Humanity volunteer. With Honest Harold's Can-Do Award, from left: Wesley Kvanvig, son of Harold; Tom Plagman, Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity; Mary Kvanvig-Therneau, Harold's daughter; students Jaeland Williams and Tanner Hills; Jeremy Rach, woodshop instructor; Erik Heimark, engineering instructor; Aitkin High School Principal Paul Karelis and Jason Roos, engineering instructor.

By ANN SCHWARTZ
A man, some cans – but what's his plan?
For the late Harold Kvanvig,

who spent much of his 94 years in Aitkin, cans were part of his ministry.
Yes, sloppy, cold and wet

aluminum cans, leaking stale beer and sticky pop. Harold faithfully, for many years, sorted out the garbage and brought cans to Brainerd and McGregor for Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity. He made thousands of dollars for affordable housing in Aitkin County (as did the donors of the cans).

Trucking down the highway, pulling his homemade trailer full of cans, Harold had many mishaps. Like the time he found drugs with the cans. Or the time his whole load blew out between Aitkin and McGregor. Digging through cans on the coldest winter days and hot days of summer...

At Harold's recent funeral, it was noted that when he was a used car dealer, he was known

as Honest Harold.

So the wheels turned in Executive Director Ann Schwartz's brain (full disclosure, I wrote this and am also the Habitat for Humanity director in Aitkin). "Why not," she thought, "start an award to honor outstanding volunteers and also remember Harold—one of the best volunteers ever."

Harold's family, including

Wesley and Charles Kvanvig and sister Mary Kvanvig-Therneau approved the concept. Mary wanted Harold's love of coffee and friends remembered.

Knowing about the fabrication lab at Aitkin High School, Schwartz, and Tom Plagman of the Habitat Board of directors, worked with shop teachers to design and fabricate the award. They used wood from Jeremy Rach's woodshop and the design of student Jesse Goettig. Following Schwartz's approval of the prototype, the award was designed on the Adobe Illustrator program and etched into wood by the Intro to Engineering students.

Final touches will include a second plaque with the recipient's name stamped on metal and a portable plaque for the recipient to display.

Baker is the first recipient

John Baker is the first recipient of Honest Harold's Can-do Award. Baker, a local Wausau Homes builder and youth pastor, was concerned that Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity, due to the pandemic, had a hard time rounding up volun-

teers to build Kara Anderson's home in Aitkin.

"We were able to pull together a new home build with Wausau and Habitat and it worked well for everyone," said Baker. "I drive by the house and see Kara and her kids have a great home and I'm so glad we were a part of it. It is a happy story and it ended well"

Harold's son Wesley and daughter Mary made the trip to Aitkin High School for the award presentation. The kicker was, no one called John. So he came a little later and was presented the award by Plagman.

Schwartz imagines that Harold is looking down at us all now, so pleased that his contributions will be recognized and honored. "Honest Harold's Can-Do Award is presented to a volunteer who gave outstanding service to Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity," it reads.

The Kvanvigs' faith is reflected in the verse that is inscribed: "Doing Good is Our Way of Life," Ephesians 2:10. Let's all go out and do the same.



Tom Plagman presents the first annual Honest Harold's Can-Do award to John Baker, the first recipient. Baker used his building skills and affiliation with Wausau Homes to make a new home in Aitkin a reality for a Habitat for Humanity family. He will also get \$50 in Aitkin Bucks. Ann Schwartz photos

Habitat Toolin Tour revived May 22

Get your motor running. Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity is hosting our Toolin Tour ride on Sunday, May 22.

The route will start and end in Aitkin on Sunday afternoon. Needed are riders, volunteers, door prizes and silent

auction items. Call 218-927-5656 or email aitkinhabitat@gmail.com for more info.

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- A small fee for recycling of used oil filters and anti-freeze.
- Free oil recycling at the landfill and several drop-off locations within the County. Visit our webpage for drop-off locations: www.crowwing.us and search "oil"
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