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NEWSHOPPER

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Downtown Brainerd Block Party features classics, pop music

The Lakes Area Music Festival will take to the streets on Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 7:30 p.m. with its annual Downtown Brainerd Block Party. At this free event, you can bring a chair, grab a beer at Sage on Laurel, and be treated to a professional string orchestra playing familiar classics and pop tunes. From Mozart to Copland to the Beatles and more, this activity featuring the string players of LAMF's symphony coming from the best orchestras in the nation for this year's Festival season. The Downtown Brainerd Block Party is a family-friend-

ly celebration of the community and is produced in partnership with Brainerd Restoration and is sponsored in part by Country Inn & Suites of Baxter and Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union.

At the event the organization will also celebrate its team of 250 volunteers from around the area who offer housing, transportation, meals, and more to



the visiting artists. Interested volunteers can contact Sherri DeLaHunt (sherri@lakesaremusic.org) or sign up at the event for future seasons.

The Lakes Area Music Festival is Minnesota's summer

home for world-class opera, orchestra, and chamber music. Celebrating its 15th anniversary season, over 200 artists from the nation's top orchestras and opera companies will present over 50 con-

cert, education, and community outreach activities in July and August. Name-your-price tickets for mainstage performances at downtown Brainerd's Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts can be reserved online through the LAMF website. For assistance, please call 218-831-0765. Tickets will also be available at the door beginning 60 minutes prior to each performance.

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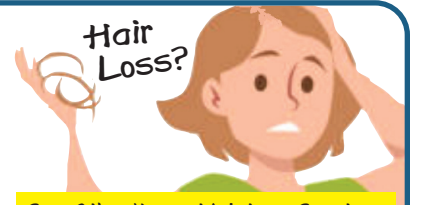
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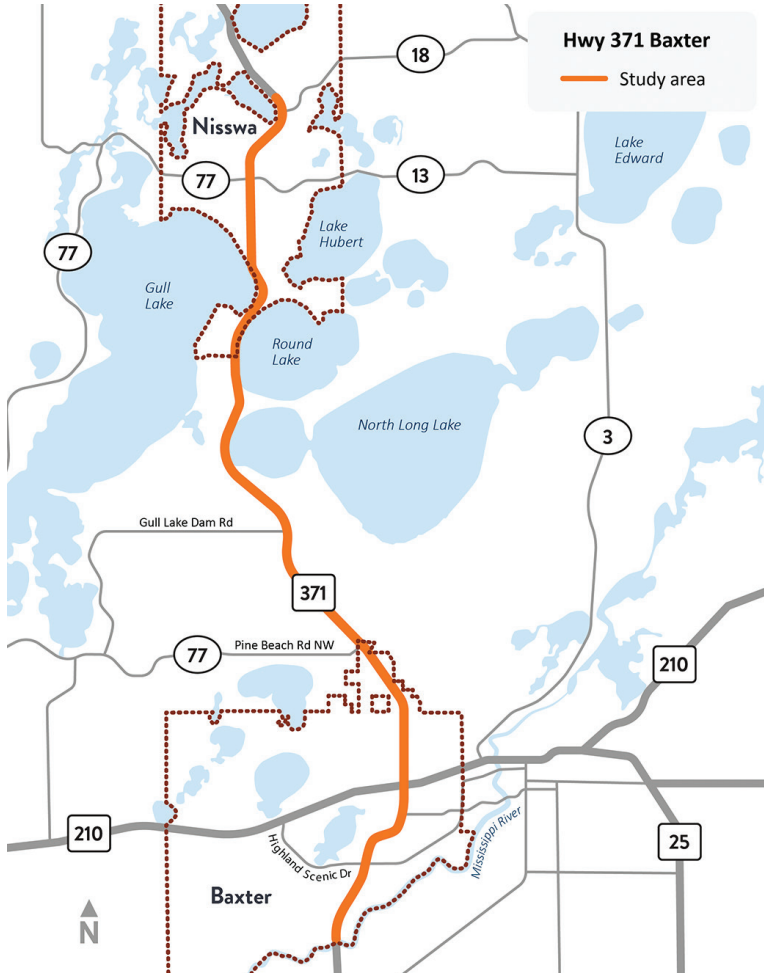
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Public input sought on Highway 371 Niswaa to Baxter corridor

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is seeking the traveling public's feedback for a study of Highway 371 between Niswaa and Baxter in Crow Wing County.



The public can share their experiences traveling along or across Highway 371 via an online survey and an interactive comment map on the study website.

This road is critical for both the local community and the greater region. The purpose of the study is to gain an understanding of transportation needs, identify potential future improvements, and determine how and when these improvements should be implemented. The study will include an analysis of traffic, safety, land use and demographics.

To learn more about the project and sign up for email updates, visit the MnDOT project website at <https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/hwy-371-niswaa-baxter-study>.

MnDOT invites and encourages participation by all. If you need an ASL, foreign language interpreter, or other reasonable accommodation, or need documents in an alternative format (such as braille or large print), please email your request to Janet Miller at ADArequest@state.mn.us or call 651-366-4720.

New no-till drill available to rent

The Cass and Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation Districts have purchased a native seed drill which can be rented out by landowners.



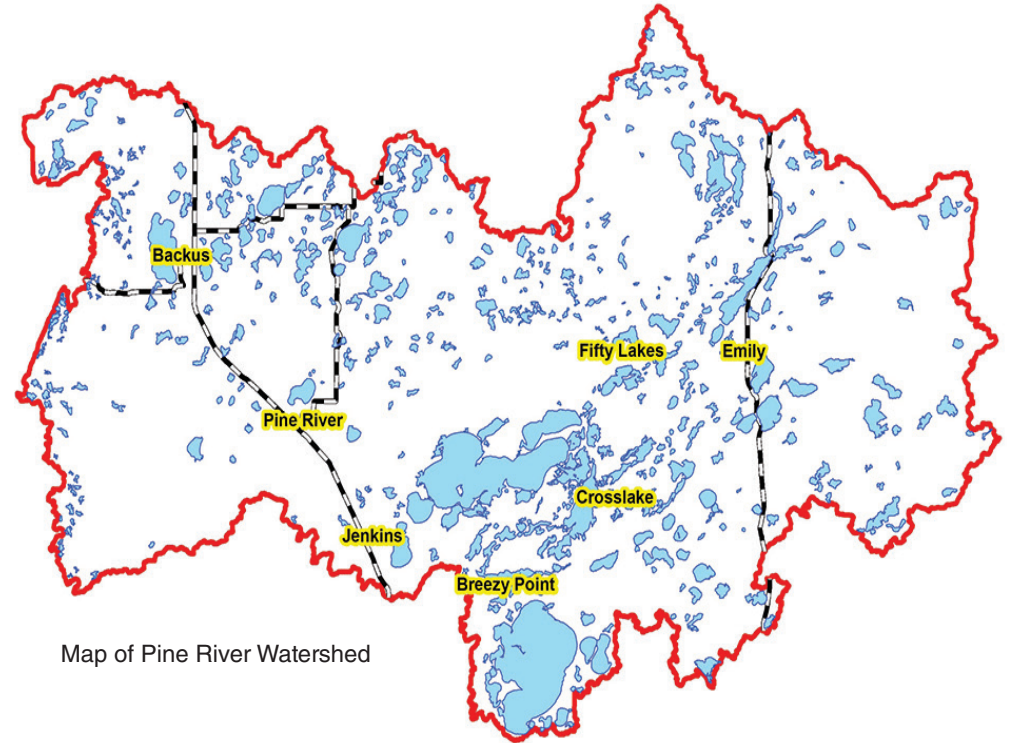
The Truax 7516 drill has a 10-foot planting width and can plant things like cover crops, native prairie, and pasture mixes. It can be planted directly into wheat stubble, soybean residue, pasture, or corn stalks. The Crow Wing and Cass SWCD's goal is to make equipment more readily available to landowners considering soil health practices. Instead of one landowner purchasing a drill for their operation, this can be used by many and allow landowners to try these practices without fully

committing purchase to a \$50,000 piece of equipment. "This is a real opportunity for landowners to rent this piece of equipment and to see how it could work into their operations on items like cover crops," said Crow Wing SWCD District Technician Adam Maleski. The Drill will be rented out at \$14.00/acre + \$200 down deposit is required when renting the drill. The deposit

will be returned when the drill is returned in satisfactory condition. Landowners that fall within the Pine River Watershed (reference map below) would receive first priority.

The Truax drill will be located at Hunt Utilities Group Campus in Pine River.

For use of the drill, please contact Adam Maleski at 218-828-6197 or adam@cwsxcd.org.



Map of Pine River Watershed

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VEHICLES: Ford F150 FX4 Crew Cab with Triton V8 motor (has broken frame) **LAWN & GARDEN:** Related, Bolens hydro H1502 Diesel Tractor w/mower deck & front hydraulics, Hustler Fastrak zero turn lawn mower 36 in., Swisher 44 in. rugged cut pull style mower, Terrain Tough pull style ATV disc/cultivator packer on rubber, Sled Bed by Newmans 8x10 aluminum snowmobile trailer, DR 18 HP chipper shredder on wheels, Briggs 8HP walk behind rear tire tiller, John Deere 826D snow blower, Honda EX 1000 generator & other generator, Chainsaws, Agri Fab lawn sweep & pull style lawn fertilizer spreader Pacific Hydrostar pressure washer, Briggs 6 1/4 HP walk behind weed trimmer, Gas powered weed trimmers & large quantity of weed trimmer line, Big red mule 4 wheel lawn & garden trailer, Aluminum ATV or lawn mower ramps, Honda GX31 mantis style tiller, **SHOP TOOLS & GARAGE RELATED:** Enco metal cutting band saw, South Bend Metal lathe, Bland Diamond drill grinder, Central Machinery 1/4 HP mini lathe, Menards DL300 drilling & milling machine 2 HP, Craftsman 150 drill press, Niagra number 36 metal shear, Sanborn industrial upright generator, Vertical belt sander 4 in. & smaller Delta belt sander, Craftsman radial arm saw, Wards Pow-Kraft high frequency arc stabilizer, 30 ton shop press, Blue M mechanical convection oven model RG-2090A-3, (2) Engine hoists, Large variety air hand power tools, Numerous Craftsman sockets, wrenches & other mechanic hand tools, Large variety of hammers of all different sizes & styles. Milwaukee, Bosch & Dewalt power hand tools corded & battery, Century 6 & 12 Volt battery charger/booster on wheels, Dual wheel metal sharpening stone floor model Manley manufacturing 325 S hand press bench model, Metal chop saw, Dual wheel grinder floor model, Waterloo nine drawer upright toolbox, New style anvil, Lawn mower/ATV jack, Hardware organizers full of machine bolts, nuts, washers & related, Automotive related supplies, Wood machinist style tool box, Long shank metal wood clamps & other clamps, (2) Bench vises & machinist vise, Kennedy style tool box, Large variety of drill bits, reamers & related, Step & extension ladders, Numerous lubes, oils grease guns & other automotive related, Tow straps, ratchet straps & receiver hitches. Battery chargers/maintainers, Power Safe 4 ton hydraulic service floor jack, High lift jack, jack stands, bottle jacks & other related, Electrical cords, gas cans & other garage related items, Large variety of spray paints, stains & other painting related **FIREARMS & SPORTING RELATED:** Ruger Ranch rifle semi auto .223 w/scope stainless synthetic, Interarms Mark X .375 hybrid bolt action w/bull barrel & 4x12x50 Redfield illuminated scope, Ruger 10/22 semi auto .22LR w/scope, Stevens model 87 .22 LR, Approximately 5,000 rounds of .22 ammo plus 9mm, .44 Mag & other ammunition, Large quantity of reloading supplies bullets, powder, brass, reloading dies, primers, shell holders ammo boxes & more, Leather pistol holster belt style & other pistol/rifle cases Hunting clothing orange & camo, Large variety of knives, **HOUSEHOLD & RELATED:** Glass front book case 5 tier upright style, Curio cabinet corner style, Framed Artwork, Large flat top trunk **ITEMS OF INTEREST:** (2) Hand carved wood statues, Large variety of electrical wire, Welding steel & related

This Auction bill is a tip of the iceberg. Many unlisted items, this auction offers a large selection of clean shop and power tools.

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LEGAL NOTICE

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., July 29 & Aug. 5, 2023)
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP

Due to construction of a new Bay Lake Town Hall building, the Bay Lake Township Board will be holding Township Board meetings beginning on August 8, 2023 at the: Deerwood Township Hall building located at: 20782 State Hwy 6, Deerwood, MN 56444 The Town Board meetings will be held at the Deerwood Township Hall building through the completion of the new Bay Lake Township Town Hall building scheduled for March, 2024.

All regular Township business will be conducted at the Bay Lake Town Hall property in the Baratto Brother's Construction trailer.

CAROL PUNDT
Clerk, Town of Bay Lake
Dated July 19, 2023
4.2

Tell 'em you saw it in the **NEWSHOPPER**
Deadlines are Mondays at Noon

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READER RIBBETS

Rep. Ben Davis legislative update

[As of] Aug. 1, a whole new round of laws passed by the Democrat trifecta earlier this year [took] effect.

These new laws are not to be confused with the ones related to our state budget that took effect July 1 and included some of the \$10 billion in tax increases Democrats put into law despite a \$17.5 billion surplus.

These Aug. 1 laws are related to policy and include some of the hyper-partisan agenda the Democrat trifecta pushed this year. Some of the extreme changes they made already are in effect, including legislation allowing a 13-year-old girl to become legally sterilized at an unlicensed abortion clinic without parental consent or knowledge and repealing the Born Alive Act.

Here is a look at just some of what does become law as of today:

- Adult-use cannabis legalized, and prior low-level cannabis convictions expunged.** Adults aged 21 or older can possess or publicly transport 2 ounces of adult-use cannabis flower, and up to 8 grams of cannabis concentrates. Adults can also possess up to 2 pounds of adult-use cannabis flower in their home. Penalties are established for violating possession limits, making illegal cannabis sales, selling to a minor, and exceeding personal cultivation limits. Criminal records of Minnesotans with petty misdemeanor and misdemeanor cannabis convictions will begin to be expunged. Although the records are not destroyed, they are removed from public view and will not appear in criminal background checks.

- Statement of faith requirement removed from PSEO.** Higher education institutions participating in the postsecondary enrollment option program (PSEO) for high school students will no longer be allowed to require a faith statement from applicants for admission. House Republicans fought hard against this provision, which now is the subject of a lawsuit. While this law officially takes effect Aug. 1, a judge already has ordered state officials to not enforce it pending the outcome of this case.
- Universal Background Checks.** Private transfers of pistols and semiautomatic weapons without a firearms eligibility background check will be prohibited. A gun purchaser will be required to apply for a permit to carry first. Private transfers must complete a record of transfer which includes detailed information about the weapon and individuals involved. Violent crime remains abnormally high in our state and must be addressed. But this new law seems to place more of a burden on law-abiding citizens than deter bad actors. We could do much better to rid our state of senseless shootings by enforcing current laws and adhering to sentencing guidelines to stop the revolving door in our courts. (Side note: The Red Flag firearm confiscation law does not take effect until Jan. 1, 2024.)

While there certainly were controversial, radical provisions placed into law this year, others received more broad support, including:

- Increased penalties for catalytic converter thefts.** The new law prohibits the possession of a detached catalytic converter with a few narrow exceptions and provides that individuals found with illegally acquired detached catalytic converters could be charged with up to a felony.
- New labor trafficking law.** A new law creates a new crime of labor trafficking that results in death with a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison and a \$40,000 fine. It also creates enhanced penalties for labor trafficking a person over an extended period or when a labor trafficking victim suffers great bodily harm because of the trafficking. This crime could be punished by up to 20 years in prison and a \$40,000 fine if the victim is under age 18, labor trafficking occurs over an extended period, or the victim suffers great bodily harm, and the harm was proximately caused by the labor trafficking conduct of the offender.
- Permitting electronic signatures on wills.** A new law allows a will to be witnessed and, where allowed, electronically notarized and completed. [Go to] <https://www.house.mn.gov/hinfo/leginfo/08012023NewLaws.pdf> for more information regarding new laws from the non-partisan Minnesota Public Information Services office.

Your thoughts on these or other issues always are welcome. Hope to see you around at local community events soon as we enjoy the rest of this summer.

*Sincerely,
Representative Dale Lueck
Minnesota House
District 6A*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

August
 4th & 5th - Crow Wing County Fair. Parade of Colors, midway, grandstand events, entry judging, live animals, baja rally races, horse racing, barrel racing, chainsaw carvings, coloring contest, beer garden and more! www.crowwingcountyfair.com
 4th & 5th - Aitkin County Historical Garage Sale, 9am-4pm at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds.
 5th - Emily Wesleyan Church Community Market in the church parking lot, 9 am- 1pm.
 5th - Malmo Free Church Outdoor Gospel Concerts featuring Fool 4 Old School from Jordan/Belle Plaine, this group shares a love of old-time gospel and bluegrass music at 7pm. Come as you are and bring a lawn chair. In case of rain, the concert will be inside the air-conditioned church. A free-will offering will be taken to help pay for the concerts. Malmo church is located near the junction of Highways 47 and 18 on Highway 18 near the north east corner of Lake Mille Lacs.
 6th - Free Summer Farm Festival celebrates all things local at 11am-3pm at Clear Lake Gardens, 31213 292nd St. Aitkin, Glen Township. For more info contact Kelley Rajala 707-331-6850, clearlakegardens.org/events, clearlakegardens@gmail.com
 10th - Music in the Park at Crosby Memorial Park on Serpent Lake. Hosted by the Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce.
 11th & 12th - Summerfest in Deerwood. Live music, food, vendors line the streets of Deerwood, bake sale, meat raffles, bag tournament, pull tab extravaganza and so much more! Contact the Deerwood Civic and Commerce at info@deerwoodcommerce.org or leave a message at 218-534-2936.
 12th - Riding with Rory Suicide Awareness/Prevention Ride hosted by the Over the Hills Gang ATV Club.
 12th - Malmo Free Church Outdoor Gospel Concerts featuring Headin' Home Quartet, a Men's Gospel Quartet from Iowa, at 7pm. Come as you are and bring a lawn chair. In case of rain, the concert will be inside the air-conditioned church. A free-will offering will be taken to help pay for the concerts.

Send Us Your Photos and Community Events!
 Got an interesting photo and story to share? Just send it to hopper@rosbyironton.net, along with your name, city and a description of the photo. We also accept news and community events. And who knows, you may see your submission next week in the **NewsHopper!**

Pelican Lakes in Crow Wing County

Join Unlimited Learning on Monday, August 14 at 1:30 p.m., to hear James Henderson describe his dedication to Pelican Lakes. The program will be at the Crosby-Ironton High School in Crosby. It's free for members and \$5.00 for non-members.

For more information, contact Sally Ihne at sihnecharter.net or log onto our website: lakesareunlimitedlearning.org.

Learn about the history of Pelican Lakes, from the time lakes formed as the last glaciers receded to the logging industry. Through never-published history and photographs, we will see how the automobile brought tourism and resorts to the lakes area. We will learn about the early history, how the bays were named and how major weather events impacted the area. James D. Henderson is a retired veterinarian and bio-medical researcher. An accomplished digital photographer, he has most recently served as editor and contributing author of "Life on the Lakes—A History of the Pelican Lakes in Crow Wing County."

Lakes Area Unlimited Learning engages and energizes older adults who embrace lifelong learning and are endlessly curious about the world around them. Our philosophy is "learning without limits," and we live that philosophy by offering programs, events and field trips that are stimulating and relevant. People join Unlimited Learning for the learning opportunities and stay for the friendships.

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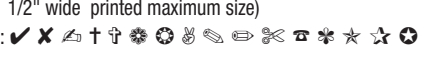
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Safety net program available for Minnesotans struggling to pay for insulin

The Minnesota Insulin Safety Net Program was created in 2020 to help Minnesotans who face difficulty affording their insulin. During the 2023 legislative session, the Minnesota Legislature made important changes to the program that will improve access to this drug for undocumented Minnesotans who are struggling to afford their insulin.

As of August 1, Minnesotans can use an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) as an accepted

form of identification for program eligibility. This change provides a pathway to access the program for those who do not have a valid Minnesota identification card, driver's license or permit, or tribal-issued identification. For minors

under the age of 18 who need help affording insulin, a parent or legal guardian can

use an ITIN as an accepted form of identification.

The urgent need program is for Minnesotans who are in immediate need of assistance — that is, they have less than a seven-day supply of insulin and will likely face significant health consequences without it. Eligible residents will receive a 30-day supply of insulin right away at a pharmacy and pay no more than a \$35 co-pay, one time per year. The pharmacist also will share helpful resources that cover how to apply for health insurance and how to access other patient assistance or prescription drug discount programs.

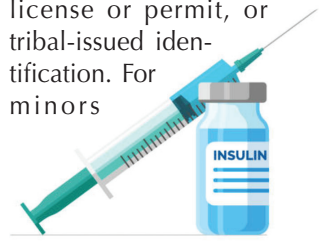
The continuing need program supports eligible Minnesotans who need longer-term help to receive up to a year supply of insulin for no more than \$50 per 90-day refill. MNsure-certified navigators offer free help applying for the continuing need program, and help is available in multiple languages including Hmong, Somali, Spanish,

Russian, and Vietnamese.

For more information on how to qualify and apply for both the urgent need

and continuing need insulin affordability programs, visit MNinsulin.org. The Minnesota Insulin Safety Net program

is implemented by MNsure, the state's health insurance marketplace, and the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy.



Tennis courts under construction



If you want to play tennis in Aitkin this summer, you may be out of luck. The Aitkin School District is replacing the tennis courts, now under construction at the western edge of town. Aitkin School District Superintendent Dan Stifter gives this update: "We are completely replacing the tennis courts. We are adding two courts so we will now have seven tennis courts. This will match the number of matches at each meet so we can better host our meets and tournaments. Our goal is to have the courts done by September 1 or before. The tennis court project will include new fencing and nets and two courts will be lighted."

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AUGUST 7-13, 2023

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Nature Notes:

- Ragweed is beginning to shed pollen.
- Canada Goldenrod is in bloom. The bees love Goldenrod!

STARGAZING NOTES, provided by the Minnesota Astronomical Society
What's happening in the starry sky this week?

- This week's highlight is the Perseid meteor shower. The peak activity is Aug. 12 and 13. The best viewing is between 1-5 a.m. on August 13.
- Four planets are visible: Mars low SE, Saturn SSE, Jupiter SW, Venus low W
- Mars is particularly bright during August.

As part of its ongoing mission to educate the public about wise use of natural resources, Long Lake's team of Environmental Educators will share simple, everyday Conservation Tips that everyone, including kids, can do. If everyone makes the effort to consume resources more wisely, we can help ensure a brighter future for the planet and make life better TODAY!

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