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Clay artist explores Minimalism and Scandinavian design



Clean lines and negative space define Desi Murphy's functional and decorative stoneware and porcelain pottery. Murphy's work, which reflects her Scandinavian heritage, will be featured at Ripple River Gallery August 16 through September 24. The gallery is located between Aitkin and Deerwood near Bay Lake.

"My stoneware and porcelain pieces reference a modern minimalist style, which prioritize clean lines, functionality and a neutral palette. I believe that the essence of a well-made piece is conveyed through attention and dedication to the process and material," Murphy says.

St. Cloud based artist, Desi Murphy, has been designing clay pieces for over 25 years. She works with porcelain and stoneware that is high-fired in a gas kiln. For added control over the aesthetic of her work, she develops and mixes her own glazes. She focuses on craftsmanship and perfecting her process, on simple forms, and on materials that emphasize a clean aesthetic. As an artist, she strives to achieve an elegant combination of practicality and sophistication.

Murphy's current collection, "VOID: presence in absence," is an exploration of Minimalism, an art movement in which all non-essential elements are eliminated. It is through this removal of elements that a single underrepresented element is accentuated: space. This negative space, the area between the components of a piece becomes the focal point. "The absence becomes the presence." The collection ranges from functional tableware to jewelry, wall pieces and sculpture.

Murphy received her BFA from the College of St. Benedict and exhibits

her award-winning artwork throughout Minnesota. She is also the owner of Desi Murphy Pottery, a commercial pottery studio and gallery

that is located in North St. Cloud.

Ripple River Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Satur-

day; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. For more information call 218-678-2575 or e-mail ripplervergallery@gmail.com.

Two arrested after fentanyl seizure



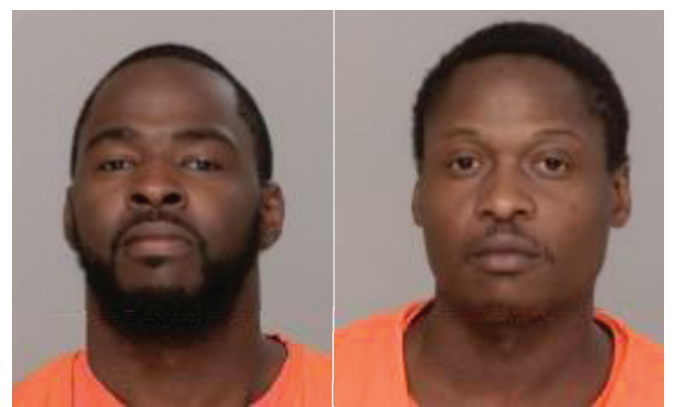
Two men were arrested in Brainerd after officials seized narcotics and firearms while conducting a search warrant on Tuesday, Aug. 1.

The Lakes Area Drug Investigative Division (LADID) conducted multiple search warrants in the City of Brainerd in reference to an ongoing investigation into the sale and distribution of fentanyl in the Crow Wing County area. As a result of these search warrants, approximately 3.1 pounds (estimated between 13,000-15,000 individual pills) of suspected fentanyl (MBox30), 204.8 grams of

suspected cocaine and six firearms were seized.

The suspects, Dazaughn Ellis West, 27, of Brainerd and Ellis West, 27, of Detroit, MI were arrested for first-degree controlled substance crimes

and crimes involving the illegal possession of firearms. Assisting LADID in this investigation were the Baxter Police Department, Brainerd Police Department and the Minnesota BCA.



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Wild rice season opens soon, but harvesters must ensure rice is ripe

As the Aug. 15 wild rice season opening date approaches, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds harvesters that rice stands must be ripe before they can be legally harvested.

Wild rice harvesters going out during the upcoming season will find generally good conditions throughout much of Minnesota.

"Unusually warm days this spring got plant growth off to a fast start and generally dry weather has meant many rice waters weren't impacted by rainstorms," said Ricky Lien, Minnesota DNR wetland habitat team supervisor. "Overall rice stands are looking pretty good, though rice stands on some lakes are better than others."

As people consider harvesting, they need to know the regulations that help

protect wild rice stands for future years. Harvesters are allowed to take ripe wild rice each year during the harvesting season that runs between Aug. 15 and Sept. 30, but Minnesota's green rice law makes it illegal to harvest unripe or "green" rice, even within the dates of the harvest season. So, although rice beds might look like they are ready, ricers must make sure the grain is ripe and falling easily from the stalk before attempting to harvest it.

Early reports from Minnesota DNR and tribal biologists indicate average to great rice stands across central and northern Minnesota, but conditions are variable for individual waters.

"People interested in harvesting wild rice should do some scouting to look for good stands of rice," Lien said. "Folks will also want to

do some scouting to check access conditions. Right now, most basins have enough water to float a canoe. But if the dry weather pattern continues, lake levels will continue to drop, and come late August, there might not be enough water to get to the rice."

The Minnesota DNR has posted a wild rice conditions report online. The conditions report is available each year on the Minnesota DNR's wild rice management webpage (mndnr.gov/wildlife/shallow-lakes/wildrice.html), along with license, regulation and safety information. Anyone looking for more information on wild rice in their area can contact their local Minnesota DNR wildlife manager (mndnr.gov/areas/wildlife) or Shallow Lakes Program specialist (mndnr.gov/wildlife/shallow-lakes/specialists.html).

Since wild rice is ripening at the same time as Minnesota's early waterfowl hunting seasons, over-water waterfowl hunters are urged to be aware of and cautious about wild ricers no matter where they hunt. A safety mindset and mutual courtesy will allow for successful early waterfowl hunting and wild ricing. Those who plan to hunt the early teal season on the Leech Lake Reservation should be aware of hunting restrictions near posted rice beds. Early-season teal hunters may not hunt within one-half mile of posted wild rice beds open to harvest within the boundaries of the Leech Lake Reservation during the early-teal season. For more information, contact the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (llojibwe.org). Minnesota's early teal season is Sept. 2-6, and early goose season is Sept. 2-17.

Harvesting tips
Harvesters usually use a canoe with a push pole or

paddles for power, and collect rice using two sticks, or flails, to knock mature seeds into the canoe. While labor intensive, harvesting wild rice can be rewarding, and finding a mentor who knows what they're doing can make the learning process easier.

As part of the Outdoor Skills and Stewardship series, Minnesota DNR staff produced a webinar about how to harvest wild rice. The webinar recording can be viewed online (youtube.com/watch?v=kjlkWUusuzY).

Harvesters should keep access areas clean by packing out what they pack in. To prevent spreading invasive species, ricers should make sure their canoe and gear is clean before arriving at the rice lake. Before heading out, harvesters should plan for how the rice will be processed. Novice rice harvesters are often advised to use a processor rather than attempt to process it themselves.

Wild rice (manoomin/psi) is spiritually, culturally, nutritionally and economically significant to tribal communities. Wild rice plays a key spiritual and cultural role in Ojibwe, Dakota and other tribal traditions. Additionally, a significant portion of the wild rice in Minnesota is located within Ojibwe reservations or treaty ceded territory.

It is unlawful for any person to take wild rice grain from any of the waters within the original boundaries at the White Earth, Leech Lake, Nett Lake, Vermilion Lake, Grand Portage, Fond du Lac and Mille Lacs reservations except for Native Americans or residents within the reservation from which the rice is collected. In addition, all nontribal members wishing to harvest or buy wild rice within the boundaries of the Leech Lake Reservation must have a Leech Lake Reservation permit.

Smoked Prime Rib Night
Saturday, August 12
5-8 p.m. at Ruby's on the Lake

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Deer hunting regulations/licenses

Deer hunters will have more ways to hunt in Minnesota this fall. And deer hunting licenses can be purchased now.

All deer hunters should review the new hunting regulations and make a plan for hunting success. Here are some highlights of what's new with the regulations this year.

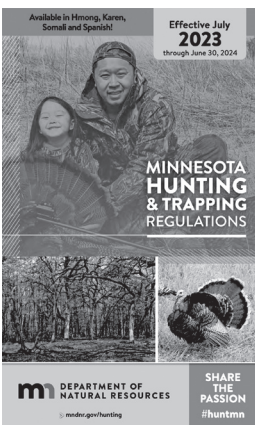
- Crossbows are allowed for all deer hunters with an archery license. Hunters will be asked whether they harvested their deer with a crossbow or vertical bow when they register their deer.

- Synthetic ground blinds on public lands are required to have blaze orange covering. The change on ground blinds requires that fabric or synthetic blinds on public land must have a blaze orange safety covering on top of the blind that is visible from all directions, or a patch made of blaze orange that is at least 144 square inches (12x12 inches) on each side of the blind.

- Some chronic wasting disease zones have changed.

Nontoxic ammunition will be required for special hunts in state parks or in scientific and natural areas where hunting is allowed.

- Some harvest limits are reduced in northeast and north-central Minnesota while most areas have similar bag



limits as last year.

Deer hunting specifics can be found on the Minnesota DNR website, <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hunting/deer/index.html>.

Electronic copies of all 2023 Minnesota hunting regulations are available now online, <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations/hunting/index.html>.

This year the printed version of the regulations will be available later than expected, near the end August.

The deadline to apply for special archery hunts, the Camp Ripley archery hunt,

and special youth hunts is Friday, Aug. 18. Hunters have through Thursday, Sept. 7, to apply for permits to harvest antlerless deer in antlerless lottery areas, and for special firearm or muzzleloader special hunts.

Here's a snapshot of deer season dates for 2023:

Archery: Saturday, Sept. 16, through Sunday, Dec. 31

Youth and early antlerless: Thursday, Oct. 19, through Sunday, Oct. 22

Firearms: Saturday, Nov. 4, with various closing dates depending on a hunter's location

Muzzleloader: Saturday, Nov. 25, through Sunday, Dec. 10

Late CWD hunt (DPAs 605, 643, 645, 646, 647, 648 and 649) Dec. 15-17.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

August

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. Malmo church is located near the junction of Highways 47 and 18 on Highway 18 near the north east corner of Lake Mille Lacs.

13th - Light of the Cross Lutheran Church in Garrison will host the Gospel Quartet from Iowa, HEADIN' HOME, at the 9 a.m. Sunday service Everyone is welcome!

14th - Join Unlimited Learning at 1:30 p.m. to hear James Henderson describe Life on the Lakes - A history of Pelican Lakes in Crow Wing County. 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.

17th -20th - Heritage Days on the Cuyuna Range. Night to Unite, Customer Appreciation Specials, Cuyuna Crusher Mountain Bike Race, Lions Car Show, Story Hour, Arts & Crafts Show, Children's Games Festival, Loon Calling Contest and so much more!

19th - Lions Corn Feed at The Pickled Loon in Emily.

19th - Emily Wesleyan Church Community Market in the church parking lot from 9 am-2 pm.

19th - Heritage Days Arts & Crafts Show in Crosby Memorial Park on Serpent Lake from 9 am-3 pm

19th - Malmo Free Church Outdoor Gospel Concerts featuring Hawkson & Friends - a local Country Gospel group that features steel guitar, lead guitar, rhythm guitar, bass guitar and drums, 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.

20th - Cuyuna Crusher Mountain Bike Race. Register by Aug. 19 at mmtbseries.com or call the Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce at 218- 546-8131.

20th - Manna for Malawi Fund-raiser at the Bridge Tavern in Crosby from 2-6 p.m. Live music by Wyld Ryce. Free will offering pulled pork dinner at 3 pm.

26th - Malmo Free Church Outdoor Gospel Concerts featuring the Klassen Family - a family group from Worthington 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.



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 Garage Sale 23160 Forest Lane, Deerwood. August 10th 12-4pm, 11th 8-4, 12th 8-12 Coins, tools, wood, other decoys, sporting goods, wood antlaves, moose mount, approx. 100 sets antlers Elk, m-deer, whitetail Phone 218-839-2622

TRAILERS

 Utility Trailer brake & suspension parts Riley's NAPA Aitkin 218-927-2153

Church Pianist Wanted
 St. John's Lutheran Church of Cedarbrook located at 27452 St. John's Church Road Aitkin, is looking for a talented and experienced pianist to join our team. The ideal candidate will be a pianist with a passion for music and possess musical skills to accompany hymn singing and perform music throughout the 8:30 a.m. church service. The pay will be \$100.00 per service. For more information or if interested, call 218.851.8825.



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 Call 218-821-1393 or
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For more information call **Jim Blakesley**
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CROW WING COUNTY LANDFILL
 Open Mon - Sat / 8am to 5pm (April to October)
 Open Mon - Friday / 8am to 5pm (November to March)

The Following Items are Accepted

- Household Garbage
- Fiberglass boats
- Mattresses
- Furniture
- Mobile Homes
- Free recycling of lead-acid car/ marine batteries - NOT to be disposed of in the landfill
- Free compost of lawn and garden material (please separate brush and branches)
- 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"
- Demolition materials may be disposed in the demolition landfill for a fee
- Large appliances, electronics, tires with or without rims, and scrap metals can be disposed at the site for a nominal fee for recycling.

The landfill is open only to residents of Crow Wing County for recycling and disposal needs.

For more information, please call 218-824-1010.



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