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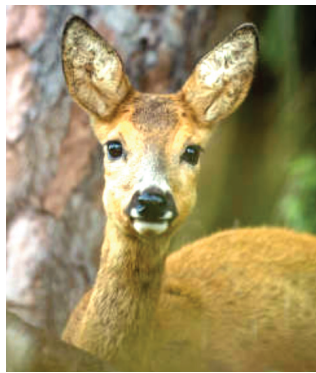
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Antlerless deer and muzzleloader application deadlines



The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds firearm and muzzleloader hunters who want to harvest antlerless deer in a deer permit area designated as antlerless permit lottery this hunting season to purchase their license by Thursday, Sept. 7. Hunters who purchase their license on or before this date are automatically entered into the lottery for the deer permit area or special hunt area they declare.

Successful applicants will receive a postcard in the mail authorizing them to take an antlerless deer using their regular license in that antlerless permit lottery area. No application is needed to take antlerless deer in permit areas with either sex, two-deer limit, three-deer limit or five-deer limit designations. Hunters who want to par-

ticipate in special firearm or muzzleloader deer hunts also need to apply for permits that are issued through a lottery. That application deadline is also Sept. 7.

Collared bears provide important management data

The Minnesota bear hunting season opens Friday, Sept. 1, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is once again asking hunters to avoid shooting marked research bears. These bears are marked with distinctively large, colorful ear tags and wear radio collars.

Researchers with the Minnesota DNR are monitoring 35 radio-collared black bears across the state, especially in bear hunting zones 27, 45, and parts of the no-quota zone. Most of the radio-collared bears live in or near the Chippewa National Forest, Camp Ripley Military Reserve, the Pillsbury State Forest, and the Brainerd/Baxter area. However, the bears also range widely from these sites.

A key to the research is looking at year-to-year changes in natural food supplies and how those changes affect individual bears in terms of their habitat use,

physical condition, denning, reproduction and interactions with people. This research is not designed to evaluate mortality from hunting. Trapping new bears every year to replace the ones killed cannot substitute for long-term data on individual bears.

All the collars the Minnesota DNR uses in this research have GPS units. The GPS coordinates are either uploaded to a satellite or stored in the collar and downloaded by Minnesota DNR researchers when they visit the bears in their dens. Each bear provides several thousand data points per year.

The bear's coat often hides the collar, especially in the fall, and most of the collars

are black. But all collared bears have large (3 x 2 inch), colorful ear tags. The tags should be plainly visible on trail cam photos or when a bear is at a bait. Example photos of collared bears with ear tags and a summary of pertinent research findings can be found online under the link "Importance of Radio-collared Bears" on the Minnesota DNR bear management page (mndnr.gov/hunting/bear).

Minnesota DNR officials recognize hunters might not be able to see a radio collar or ear tags in some situations. For this reason, taking a bear with a radio collar is legal; however, pausing briefly to get a clear view of the bear's

head would reveal whether it has large ear tags, which indicates that it is collared.

Most collared bears have a small, implanted heart monitor under the skin on the left side of the chest. It looks like a small, silver capsule that is approximately the width of a paper clip. This contains valuable information stored in memory. Hunters who take a collared bear and find this device while skinning the bear are asked to submit it with the collar.

Hunters may see bears with very small ear tags (1 x 1/4 inch). These bears are not collared and may be part of other ongoing research projects. It is legal to take a bear with small ear tags.

Free community picnic and concert

Jumpin' Jehosafats will be in concert at Emily United Methodist Church in Emily on Thursday, Aug. 31, following a community-wide free picnic. You are welcome to a toe-tapping evening of traditional jazz, gospel, and Dixieland music for what has become an almost annual event. The picnic begins at 5:00 p.m. and the concert at 6:00

p.m. A freewill offering will benefit the Emily Food Shelf, which has seen increased need recently.

Jumpin' Jehosafats have played together for over 25 years, lifting spirits and helping groups to raise money for charity. They have played community concerts and appeared at prisons, churches, nursing homes, state fairs, homeless shel-

ters and on riverboats and toured Haiti and Jamaica. This concert is the final stop on their 2023 "World Tour of Northern Minnesota."

The concert is outdoors in the churchyard and indoors if it rains. Bring a lawn chair if you wish.

Emily United Methodist Church is located just west of the intersection of Hwy. 6 and Co. Rd 1.

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Riverboat Days in Aitkin brought days of fun at the beginning of August

By ANN SCHWARTZ

The Riverboat Days festival kicked off with a Riverboat Scramble Golf Tourney. There was a dump run race, sip and shop with vendors, a parade, a Fly-in Drive in, Farm Festival and more.

The Riverboat Days parade winners on Saturday, Aug. 5 were Best of Aitkin: DNP Delta Waterfowl; Judge's Choice: Aitkin Pet Supply; and Best Kids' Float: Aitkin All Starz Dance Team.

Eighty-four runners finished the Dump Run on the morning of Aug. 5.

Jeremy Bonenville, Blain, won the 5K, followed by Adam Holder, Chaska and Brian Eagle or Oregon City, Oregon.

Alec Sanbeck, Mora, won the quarter-marathon, with Kale Fairchild, second and David Gerhart, Aitkin, third.

On Saturday, prior to the parade at 3 p.m., Aitkin was full of visitors who strolled downtown and visited vendors posted at Minnesota

Avenue and at the Legion.

Sunday brought breakfast, cars and planes to the Aitkin Airport with the Fly-in Drive-in and the first-ever Aitkin Summer Farm Fest at Clear Lake Gardens near Glen.

Many families, groups, churches and organizations banded together to put on a fun time for local residents and visitors alike.



The Aitkin All Starz Dance team was a parade winner.



Summer Farm Festival at Clear Lake Gardens, north of Glen.



Aitkin United Methodist Church had a beachy theme.

CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK

AUG. 28-SEPT. 3, 2023

BACK-TO-SCHOOL: WAYS KIDS CAN CONSERVE

It's back-to-school time and here are 9 ways kids can help conserve resources:

1. Take a Shower Instead of a Bath
2. Limit Electronic Usage
3. Turn Everything off When You Aren't in the Room
4. Keep Windows and Blinds Closed
5. Plant a Tree
6. Ride a Bike or Walk to School, if you can
7. Use Both Sides of a Piece of Paper
8. Use a Reusable Water Bottle
9. Recycle

Nature Notes:

- A good share of Baltimore orioles are migrating.
- Acorns are falling from oak trees are providing vital food for many animals, including wood ducks, wild turkeys, red-bellied woodpeckers, white-tailed deer, and black bears.
- Stiff goldenrod, blazingstar, and prairie-dock are a few showy prairie plants now in bloom.

STARGAZING NOTES, provided by the Minnesota Astronomical Society

What's happening in the starry sky this week?

- Full moon is on Aug 30. This is the second full moon in August, so it's a "Blue Moon." It also occurs when the moon is at perigee, its closest point to Earth, so it's a "Super Moon."

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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- 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.

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READER RIBBETS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Rep. Stauber legislative update

I put on a lot of miles traveling around the 8th Congressional District. With Congress not in session during August, I've been zigzagging around our part of Minnesota hearing from as many constituents as I can so I can continue advocating on your behalf in Washington. Earlier this week, I wrapped up a long day on the road by hosting a party at one of my favorite hot spots, Margie's in Eveleth. It was great to see friendly faces and not only talk about what issues matter to them but hear about how their families and neighbors are doing. I love representing folks from the Great 8 and fighting for our way of life!

Parents Should Have a Say in Their Child's Education

As summer winds down and kids start heading back to school, I want to update you on our efforts in Congress to boost parental access to information about their child's education. Our legislation that passed the U.S. House is based on a simple premise: parents should have a say in their child's education. We should encourage more involvement from mom and dad, not less. Our Parents' Bill of Rights will restore parents' voices.

— Parents should be allowed to address their school boards

— Teachers must offer two meetings with parents each year

—Educators and policy

makers must respect the First Amendment rights of parents

Americans Give 'Bidenomics' a Thumbs Down

Americans overwhelmingly are giving "Bidenomics" a thumbs down, but the sad reality is we're all left paying the price. That's right, under Bidenomics, Americans are paying \$10,000 more a year. It's no wonder 57% of Americans disapprove of Joe Biden's handling of the economy. In fact, just one out of three Americans approve. Under Joe Biden, prices are higher, real wages are lower, debt levels have skyrocketed and real wealth is falling.

Join Me in a Parade!

Summer is a great time to

travel around the 8th Congressional District and visit with folks. I had a great time earlier this week at the annual Pine County Pie Social.

I never leave there disappointed. Good pie, great people!!

While kids are moving into their college dorms and Labor Day is quickly approaching, there still is a little bit of summer left and a few more community festivals to celebrate. If you want to join me at a parade later this month or fall, please e-mail my campaign at Parades@StauberforCongress.com.

Sincerely,
Representative Pete Stauber
U.S. House of Representatives, Congressional District 8

August

26th - Ironton Kids Fest at the Ironton City Hall, 11am-3pm with free food, firetruck viewing and games. Volunteers are still needed, please contact 218-546-5625.

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 near the north east corner of Lake Mille Lacs.

26th - Pizza Party Ride with the Over The Hills Gang ATV Club beginning and ending at the Log Cabin Bar in Emily.

27th - Cuyuna Crusher Mountain Bike Race in Ironton.

27th - Light of the Cross Church in Garrison Music Jam and Ice Cream Social on Sunday. There will be a variety of music and ice cream cones or bowls of ice cream with toppings! Come, enjoy this fun, FREE event!

27th - Post Crusher cool down is on Sunday following awards at The Hudson. Food will be served starting at 3 pm with live music 4:30-6:30 pm.

September

1st & 2nd - Aitkin Lions Palisade Colorado Peach Preordered pick up at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds, Friday 7am-6pm and Saturday 8am-noon. The twenty pound lugs are preordered and paid. We will have a few lugs available for late comers.

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

4th - Deadline to sign up 4-Wheelin' for Kids with Cancer Fund-raiser Ride. Register at centrallakesatvclub.com.

9th - Smoke on the Range Rib Cook-off and Side Dish Competition at the Deerstand in Deerwood.

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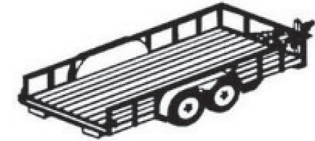
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Due to the Labor Day Holiday on Monday, Sept. 4 there will be an Early Deadline of Noon on Friday, Sept. 1 for the Sept. 9 NewsHopper issue.

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Roadwork through fall on Highway 47 from Isle towards Aitkin



Motorists will encounter periodic lane closures and short-term delays as crews begin to resurface 36 miles of Highway 47 from Isle to Aitkin, Mille Lacs and Aitkin counties.

Watch for heavy equipment and multiple crews at work along the Highway 47 work zone between Highway 27 in Isle and Highway 169 in Aitkin. Flaggers will allow alternate one-way traffic with the use of a pilot car. Locations will change as crews move throughout the day.

Here's a tentative schedule:

- Mid-August to mid-September: Pipe and ditch work along road Isle to north of Glen
- Mid-September to late October: Resurface north of Glen to Isle
- Late September to late October: Resurface Aitkin to north of Glen

All work will occur during daylight hours on good weather days, Monday through Friday, with occasional Saturdays.

MnDOT advises travelers to always slow down when approaching every work zone, then navigate through with care and caution. Other reminders:

- Never enter a roadway that has been blocked with

- barriers or cones
- Stay alert; work zones constantly change
 - Watch for workers and slow-moving equipment
 - Obey posted speed limits; fine for a work zone violation is \$300
 - Minimize distractions behind the wheel
- When complete in late October, the project will result in a smoother road surface, updated storm water drainage and improved motorist safety.

For more information, visit the Highway 47—Isle to Aitkin webpage at www.mndot.gov/d3/projects/millelacs/h47/.

For real-time travel information on central Minnesota highways, visit 511mn.org.

1940 era photo uncovers mystery



Above is a recently uncovered 1940 era Itasca County Fair photo showing the Grandstand on south end of the 2023 race track. Notice the baseball field in center with the backstops in the center on the right; players around home plate, and to the left a scoreboard. Harley Kiger of Grand Rapids ushered in that grandstand. The cement base to the grandstand is still found in the woods east of the little log building on the hill. If anyone has any other fair related photos please contact Brian Carlson, Itasca County Fair historian, 218-256-1522.

Aitkin Lions a peachy organization

Aitkin Lions have been busy selling Palisade Colorado peaches in July and August.

Now the peaches have been picked fresh, boxed, and delivered to the Aitkin

County Fairgrounds for distribution on Friday, Sept. 1 from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 2 from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

The project has been very successful with 220 lugs sold

in 2022 and 440 in 2023. Most of the twenty pound lugs have been pre-ordered and paid for. However, Joy Janzen said that they will have a few lugs available for late comers.

The Aitkin Lions have used the money raised to put on last day of school picnic for all Rippleside students, gift cards to the three top classrooms at Rippleside Elementary School in Aitkin who collected the most poundage of pop tabs.

Janzen said the Aitkin Lions gave \$500 to the Walk to end Alzheimers, \$600 to Knights of Columbus Coat for Kids, and \$1,000 to Aitkin Little League sound system.

According to Janzen, the Lions provide funds for Aitkin High School student of the month recognition. In addition, Aitkin Lions do two Red Cross Bloodmobile in spring and fall with St. John's Lutheran. Lions donate many dollars for community projects and volunteer many hours to the Aitkin Community.

Purchase tickets at any Ruttger's Retail locations or online at www.ruttgersretail.com

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