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# NEWSHOPPER

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## Brainerd's Great Pumpkin Festival moved to Memorial Park



Brainerd's Great Pumpkin Festival saw windy but dry weather. It was moved to Memorial Park in Brainerd, where families enjoyed races, pumpkin activities and goodies by the Brainerd Women of Today and Ya Sure Kumbucha. Above families have fun painting pumpkins at Brainerd's Great Pumpkin Festival. Women of Today photo



Dave Badeaux, mayor for the city of Brainerd, helps to set up the race area on Oct. 14. Ann Schwartz photo



Gemma, from Ascension Martial Arts, is all ready for face painting at the Great Pumpkin Festival in Brainerd. Ann Schwartz photo

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## Common Goods store in Baxter to relocate in early 2024

In a press release, Jana Shogren Executive Director at Bridges of Hope announced that the Common Goods in Baxter will be relocating north of their present location in early 2024.

"We are excited to announce the move of our Baxter Common Goods just a mile and a half north on

Hwy. 371," said Shogren. "This move is a strategic decision that will allow us to better serve our customers and donors in the Brainerd Lakes Area which allows us to help our neighbors in need. Proceeds from our stores provide approximately 35% of Bridges of Hope's funding. This allows Bridges of Hope

to be flexible and meet the needs of our community."

The new store, located at 17140 State Hwy. 371, features increased accessibility, production and warehouse space. An increase in available parking spaces and visibility are some highlights.

"Our new location will allow us to provide conve-

nient and safe access on and off 371 north for our team of donors, customers, staff, and volunteers," added Danell Eggert, Retail Director at Bridges of Hope. "This move represents our commitment to growth and service not only to our customers but to our role in helping those in need in our community by

financially supporting Bridges of Hope."

"Moving the Baxter Common Goods is a testament to their dedication to providing our community with an outlet for recycling/re-using goods no longer needed and at the same time help others," said Deb Albrecht, Common

Continued on Page 2

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German Buffet at Ruby's on the Lake 5-8pm  
Call 800-450-4545 for Reservations

Saturday, October 21  
Breakfast Buffet 7am - 10 am  
Reservations are not required

Picknik 8 am-5pm  
Located in main parking area

Arts & Crafts Fair 9am-5pm

Live Music & Entertainment 10:45am-5pm

Oktoberfest Buffet at Ruby's on the Lake 5-8pm  
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# Minnesota one of first states to offer direct support to increase compensation Governor Walz announces \$316 million to boost pay for child care



Governor Tim Walz visited Thief River Falls to highlight investments in child care and workforce development in Greater Minnesota. Governor Walz first visited DigiKey (above), an electronics manufacturer, to tour their recent 2.2 million square-foot expansion that is set to create about 1,000 new jobs in Thief River Falls.

Governor Tim Walz announced a new program that will bolster wages and benefits for Minnesota child care providers and early educators, addressing a longstanding

workforce crisis that makes it challenging for families to get child care.

As of Monday, Oct. 16, over 8,000 child care providers can begin applying for Great Start Compensation Support Payments. Applications will close on Wednesday, Oct. 25, with the first payments going out later that week.

“Minnesota’s economy doesn’t work without child care providers. Without the dedicated care they provide, parents can’t work and children miss early learning opportunities critical to brain development,” said Governor Walz. “We are boosting the pay and benefits those providers receive to grow the workforce and reflect the critical work they do each and every day.”

Minnesota is one of the first states to provide direct funding to support the child care workforce. With \$316 million over the next two years, and \$130 million each year after that, the Great Start Compensation Support Payment Program is a key piece of a historic \$1.3 billion package of child care investments signed into law by Governor Walz.

“Families are already struggling to afford care, and providers cannot easily raise their rates without losing families,” said Human Services Commissioner Jodi Harpstead. “We know how essential

child care is to a thriving economy. That’s why this is so important to both providers and parents.”

Delivering quality child care is expensive, and providers often don’t have enough revenue to cover operating costs and offer competitive wages and benefits. Minnesota’s median wage for child care workers is \$14 per hour, one of the lowest median wages for positions requiring at least a high school diploma. For many families, these broken economics have created a crisis. Roughly a quarter of Minnesota’s young children live in areas with a severe lack of child care.

The state is anticipating that better compensation will attract more people to the field of child care, and keep them in those jobs, in turn making it easier for families to get

child care.

The Great Start Compensation Support Payment Program builds off Minnesota’s Child Care Stabilization Grant Program, which helped support about 70% of the state’s child care providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Providers who received stabilization grants were more likely to raise employees’ pay, keep staff turnover down and continue operating.

To provide a bridge from the stabilization grants to the new compensation grants, the state also offered \$42.5 million in transition grants for child care providers. Transition grants were available beginning in July through this month.

The Great Start Compensation Support Payment Program will issue monthly payments to eligible child care providers for increases in compensation

and benefits, moving the child care workforce closer to a livable wage. Licensed and certified child care centers must use the funding to increase compensation and benefits, while family child care providers will have more flexibility in how they can use the funds because of their unique business models.

To qualify for compensation support payments, providers must:

- Be licensed, certified, or registered
- Be in good standing with the Minnesota Department of Human Services or their Tribe
- Be open, operating and serving children during the funding period, and
- Meet additional requirements.

To protect program integrity, recipients will also be subject to random audits.



Governor Walz also visited the construction site of the new \$3 million cargo hangar at the Thief River Falls Regional Airport, a project funded through the infrastructure package signed into law last session. The new building is expected to be complete in summer 2024.

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- Free oil recycling at the landfill and several drop-off locations within the County. Visit our webpage for drop-off locations: [www.crowwing.us](http://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.**

### Common Goods store in Baxter to relocate | Continued from Page 1

Goods Volunteer. “I shop, donate, and volunteer my time at Common Goods because I know by doing so, I’m making a difference.” Common Goods in Baxter,

nominated the number one thrift store in the Brainerd Lakes Area, has been in business for 14 years. Bridges of Hope has been serving households in the Lakes Area

for over 20 years. Bridges of Hope provides support to empower people, bridge gaps and connect individuals and families to resources and services through col-

laborative partnerships and coordination of resources to promote stronger, healthier families.

Bridges of Hope offices are located at 2011 South 6th St., Brainerd, The Bridge on 7th Overnight Shelter is located at 1926 South 7th St., Brainerd; Common Goods stores are currently located at 16227 State Highway 371, Baxter; 35562 County Highway 66, Crosslake; and 27 West Main St., Crosby.

Learn more about Common Goods and Bridges of Hope at [bridgesofhopemn.org](http://bridgesofhopemn.org).

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS

**October**

- 20th-21st - Oktoberfest at Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort ruttgers.com On Friday, Oct. 20, Arts and Crafts Fair noon-5 pm, picnic noon-6 pm and the German Buffet 5-8 pm at Ruby's on the Lake. On Saturday, Oct. 21, Breakfast Buffet 7-10am, Arts and Crafts Fair 9am-5pm, picnic 8am-5pm, live music and entertainment 10:45 am-6pm and the Oktoberfest Buffet 5-8pm at Ruby's on the Lake. Call 218-450-4545 for more information
- 21st - All are welcome to the Fall Bazaar and Lefse-Bake Sale / Lunch, 9am -2pm at Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, 1 mile north of Garrison on Highway 169.
- 21st - Lakes Area Writer Alliance (LAWA) Conference at the Arrowwood Lodge in Baxter 9am-4pm.
- 21st - Outing Area Chamber's Biggest Meat Raffle in the World held at the Log Cabin in Emily.
- 23rd - The Log Church in Crosslake Celebration of All First Responders in the Crosslake Community, at 6:30 p.m. Each first responder will be presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, a gift basket and with their guest enjoy a dessert reception following the ceremony.
- 23rd - Grief Support Group, 5 p.m. at Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby
- 24th - IOU Mental Health Support Group, 2-3:30 p.m., 6:30-8 p.m. at Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby - Free
- 24th - Dementia Caregiver Support, 1 p.m. Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Super One Conference Room
- 24th - Liz Collin, Emmy winning reporter and best selling author, will be at the 40 Club Convention Center in Aitkin, 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Bring your questions and be ready for a truth filled evening. Hosted by Diane Webb-Killings, Aitkin Co. Sheriff Guida and Senator Wesenberg.
- 25th - Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Walk with a Doc, 4:30 p.m. free at Hallett Community Center
- 27th & 28th - Friends of the Aitkin Public Library Fall Book Sale 9am-3pm. Books, DVDs, and CDs are available for \$.50-\$1.00. There is a bag sale all day Sat - fill a bag for \$3.00. Location is the community room attached to the library at 110 1st Ave NE in Aitkin.

**Tell 'em you saw it in the NEWSHOPPER**

Deadlines are Mondays at Noon

Send your photos, stories and community events to  
hopper@crobyironton.net

# OBITUARIES

## PATRICIA KETCHMARK



Patricia Ann Ketchmark, 81, of Garrison, died at home surrounded by her loving family on Saturday, October 7, 2023.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church 27332 Central St., Garrison. Visitation will be one hour prior. Interment will be held at a later date at Fort Snelling Cemetery in St. Paul.

Pat and her twin sister were the youngest of eight children born on the family farm in Moose Lake on October 11, 1941, to Felix and Helen (Kowalczyk) Shusta. She married Eugene "Butch" Ketchmark on July 14, 1962 in Split Rock Township, MN then later moved to Minneapolis to raise their three children. Family and friends meant the word to Pat, she loved

entertaining and visiting with people. Pat enjoyed golfing, boating, fishing with a cocktail in hand and polkas playing in the background. She also enjoyed taking those yearly bus trips to the casino with her husband and friends. Pat adored her cat, Leo and was best known for her amazing cooking and being a diehard Vikings fan. Pat was a long-time member of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Garrison. Left to cherish her memory are her beloved husband of 61 years, Butch; son, Jay Ketchmark; daughter, Jackie Binkiewicz; granddaughters, Brooke and Haylee Binkiewicz; brother, Theodore (Diane) Shusta; sister, Florence Sipsas; sister-in-law, Shirley Shusta; and many nieces and nephews.

Pat is preceded in death by her parents; son, Joseph Eugene Ketchmark; siblings: Frank, Anthony, Joe, Mary and twin sister, Carol.

More obituaries on Page 4

# READER RIBBETS

## Thanks to the good "Samaritan"

On Sunday afternoon, July 30th, I had a serious bike accident at the new roundabout in front of SuperOne. A kind gentleman and good Samaritan said: "I saw you go down, but I did not see you get back up." He offered to call 911 while I was trying to call my husband

and he waited with me until my husband and son arrived. In the end, we did call 911 as my injuries were more severe than I initially realized (i.e., four broken bones in my left shoulder and two broken bones in my right wrist and hand). I want to thank the good

Samaritan for staying with me until help arrived.

I also want to thank everyone at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center (CRMC), they are awesome and so helpful. I feel very grateful to have so many caring people in my life. Many thanks!

Maureen, Deerwood

## School safety fix still needed

Republican legislators recently invited school staff, law enforcement and others to the Capitol for a meeting as they aim to fix a law that has left dozens of Minnesota schools without school resource officers.

Rep. Ben Davis, R-Mission Township, said the issue centers on a change in state law Democrats enacted last spring which limits how SROs are allowed to de-escalate aggressive or violent situations, taking away tools they can use to keep students and teachers safe. Concern and confusion ensued with the start of the new school year, causing dozens of law enforcement agencies to pull SROs from schools across Minnesota.

The issue has been further muddled by public officials offering contradictory opinions of what the new law means, including differing interpretations from Attorney General Keith Ellison and Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarty.

Davis said this lack of clarity and differing interpretations

underscores the importance of a legislative fix, but Democrat leaders have ignored repeated requests from Republicans to conduct public hearings to seek solutions.

"Reports show 90 percent of students agree it is a good idea to have an SRO or police officer at their school," Davis said. "That speaks volumes regarding the service SROs provide and how much students appreciate them. The safety of our children is at stake here and we cannot afford for Democrats to continue burying their head in the sand on this issue, as if it will just go away on its own. In fact, this problem is not going to go away until SROs are fully restored in schools they'd been serving."

Davis attended the meeting and said he appreciated the insight testifiers provided.

"One person we heard from is the president of the National SRO Association and an assistant police chief for Golden

Valley," Davis said. "For someone with those credentials to emphasize how this new law not only puts children, teachers and staff at risk, but also puts officers at risk, really hit home."

Other testimony presented during the committee painted a picture of how the new law is compromising safety in schools. An official from the Riverbend Education District in South Central Minnesota said, "My staff is on a daily basis, having their classrooms completely destroyed by students. We have police officers in town going, 'Not our area, we don't get involved.'" A retired teacher indicated, "I can't imagine being a teacher when things get a little riled up. And there's not an SRO to calm that situation down."

"We need to fix this problem in a special session," Davis said. "We can't have Democrats drag this out any longer and continue causing our children's safety to be compromised."

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# OBITUARIES

## DAVID SMITH



David Christopher Smith, 58, of Bird Island died on May 16, 2023 at his home.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Burial will be at the Woodland Cemetery in Irondale Township.

He was born in Minneapolis on January 8, 1965 to Everett and Jeanne (Scavo) Smith. David graduated from the Crosby-Ironton High School class of 1983.

He was a long-time truck driver for Transystems Sugar Beet Transportation in Renville.

David is survived by four brothers: Leslie (Julie) Smith of Duluth, Alan Smith of Cuyuna, Daniel Smith of Brainerd and Patrick Smith of Roseau; and sister, Lynn (Mark) Nilson of Ogilvie.

Preceding David in death are his parents; two brothers: Tim and Gary Smith; and two sisters: Marianne and Nancy Smith.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to [www.koopfuneralhome.com](http://www.koopfuneralhome.com).

## JAMES BAXLEY



James Henry Baxley, 54, of McGregor died Friday, October 6, 2023 at Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin.

No public services will be held at this time.

He was born November 18, 1968 in Athens, Tennessee to Jimmy Ray and Barbara Ellen (Lethco) Baxley. After graduating high school he earned a B.S. Degree in Web Securities and Web Page Development and a Masters Degree in Finance with a Minor in Marketing. He worked as a machine operator and in construction. James was united in marriage to April Marie Kerr on January 3, 2014 in Hendersonville, NC.

James is survived by his wife, April Marie Baxley; former wife, Scarlett Baxley; son and daughter-in-law, Matthew R. and Sandra L. Harris; daughter and son-in-law, Amanda and Gonzalo Puente; stepsons: Matthew Ker and William Kerr; stepdaughters: Jaden Asselta and Grace Kerr; six grandchildren: Jason Ashburn, Barbara Harris, Jennifer Baxley, Emilio Puente, Marisol Puente and Fidel Puente; siblings: Grady Wilson and Jeff Baxley; sisters-in-law Lisa Baxley, Pam Clawson and Sarah Ellis.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jimmy Ray Baxley; mother, Barbara Ellen (Lethco) Baxley; and sister, Tammy Hall.

Arrangements were with the McGregor Funeral Home and Cremation Service in McGregor. Leave online condolences at [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com).

## DUANE JENSEN, SR.

Duane L. Jensen, Sr., 80 of Crosby died at his home on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

Private services were held.

Duane was born on June 1, 1943, on a farm south of Ogilvie in Kandiyohi County, Minnesota, to Hans Arnold Jensen and Eleanor Peterson Jensen, the fourth of eight children. He was a kind and gentle man, always willing to give of himself and offer a hand. He was employed as a mason at the Brainerd State Hospital for over 30 years. Previously he worked at Potlatch Corporation and earlier with the Crow Wing County Surveyor, as well as always working side jobs. Hunting, fishing and the outdoors were his favorite hobbies, along with spending time with family.

He is survived by his wife, Marjorie; children and spouses: Duane Jensen, Jr. and his wife Teresa of Charles Town, West Virginia; Paula

and her husband David Rardin of Brainerd and David Jensen of Brainerd; one grandson; seven granddaughters, five great-grandsons and seven great-granddaughters; step-daughter, Lisa Hughes and her husband Randy Knopik of Crosby and their children and grandchildren; brothers and sisters: Marion Carter, Ronald and Marlis Jensen, Dale and Peggy Jensen and Sharon Jensen of Brainerd, Howard and Joyce Jensen of Bemidji and Judy and Keith Igo of Ashland, Wisconsin; numerous nieces and nephews and cousins.

Duane is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Richard; step-son, Jimmy Hughes and grandson, Aiden Jensen.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to [www.koopfuneralhome.com](http://www.koopfuneralhome.com).

## DOROTHY GLIDDEN



Dorothy Jean Glidden, 86, of Aitkin, died Wednesday, October 11, 2023 in Riverwood Healthcare Center, Aitkin.

Private family services will be held.

She was born September 23, 1937 in Aitkin to Donald and Myrtle (Olson) Hurd. Dorothy was united in marriage to Roger Glidden on June 13, 1959 in Aitkin. Dorothy loved the outdoors, cooking and especially spending time with her family.

Dorothy is survived by her loving husband, Rog-

er; children, Robert (Paula) Glidden and Pamela (Stan) O'Connor; grandchildren, Richard Glidden, Charlotte (Tom) Carlson, Melissa (Ethan) Skog, Jeff (Amanda) O'Connor, Matt (Celeste) O'Connor; great grandchildren, Taralynn, Ambree, Elliann, Baylor, Tristan, Austin, Easton, Raegan, Mallory, Savanna and Blake; other relatives and friends.

Dorothy is preceded in death by her parents and sister, Helen Pommier.

Arrangements were with the Sorenson-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com).

## DANIEL ECKMAN

Daniel Alan Eckman, 71, of Crosby, formerly of Columbia Heights died on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at the Cuyuna Regional Medical Center.

No Services are being held. If desired memorials can be sent to Janice at 300 3rd Ave. N.E. Apt. 213, Crosby, MN 56441.

He was born on July 1, 1952 in Minneapolis to Dale and Mona (Ries) Eckman.

Daniel is survived by his wife, Janice Eckman; mother, Mona Eckman; two brothers: Marvin (Sha-

ron) Eckman and Ronald Eckman; step-daughter, Dena (Harry) Ruikka Jr.; four step-grandchildren: Alexander (Page) Ruikka, Kaleb Ruikka (Breanna Fields), Jaylynn Ruikka, Bayden Ruikka and two step-great-grandchildren, Kora and Leon Ruikka.

Preceding Daniel in death are his father, Dale Eckman and sister, Jean Eckman.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to [www.koopfuneralhome.com](http://www.koopfuneralhome.com).

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

\* Indicates handicap accessible. NOTE: All times are Sunday morning (a.m.) unless indicated otherwise.

**ALLIANCE**  
 Aitkin — New Life; Larry Burg & Tyrel LaValle, pastors; Worship 10:15 am & 6pm; youth group Wed. 6pm; 11-1st Street SW; [newlifeaitkin.com](http://newlifeaitkin.com) 218-927-2823.  
 Baxter\* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10; [www.pointway.org](http://www.pointway.org)  
 Garrison\* — Worship 10:30am  
 Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 Aitkin — Pastor Andrew Jergenson; Sunday Morning Service 10.  
 Baxter — Heritage Church, Pastor Heath Beard; 9 & 10:45 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, [iamheritage.org](http://iamheritage.org)  
 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](mailto:hillcityagchurch@gmail.com); 218-697-2662  
 Palisade — Pastor Charlie Bell; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

**BAPTIST**  
 Aitkin — The Journey North, Pastor Tom Hoffman, 218-996-6369, Worship 10:30, [thejourneynorth.com](http://thejourneynorth.com)  
 Baxter - The Journey North, Pastor Jeremiah Rice, 218-824-5617, Worship Saturday 5, Sunday 9 & 10:30, [thejourneynorth.com](http://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](http://fbcbrainerd.com)  
 Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 [www.thechurchontheiseroad.org](http://www.thechurchontheiseroad.org)  
 Brezzy Point — Eagles Nest, Pastor Zach Broom 218-562-5252, Worship 9:30, SS 11.  
 Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor Jon Thorson; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study Wed. 7 pm  
 Deerwood\* — 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](http://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. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 10:30. Confession Sat. 10-10:45 and 4-4:45 pm.  
 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; Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 and All Saints Saturday 4:00 and Sunday 10:30.  
 Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sat. 5 pm.  
 Crosby\* — St. Joseph's, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass: Thurs. and Fri. at 8; Tues at noon, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30.  
 Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, 218-692-3731; [www.ihmstemilys.org](http://www.ihmstemilys.org); Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm.  
 Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. & Wed. 8; Sun. 10:30; Confession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101.  
 Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Eli Gieske, 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. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8; Tues. 5:30-6:30 pm  
 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, SS 9; 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 Seibel.  
 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.  
 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 —Hilltop Chapel (Waukenabo Twp)\*- service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's SS 9 a.m.; 49448 Osprey Avenue, Palisade.  
 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 — The Log Church 9:30, Pastor Troy Nelson; 218-692-4141, 37218 County Road 66, [www.crosslakeefc.org](http://www.crosslakeefc.org)  
 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 Connect 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

**LUTHERAN**  
 Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun each month.  
 Aitkin — First\* (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton; worship Sun. 99am (9am service also available via livestream on YouTube — First Lutheran Church, Aitkin and broadcast on KKIN 94.3 FM radio at 10am), take out community meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9am- 4pm.  
 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 Ingleswood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. [www.christbaxter.com](http://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.princeofpeace-lutheran.church](http://www.princeofpeace-lutheran.church)  
 Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun., 10:30.  
 Brainerd — First Lutheran Church (ELCA) Pastors: Patty Bjorklund and Jordan Gades, Sunday worship 9, Sunday

School following worship. Services also available on YouTube and Facebook. 218-829-9552 [fbcbrainerd.com](http://fbcbrainerd.com)  
 424 8th Street South, Brainerd  
 Brainerd\* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at [www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church](http://www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church), 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052  
 Brainerd — Laestadian Lutheran Church, 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. ([www.lchurch.org](http://www.lchurch.org))  
 Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th St. Brainerd, Worship time September through May 8:15am & 10:30am; worship (June through August) 9 am. 218-829-5147. Website: [www.trinitybrainerd.org](http://www.trinitybrainerd.org). Email: [trinity@trinitybrainerd.org](mailto:trinity@trinitybrainerd.org)  
 Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9  
 Brainerd - Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS) Pastor Steve Benson, Sunday Worship 9, Monday Worship 6 pm. Education hour Sunday 10:15 am. 220 N. 8th St. Brainerd. 218-829-4317. [www.zionbrainerd.com](http://www.zionbrainerd.com).  
 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 Lutheran Church (ELCA) [www.crosslakelutheran.com](http://www.crosslakelutheran.com) • 218-692-3682 Kristin Oltmann, Senior Pastor; Becky Swanson, Associate Pastor Labor Day-Mem. Day: Sun. 9:30am, Wed. 6:15pm; Mem. Day-Labor Day: Sun. Indoor 8:30am, Outdoor 10am  
 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](http://www.missionofthecross.org)  
 Deerwood\* — Salem (ELCA), Pastor Amanda Kempthorne; Worship: 9; Sunday School 9:50.  
 Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Worship 9 SS 9; 320-692-4773 or 877-406-9101.  
 Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (LCMS), Rev. Caleb Worrel. 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](http://www.shepherdofthelake.org).  
 Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month 8:45.  
 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. (Handicap accessible)  
 Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 10:30, (alternates with Zion of Crosby) 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 9; Fellowship follows; SS 10:30; Adult Bible 10:30.  
 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 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and Bible study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N)  
 Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA) Rev. James Muske: Sun. Worship 9am. Fellowship following Service. Communion every Sunday.  
 McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.  
 McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship 9; SS 9.  
 McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (ELCA), Pastor Ericka Foss; Worship 9, Fellowship follows, SS 10.  
 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 Luke Lekander, Worship 9.  
 Palisade\* — Bethel (ELCA), Pastor Steven Teff; 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; 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30, 523 SE 11th Street, 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.

**PENTECOSTAL**  
 Baxter — Christ Alive, 12485 Forestview Drive, Baxter, MN 56425  
 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; Fellowship 11. 14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, just passed the Community Center; [www.crosslakepres.org](http://www.crosslakepres.org).  
 McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9. McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm. Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.

**REFORMED**  
 Crosby — Lifespring Church, a member of Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals, 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, [www.visitlifespring.com](http://www.visitlifespring.com)

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
 Aitkin — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 9:30, Bible Study 10:30; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; [www.aitkinadventist.org](http://www.aitkinadventist.org); 423-805-0933  
 Brainerd — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 11:20, Bible Study 10; 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. Pastor; Leslie Moughty. Handicapped accessible.

**UNITED METHODIST**  
 Aitkin\* — Aitkin - Pastor Dawn Houser; Worship 10, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible & Brew, Facebook live. Crosby/Deerwood\* — Cascade, Pastor Gary Taylor; Sunday Worship with YouTube live streaming 10 am with fellowship to follow. Cascade Ladies meet on the first Wednesday of each month at noon. Come & Eat Community dinner on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm. Please call the office to sign up: 218-534-3507.  
 Cutler — Pine Lake Chapel, Worship 9, fellowship follows. Cromwell — Pastor Tim Homstad; Worship 10; SS 9 Emily\* — Pastor Gary Taylor; Sunday Worship with Facebook live streaming 8:30 with fellowship to follow. UJWF meet on the first Sunday of each month following worship. Mer's prayer breakfast 2nd Saturday of each month at 8. Bible Study Thursday at 6 pm.  
 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 — Pastor 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

**WESLEYAN**  
 Emily — Rev. Jason Gressman; Worship 9; Friendship Time 10; SS 10:30; Wed. Activities 6:30 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.

**To become a sponsor of the church directory contact Eric at 218-821-1393 or [hopper@crobyironton.net](mailto:hopper@crobyironton.net)**

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# Highway 371 open houses for Nisswa and Baxter communities Oct. 25

The Minnesota Department of Transportation invites the traveling public, area residents and businesses to public meetings

in both Nisswa and Baxter on Wednesday, Oct. 25 to provide feedback and learn more about an ongoing Highway 371 study of

the area. There are two sessions being held. The first session will be hosted at Baxter City Hall, 13190 Memorywood Dr, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The second will be hosted at Nisswa City Hall, 5442 City Hall St, from 5-7 p.m.

There will be no formal presentation. Attendees are encouraged to come and go at their leisure, and the same

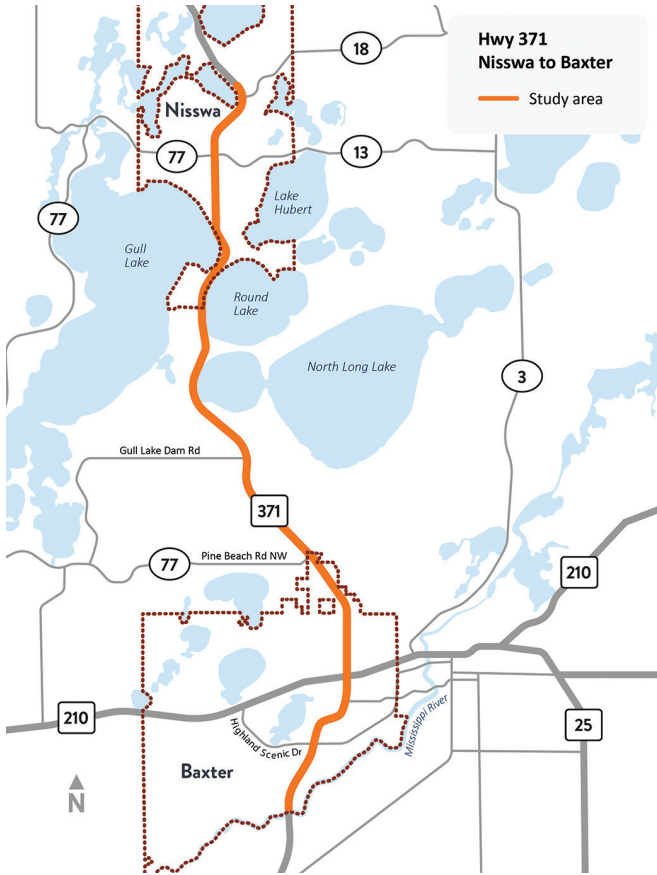
information and materials will be available at both events.

Highway 371 between Nisswa and Baxter is a critical roadway for both the local community and the greater Brainerd Lakes 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 Let's Talk Transportation Highway 371—Nisswa to Baxter web page at <https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/hwy-371-nisswa-bax->

ter-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](mailto:ADArequest@state.mn.us) or call 651-366-4720.



# One million dollar project to protect Mississippi



This 13-acre site off of Golf Course Drive in Baxter will filter runoff before it reaches the Mississippi River. Ann Schwartz photo

By Ann Schwartz  
Bridget Osborn of HR Green, St. Paul is the project manager of a \$1 million dollar wastewater project in Baxter. Readers may have passed by the major excavation project on Golf Course Drive, behind Mills Fleet Farm to the east.

“The city of Baxter bought a 13-acre parcel to install a stormwater wetland,” Osborn explained in an interview. “Its purpose is to treat stormwater runoff before it reaches the Mississippi River.” The site is surrounded by 400 acres of development. Osborn explained that ponds let the debris and silt settle and then the wetlands, planted with native plants, will filter out the phosphorus and other nutrients which will fertilize the plants and stay out of rivers and lakes. Osborn was confident that the majority of the work would be finished this fall, with planting of grasses and shrubs in the spring of 2024.

# Governor Walz highlights investments in pre-K on statewide tour



Governor Tim Walz visited Warrior Early Learning in Baxter on Tuesday, Oct. 17, as part of his statewide tour

highlighting investments made in pre-K this year. Because of this legislation, 9,000 children across the

state will attend pre-K that wouldn't have otherwise, saving families money and expanding access to early childhood education. Without this funding, Warrior Early Learning would have lost 100 percent of their pre-k seats this year. Photos from today's event are attached.

“Across the state, we are opening classroom doors for 9,000 pre-k students,” said Governor Walz. “This investment gives our kids a leg up early in life while saving middle class families thousands of dollars a year on child care. It's an investment that will pay off in the here and now and for years down the line.”

This year, Governor Walz

secured funding to make permanent 4,000 pre-kindergarten seats across the state that were set to expire in 2024. An additional 5,200 seats will be added in the next two years, resulting

in over 9,000 permanent pre-k seats funded in total. This investment ensures thousands of young students have access to high-quality early childhood education and saves families thousands

of dollars on child care. This was the Governor's second stop on a statewide tour to highlight these investments. Governor Walz visited Eisenhower Elementary in Hopkins last week.



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