



Daylight Saving Ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 5 Turn your clocks back 1 hour.

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Lake's area native trades arrows for slugs this weekend



Keith Wicks is a 1978 Brainerd High School graduate who hunts on his own land in the Twin Cities area. Keith Wicks photo

By ANN SCHWARTZ Keith Wicks, 63, who lives north of the Twin Cities, got his start hunting in the Brainerd Lakes Area. He moved from Edina to the Gull Lake Chain when he was 14. "Scott Boller, who lived on Love Lake, was one of the first friends I met in the Lakes Area," remembered Wicks in an interview. "I took my firearms training class in Pilsbarger and started out with my dad's double-barrel 12-gauge Stevens shotgun. "Scott and I, we grew up

hunting grouse. If we didn't find any birds we shot rabbits or squirrels." After a long career with the United States Post Office, Wicks, now retired, sticks close to home, hunting on his 10-acre hobby farm. He starts out with bow hunting season. His weapon of choice is a Killer Instinct crossbow with a scope, which he shoots from a ladder stand. "I've been out about five times this year. I'm waiting to get a buck. I've seen the same buck twice, but I didn't have

a good shot. I have seen does with fawns, but I don't shoot mamas with babies." He has done party hunting with other guys, first in the Zimmerman area (which grew too developed to hunt) and then north of Cloquet. "I miss the camaraderie, but it is nice to sleep in your own bed every night," he laughed. His equipment list includes several deer stands, two

bows, and, for firearms deer season, he is in a slug area so he uses a shotgun, not a rifle. When not hunting, he and wife Pam spend time outside with their animals. They trail-ride with their horses: a Missouri Fox Trotter/Quarter mix, a Rocky Mountain Mutt and a Quarter horse. They also have three cats and two dogs. His wife's pooch is a Yorkshire Terrier and their

rescue dog is a Corgi/Shepherd mix. With his love of the outdoors, Wicks wanted to buy a snowmobile, so as a youth he took a boat to work at the old Swiss House and Cragun's on Gull Lake. After many years of beating the trail with his mail route, he's content to survey the world from his three wooded acres, 20 feet up in the air.

Winter walleye fishing regulations

The walleye limit for Upper Red Lake will decrease from the five allowed during open water season to four this winter while the Mille Lacs Lake walleye limit will remain at one. "Fall netting assessments on both lakes suggest these harvest levels will keep walleye populations sustainable and healthy," said Brad Parsons, fisheries section manager for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. "We're pleased to offer anglers harvest opportunities on both lakes." Effective as of Wednesday, Nov. 1, anglers fishing

on the state waters of Upper Red Lake can keep up to four walleye with one longer than 17 inches. Beginning Friday, Dec. 1, Mille Lacs Lake anglers can keep one walleye 21-23 inches long or one longer than 28 inches. The DNR sets winter regulations for these lakes after completion of annual fall population assessments. Results from Upper Red showed an optimal level of walleye spawning stock and a high overall net catch rate, especially of nearly mature walleye. Mille Lacs' results found slightly lower walleye num-

bers than in 2022. But the continued strong presence of walleye born in 2013 and 2017 and acceptable numbers of walleye born in 2021 and 2022 suggest there are adequate numbers of younger fish to keep the population sustainable as they mature and reproduce to replace fish caught by anglers. Complete winter fishing regulations are available on the Upper Red Lake regulations webpage (mndnr.gov/fishing/upper-red-lake-regulations.html) and the Mille Lacs Lake regulations webpage (mndnr.gov/fishing/millelacs.html).

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Ruttger's Winter Market - Retail Shops - are now OPEN at the Golf Shop, next to White Oak Grill Hours will be Wed.-Sun. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. White Oak Grill will REOPEN November 16 Mark Your Calendar to Experience Our New Menu! Make & Take Ceramic Pumpkin Floral Centerpiece Class Thursday, November 16 • 6:00 p.m. at the White Oak Grill The Backyard Greenhouse is hosting this fun make & take event. You will receive instructions & demonstrations on how to assemble the florals. All the equipment, design products, flowers & tutorials are provided. For more details or to sign up go to Ruttger's Facebook or directly to ruttgers.com BONUS: White Oak Grill will be open for dinner & drinks!

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# Governor Walz signs order eliminating degree requirements for state jobs

Governor Tim Walz signed an executive order on Monday, Oct. 30 eliminating college degree requirements for over 75 percent of state government jobs. The executive order will open job opportunities for more people and make it easier for people in Minnesota to choose state service. Throughout his time in office, the Governor has advocated for funding for alternatives to college, including expanded job training

and workforce development, recognizing that not all Minnesotans need a four-year degree to succeed. "There are many opportunities to build meaningful careers through state service. We're making sure these opportunities are available to more Minnesotans, so we can grow our workforce, tap into valuable skills, and recognize that not all Minnesotans need a four-year degree to be successful," said Governor

Walz. "By removing these requirements, we're expanding opportunities for people to enter the workforce, choose state service, and build a good-paying, family-sustaining career." "For too long, 4-year degree requirements have stood in the way of job opportunities for highly qualified Minnesotans ready to join the state workforce. Today, we're opening doors," said Lieutenant Governor Flana-

gan. "We are breaking down barriers to good-paying jobs and investing in the success of Minnesotans by recognizing that job skills can come from a wide variety of experiences." Minnesota's labor force has grown for seven straight months, adding more than 1,500 workers in September alone. This executive order aims to build, develop, and maintain Minnesota's workforce

by:  
 · Updating hiring guidance to emphasize skills and work experience  
 · Helping existing employees develop long-term career

paths through individual development plans and career training  
 · Including working titles in job postings to improve state job searches  
 The Deerwood American Legion Auxiliary Unit #557 is hosting its 9th Annual Hunting for the Holidays Craft and Vendor Show on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Deerwood American Legion located at 23659 Forest Road in Deerwood. A sloppy joe lunch is available for \$5.

## Hunting for the Holidays

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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](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.

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Wed., Nov. 15  
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Wed., Nov. 22  
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 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Nov. 29  
**Super Burgers**  
 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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\*Stores will close at 2p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9 for Showcase prep.

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# Attend winter birds presentation

Join Unlimited Learning on Monday, Nov. 11, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., to hear Bill Marchel present Winter Birds in Minnesota – an overview of those non-migratory birds that are commonly seen in our yards during the snowy season. The program will be in the Forum Room at Crosby-Ironton High School. It's free for members and \$5.00 for non-members.

Bill Marchel of Fort Ripley, is one of North America's foremost outdoor and wildlife photographers and writers. His images have graced

more than 300 magazine covers, including many of the nation's most prestigious magazines, such as Audubon, National Wildlife, Birder's World and Ducks Unlimited. His photo files contain more than 150,000 images.

Marchel's work has been highly recognized. He is a six-time winner of a worldwide online nature photo contest; he has twice been honored by the Outdoor Writers Association; and he was a nominee for Life Magazine's Best Photography of



the Year.

"I bought my first camera when I was in my twenties, because I wanted to spend more time outdoors," said Bill. "As a youngster, I spent much of my free time studying nature, especially birds and mammals. Thus, photographing things dear to me seemed like the next step."

# Minnesota Master Naturalist Course

Long Lake Conservation Center is hosting a Minnesota Master Naturalist course, December 4-8. The focus of the course is the North Woods, Great Lakes biome.

The 40-hour, hands-on course will include field trips, guest speakers and winter-focused classes such as birding, tracking animals and wildlife, learning how the first Minnesotans survived in winter, forest treks, and winter tree identification. The course addresses natural history, environmental interpretation and conservation stewardship and will be led by expert instructors, including Long Lake staff.

"If you're interested in nature, enjoy hiking, bird

watching, following tracks, or simply being outside, this is a great opportunity for you," Long Lake Education Coordinator Beth Haasken said.

People can sign up for the course alone, but meals and lodging options are also available. Register for the course at the Minnesota Master Naturalist website: [www.minnesotamasternaturalist.org/courses](http://www.minnesotamasternaturalist.org/courses). For more information, contact Haasken at 218-768-4653.

The Minnesota Master Naturalist program is part of the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

**Long Lake completes accessible trail to its sphagnum bog ecosystem**

As part of an ongoing effort to make Long Lake's campus

available to everyone, an accessible trail connecting campus to the school's sphagnum bog is now complete. The trail was widened, leveled, covered with Class 5 and topped with recycled blacktop.

The project was funded in part by the Lone Wolf Fund of the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation and the Long Lake Conservation Foundation. Work was completed by the Aitkin County Land Department.

"This is the first of what we hope will be many improvements so that every student who visits Long Lake, regardless of physical limitations, will be able to experience the wonders of nature," Long Lake Manager Dave McMillan said.

# READER RIBBETS

## They're lying, death of George Floyd

Last week, [on] Oct. 24, Liz Collin visited Aitkin County. Liz Collin wears many hats. First and foremost she is a journalist. She was born a journalist. In fact, she started her first newspaper with her sister, with local delivery, when she was 10 years old. She was asked by Don Shelby, of WCCO TV, what she wanted to be when she grew up, her answer back then—she wanted his job. Eventually, she went on to be hired and worked at WCCO-TV for 12 years.

Then, came May 25, 2020, Liz and her husband, Bob Kroll, president of the Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis lived in the Minneapolis metro. She says she became troubled not about what the

public was being told about certain things, but what they were not. This did not go along with her God given intuition and being a journalist. After she was removed from her position at WCCO-TV as an anchor, she decided to leave mainstream media and to write a book called "They're Lying: The Media, The Left, and The Death of George Floyd." The book was on the Amazon Best Seller list for quite some time. I encourage you to get a copy and read it for yourself. Bob and Liz have been touring the state of Minnesota since October of 2022. We had a very good turnout, upwards of 250 people.

A follow-up to her book, a documentary, is being released

Nov 16. It is called "The Fall of Minneapolis" and it will be available at no charge through "Alpha News." <https://www.thefallofminneapolis.com/> Again, we encourage you to seek it and watch it for yourself. See the movie trailer at <https://alphanews.org/teaser-alpha-news-documentary-the-fall-of-minneapolis-to-be-released-in-november/>.

I am so thankful for our [Aitkin County] Sheriff Guida and Senator Wesenberg who co-hosted this event alongside me.

I pray God gives me another project like this one to be able to share more TRUTH to so many people.

**Be Blessed ~ Seek Truth, Diane Webb-Skillings, Aitkin**

## Biden drug pricing "transparency"

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services just proposed a rule supposedly designed to improve transparency in Medicaid.

That's hardly the real objective, however. The proposal is a back-door effort to expand price controls in Medicaid and beyond, a surefire way to derail the next generation of medical breakthroughs.

The CMS rule would require certain drug makers to participate in annual "price verification surveys." The agency claims the surveys will shed light on why certain drugs are priced the way they are. The kicker is that through this "survey" process, drug companies would have to share proprietary and confidential data with the government.

CMS has offered drug makers an escape route, however -- much the way blackmailers and extortionists offer their victims a way out. All a company has to do to excuse itself from these annual audits is agree to set its drug prices at whatever level the government deems

fair -- or, as an alternative, to hand over larger rebates to Medicaid.

Those who don't play ball and cut prices "voluntarily" can look forward to selective release or leaks of confidential material that activists will pounce on to apply outside pressure on prices.

This is a flagrant abuse of government power. But more worrying still is the harm the rule would do to patients.

The expansion of price controls will immediately reduce the funds research companies have to invest in the development of new medicines. The prospect of future price controls will also scare venture investors away -- critical funders of early-stage development work.

Considering just how risky and expensive drug development is, the number of new treatments we're forgoing could be even higher. Accounting for the cost of failures, the total investment needed to bring one new medicine to approval is close to \$3 billion.

For companies or investors to assume that level of risk, they need to know that they will have the ability to bring their new drug to market at a price that reflects this expensive development process. But when the government gets involved in that conversation, the odds that future drug development efforts will continue with the same fervor drop dramatically.

Meanwhile, as far as out-of-pocket drug costs go, the proposed CMS rule offers patients basically nothing. Proceeds from the added rebates or price caps would flow back into government coffers -- not to patients.

Everyone is in favor of transparency. But that doesn't mean the government should use the coercive threat of snooping to further a hidden agenda. The CMS rule is a thinly veiled effort to expand the power of the government to dictate prices, with no regard for the long-term interests of patients.

**Peter J. Pitts, Former FDA Associate Commissioner**

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

- November**
- 4th - Garrison Bay Lake Area Lions Annual Minnesota Wild Rice Cook-Off, Craft Sale, Christmas Theme Bake Sale and Ugly Cheesecake Factory Sales at the Deerwood Auditorium from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit Minnesota Children's Cancer. Vendors call Julie at 507-254-8296 for more information.
  - 6th - Local author Jeff Howard will be visiting the Brainerd Public Library at noon, as part of the Friends of the Library's Brown Bag Author Series to discuss his book "Screw You VanGogh."
  - 6th - Grief Support Group, 5 p.m. Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby
  - 7th - Walk with a Doc, 4:30 p.m. Hallett Community Center - Free
  - 9th - Community Area Connections, 12:30 p.m. Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby
  - 11th - Spirit of Christmas Bazaar, 8:30 a.m.- 1 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Crosby.
  - 11th - Christmas Shopping Extravanga and Craft Show hosted by the Outing Area Chamber of Commerce.
  - 11th - Hilltop Chapel Hunter's Supper, 4:30- 7 p.m. at the Waukenabo Community Center/Town Hall located at 36797 Grove Street in Palisade. Turkey with all the trimmings is offered at \$12 for adults; children ages six to 12, \$5 and children under five eat free.
  - 13th - Grief Support Group, 5 p.m. Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby
  - 13th - Unlimited Learning presents Winter Birds in Minnesota by Bill Marchel, 1:30 p.m. The program will be in the Forum Room at Crosby-Ironton High School. It's free for members and \$5.00 for non-members.
  - 14th - Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Testimonial Tuesday, 5 p.m. Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby
  - 15th - Walk with a Doc, 4:30 p.m. Hallett Community Center
  - 15th - Rangerettes Preview Show with JFK Wee Jazz and Hip-Hop, Mini Hip-Hop guest performances at C-I High School.
  - 16th - Cancer Support Group, 12 p.m. Cuyuna Regional Medical Center
  - 16th - Breast/Cervical Cancer Screenings, 5-7 p.m. Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Crosby Clinic
  - 18th - Hunting for the Holidays Craft Show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Deerwood American Legion located at 23659 Forest Road in Deerwood. A sloppy joe lunch is available.

**Want to see it in the NEWSHOPPER?**  
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# LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., November 4, 2023)

**CITY OF CUYUNA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given the Cuyuna City Council will convene for their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cuyuna Fire Department to conduct the following public hearing:

Rezoning Application RZ-02-23 to rezone parcels 19290529 (property owner: Woodland Shore Holding Group LLC) in Sec 29, Twp 47, Reg 28 & 19320535 (property owner: Richard E. Harrison Trust) in Sec 32, Twp 47, Rge 28 from "Open Development/

Extraction District, (Open)" to "Single and Two-Family Residential District (R-1)." Applicant: Richard Harrison.

All interested persons are invited to attend these hearings at the Cuyuna Fire Department, 24849 Minnesota Avenue, and be heard or send written comments to the City of Cuyuna, PO Box 536, Deerwood, MN 56444 or via email at [info@ci.cuyuna.mn.us](mailto:info@ci.cuyuna.mn.us). A staff report is made available at the Cuyuna Fire Department typically one week before the scheduled meeting.

Dated: October 24, 2023  
BILL BEDARD,  
Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Cuyuna  
6.2

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., October 28, November 4 and 11, 2023)

**LIBBY TOWNSHIP NOTICE**

The Libby Township Board will meet online at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 to discuss matters that may come before the board. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom. Contact Jane Jewett, clerk, at [jane@janefarm.com](mailto:jane@janefarm.com) to request the Zoom link.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2023  
Jane Grimsbo Jewett  
Clerk, Libby Township  
2.66

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**MISCELLANEOUS CONT.**

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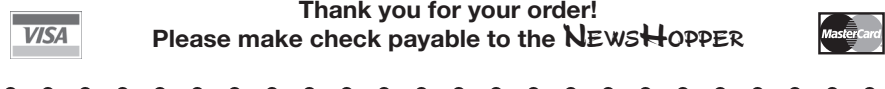
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# Heidi Hart overall winner in Crow Wing County website photo contest



Heidi Hart of Backus is both the overall winner and winner in Nature and Animals category. Beaver having a bite before sunset on Daggett Lake, Crosslake.

There are six winners in the Crow Wing County website photo contest. There were 80 entrants and more than 140 photos submitted during the two-month long contest. The



Jamieson Webking of Deerwood winner in People and Activities category. Paddle boarding at sunset on Serpent Lake.



Meghan Rheinberger of Stillwater winner in Parks category. Milford Mine Memorial Park near Crosby.

goal was to capture the best of what the area has to offer from residents and visitors who are out enjoying Crow Wing County. All photographs were taken in Crow Wing County in the past three years. Winners will have their pictures featured on Crow Wing County's updated website beginning in November. The focus is to update the website with a fresh look.

“We were very impressed with the number of photos that were submitted, and it was hard to narrow down winners. Our residents are extremely proud of where they live and work and are happy to share that excitement through photography. We're so glad we can incorporate their photos into our website to make it a true Crow Wing County collaboration.” said Website Administrator, Brian Olson.

Winners in each of the five categories are:

- Landmarks - Mike Tollefson, Breezy Point
- Landscapes and Cityscapes - Doug Lucks, Crosslake
- Nature and Animals - Heidi Hart, Backus
- Parks - Meghan Rheinberger, Stillwater
- People and Activities - Jamieson Webking, Deerwood

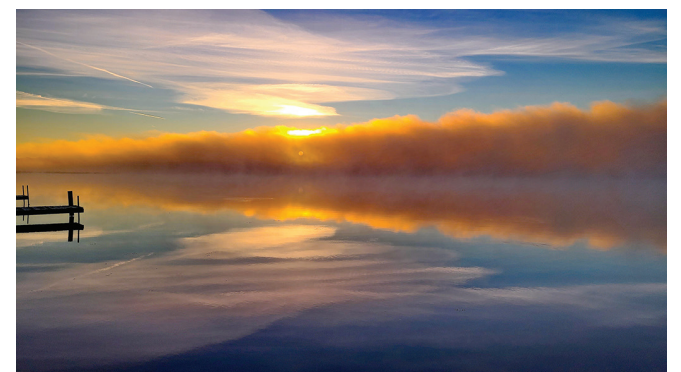
The overall winner receives a \$200 gift card. Winners in

each of the five categories receive a \$100 gift card. All photographs submitted may be used in various Crow Wing

County publications and on social media. To view all the winning photos, go to: facebook.com/CrowWingCounty



Mike Tollefson of Breezy Point winner in Landmarks category. Paul M Thiede Fire Tower Park near Pequot Lakes.



Doug Lucks of Crosslake winner of Landscapes and Cityscapes category.

## CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK

NOVEMBER 7-13, 2023



# SELF-WATERING WATER BOTTLE GARDEN

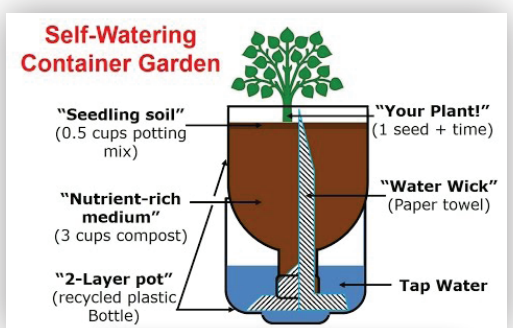
You can recycle your plastic bottles, or you can “upcycle” them by turning them into a self-watering garden. It's easy. Place the top half of your bottle on top of the bottom half so the thread hangs down into the water. Fill the top half of your water bottle planter with planting soil. Make sure the thread is buried, but not crumpled in a ball inside the bottle cap. Then, place your seed or seedling in the soil.

### Nature Notes:

- With most trees now naked, it's easy to spot common buckthorn (they don't lose their leaves), making it a great time to rid this invasive plant from your woods.
  - To remove buckthorn plants that are two inches in diameter or larger it's best to cut the stem at the soil surface and cover or treat the stump to prevent re-sprouting.
- There are many two-legged, blaze-orange coated mammals in the woods this time of year. Be safe and have fun!

### STARGAZING NOTES, provided by the Minnesota Astronomical Society

- **Nov. 9:** The two brightest objects in the night sky, the Moon and Venus, form a beautiful pair in the morning sky. They rise together due east at 3:30 a.m., gain elevation throughout the morning, and are found high in the southeast before sunrise at 7 a.m.



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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