



NEWSHOPPER

FREE

PRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Brainerd, MN
ZIP CODE 56401
Permit No. 681

PO Box 562, Ironton 56455
218-821-1393 By Appointment Only

email: hopper@crosbyironton.net
www.newshopper.net

Aitkin County peat makes a splash in the whiskey market

WHAT'S INSIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS
Page 3

LEGAL NOTICES
Page 3

OBITUARIES
Page 4

CLASSIFIEDS
Page 5



Brad Pieper holding a bottle of Minnesota made Brother Justice Whiskey in the American Peat Technology Plant.

Ann Schwartz photos

By ANN SCHWARTZ
In the Rossburg area of Aitkin County, APT, American Peat Technology, operates an



American Peat Technology facility in the Rossburg area of Aitkin County.

extraction and finishing operation and sends out about 500 truckloads of peat each year. It is used for soil and turf enhancement, row crops, and now, for flavoring whiskey.

The Minnesota whiskey product, which is infused with peat prior to aging, has taken the luxury whiskey market by storm, winning awards and making inroads in the Chicago market.

Phil Steiger, a graduate of St. John's University, has a whiskey enterprise in Northeast Minneapolis called Brother Justice Whiskey. His vision was to have everything sourced locally in Minnesota, so the oak barrels his product

is aged in, the peat, the barley and the water are all home-grown. Rather than smoking and burning in the flavor, the finished whiskey is infused with the granular peat made in Aitkin County, giving it an earthy flavor. "It's a new way for people to enjoy whiskey," said Brad Pieper, the CEO at APT since December 2022.

Brother Justice was a blacksmith at St. John's Abbey who taught farmers how to make whiskey during Prohibition. It was a way for residents of Stearns, Benton and Sherburne counties to make a living when legal alcohol markets were dried up.

Right now, with the two-year aging process, Brother Justice works hard to keep up with demand that sometimes outpaces supply. But APT keeps up its end of the deal, supplying its patented Torv Rok reed sedge peat prod-

uct to the distillery. Brother Justice is also in the process of patenting the Aitkin County Process of producing Cold-Peated American Single Malt Whiskey.

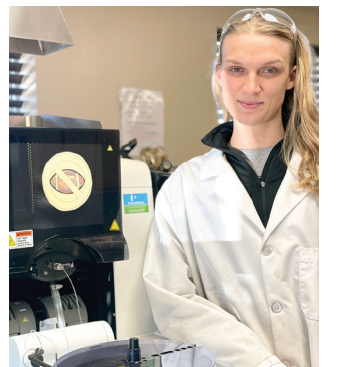
"We look at continuing to grow with Brother Justice and other distillers," explained Pieper. "Soon, you will probably hear about cold-peated Jack Daniels and cold-peated Jim Beam."

APT harvests peat from about eight acres each year and, through its manufacturing processes, produces a granular product, like coffee grounds, and another powdery product with the consistency of cinnamon. They supply their product to the soil-enhancement industry for row crops, golf courses, stadiums and more. The three Canadian customers for local peat are Novozymes, Verdesian and Lallemand.

"We pretty much have the lock on the Canadian pea and lentil market as our product works well in cold climates," Pieper explained.

The product releases nitrogen into the soil for fertilizer in a much more environmentally friendly way than using chemicals. "Environmental stewardship is one of our core values," said Pieper.

They are expanding their office space at the plant out-



Amber is the chemist in the research lab.

side of Aitkin and operate their own lab for research and development. They employ a fleet of mechanics and plant operators. The company holds over a dozen patents.

"We have an open-door policy - we encourage people to come out and tour the plant and taste the whiskey," said Pieper.



Junior works in the plant.



Jay operates a forklift.

SHIFT CLINIC

INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE

Drs. Murray & Shannon Smith • 23 West Main Street, Crosby • www.askdrsmith.com • (218) 851-9626

Chiropractic • Acupuncture • Massage • NeuroMetabolic Care • Guided Weight Loss • Slim Laser • Magnesphere Resonance Therapy • PEMF

Digestive Distress Ruining the Holidays?

Schedule your first appointment by December 20, 2023 and receive a

FREE Consultation*

*Up to 15 Minutes

UNCLAIMED FREIGHT NORTH
HOURS: Mon.- Sat. 9-5 • Hwy. 210 West, Aitkin • 218-927-6446

TOYLAND NOW OPEN!

2-PIECE SECTIONAL WITH CHAISE
RECLINERS
Recliners Starting at \$299.98

ESKIMO ESCAPE 2400 INSULATED SLED SHELTER
Insulated • Portable • Easy = Fish More Often & Longer!
\$799.99

American Steel Building
HURRY! UP TO 15% OFF

WE HAVE LIVE BAIT
LEECHES
NIGHT CRAWLERS

WE HAVE AMMO

PROANE AVAILABLE including for Motor/Homes

ALL SIZES NOW ON SALE

Symbl Mattress TRUCKLOAD SALE

TOOLS • GIFTS • HOUSEHOLD • FURNITURE: LIVING ROOM • BEDROOM • DINING

BLACK FRIDAY Extended!

Trestle Table and 6 Chairs
Table extends up to 10 feet
Compare price: \$5,999
Black Friday Price: \$997

Matching Buffet
Compare price: \$2,499
Black Friday Price: \$497

5 x 7 Assorted Floor Rugs
Compare prices from \$399 - \$569
Black Friday Price: \$37

Limited Quantities of All Sizes of Upholstered Bed Frames
Starting at \$97
Compare price: \$999

Assorted twin-size Headboards
Compare price: \$499
Black Friday Price: \$47

Live Edge Table and 4 Stools
Natural or Chestnut Finish
Compare price: \$1,699
Black Friday Price: \$497

Solid Wood Storage Trunks
Compare price: \$1,099
Black Friday Price: \$197

White Oak Grill is NOW SERVING Breakfast
Friday-Sunday 8-11 a.m.

WHITE OAK IS OPEN: Thursday 4-8 p.m., Friday & Saturday 8 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Nov. 30-Dec. 3 Ruttger's Winter Market

NEW HOURS: Thursday-Saturday 9 a.m.-7 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

20% off All Tops & Purses
30% off Jeans & Toys

— Make & Take Classes —

THURSDAY DEC 7
6-8:30 PM
Wooden Round Door Hanger
Go to ruttgers.com to purchase your project and to sign up!

SATURDAY DEC 16
10 AM - 2 PM
Design Gifts with Beautycounter & Ruttger's Retail
Design gifts for everyone on your list!
Enjoy complimentary mini donuts & coffee!

25039 Tame Fish Lake Rd. • Deerwood
ruttgers.com • 800-450-4545

Buy It Today... Have It Today!*
* on In Stock Items

371 FURNITURE & MATTRESS Locally Owned and Operated

16413 Highway 371, Brainerd, MN 56401 • 218-828-3020
2 Miles North of Baxter on 371 • www.371furniture.com
371sales@gmail.com • Hours: 9-5 Mon - Sat; 11-4 Sun



Allegations at the Ripple Center

Maurice Wilson is coming to Aitkin with Minneapolis based house rock'n blues band, *Alligations* on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Ripple Center in downtown Aitkin at 7 p.m.

Before the performance fans will have the unique opportunity to meet the band and engage in a special session starting at 6 p.m. Local moderator Dave McMillan

will be on hand to facilitate the interaction, providing fans with an up-close and personal experience with the talented members of *The Allegations*. This is a rare chance for attendees to learn more about the artists, their creative process, and the inspiration behind their rock'n blues hits.

"We are thrilled to bring *Maurice Wilson and The*

Allegations Band to Aitkin," said Christine Bright, the organizer of the event. "This promises to be a night filled with incredible music and a chance for fans to connect with the artists on a personal level. The Meet and Greet with Dave McMillan adds an extra layer of excitement, creating a memorable experience for everyone in attendance."

Crow Wing SWCD Board meetings

Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will host a staff and Board Strategic Planning Meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Land Services Building, Meeting Room 2

At this meeting, partners, SWCD Supervisors, and SWCD Staff will discuss and reflect on 2023 conserva-

tion programs and activities and develop strategies and priorities for 2024 SWCD conservation activities.

The Crow Wing SWCD Personnel Committee will meet on December 18 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. in the Crow Wing County Land Services Building, Oak Meeting Room.

Please e-mail tasha@cws-wcd.org or call 218-828-6197 to be notified of future SWCD Board Meetings.

Board of Supervisors meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. in the Crow Wing County Land Services, Oak Meeting Room. The SWCD Board Meetings are open to the public.

The Crow Wing SWCD

Rock & Roll Christmas Spectacular

The CLC Performing Arts Center presents Rock & Roll Christmas Spectacular on Friday, Dec. 15 at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts, Brainerd. The lobby opens at 6:30 p.m., doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Rock & Roll Christmas Spectacular is a Las Vegas-caliber, multimedia, full-production show that mixes an eight-piece band with music, comedy, paro-

dies and even a game show. Join an all-star cast of musicians as they rock their way through timeless holiday classics and bring new takes on hit songs you didn't even know were holiday classics.

The line-up of musicians is truly legendary as Paul "Stretch" Diethelm and Ted Manderfeld are joined on stage by vocalists Pamela McNeill, Stacy Bauer, and Tim Haussner, and backed

by bassist Mike Zeleny, saxophonist and flutist Mike Kreitzer and drummer Billy Thommes.

You'll hear Christmas standards like *Silent Night*, *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*, *Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree*, *The Little Drummer Boy* and many more like you've never heard them performed before. Nothing will get you into the holiday spirit better than the Rock & Roll Christmas.

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.

Auditions for two plays set for Dec. 8 and 9

Auditions are scheduled in the Pequot Lakes High School Auditorium Dec. 8 and 9 for two one-act plays by Pequot Lakes Community Theatre.

The first audition is for roles in "Space Pirates: A New Children's Musical" at 3:30 p.m. both days. Recommended ages are 8-15 with no experience necessary.

The second audition is for "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" from 6-8 p.m. both days. Recommended ages are 15-adult.

Rehearsals begin in January (after school for "Space Pirates" and evenings for "Aladdin"), with performances Feb. 16, 17, and 18.

"Space Pirates" is the perfect show for younger actors

looking to try out theater or for seasoned veterans of the same ages to enjoy. Come prepared to speak, move, and sing, wearing comfortable clothes and secure, closed-toe shoes. Bring a list of schedule conflicts to complete the audition form.

Director is Rebecca Amerud (rkaanerud@gmail.com), or call PL Community Ed at 218-568-9200.

Pirates! Aliens! Space travel! "Space Pirates" tells the story of Gabby, a kid who gets picked on during a school trip to the museum. Everything quickly changes when an alien spaceship accidentally beams Gabby and her classmates up to outer space. Things go

from bad to worse when the alien spaceship is suddenly attacked by SPACE PIRATES! It's only after this whirlwind space adventure that Gabby becomes comfortable in her own skin and her classmates appreciate her for who she is.

Characters (those marked with * will double as either a pirate or alien Museum Guide):

KIDS: Gabby (lead), Jai (lead), Taylor (lead), Jack (young lead), Casey*, Riley*, Dylan*, Blake*, Kid Ensemble.*

SPACE PIRATES: Pirate Captain (lead), Argyle, Kevlar, Zargon, Goldarg, Jolar, Baart, Garr, Orb, Pirate Ensemble. ALIENS: Captain Jot (lead),

Anderdash, Allbot (the robot), Amberding, Baz, Margella, Esterly, Shocky, Lolop, Sealy, Alien Crew Ensemble.

ALIEN SCIENTISTS: Professor Lokol, Croton, Fimmel, Flerp, Glerp.

Auditions for "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 8 and 9, also in the auditorium. Auditions will include line reading from the script. Director is Ronnie Villa.

"Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" is the classic tale of a foolish boy challenging an evil magician and a powerful sultan in a far-off land, ultimately winning the favor of a beautiful princess.

Characters: Aladdin, who also plays Aldo; Cynthia, who also plays Cindy; Mother, who also plays Genie and Dragon; Magician and The Sultan.

If you have questions or want to audition for "Aladdin" but are unavailable at the listed times, please contact the director at 218-251-1027 or PL Community Ed at 218-568-9200 to see if another time can be arranged.

Authorized

★ Platinum Star Service

Serving All Makes • Over 35 Years Experience

<p>Frigidaire</p> <p>White-Westinghouse</p> <p>Gibson</p> <p>Kelvinator</p> <p>Tappan</p> <p>Electrolux</p> <p>Asko</p>	<p>Maytag</p> <p>KitchenAid</p> <p>Amana</p> <p>Jenn-Air</p> <p>Roper</p> <p>Whirlpool</p> <p>Crosley</p>	<p>Amana Commercial Products</p> <p>Frigidaire Commercial Products</p> <p>Kelvinator Commercial Products</p> <p>Electrolux Commercial Products</p>
--	--	--

For more information call

Jim Blakesley

jlblak@embarqmail.com

Appliance Service & Repair

Aitkin

218-927-2027

1-888-450-8845

We build all winter long!

If your site is ready, WE CAN BUILD THIS WINTER!

Local Sales Rep
Mike Hyland, Northwest Region 32

1-800-736-4510
northlandbuildings.com

50 YEAR SNOWLOAD WARRANTY!

ONE OF MINNESOTA'S LARGEST SELECTION

of hydraulic hose & fittings up thru 2" 4 wire

rileyautosupply.com

RILEY'S NAPA AUTO SUPPLY

AITKIN • 218-927-2153

CASH 4 JUNK CARS AND MACHINERY

Call 218-839-3371

Agreement with Amazon causes harsh conditions for postal workers

U.S. Senator Tina Smith (D-MN) issued a press release revealing that she sent a letter last week to Postmaster Gen-

eral Louis DeJoy pressing for answers regarding the Postal Service's agreements with Amazon and the impact of

those agreements on Minnesotans. For years, Minnesotans have experienced mail de-

lays and inconsistency, and postal employees have faced difficult working conditions, made worse by a volume of Amazon deliveries that push the system to the brink.

Millions of Minnesotans depend on the Postal Service to pay bills, receive prescriptions, and conduct other essential business. When service is unreliable, Minnesotans can face serious consequences – from late payment fees and social security checks to days without critical prescription medications.

"As Postmaster General, you are responsible for ensuring that the Postal Service meets its service standards, and it is clear right now that things are not working as they should," wrote Senator Smith. "Entering into contracts that your system cannot support is a breach of your responsibilities."

Reporting by the Bemidji Pioneer uncovered how harsh working conditions and the implementation of a USPS service agreement with Amazon have pushed mail carriers to the breaking point. Workers are being forced to work 12-hour days for six days per week, time off requests are being cancelled, and sick leave is not being honored.

Bemidji isn't the first Minnesota community to be affected by this new agreement with Amazon – Brainerd saw similar delays after it was implemented and continues to struggle maintaining enough staff. In her letter, Senator

Smith presses for answers from DeJoy on how he plans to remedy both the impact of Amazon's service agreement and the working conditions at the Postal Service so Minnesotans receive on-time deliveries. This letter comes after the Senator pressed Postmaster DeJoy:

To take every precaution to prepare for the influx of holiday packages;

For answers about a payroll error that led to 53,000 rural letter carriers missing or receiving only a partial paycheck; and,

For answers to widespread missing and delayed mail deliveries across Minnesota. **The text of the letter:** *The Honorable Louis DeJoy Postmaster General United States Postal Service 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260*

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

I write regarding reports across Minnesota that the Postal Service's service agreement with Amazon is interfering with timely deliveries and stretching the agency's already-overburdened workers too thin. As Postmaster General, you are responsible for ensuring that the Postal Service meets its service standards, and it is clear right now that things are not working as they should. Entering into contracts that your system cannot support is a breach of your responsibilities.

For several holiday seasons, Minnesotans have experienced mail delays associated

with workforce shortages and severe weather, situations exacerbated by the pressure to process and deliver Amazon packages. I have raised these concerns with you and asked you to ensure that post offices and processing facilities in Minnesota are adequately staffed before the holiday influx, and yet again I am hearing from constituents and postal workers about inconsistent deliveries and post offices overwhelmed by Amazon parcels. This situation is particularly acute in Bemidji right now.1

The Postal Service is a public service, connecting families and businesses in every community in the United States. From the most rural to the most urban areas, millions of Minnesotans depend upon the Postal Service to conduct essential business. The Postal Service also employs over a half million people—hard-working people who endure long hours and difficult conditions to provide this public service. All of these families and workers rely on you to make decisions that ensure service standards are met.

I ask that you take immediate steps to address this situation and prioritize the Postal Service's service standards and the safety of your workers.

Thank you for your attention to these pressing matters. I look forward to your prompt response.

*Sincerely,
Tina Smith
U.S. Senator*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

December

2nd - Aitkin County Historical Society Cookie Walk at the museum, 20 Pacific St. SW Aitkin, starting at 9 a.m., going until sold out. Cookies are \$6.00 per dozen. Varieties of cookies will be pre-wrapped in 1, 2, 3, and 4 doz. packages. If you would like to pre-order cookies, call 218-927-3348 or email ACHS@aitkin-cohs.org. Pre-ordered cookies must be picked up by 11 a.m. on the day of the sale! Proceeds support the Historical Society.

2nd - Kids Make and Take with Ms. Jane, 9 a.m. - noon at the Northland Arboretum in Baxter. Kids grades 2-6 will make up to three homemade gifts and will create gift cards or tags to go with each gift. After, they will enjoy a treat and hot chocolate. \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Call 218-825-0410 for more info.

2nd - Cuyuna Christmas Lunch with Santa at the Deerwood Auditorium from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2nd - Winter Market hosted by the Cuyuna Range Farmers' Market with free hot chocolate and coffee, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Youth Center located at 15 Third Avenue SW in Crosby.

2nd - Snow Many Smiles at Crosby Memorial Park on Serpent Lake. Live outdoor performances, a petting zoo, games and activities, creative crafts, festive food, spectacular fireworks and course Santa and Mrs. Claus. Event is free and open to everyone!

2nd - 2023 Christmas for Kids Crosslake Fundraiser, 3 - 8 p.m. at Maucieri's Italian Bistro, 34650 County Road 3, Crosslake. Silent Auction begins at 3 p.m. and the Live Auction begins at 5 p.m. Make a donation of a new unwrapped gift or cash and receive one free drink For more information contact: Tracy Halverson at 651-268-9648, Holly Chase at 218-838-5017 or Elysha Novak at 612-396-1909. Donations can be mailed to: Christmas for Kids PO Box 5 Crosslake, MN 56442

2nd - Sertoma's Winter Wonderland at the Northland Arboretum, 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Experience a drive-through tour of more than 80 colorfully lighted and animated displays at 14250 Conservation Drive in Baxter.

3rd - Heartland Symphony Orchestra Fall Concert - Shall We Sing? 2:30pm-4:30pm at Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts in Brainerd. Holidays are the perfect time to sing. Whether it's carols or music that is operatic in nature, you will leave this performance with beautiful tunes in your head. Admission is free with free-will donations graciously accepted. All ages welcome

7th, 8th & 9th - Sertoma's Winter Wonderland at the Northland Arboretum, 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Experience a drive-through tour of more than 80 colorfully lighted and animated displays at 14250 Conservation Drive in Baxter.

7th & 8th - Brainerd Christmas Concert 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Heritage Church, 13242 Berrywood Dr., Baxter. This heartwarming event operates on a free-will offering basis. Bring your family and friends to enjoy an evening filled with festive songs and powerful testimonies. Stay for refreshments after the concert.

9th - A Christmas Story music and song, 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. This is a free will offering event. Located at Garrison Alliance Church, 9475 Jefferson St. in Garrison.

9th - Ecumenical Cantata JOY! A Gospel Christmas Celebration. at Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood starting at 7 p.m.

10th - Ecumenical Cantata JOY! A Gospel Christmas Celebration at Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood starting at 9 a.m.

14th, 15th & 16th - Sertoma's Winter Wonderland at the Northland Arboretum, 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Experience a drive-through tour of more than 80 colorfully lighted and animated displays at 14250 Conservation Drive in Baxter.

Want to see it in the NEWSHOPPER?

Deadlines are Mondays at Noon

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

Perfect for Under the Tree!

OVER 165,000 SQ. FT. IN STOCK!

Luxury VINYL PLANKING STARTING AT 99¢ SQ. FT.

BUY IT TODAY, GET TODAY! ON IN-STOCK GOODS

SALE Going on now

\$13.95 SQ. YD. OR \$1.55 SQ. FT.

OVER 400 ROLLS TO CHOOSE FROM

OVER 500 REMNANTS \$10.95 SQ. YD.

All First Quality Merchandise!

BUY A REMNANT FROM TYKE'S AND WE WILL BIND IT!

TYKE'S CARPET CASTLE
Hwy. 371 North, Brainerd • 218-829-3878
Open: 9 - 5 Mon. - Sat. or by appointment

LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., December 2, 2023)
ORDINANCE AMENDMENT SUMMARY CITY OF CUYUNA

On November 13, 2023, the City of Cuyuna adopted a zoning map amendment, RZ-02-23. The amendment rezones parcel 19290529 in Sec 29, Twp 47, Rge 28 & parcel 19320535 in Sec 32, Twp 47, Rge 28 from "Open Development/Extraction District, (Open)" to "Single and Two-Family Residential District (R-1)."

This notice is a summary of the zoning map amendment that was adopted by the City. A copy of the Cuyuna Zoning Map and the City Land Use Ordinance are available upon request. This amendment goes into effect upon publication.

Dated: November 22, 2023
BILL BEDARD,
Clerk/Treasurer
City of Cuyuna
4.3

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., Dec. 2 & 9, 2023)
FILING NOTICE BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed by appointment at the home of Clerk, Carol Pundt. Call 1-218-678-3256 for an appointment. Filing dates: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 through 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 16, 2024 for the offices of:

ONE SUPERVISOR, 3-year term, currently held by Justin Smith

CLERK, 2-year term, currently held by Carol Pundt

The Bay Lake Town Hall Construction Trailer will also be open for filing from 1-5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2024:

Bay Lake Town Hall Construction Trailer
13861 County Rd 10
Deerwood, MN 56444
218-678-3821.

Dated: December 5, 2023
CAROL PUNDT,
Township Clerk
4.3

Hurry - Don't Delay!
\$79 Gas Furnace Inspection
Not to be combined with any other offer.

NORTHERN AIR
PLUMBING AND HEATING

northernairplumbing.com
24/7 Emergency Service (218) 927-6828

Reasonable • Experienced • Reliable

Turner & Son

Call for a FREE Quote

Fall Cleanup and Vacuum Leaf Removal

Full Service Lawn Care
Lawn Mowing • Debris Removal • Snow Removal:
Plowing and Blowing Sidewalks and Driveways

Tim Turner 218-866-2349
David Turner 651-242-4796
Serving the Lakes Area

Hoppers Helper's Service Directory

APPLIANCE SALES & SERVICE

Jim Blakesley Appliance Service & Repair
218-927-2027 • 1-888-450-8845 • Aitkin Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Refrigerators, Air Conditions, Septic Protectors, and MORE. Authorized Platinum Star Service.

CONTRACTORS

Radtke Remodeling & Construction
Custom Built Homes • Remodeling • Garages
New Additions • Pole Buildings • General Contracting • Insulation
Dean Radtke, Aitkin. Lic. #20108758
www.radtkeremodelingconstruction.com
218-678-3403 • 218-839-6103

FLOORING

JEFF WIBERG HARDWOOD FLOORS Installing, Sanding, Refinishing • Over 20 Years Experience 218-330-2576
Check Me Out On Facebook

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Ken's Heating & Mobile Home Supply
LP & Natural Gas • Nationally Certified Service Technician - over 30 Years Experience
Residential & Commercial • Mobile Home Heating and Air Conditioning • RV's/Supplies
218-821-6720 • Aitkin • kensheatingllc.com w47 2020

INSURANCE

SECURITY STATE INSURANCE

4 locations to serve you
Aitkin 218-927-3712 • Moose Lake 218-485-8735
• Isle 320-676-3795 • Grand Marais 218-387-1540

PET CARE SERVICE

Dogpatch • 218-927-4353 Expert Pet Grooming & Boarding Services. West of Aitkin on Cedar Brook Rd.

SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES

5 lines for \$15.00 per week
4 lines for \$12.00 per week
3 lines for \$9.00 per week

SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

AUTOMOBILES

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled – it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! Call 1-877-978-2510. (mcn)

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 844-913-2887. (mcn)

Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-977-7030 today! (mcn)

AUTOMOBILES CONT.

Make a tax-savvy move this holiday season and year-end! Donate your car, truck, boat, RV, and more to champion our veterans. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax deduction. Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-429-2331 today! (mcn)

FARM

Urban Alpapro Calf Feeder with 2 hygiene feeding stations and calf ID collars. Feeds 50 calves. 2 1/2 years old. Refurbished. \$19,500. 641-220-0732. w48

FOR SALE

For Sale Snow Thrower 30" wide attachment for DR mower \$350 218-763-2133 w48

FOR SALE CONT.

For Sale: Gravity Box on Wheels. 8x53, 10 HP and PTO 8x53 Augers 701-412-8910 w48-49

Give a GREAT GIFT this Season. Send 100% guaranteed, delivered-to-the-door Omaha Steaks! This package comes with 8 FREE PureGround Filet Mignon Burgers! Order The Butcher's Deluxe Package! ONLY \$99.99. Call 1-888-673-1224 and mention code 74222DRL or visit www.omahasteaks.com/Deluxe8465.

GOLF

Golf Cart Batteries \$159.99 w/exchange. Riley's NAPA Aitkin 927-2153 tfn

HEALTH/MEDICAL

DENTAL INSURANCE from DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance- NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-973-9175 www.dental50plus.com/https://www.dental50plus.com/midwest #6258 (mcn)

HEALTH/MEDICAL CONT.

DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER and 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. NO obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7, 1-866-533-1701. (mcn)

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 855-846-4036. (mcn)

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-716-2411. (mcn)

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-877-916-2093. (mcn)

LOW-COST HEALTH COVERAGE. Government subsidies available for families earning \$111,000 or less a year. See if you qualify. Call for your free quote! 1-888-772-8454 (mcn)

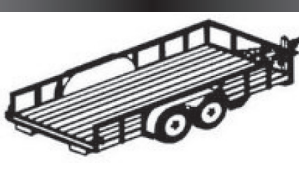
HOME SERVICES CONT.

We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-877-743-7971 (mcn)

SAFES

NEW AND USED SAFES FOR SALE • Safe repair and locked safes opened • Heavy and light duty gun safes and vault doors on hand • High security safes for gold and silver • 320-360-5431 w53

TRAILERS



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

BUY! BUY! Sell!

NEWSHOPPER Deadlines are normally Mondays at Noon.

However, there will be an **EARLY DEADLINE Thursday, December 21st** for the issue of Dec. 30th.

Donate Your Vehicle

Call (833) 937-2593 to donate your car, truck, boat, RV, and more today!

- Support Veteran Nonprofits.
- Free Pickup & Towing.
- Top Tax Deduction.

Donate Your Vehicle Today
833-937-2593

While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (833) 937-2593.

AICOTA HEALTH CARE CENTER

Aicota Health Care Center is looking for dedicated, reliable, caring people to join our staff.

We are currently accepting applications for Nursing Assistants, Nurses, Culinary Staff, and Maintenance.

We offer competitive benefits packages!

APPLY NOW! We are scheduling interviews weekly!

Stop by and pick up an application

Or fill out an application online www.aicota.com

Or call 218-927-2164 and ask for Human Resources

HELP WANTED

Truck driver with CDL, must have 3-5 years' experience required, Diesel mechanic certified with 3-5 years' experience, Office manager with QuickBooks, payroll, and transportation industry experience. contact 218-927-3320 for further information.

HOME SERVICES

Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES.

PERFECTION IS EFFORTLESS

Butcher's Deluxe Package

- 4 Butcher's Cut Top Sirloins (6 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (4 oz.)
- 4 Boneless Pork Chops (6 oz.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)
- 8 FREE PureGround™ Filet Mignon Burgers (6 oz.)

74222DRG separately \$224.94
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$99.99

Limited Time: Get 8 FREE Burgers

Order Now! OmahaSteaks.com/Deluxe8464 | 1.844.513.2857
Ask for your 8 FREE burgers with offer 74222DRG

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Photos exemplary of product advertised. Limit 2. 8 Free 6 oz. Burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes 74222. Standard S&H added per address. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. All products, prices, and sales are subject to Omaha Steaks, Inc. Terms of Use: OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use/STI. Expires 12/31/23. | 23M4858 | Omaha Steaks, Inc.

POWER UP FROM ANYWHERE

DURACELL M150 Portable Power Station

ONLY \$199

From Duracell, the #1 trusted battery brand, the M150 Portable Power Station enables you to work and have fun from anywhere.

Laptop	Phone	Tablet
1 Charge	6 Charges	3 Charges

Order by December 15th for Christmas delivery. portablepower.info/offer142

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$735.

Call 877-228-5789 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

GENERAC



Be the heart of a Veterans Home.

BEMIDJI VETERANS HOME - CURRENTLY HIRING CNA, NURSE AND MANY SUPPORT POSITIONS - ALL SHIFTS.

MINNESOTA VETERANS HOMES BEMIDJI



Scan and search Bemidji as the location

Questions about employment opportunities? Contact Peter Paquette at Peter.Paquette@state.mn.us or call/text 218-553-1104

MDVA is a Veteran-friendly, equal opportunity and affirmative action employer and service provider. This document can be made available in alternate formats. Contact MDVA's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Line at 612-548-5961 or your preferred telecommunications relay service.

MCAN Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

ENTERTAINMENT

SEE MLB GAMES

at Fenway Park, Yankee Stadium, etc. Quality game tickets, hotels, and motorcoach. Call/text for free brochure: 507/217-1326

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES

Running or not. Titled or not. Will pick up. Cash in exchange. Sell now before prices fall. Call Dan at 612/720-2142

PETS

ADD TONEKOTE

to dog & cat rations to treat dry, scaly skin, doggy odor & insure winter coat. At Tractor Supply® www.happyjackinc.com

ONLY \$279 to reach a statewide audience of 1.3 million readers!!! **1-800-279-2979**

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs include Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 866/433-5324

GIVE A GREAT GIFT THIS SEASON

Send 100% guaranteed, delivered-to-the-door Omaha Steaks! This package comes with 8 FREE PureGround Filet Mignon Burgers! Order The Butcher's Deluxe Package! ONLY \$99.99. Call 844/513-2857 and mention code 74222DRG or visit www.omahasteaks.com/Deluxe8464

MISCELLANEOUS

SAFE STEP

North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 833/966-3882

GET YOUR DEDUCTION

ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 844-220-9501

SWITCH TO DISH

and get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 855/562-4309

NEWSHOPPER Classified Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

All ads must reach our office no later than **Noon on Monday with payment.** Please type or print clearly. Your ad will be printed as you write it.

Classified Rates

of issues

- 75¢ per word one issue (10 word minimum)
- 70¢ per word, per week for two issues (10 word minimum)
- 65¢ per word, per week for three to twelve issues (10 word minimum)
- 55¢ per word, per week for thirteen or more issues (10 word minimum)

Add \$1.00 each for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED type, whether one word or all words in your classified ad. Add \$12.00 for your logo, artwork or photo! (1/2" tall x 1 1/2" wide printed maximum size)

Add \$2.00 for one of our sixteen eye catching graphics:

Add a photo for \$12.00 per issue

As Low as \$5.50 per issue for 13 or more issues (10 word minimum)

To Figure the Cost of Your Ad

Number of Words _____

Rate per Word x _____

Additional Costs + _____

Total Per Week _____

Number of Weeks x _____



TOTAL COST OF AD _____

We are not responsible for error due to illegible copy or missing punctuation. Punctuation does not count as a word. Each phone number, e-mail and web address counts as one word.

send to: NEWSHOPPER™ PO Box 562 Ironton, MN 56455

www.NewsHopper.net • hopper@crosbyironton.net

Thank you for your order! Please make check payable to the **NEWSHOPPER**

Seasonal reminder to all about dangers of thin ice and cold water



Unseasonably warm weather during the first half of November means many lakes and ponds remain free of ice, but the water is dangerously cold. The Minnesota Department of Natural

Resources urges parents and guardians to talk with kids about the risks of cold water. Falls into open water this time of year can turn tragic quickly, and the effects of cold water mean even strong

swimmers likely will find it difficult to save themselves from an unexpected fall. Parents and guardians need to be especially vigilant about watching kids and ensuring their innate curiosity about the water doesn't put them at risk.

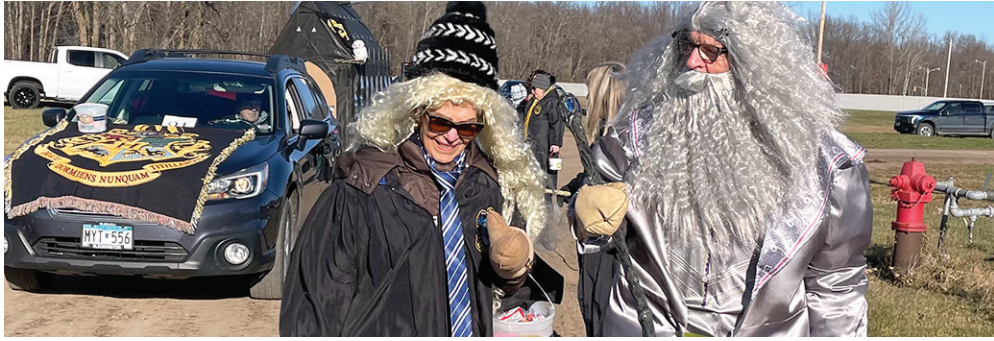
Capt. Adam Block, boating law administrator with the DNR Enforcement Division, says kids – or people new to Minnesota – might not understand the difference

in how their bodies react to cold water vs. warm water. He urges parents and guardians to talk with their children and neighbors about staying away from lakes, ponds and rivers this time of year unless there's an adult supervising.

The best way to stay safe around cold water is to wear a life jacket (foam is better than an inflatable in cold water). Block also recommends people carry a phone or other communications device to call for help, to let others know where they're going

and when they plan to return, and to be prepared to deal with an unforeseen incident. For more information about surviving a fall into cold water, see the cold water dangers webpage (mndnr.gov/safety/boatwater/cold-water.html).

Fish house parade magic in Aitkin



A windy, bright day brought large crowds to Aitkin on November 24 for the Fish House Parade. Other highlights were vintage snowmobiles, Sip n Stroll, merchant deals, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, live music, a 5k run and more. (Above) Hogwarts UpNorth featured all the Harry Potter characters in "charming" costumes. Aitkin Fishhouse Parade winners were Steve-os, Aitkin Health Service and Aitkin All Starz with Dena's Dance Studio. Ann Schwartz photo

Winter walleye fishing regulations for Upper Red, Mille Lacs lakes

Anglers are reminded that the walleye limit for Upper Red Lake decreased from the five allowed during open water season to four this winter while the Mille Lacs Lake walleye limit will remain at one.

The Upper Red Lake regulation became effective 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 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources sets winter regulations for these lakes after completion of annual fall population assessments. Results from Upper Red Lake showed a very strong level of walleye spawning stock and a high overall net catch rate, especially of nearly mature walleye. Mille Lacs' results found slightly lower walleye numbers 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).

CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK
DECEMBER 4-10, 2023

LONG LAKE
CONSERVATION CENTER

TIPS TO STAY WARM AND SAVE MONEY

News flash! It's cold in the winter in Minnesota. Here are tips to save energy (and stay warm)...

- The best way to stay warm is to snuggle under a warm blanket with someone you love. Best of all, it's absolutely free.
- Weatherstrip your doors and windows.
- Switch to a smart thermostat.
- Close the damper when not using the fireplace.
- Give your heating system a yearly checkup.
- Don't block your air vents.

Nature Notes:

- It's tracks season. Follow the tracks in the snow and see what you find
- The winter is a great time to stargaze (without losing too much sleep).
- It's cross country skiing and snowshoeing season.

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

- **Dec 4:** Last Quarter Moon.
- **Dec 5:** The International Space Station crosses the SW sky, beginning at 5:27 p.m. and ending.
- **Dec 6 – 15:** Earliest sunset of the year (4:27 p.m.).
- **Dec 9:** The two brightest objects in the night sky, the Moon and Venus, are next to each other in the morning sky-- a beautiful sight. They rise ESE at 4:30 a.m., and are visible through sunrise at 7:47 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!

Jaques Art Center tea

"A White Christmas Tea" will be held at the Jaques Art Center on Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. Tiers of treats, raffles and a program will be featured.

The Jaques Art Center is located at 121 Second Street NW in Aitkin. Tickets are \$25. Call 218-927-2363 for more information.

Icykel Fat Bike Race

Cykel of Ironton is hosting the Icykel Fat Bike Race on Sunday, Jan. 21 in the Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area near Ironton.

The race features a 10K, 20K and 40K course plus a weekend full of fun.

On Saturday, Jan. 20 riders will be able to checkout the official race course the day before the race. The preview is totally optional, but open to anyone who wants to join.

There will also be a Pasta Party and Packet Pick-up on Saturday with pasta buffet beginning at 6 p.m. at The Hudson located at 208 Curtis

Avenue in Ironton. Sunday, Jan. 21 is race day with packet pickup at 8 a.m. and races begin at 9 a.m. in the rec area.

Awards will be given out to overall winners and each age group.

After party is at The Hudson which includes a vendor fair and live music.

Plan on good food, good music, fun shopping and more.

For more information contact Cykel at 218-772- 0177 or visit: runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/MN/Ironton/IcykelRace to register.

R & R Landscaping & Construction

Aitkin, Minnesota
License# BC768287
218-839-3371

Specializing in Shoreline Restoration

- Rip Rap Rock Installation
- Boulder Wall Material Installation
- Sod Installation
- Class Five
- Bobcat Work
- Demolition
- All Dirt Work Needs
- Patios

General Building & Remodeling Contractor

- Roofing
- Window Installation
- Siding
- Garages
- Doors
- Decks
- Handicapped Bathrooms

Dozer & Backhoe Work

- Basements
- Driveways
- Ponds
- Wild Life Food Plots
- Land & Lot Clearing
- Stump Removal
- Rip Rap
- Demolition
- Building Pads
- Ditches and Ditch Cleaning
- Black Dirt, Sand & Gravel
- Roads / Road Building
- Boulder Walls
- Trail Brushing

Tree Removal

- Tree Removal and Clean-up
- Stump Grinding
- Storm Damage Cleanup
- Aerial Truck

For Your Landscaping & Construction Needs!

Discount Prices!

Full Structural Steel Buildings
Home • Garage • Shed • Office • Ag
Call 218-829-3371 for an estimate

We Do Ice Dam Repair on Roofs!

Now Doing Spray Foam Insulation

Making Old Wood Look New!

Old wood (decks, siding, logs, etc.) looks new again with media blasting and staining!

Specializing in Shoreline Restoration Rip-Rap-Rock Installation

YOUR EROSION EXPERTS!

Call Greg for a FREE ESTIMATE 218-839-3371