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Sat., December 30, 2023

# NEWSHOPPER

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## Common Goods and The Mustard Seed offer textile recycling



Bags of unsellable clothes and textiles are wheeled to the area where a baler, housed at Salem West, will compact the items into a bale to be transported for recycling.

Area nonprofit partners Bridges of Hope and Salem West are partnering in a textile recycling project.

With a Community Impact grant from Sourcewell, a baler and other equipment was purchased, enabling the organizations to profit

from recycled goods that are not appropriate for the sales floor. The bales are sold and processed again with some of the fabric being made into rags, insulation, carpet padding and other fibers. The Mustard Seed and Common Goods thrift stores will col-

lect and recycle textiles in unsellable condition diverting an estimated 400,000+ pounds of textile waste from landfills annually.

"Our thrift stores have always recycled fabric, which is great, but now we will make money doing it," said Danell Eggert, Retail Director at Bridges of Hope. "Keeping items out of the landfill and helping people with the money generated...that's a lot of good, and it's exciting to be a part of it."

Damaged clothing and fabric can be dropped off during normal donation hours at Common Goods in Baxter, Crosslake and Crosby Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and at Salem West in Deerwood Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Items should be placed in a white trash bag and specifically marked for recycling. Fabrics need to be dry, free of smoke, mildew, and mold. Pillows with beans or feathers

cannot be accepted.

"Salem West and Bridges of Hope have always worked together to help people, and now with this recycling project we'll work together to make money to support our missions with this added revenue stream from recycling," Jason Kempthorne, Director of Outreach at Salem West.

Common Goods is owned and operated by Bridges of Hope, with stores in Baxter, Crosslake, and Crosby, and

has been in business for 14 years. Bridges of Hope provides support to empower people, bridge gaps and connect individuals and families to resources and services through collaborative partnerships and coordination of resources to promote a stronger, healthier community.

Salem West has been operating since 1995. Salem West works with local social services and nonprofit agencies to offer families in our community the basic needs when setting up a new home, fleeing domestic violence, or loss after flood or fire.

Bridges of Hope is located at 2011 S 6th St, Brainerd; The Bridge on 7th Overnight Shelter at 1926 S. 7th St., Brainerd; Common Goods stores are located at 17140 State Highway 371, Baxter; 35562 County Highway 66, Crosslake; and 27 W. Main St., Crosby. Salem West and The Mustard Seed Thrift & Gifts at 22348 State Hwy 6 Deerwood.



Jason Kempthorne bales the damaged clothing and fabric, which will be recycled into rags, insulation, carpet padding and other fibers.

## SHIFT CLINIC

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Dinner**

Saturday and Sunday,  
December 30 and 31 5PM-8PM  
Please call 218-678-4678 for Reservations

\$80/ per person Includes complimentary glass of Champagne  
Children's Menu Available for 12 & Under

**Amuse Bouche** (Appetizer)

**Wild Boar Wellington** Seared wild boar tenderloin, mushroom duxelle, puff pastry topped with demi-glace & a pickled blackberry

**Soup or Salad**

**Asian Pear & Arugula Salad** Sliced Asian pear, arugula, crumbled goat cheese, dried blueberries. Served with honey, thyme & lemon vinaigrette

**Manhattan Clam Chowder**

**Entrée** (choice of one)

**Rabbit Cacciatore** Pan seared 3/4 rabbit, wild mushrooms, pancetta, white wine tomato sauce, on a bed of pappardelle noodles. Served with garlic crostini's

**22 oz. Black Angus Cowboy Ribeye** topped with a roasted garlic & rosemary compound butter. Served with broccoli cheddar hasselback potatoes & roasted asparagus

**Pistachio Crusted Rack of Lamb** Medium rare lamb rack served with honey glazed carrots, loaded potato croquette & lamb jus

**Seafood Boil** One pound fresh lobster, snow crab, peel & eat shrimp, andouille sausage, okra & red potatoes. Served with Old Bay cheddar biscuits

**Dessert** (choice of one)

**Wild Berry Cheesecake** New York style cheesecake topped with house made blueberry, strawberry and blackberry compote

**Gluten Free Chocolate Lava Cake**



Photographed (left to right) Kim Waffensmith, Angie Kjelstrom, Rich Aulie, Jami Pierce, Paige Pierce and Chuck Schotzko.

### Mille Lacs Energy Trust Board grants

The Mille Lacs Community Trust Board meets quarterly to distribute funds raised through Operation Round Up. This December, the board awarded \$13,250 in grants to local non-profit organizations including: Aitkin County DAC, Aitkin County Environmental Services, Angels Anonymous, Cuyuna Range Youth Center, Great River String Ensemble, McGregor Area Scholarship Foundation, McGregor Post Prom Committee, Minnesota Historical Society (Mille Lacs Indian Museum), Riverwood Auxiliary, and True Friends. The total amount of grants awarded since the start of

Operation Round Up has surpassed \$1.5 million! Operation Round Up is a voluntary program at Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative where our generous members round-up their electric bill payment to the nearest dollar. All the funds raised go into the trust fund which is donated back to the community. Board members include: Lisa Anderson, Kim Waffensmith, Darlene Stigen, Bethany Sellers, Charles Schotzko, Becky Joerger, Bob Nelson, and Doyle Jelsing. To receive a Trust application, contact Deb Chute at 218-927-8221 or 1-800-450-

2191. The Trust Board meets the second Wednesday in March, June, September, and December. Applications are accepted at any time. Those submitted a week before the quarterly meetings will go to the board. Anything submitted after will be seen at the next board meeting. MLEC is a not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative owned by the members they serve. They provide service to over 13,000 members in parts of Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs counties. Their headquarters is located at 36559 US Highway 169, one mile east of Aitkin.

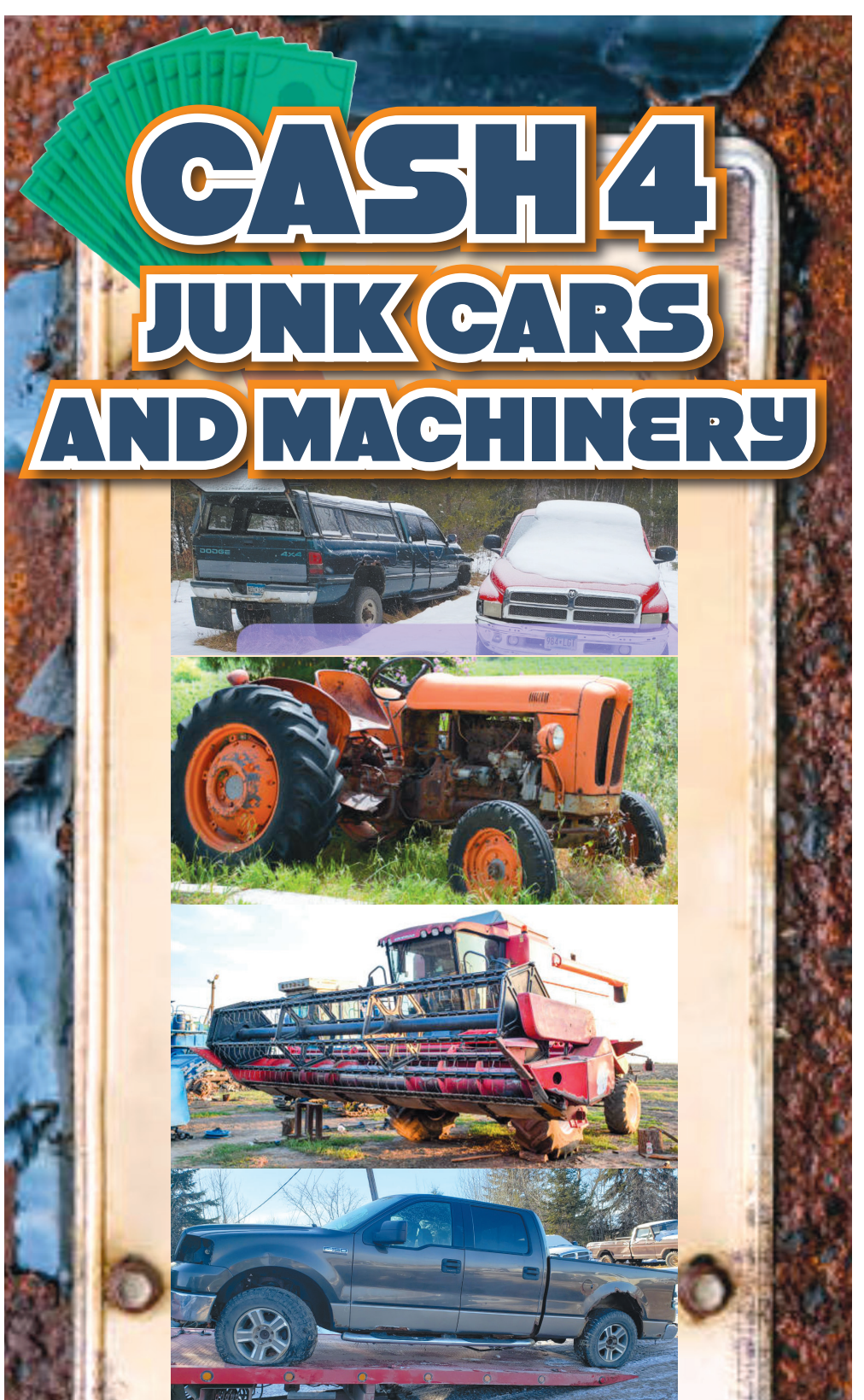


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- Fridays 5PM-8PM**  
All You Can Eat\*\* **Fish Fry**  
Served with coleslaw, french fries, seasonal vegetable & a dinner roll \$19
- Saturdays 5PM-8PM**  
All You Can Eat\*\* **Shrimp and Ribs**  
Devil's Washboard beer batter shrimp, smoked St. Louis style ribs, french fries, seasonal vegetable, salad & a dinner roll \$29
- Sundays 9AM-Noon**  
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HOURS: THURSDAY-SATURDAY 9 AM-7 PM & SUNDAY 9 AM-3 PM



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# OBITUARIES

## RUTH MELCHIOR



Ruth H. Melchior, 76, of Carver, MN died on Sunday, December 17, 2023, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital. Funeral service was held Friday, December 22, 2023 at McNearney-Schmidt Funeral and Cremation in Shakopee. And a graveside service was at the Riverside Cemetery in Brainerd on Saturday, December 23 with full military honors provided by the Brainerd Area Honor Guard. Ruth was born on February 8, 1947, in Brainerd to Donald and Alice (Sewell) Thon. She earned her Bachelor's of Science from the University of Minnesota and pursued a career as a Clinical Lab

Scientist. Ruth married Michael Melchior on April 8, 1978 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brainerd. Ruth's family was very important to her. She enjoyed all things outdoors, including hunting, fishing, and spending time at the family home in the woods. She also loved gardening and quilting. While working and raising her three daughters, Ruth also served our country in the US Navy Reserves. She is survived by her loving husband, Michael; daughters: Jackie (Jarrod) Skalicky, Jenny Melchior, Jessie Melchior; grandson, Jerome Skalicky; siblings: Jane Thon, Esther (Butch) Hayes, George (Nancy) Thon, Norma (Mick) Timmons; sister-in-law, Chris Thon; many nieces and nephews. Ruth is preceded in death by her parents and brother Harley Thon.

## ELIZABETH MILLER



Elizabeth (Macy) Miller, 61, of Brainerd, died on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at St. Joseph's Medical Center. A public service will be held on Friday, January 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Baxter with visitation starting at 12:30 p.m. Elizabeth was born on March 4, 1962, to Theodore and Delores (Robinson) Macy in Hibbing. Elizabeth graduated from Hibbing High School and then received her LPN degree in Grand Rapids, MN. She

then moved to Brainerd and was a long-standing resident until her passing. Elizabeth got much enjoyment giving small gifts to her family. She would always bring a treat bag when visiting family. Elizabeth had a close and caring community of friends and neighbors with whom she spent time sharing dinners and friendship. Elizabeth is survived by her sisters: Maggie Anderson, Cerenity Davis, Tammy Moothedan; brothers: Roger Macy, John Macy, Richard Macy; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother Jim Macy.

## JACKIE EXTRAND



Jackie Bye Extrand, 53, of Nisswa died on Monday, December 18, 2023. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Friday, December 29, 2023, at Lakewood Church in Baxter at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family has designated Camp Confidence and the Brainerd or Nisswa American Legion for memorial contributions. In lieu of flowers, the family has designated Camp Confidence and the Brainerd or Nisswa American Legion for memorial contributions.

Born December 11, 1970, in Winfield, IL to Conrad and Carolyn Bye, Jackie lived her life as one great adventure. She had a spark for life that lit up a room, and a heart that genuinely loved helping others. She grew up in Brainerd, where she was involved in many activities including, student council, class president, 4-H, dance, basketball, and tennis. She also served as Miss Nisswa, 1989. In 1992, Jackie was selected to join Up With People for a year of travel, performance, and community service. After her tour, she went on to graduate from the University of Puget Sound, and then promptly signed up for her next adventure. She joined the Peace Corp and moved to Uganda, Africa for an extended four-year commitment. Jackie then returned to Brainerd where she began her career as a school guidance counselor. There she met and married Adam Extrand, and they began their most treasured journey-becoming parents to Aden and Ashton. There was no greater joy for Jackie than raising, encouraging, and loving her sons. Her long-term journey with metastatic breast cancer and complications has now come to an end, yet it would be wrong to say she lost the battle. She never gave up even though the odds were stacked against her. Through her, we know what resilience, perseverance, faith, and grace truly look like. With her family as her motivation, she went a far greater distance than was believed possible.

Jackie is survived by her immediate family, parents, sisters: Bobbi Bye and Kay Bye; aunts, nieces, nephew, fur babies, and extended village of family and friends.

More obituaries on Page 4

## MABEL JARBOE



Mabel M. Jarboe, 96, died Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at Country Manor Health Care Center in Sartell. Funeral Services will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 30, 2023 at Salem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud with Rev. Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt officiating. Burial will be at North Star Cemetery in St. Cloud. Visitation will be one hour prior to service.

Mabel was born January 31, 1927 in Brainerd to William and Mabel (Busby) Maust. She married Eugene Jarboe on September 11, 1946 and they were blessed with three children: Wendy, Mark and Randy. Mabel worked for a short time at Hallmark in Kansas City and Singer Sewing Center in Crossroads in St. Cloud, but was most proud to be a homemaker and being at home for her children. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, crocheting and liked to make crafts. She liked collecting teddy bears and stuffed animals. Mabel loved her family and especially enjoyed spoiling her grandchildren. Mabel is survived by her children: Wendy Brand of Sauk Rapids, Mark (Deborah) Jarboe of Baxter, and Randy (Judy) Jarboe of Longville; brother, Melvin Maust of Phoenix; eight grandchildren: Rochelle, Theresa, Timothy, Kevin, Jon, Amanda, Jenna and Adam; 16 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Eugene in 2008; son-in-law, Richard Brand; grandson, Brandon; and sisters: Doris, Jayne, Lois and Molly.

## CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK

JANUARY 1-7, 2024



### RECYCLE YOUR CRAYONS!

Unfortunately, most crayons end up in landfills. Crayons are made of paraffin wax, a petroleum by-product, that is not biodegradable. In the U.S. alone, more than 60 million crayons are discarded each year. That is over 500,000 pounds of waxy sludge that won't decompose. Thankfully, crayons can be recycled. The National Crayon Recycle Program recycles unwanted, rejected, broken crayons into new crayons, keeping thousands of pounds out of landfills and back into the creative hands of children! Even the paper wrappings are recycled. They also have 100% recycled crayons available for purchase, eliminating the production of new crayons. Learn more about the program here: [nationalcrayonrecycle-program.org](http://nationalcrayonrecycle-program.org)



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!

#### Nature Notes:

- Cardinals mate for life and spend the entire year together. Look for males and females feeding on seeds on the ground under your feeder. They also like suet!
- "Moose" is from the Ojibway word for "twig-eater". They can nibble down 50 pounds of twigs on a winter day. That dangly skin under their jaw is called dewlaps, also known as a "bell", both males and females have them although why remains a mystery.

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

What's happening in the starry sky this week?

Latest sunrises of the year all this week (7:57 am). We've gained 12 minutes of daylight since the Winter Solstice. Summer will get here eventually!

- Jan. 3: Last quarter moon.
- Jan. 4: Quadrantid meteor shower peaks in the early morning hours. Look northeast. are resting.
- Dec 27 - Jan 7: Latest sunrises of the year at 7:57 am.

## LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., Dec. 30, 2023 & Jan. 6, 2024)

### WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT

The Board of Audit for Wealthwood Township will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m. with the regular meeting to follow.

Dated: December 5, 2023  
LINDA WENDLANDT, Clerk  
Wealthwood Township  
2.2

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., Dec 30, 2023, Jan. 6 & 13, 2024)

### LIBBY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

The Libby Township Board will meet online at 5:00. p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 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 December, 2023  
Jane Grimsbo Jewett, Clerk  
Libby Township  
2.63

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., December 30, 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, January 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cuyuna Fire Department to conduct the following public hearing:

Ordinance Amendment 01-2024 to amend the City of Cuyuna Zoning Ordinance No. 903 to revise the city's fee schedule and include it as Sec-

tion 903.25 and to add Section 903.12, "Building Standards," regarding Minnesota Building code (reference to State Code), minimum dwelling size requirements and foundation requirements, structure setbacks between buildings requirement, water supply requirements (reference to State Code), and plumbing and electrical facility requirements (reference to State Code) and to amend Section 9.03.16 "Board of Adjustment," Subd 3 (1) regarding variance application fees and to amend Section 9.03.17, "Procedures for Amendments Rezoning/Conditional Use Permit," Subd. 2 (1) regarding application fees. Applicant: City of Cuyuna.

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 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: December 21, 2023  
BILL BEDARD,  
Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Cuyuna  
8.2

Spread Your Message with an ad in the NEWSHOPPER  
[hopper@crobyironton.net](mailto:hopper@crobyironton.net)

**Send Us Your Photos and Community Events!**

Got an interesting photo and story to share? Just send it to [hopper@crobyironton.net](mailto:hopper@crobyironton.net), along with your name, city and a description of the photo. We also accept news and community events. And who knows, you may see your submission next week in the NEWSHOPPER!

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Hours: Mon.-Fri. open at 4 p.m., Sat. open at Noon!

Sun., Dec. 31 <b>New Year's Eve Tailgate Party</b> Live Music by Scott Free Taco Bar All Day Long!	Wed., Jan. 10 <b>Swedish Meatballs</b> 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 3 <b>Lasagna</b> with Garlic Bread & Salad 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Wed., Jan. 17 <b>Jay's Sloppy Joes</b> 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 4 & 18 <b>Woman of the Moose Pizza Night</b> 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Wed., Jan. 24 <b>Pork/Rice/Stuffing Hot Dish</b> 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
<b>Meat Raffle Every Saturday 6 p.m.</b>	Second Friday • Feb. 12 <b>Stuffed Pork Chop Dinner</b> 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Hall Available for Rent (Seats 225) Weddings, Reunions, Graduation & Other Events  
Now booking for parties. Call Lodge for info.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**December**  
30th - Fireworks over Lawrence Lake at 6 p.m.  
30th - The Ironton American Legion \$1,000 BINGO, packet sales start at 5 p.m. with bingo at 6:30 p.m. Come early for dinner; the kitchen will be open until 7:45 p.m.

**2024 January**  
8th - Lakes Area Unlimited Learning Great Thai Food, and a Cooking Demonstration at the Drunken Noodle, 102 W. Main Street, Crosby at noon. Make your reservation by Friday, Dec. 29. Call Ruth Ann Wefald at 785-320-1059 or email her at [ruthann@ksu.edu](mailto:ruthann@ksu.edu) with any questions.

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<h3>CONTRACTORS</h3> <p><b>Radtke Remodeling &amp; Construction</b> Custom Built Homes • Remodeling • Garages New Additions • Pole Buildings • General Contracting • Insulation Dean Radtke, Aitkin. Lic. #20108758 <a href="http://www.radtkeremodelingconstruction.com">www.radtkeremodelingconstruction.com</a> 218-678-3403 • 218-839-6103</p>	<h3>HEATING &amp; AIR CONDITIONING</h3> <p><b>Ken's Heating &amp; Mobile Home Supply</b> LP &amp; Natural Gas • Nationally Certified Service Technician - over 30 Years Experience Residential &amp; Commercial • Mobile Home Heating and Air Conditioning • RV's/Supplies 218-821-6720 • Aitkin • <a href="http://kensheatingllc.com">kensheatingllc.com</a> w47 2020</p>	<h3>SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES</h3> <p>5 lines for \$15.00 per week 4 lines for \$12.00 per week 3 lines for \$9.00 per week</p>	

# OBITUARIES

## DAVID LINDBERG



David D. Lindberg, 60, of McGregor died on Sunday, December 17, 2023.

A celebration of Dave's life will be held May 17, 2024, from 2 pm until 5 pm, at the Minnesota National Golf Course in McGregor, MN. In lieu of flowers and memorials, please consider making a donation in Dave's honor to the Minnesota Land Trust. Contributions can be made online at [www.mnland.org](http://www.mnland.org)

He was born in Minneapolis on March 24, 1963. Dave attended Irondale High School in New Brighton, MN; graduating in 1981. After completing his education, he pursued various hobbies that brought him joy and fulfillment. He was an avid golfer, fisherman, and taxidermist. Dave enjoyed snowmobiling,

hunting, and loved being outdoors. He recently took an interest in gardening. He was a skilled craftsman who took pride in building his own home. Dave was known for his wide range of talents and interests. He had meticulous organization skills and an eye for detail. Dave was a patient and caring individual who was a great friend to many, and was always there when someone needed help.

Dave survived by his mother Donna, brother Steve, sister Sue, cousin and close friend Mark, nephew Todd; great-niece Emily, great-nephew Caden, niece Katie (Erik), great-nephew Finn, aunts, uncle, cousins, and many others.

He was preceded in death by his father Ray, nephew Bobby, aunt Diane and uncle Kenny.

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

## VIRGINIA ANDERSON



Virginia Mildred Anderson, 93, of Brainerd, died on Thursday, December 21, 2023.

A celebration of Life will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 30, 2023, at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Baxter. A visitation will take place one hour prior to services. Interment will take place at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Brainerd. Virginia was born to Leonard and Olive (Renish) Burgeson on February 3, 1930, in Barnesville. She was married to Lorain Anderson in 1951 in Fergus Falls. After Lorain passed away in 1977, Virginia married

Clayton Anderson in 1982. She worked for many years at the State Hospital in Brainerd. In her free time, Virginia enjoyed camping, card and board games, and watching her grandchildren's sporting events. She also was very involved with the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Onamia VFW Auxiliary. S

Virginia is survived by her children: Shirley Schroeml, Barb (Cal) Snow, Jim (Sue) Anderson, and Bob (Brenda) Anderson; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two husbands: Lorain Anderson, Clayton Anderson; and sisters: Jeanette, Fern, and Ruth.

## PATRICIA NESLEY



Patricia "Pat" Nesley, 95, died Sunday, December 17, 2023 at Northern Lakes Senior Living in Baxter.

Pat requested no memorial service. Donations are preferred to: Best Friends Animal Society. [www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org)

She was born March 9, 1928 in Ridley Park, PA to William C. and Marie E. (Haines) Morrison, Sr. She grew up in Ridley Park and graduated from Ridley Park High School in 1946. She attended nurses training school before deciding that teaching physical education was her calling. She graduated from West Chester State Teachers College in 1951, eventually earning a Master's degree. She taught in Pennsylvania and Delaware and for a time worked at a Philadelphia TV station where she had her own physical fitness TV show. She moved to Washington DC and taught in the Montgomery County, MD, schools with most of her career at Belt Junior High School. She earned

her pilots license and enjoyed flying small planes. She was an avid hiker, traveling the world with her friend and partner, Jack Mason. Pat was always active in sports, excelling in Field Hockey and Race Walking. She participated in the Senior Olympics, held in Japan and won several medals in Race Walking. She was inducted into the West Chester University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003. She loved dogs, especially Labs, sharing her life with many rescues. She was always the life of the party, having fun and making friends wherever she went.

Pat lived life to the fullest, her spirit and sense of humor will be greatly missed by many dear friends, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents William and Marie Morrison; brother and sister-in-law: William (Barbara) Morrison, Jr.; sister, Phyllis M. Dreyer; and her love, Jack Mason.

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

## LUCY ARENDS



Lucy Jane Arends, 80, of Malmo died Monday, December 25, 2023 at Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Memorial service will be 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 30, 2023 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin with Pastor Dallas Smith officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Morningside Memorial Gardens in Coon Rapids at a later date.

She was born July 3, 1943 in Pine Island to Francis and Bertha (Rahbine) Rehling. She worked many jobs including factory work at Tonka Toy Co., the Fischer Nut Co., Knox Lumber, and at the Arsenal. Lucy was united in marriage to Donald

James Arends, Sr. on August 12, 1965 in Watertown, South Dakota.

Lucy is survived by her husband of 58 years, Donald Arends, Sr.; children: Brian (Dawn) Arends of Isanti and Donald Arends, Jr. of Malmo; six grandchildren: Ashley, Tyler, Trevor, Jade, Zephrah and Caleb; three great-grandchildren: McKenna, Winter and Ryllyn; sister: Gale Dill; brothers: Chuck and Kirk Rehling; and many other special relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Candice Sniatynsky; son, Rick Dickman; sister, Donna Nimeth; brother, Craig Rehling; and parents, Francis and Bertha Rehling.

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

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<p>Traditional Funerals • Cremation Services Celebration of Life • Pre-Planning Services</p>	
<p>Directors: Jason Brezinsky Jerry Thompson • Tad Brezinsky</p>	
<p><a href="http://www.srtfuneral.com">www.srtfuneral.com</a></p>	

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

<p><b>ALLIANCE</b> Aitkin* — New Life; Larry Burg &amp; Tyrel LaValle, pastors; Worship 10:15 am &amp; 6pm; youth group Wed. 6pm; 11-1st Street SW; <a href="http://newlifeaitkin.com">newlifeaitkin.com</a> 218-927-2823. Baxter* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10; <a href="http://www.pointway.org">www.pointway.org</a> Garrison* — Worship 10:30am Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449</p> <p><b>ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> Aitkin — Pastor Andrew Jergenson; Sunday Morning Service 10. Baxter — Heritage Church, Pastor Heath Beard; 9 &amp; 10:45 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, <a href="http://iamheritage.org">iamheritage.org</a> 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; <a href="mailto:hillcityagchurch@gmail.com">hillcityagchurch@gmail.com</a>; 218-697-2662 Palisade — Pastor Charlie Bell; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726</p> <p><b>BAPTIST</b> Aitkin - Northwoods Community Church (formerly The Journey North) Tom Hoffman, interim pastor, Worship 10:30, <a href="http://northwoodscommunitychurch.org">northwoodscommunitychurch.org</a> Baxter - The Journey North, Worship 9 &amp; 10:30, 218-824-5617 <a href="http://thejourneynorth.com">thejourneynorth.com</a> 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.; <a href="http://fbcbrainerd.com">fbcbrainerd.com</a> Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 <a href="http://www.thechurchontheiseroad.org">www.thechurchontheiseroad.org</a> Breezy 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. <a href="http://aitkinchurch.com">aitkinchurch.com</a> 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.</p> <p><b>CATHOLIC</b> 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 p.m. Crosby* — St. Joseph's, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass: Thurs. and Fri. at 8; Tues at noon, Sun. 8:30 &amp; 10:30. Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, 218-692-3731; <a href="http://www.ihmstemiyls.org">www.ihmstemiyls.org</a>; Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm. Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. &amp; 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 &amp; Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 &amp; 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.</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> 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.</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS</b> Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY</b> Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959</p>	<p>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 &amp; 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study &amp; 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 &amp; 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.</p> <p><b>EPISCOPAL</b> 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. <b>EVANGELICAL FREE</b> 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, <a href="http://www.crosslakeefc.org">www.crosslakeefc.org</a> 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.</p> <p><b>HEBREW/MESSIANIC</b> Glen — Beth Shalom Tabernacle of Truth, Rabi Frank Dell, for information 320-684-2804</p> <p><b>LUTHERAN</b> Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st &amp; 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. &amp; Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd &amp; 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 Inglewood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. <a href="http://www.christbaxter.com">www.christbaxter.com</a>. Baxter — Prince of Peace (LCMS); Communion every Sunday 9, Fellowship 10:15, Adult Bible Class &amp; Sunday School 10:30 am 218-829-7092 <a href="http://www.princeofpeace-lutheran.church">www.princeofpeace-lutheran.church</a> Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st &amp; 3rd Sun., 10:30. Brainerd — First Lutheran Church (ELCA) Pastors: Patty Bjorklund and Jordan Gades, Sunday worship 9, Sunday</p>	<p>School following worship. Services also available on YouTube and Facebook. 218-829-9552 <a href="http://fbcbrainerd.com">fbcbrainerd.com</a> 424 8th Street South, Brainerd Brainerd* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at <a href="http://www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church">www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church</a>, 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052 Brainerd — Laestadian Lutheran Church, 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. (<a href="http://www.llchurch.org">www.llchurch.org</a>) Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th St. Brainerd, Worship time September through May 8:15am &amp; 10:30am; worship (June through August) 9 am. 218-829-5147. Website: <a href="http://www.trinitybrainerd.org">www.trinitybrainerd.org</a>. Email: <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitybrainerd.org">trinity@trinitybrainerd.org</a> 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. <a href="http://www.zionbrainerd.com">www.zionbrainerd.com</a>. Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA); Worship 8:30; Holy Comm. 1st &amp; 3rd Sun. Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 &amp; 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) <a href="http://www.crosslakelutheran.com">www.crosslakelutheran.com</a> • 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, <a href="http://www.missionofthecross.org">www.missionofthecross.org</a> 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. <a href="http://www.shepherdofthelake.org">www.shepherdofthelake.org</a>. Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst &amp; Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month 8:45. Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor M. Eckert; Worship 9:30; 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 &amp; 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 - Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (LCMS) Pastor Monte Meyer Worship 9 am, Fellowship 10 am, Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10:15 am Pequot Lakes* - Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA)</p>	<p>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 &amp; 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.)</p> <p><b>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</b> 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.</p> <p><b>PENTECOSTAL</b> 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 &amp; Wed. 7 pm. Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, Pastors Ken and Ron Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585</p> <p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b> Crosslake - Pastor Mark Ford, 218-692-4769; Worship 9; Fellowship 11. 14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, just passed the Community Center; <a href="http://www.crosslakepres.org">www.crosslakepres.org</a>. McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9. McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm. Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.</p> <p><b>REFORMED</b> Crosby — Lifespring Church, a member of Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals, 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, <a href="http://www.visitlifespring.com">www.visitlifespring.com</a></p> <p><b>SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST</b> Aitkin — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 9:30, Bible Study 10:30; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; <a href="http://www.aitkinadventist.org">www.aitkinadventist.org</a>; 423-805-0933 Brainerd — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 11:20, Bible Study 10; Bible Study &amp; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 6:30 p.m.; 2910 Oak Street, Brainerd, 218-829-1676</p> <p><b>UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST</b> Pequot Lakes — 28877 State Hwy 371, Pequot Lakes 10:30 1st and 4th Sundays. 218-330-3476</p> <p><b>UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> Brainerd — First Congregational UCC, 415 Juniper St, Brainerd. Sunday worship at 10. Pastor; Leslie Moughty. Handicapped accessible. <b>UNITED METHODIST</b> Aitkin* — Aitkin - Pastor Dawn Houser; Worship 10, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible &amp; 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 &amp; 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. UWF meet on the first Sunday of each month following worship. Men's prayer breakfast 2nd Saturday of each month at 8. Bible Study Thursdays at 6 pm. Fleming* — (Northern Lights Parish) SS 9:15; Fellowship 10:30; fellowship follows. Hill City — Pastor Roger Lynn; Worship 10 McGregor* — (Northern Lights Parish) Worship 8:45; fellowship follows. Onamia — Pastor Rick &amp; Judy Wilder; Worship 11; fellowship 10:30; 2 bks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947</p>
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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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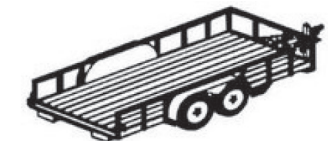
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- Mattresses
- Furniture
- Mobile Homes
- Free recycling of lead-acid car/marine batteries - NOT to be disposed of in the landfill
- Free compost of lawn and garden material (please separate brush and branches)
- Recycling of used oil filters and anti-freeze
- Free oil recycling at the landfill and several drop-off locations within the County. Visit our webpage for drop-off locations: [www.crowwing.us](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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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**

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.

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## Aitkin County Fair tree decorating contest



free baking in 2023, photo of your favorite farmer in 2022, and decorate a cell phone case in 2021.

2024's Special Contest will be the most demanding – and rewarding – in recent years. Here are the rules:

1. Include an artificial tree that is either deciduous or evergreen;
2. Tree must be at least 5 feet in height but not more than 8 feet in height;
3. The tree must include lights that work (electrical outlet provided);
4. The decorations must have a theme (for example music, pets, food, loons, etc...);
5. At least 25% of the decorations must be handmade by the exhibitor(s);
6. The theme and decorations must include at least three colors;
7. The tree must be decorated in the Creative Activities Building between noon and 9:00 p.m. on the opening day of the Fair;
8. Trees will be judged on Friday morning of the Fair by a three-member panel of judges;
9. Trees must be able to be moved from their assembly/display location to the judging stage on Friday morning by the exhibitor(s), and then returned after judging is complete (HINT: this requires the decorations to be securely attached to the tree);
10. Groups, organizations, clubs, and families are encouraged to enter.

Tis the season to decorate! The Aitkin County Fair is announcing a new special contest for all open class exhibitors at the 2024 Aitkin County Fair: Decorate a Tree Contest. Before you pack your decorations this holiday season, start planning for the Aitkin County Fair in July.

Prizes for the Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and Peoples' Choice Awards are provided by Aitkin County Friends of the Arts. The Grand Champion winner will receive \$250, the Reserve Champion winner \$150, and the Peoples' Choice Award winner will receive \$50.

Aitkin County Friends of the Arts has a long tradition of participating in the Aitkin County Fair by providing displays and children's activities in the Arts Building. This year the Aitkin County Friends of the Arts is moving their efforts to the Creative Activities Building where they will again provide children's crafts as well as other programming.

The Aitkin County Fair offers a Special Contest every year, with varying themes and required skills. Recent contests have included gluten

The 134th Aitkin County Fair will be held in early July of 2024. Entry days and online registration will be announced in the Spring of 2024. For questions about this contest, please contact Christine Bright at 218-513-9339 or brightchristinem@gmail.com.

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