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Sat., January 27, 2024

# NEWSHOPPER

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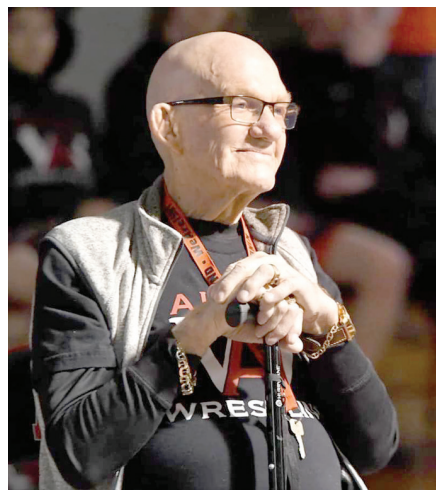
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NewsHopper

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## Old gym not Old Bailey but... Noel Bailey's Aitkin High School gym named after former wrestling coach



Former Aitkin High School teacher and wrestling coach Noel Bailey in the spotlight on January 19 at the Mid-state Wrestling Tournament. Lexi Hills.photo

By ANN SCHWARTZ  
Noel Bailey, 82, of Aitkin, started in humble beginnings on a Palisade-area dairy farm. He also attended a one-room schoolhouse before graduating from Aitkin High School

in 1959. Life has its ups and downs. He's now facing cancer and lost two beloved wives along the way -- Patricia and Alma. But wrestling gave his life its purpose for many years.

The old gym in Aitkin was named the Noel Bailey Gym at a ceremony at a wrestling tournament in Aitkin on January 19.

Many Aitkin wrestling greats:

Dan Stifter, Larry Liljenquist, Bob Lake and many more, shared their memories about Noel as he sat in the place of honor under the spotlight on the wrestling mat in the gym. Wrestling won him a schol-

arship to Bemidji State University. Graduating in 1963, he taught school in Sauk Rapids until 1972 and obtained his master's degree.

In 1972, Noel and wife Pat moved to Aitkin to take over Hill's Drive-In, a local legend establishment. But Noel continued in education and taught at Aitkin High School till 1998, where he

also coached.

Under the late John Fremling, Noel began coaching wrestling in Aitkin in 1972 and was promoted to head coach for 23 years. He built Aitkin's strong reputation as a wrestling program standout in Minnesota — with 263 wins, 145 losses and five ties.

Along the way, Noel garnered numerous awards and

accolades, including introductions into wrestling halls of fame.

Son Lance was also a wrestler, growing up under his father's tutelage.

His daughter Dawn helps him out a lot now as he goes through the regime of cancer treatment.

Local coaches and former  
**Continued on Page 2**



Noel Bailey (center) with past and present Aitkin wrestling coaches, from left: Dan Stifter, Greg Hills, Bailey, Larry Liljenquist and Bob Lake. Lexi Hills.photo



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**Fridays 5PM-8PM**  
All You Can Eat\*\* **Fish Fry**  
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**Saturdays 5PM-8PM**  
All You Can Eat\*\* **Shrimp and Ribs**  
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**Sundays 9AM-NOON**  
**Crepe Bar**  
Crepe's filled with your choice of Pineapple Upside-down, Strawberry or Blueberry compote. **\$3/each**

**Sundays 11AM-3PM**  
**Signature Wagyu Burgers**  
with chips **\$12**

**\$3 Draft Beers**      **TO-GO ONLY**  
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**Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner**

**Saturday, Feb. 17 5-8PM**

**\$150/couple Dinner includes a compliment glass of champagne**  
**Reservations are required, call 218-678-4678**

**Amuse Bouche**  
**Smoked Korean Beef Sushi** Korean BBQ beef, pickled carrots, avocado, Fresno pepper, oyster sauce, sticky rice

**Appetizer (select one each)**  
**Winter Salad** Pickled pears, arugula, feta cheese, roasted pistachio's, red onion & pomegranate vinaigrette  
-OR-  
**Beef Bourguignon Stew**  
-OR-  
**Salmon & Avocado Ceviche** Atlantic salmon, avocado & fresh citrus served inside Belgian endive cups.

**Entree (select one each)**  
**Bison Short Rib** Bison short rib braised in a blackberry demi-glace served with garlic red smashed potatoes & honey glazed carrots  
-OR-  
**Duck Confit** 1/2 duck served with roasted parmesan & herb potatoes & asparagus puree  
-OR-  
**Cedar Plank Atlantic Salmon** Atlantic salmon, avocado & fresh citrus served inside Belgian endive cups  
-OR-  
**Surf 'n Turf** Manhattan NY strip, lobster tail, drawn butter, whiskey peppercorn sauce served with garlic red smashed potatoes & honey glazed carrots

**Dessert (shared)**  
**Baked Alaska** Sponge cake, strawberry ice cream, chocolate ganache & torched meringue

**Area Code 218 DAYS**

**Come celebrate all things 218**  
This will be a weekend filled with events and activities at the resort, and great deals and opportunities in the community.

**American Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Friday, Feb. 16 11AM-5PM**  
**American Red Cross Blood Drive at Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort.**  
To to Ruttger's Facebook page to sign up, spots are filling quickly!

**Saturday, Feb 17-Sunday, Feb 18. 218 Days Family Fun** We will have activities for all ages, including a pizza pool party, artisan/crafter fair, and more. Go to [ruttgers.com](http://ruttgers.com) for all the details.

**Ruttger's Winter Market**  
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**READER RIBBETS**  
**Fact, not hearsay or opinions**

It is a sad day in America when the right to freedom of speech is used to accuse people of a crime with the only evidence being what someone claims they heard someone say to someone else.

At the City Council meeting for Crosby held Monday, January 22, 2024, Council Member Paul Heglund did just that.

As I stated at the council meeting following Heglund's words of support of a letter written claiming there had been a theft of city property - only facts - not opinions, should be used to accuse anyone of something this serious. I have seen the same facts Council Member Heglund has and they are as follows:

In May of 2023, a computer generated work order was issued to provide a taxpayer with a second water meter and identified the meter by serial number. Shortly thereafter the billing clerk created, on computer, the appropriate invoice for the meter and began billing accordingly.

At no time was the meter ever missing, unaccounted for or given for free. These are the facts.

The City has the option of having the City Attorney present at a council meeting at a cost of \$750 per meeting he attends. It was requested that he attend the January 22, 2024 meeting to provide legal advice regarding this situation. That was the only reason he was there.

This precaution proved necessary when Heglund made his statement of support of the accusation. Council Member Heglund's action and words indicate he believes numerous City Employees and a Council Member are guilty of a crime. What a shame it is to have a council Member support such an accusation during a recorded official meeting with his only evidence being words someone claims were spoken to someone else by someone else and a total disregard of the physical evidence.

The taxpayers should not have had to pay legal fees to protect the City from such a statement of pure opinion as made by Council Member Heglund during an official council meeting.

**Diane Cash, Crosby**  
**Reader Ribbets**  
**Continued on Page 3**

**Noel Bailey Gym | Continued from Page 1**

wrestling athletes sing of Noel's praises, but many also talk about how humble he is. A social butterfly, Noel also volunteered for community organizations and traveled extensively.


We joked in the headline that Old Gym isn't known as Old Bailey but rather Noel Bailey. It gives the antique venue much more gravitas than just calling it the "Old Gym." And the spirits of wrestlers, past and present, give their all for Noel under the spotlight.

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# READER RIBBETS

## Wake up Hazelton Township

The most recent event at the monthly meeting was to select election judges for upcoming local elections. The board members felt that they had heard rumors of tampering with the last election, so they decided to appoint new judges and inform existing judges they were no longer needed. This was done during an open meeting in front of neighbors and friends in the audience. How dare they, this is surely not the way to conduct an accusation of this magnitude. I think this is know as defamation of character.

Then they hand picked three residents out of the audience to become election judges. Do you think this was decided before the meeting, of course it was. All three of these people had already completed the appropriate training or had just finished their training. How did they know to show up to

this meeting. What a strange coincidence. I smell some rats in the hen house.

The board members seem stuck on their wants and needs. For instance, there will be some lifts on some roads. All three members just so happen to live on the roads that are to be worked on. How can the odds just happen to be board members primary roads?

One member seems to be set on having his road paved, how nice. I think we would all like paved roads, but it is not in the budget, talk about a tax increase!

Talking about the budget, taxes are going up. Free calcium chloride is not free it comes out of our taxes.

The poor grader has not been seen by a certified mechanic in years. Bits and pieces are being picked up off the road.

Wake up people attend a meeting. It is always the third

Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Hazelton Town Hall. The board members may not let you talk, they would like meetings where no one can ask questions or voice concerns. So to maintain control of the people that show up at the meetings, they may allow you two minutes before the new business is brought up. How thoughtful, no one is allowed to ask questions about topics discussed at the meeting. Remember that the board members work for you, not the other way around.

Remember to vote March 12 from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., annual meeting afterwards. This is YOUR meeting where they set your taxes and you have the right to refuse the tax increase and bring up concerns you have.

Thank you for letting me let off some steam.

*Krys Bobseen, Aitkin*

## Spread truth throughout this world

One year ago this week-end we traveled to Nashville, not to listen to country music but to hang out for two FULL days with other God-fearing Constitutional Christian Conservatives (CCC's) at the Reawaken America Tour .... probably one of the highlights of my life.

I respect those people, each with their own little story. Some have risked everything to speak and stand for truth. The more they stand the harder the negative comes after them. When I came back to Minnesota after that, I asked myself... What Can I Do? What can little old me do to help in the fight against whatever it is that is against

us? This is HUGER than any of us can even truly imagine, but I have to do something... I started by committing to Flag Waving on the 15th of each month. I'm proud to say, I've been out there at least six outta 10 months. Then I went to see Liz Collin. She spoke Truth and I wanted to help her get the story out. Even here in Minnesota the more we stand the harder the negative is going to come after us.

I have learned so much over the past few years, about the world, about greed, about good people, about myself, and about so much more. I don't understand how we got

here, but this is where we are at and now we have to decide... What Are We Gonna Do?? Well as for me, I'm going to keep traveling to support other CCC's and I am going to help them spread Truth throughout this world... cuz all these lies aren't getting us anywhere that I wanna be.

Thank you to the community of Aitkin and surrounding areas for the amazing turn out to the BIG Screen showing of the "Fall of Minneapolis," YOU are why I'm going to keep doing this. We are in this together, so what's next??

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

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

### January

26th - Winter Coats (Sizes Infant to Adult) and Baby Clothes and Baby Blanket Giveaway, starting at 1 p.m. first come, first served at American Legion on Front Street, Brainerd. Contact Tammy at 218-838-1057 for more information.

26th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike 7:30-8:30 p.m. at 14250 Conservation Drive, Baxter. Call 218-829-8770 for more info.

### February

2nd - Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza Kick Off with Charlie Berens: Good Old Fashion Tour, 7:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.) at Gichi-zibi Center for the Arts, 02 South 5th Street, Brainerd, MN

3rd - The Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza at noon on Hole-in-the-Day Bay on Gull Lake. compete this year for more than \$250,000 in prizes. All proceeds from the event are donated to charities.

5th - 100th Anniversary of the Milford Mine Disaster at 7 p.m. at the Mayberry Auditorium in the Crosby-Ironton High School, 711 Poplar Street in Crosby.

8th - Jessie F. Hallett Memorial Library in Crosby Free Movie Night, 5:30 p.m. Popcorn and refreshments are provided, but bring your own blanket for comfort. Call 218-546-8005 for the movie showing or for more information.

10th - Bobber Bocce on Ice (hybrid of bocce ball and curling) 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sibley Lake, Pequot Lakes, Put together a team or enjoy the day with hammer/nail game, limbo contest, bonfires, food and drink sales, music, raffle drawing. There will be no parking on the ice near the event. Shuttle service available 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more info call 218-568-8911

## Brainerd city administrator candidate

I believe the city of Brainerd, in fairness to all five of the final candidates in the running for the city administrator's position, should explore the past professional and personal relationship the current acting administrator has had with one

of the candidates from a near by town. It would be a shame if more experienced, competent candidates were overlooked due, to say, a friend helping a friend land a better paying job.

Sadly this particular candidate's work history clearly

shows no dedication to long term employment, as every position he has held appears to be nothing more than a stepping stone. Please make your final choice by doing your research, not listening to bias referrals.

*Chris Ryan, Crosby*



Got an interesting photo and story to share? Just send it to hopper@crosbyironton.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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### JANZEN AUCTIONEERS

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This is a must for the collector of US issues. All coin denominations and most series from half cent to dollar are offered. Also a number of World and US currency and many World coins are being offered. Note this auction offers seldom seen Russian and Soviet items. Bullion investors have plenty of options as well. There are many US modern issues in OGP. Some Key coins include 1909-S, 1922 no D slabbed in the cent area. The 1885 Liberty 5 cent; The 1806 and 1853-O quarter; an 1835, 1835-O and 1921-D half dollar and many others. Also offered are many tokens and other collectables including some gold nuggets.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024)

### PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP NOTICE AND REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town Board of the Town of Bay Lake will accept sealed bids for Bituminous Reclamation, Aggregate Base Class 5, Bituminous Paving, Class 1 Shouldering, Shoulder Emulsion Mailbox Support:

- Woodland Drive/Maple Court - 1350 LF x 20 feet + cul-de-sac
- Woodland Beach Rd-Center Portion - 4870 LF by 20 feet wide

Road project to be completed prior to 8/31/2024.

Plan and specifications examined and obtained from the Town Attorney: Virginia J. Knudson, Borden/Steinbauer, Kreuger & Knudson, P.A., 302 South Sixth Street, PO Box 411, Brainerd, MN 56401 (Telephone 218-829-1451; e-mail (jknudson@brainerdlaw.com). Bids must be received by the Town Clerk by 7:00 o'clock p.m. on the 14th day of March, 2024. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive irregularities. Authorization for the sealed bidding process to be completed by Donald Hales and Virginia Knudson. Successful bidders shall be required to enter into a contract with the Town and provide all

necessary supporting documentation, including necessary insurance certification within 14 days of the Board acceptance of the bid.

The successful bidder must be a "responsible contractor." The term "responsible contractor" means a contractor as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.285, subdivision 3. Any prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that does not meet the minimum criteria or fails to comply with the verification requirements is not a responsible contractor and is not eligible to be awarded a construction contract for the project or to perform work on the project.

Dated: January 10, 2024  
CAROL PUNDT, Clerk  
Bay Lake Township  
9.65

(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, and Feb. 10, 2024)

### LIBBY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

The Libby Township Board will meet online at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 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 to request the Zoom link.

Dated this 16th day of January, 2024  
Jane Grimsbo Jewett, Clerk  
Libby Township  
2.63

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# OBITUARIES

## SONJA HAGESTUEN



Sonja Helen (Storvick) Hagestuen, 85, of Aitkin died Tuesday, January 9, 2024 surrounded by loved ones.

Funeral services are being planned for the summer of 2024 and will be posted when set. Sonja and Don loved the camps affiliated with First Lutheran Church (FLC), especially Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermillion, both under the title of Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry (VLM). Because of their deep relationship with both organizations, memorials can be gifted to FLC or VLM.

She was born November 24, 1938 in Mason City, Iowa, the daughter of Roy and Helen Grace (Weeks) Storvick. After graduating from Wadena High School, she earned a B.A. at St. Olaf College and began her teaching career as a physical education and music teacher for Aitkin Schools. Sonja met Donald John Hagestuen in the fall of 1960. They were engaged by Christmas and united in marriage on June 17, 1961. Together, they nurtured a close family of four children. Sonja and Don considered one another their best friend, enjoying daily conversations over coffee and sharing stories from the day. Sonja joyfully worshiped and served at First Lutheran Church. She directed the adult and children's choirs, served on the Worship and Music Committee, and taught Bible stories through delightful children's musicals. She was president of WELCA and active in her church circle. Sonja appreciated the partnerships of Aitkin community congregations in ecumenical events such as the Community Messiah

Sings and community Lenten Services. She was always inviting, learning, and encouraging. Sonja instituted the Red Cross Swimming lesson program, ran the summer recreation program, volunteered for Friends of the Arts, supported the library, and participated in community tennis. She taught piano lessons to many, including her Aitkin grandchildren. Sonja enthusiastically planned family camping and cottage trips. Swimming, skating, skiing, sliding, and bonfires filled family time in the evenings and on Sunday afternoons. She had an extraordinary love of the outdoors and passed that on to her children and grandchildren.

Sonja is survived by her children: Rebecca Hagestuen Wyffels (Curt Wyffels), Naomi Hagestuen LaFrenz (Jason LaFrenz), Kurt Hagestuen (Kelly), Erik Hagestuen (Maureen); 12 grandchildren: Andrew Wyffels, Rachel Wyffels, Emma LaFrenz, Madeline LaFrenz, Sam LaFrenz, Jacob Hagestuen, Nathan Hagestuen (Heather), Joshua Hagestuen, Alaina Hagestuen, Nora Hagestuen, Griffin Hagestuen, and Linnea Hagestuen; brothers and sisters-in-law: Sylvia Storvick, Lyndon and Ann Hagestuen, Dan and Judy Forde, and many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Don on October 29, 2020; and siblings: Olin (Ruth) Storvick, David Storvick, Rosalie Miller. "...What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

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).

## BRENDA JO KARPEN



Brenda Jo Karpen, 62, of Aitkin, died Saturday, January 13, 2024, at her home after a courageous 5-year battle with cancer.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 13, 2024, at the Larry Karpen residence at 24840-240th Lane, Aitkin, MN.

Brenda was born April 6, 1961, in Sturgis, South Dakota to Joe and Marguerite (Hoffman) Richards. She graduated from Coon Rapids Senior High School in 1979. She was united in marriage to Larry Karpen on July 27, 1984. Together they operated Roll-In-Lodge Resort on Mille Lacs Lake from 1985-1988. In 1988 they moved to Aitkin and started Hickory Lake Auto on Highway 169. In 2002 Brenda began her own venture as lead designer and owner of Sadie Llama Designs & Signs. She loved riding her motorcycle, especially in the Florida Keys, Sturgis, and Wyoming. Brenda enjoyed her winters in the Florida Keys with her husband, Larry, before she got sick. Brenda loved spending time with her grandchildren, cooking and entertaining, sewing, crocheting, tending to her flower gardens and being creative. Brenda was active in the Garrison Commercial Club, serving on the board. She also enjoyed volunteering at St. John's Lutheran Church of Cedarbrook to help with Vacation Bible School. Brenda and Larry started a motorcycle ride named

Cam's Ride (Crusin' for Autism in Minnesota) in 2006. It was inspired by their (nephew) Cameron Richards and Cole Wilcox and held annually in June for 10 years to raise money for the Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM) to promote awareness of autism and enhance the lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorders. Brenda has donated her body to the University of Minnesota Medical School.

Brenda is survived by her husband, Larry Karpen; daughters: Theresa (Keith) Larson and Bridget (Mike) Rossmann; sons: Nick (Tonja) Karpen and Lance (Tenesha) Kragness; six grandchildren: Cody Rossmann, Marshall Larson, Ariah Kragness, Reagan Rossmann, Dane Larson, and Zoe Kragness; father, Joe (Pat John) Richards; brothers: Chip (Denise) Richards, William (Kaye Pearson) Richards, and Calvin Richards; sisters-in-law: Jeanne (John) Grams and Cheryl (Mark Dougel) Karpen; nieces: Brittany (Joe) Herzog and Savannah Richards; nephews: Jason Gearhart, Dustin Richards, Ryley (Joanna) Richards, Beau Richards, Spencer (Brianna) Richards, Colton (Abby) Richards, Cameron Richards, and Blair Richards; great-nephews: Corbin Herzog, Chase Herzog, Sawyer Gearhart, and Xavier William Richards; special cousin and exceptional caregiver: Lin (Steve) Jones, and many other relatives and friends.

Brenda was preceded in death by her mother Marguerite (Hoffman) Richards, mother-in-law Julia (Sroga) Karpen, and sister-in-law Darlene Hauff.

## BEVERLY HORNER



Beverly Ann Horner, 69, of Deerwood died on Friday, January 19, 2024 at the Aicota Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Memorial services were held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, January 25, 2024 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Crosby. Visitation was be at the church one hour prior to the service. Burial will be at the Scandia Cemetery in Deerwood in the spring.

She was born in Crosby on February 24, 1954 to Robert and Marjorie (Laughton) Horner. Bev graduated from the Crosby-Ironton High School class of 1972.

Bev is survived by her son, Shawn (Teresa) Holmes of Lafarge, WI and daughter, Kerri Roth of Crosby; four brothers: LeRoy (Rose) Horner of Deerwood, Dwayne (Gloria) Horner of Aitkin, Bradley (Dawn) Horner of Crosby, and Randall (Sheri) Horner of Richland Center, WI; sister, Wanda (Dave) Windorski of Brainerd; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Preceding Bev in death are her parents; five sisters: Joleene Horner, Debra Wynn, Pat Loftis, Sherry Moen, and Linda Gander; one grandson and one great-grandson.

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

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<p><b>Sorensen-Root-Thompson</b> Funeral Home &amp; Cremation Services Aitkin, MN 218-927-2614</p>	<p><b>McGregor Funeral Home</b> &amp; Cremation Services McGregor, MN 218-768-3136</p>
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

**ALLIANCE**  
Aitkin\* — New Life; Larry Burg & Tyrel LaValle, pastors; Worship 10:15 am & 6pm; youth group Wed. 6pm; 11-1st Street SW; [newlifeaitkin.com](http://newlifeaitkin.com) 218-927-2823.  
Baxter\* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10:00; [www.pointway.org](http://www.pointway.org)  
Garrison\* — Worship 10:30am  
Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Aitkin\* — Pastor Andrew Jergenson; Sunday Morning Service 10.  
Baxter — Heritage Church, Pastor Heath Beard; 9 & 10:45 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, [iamheritage.org](http://iamheritage.org)  
Crosby — Pastor Dustin McCaleb; Worship 10:30  
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeseth; SS at 9:30; Worship at 10:45  
Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; [hillcityagchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hillcityagchurch@gmail.com); 218-697-2662  
Palisade — Pastor Charlie Bell; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

**BAPTIST**  
Aitkin — Northwoods Community Church (formerly The Journey North) Tom Hoffman, interim pastor, Worship 10:30, [northwoodcommunitychurch.org](http://northwoodcommunitychurch.org)  
Baxter — The Journey North, Worship 9 & 10:30, 218-824-5617 [thejourneynorth.com](http://thejourneynorth.com)  
Brainerd\* — Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Jim Stephens, 218-829-3191; SS 9:00, Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m., Wed. Classes and Clubs 6:30 p.m.; [fbcbrainerd.com](http://fbcbrainerd.com)  
Brainerd — The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 [www.thechurchontheviseroad.org](http://www.thechurchontheviseroad.org)  
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. [aitkinchurch.com](http://aitkinchurch.com)  
Hill City — Pastor Lonnie Lee; 218-697-2645; Adult SS 9; Worship 10 am; Bible Study, Fri., 7 pm.  
Isle — Pastor Nick Skogen; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.  
Opstead — 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.

**CATHOLIC**  
Aitkin\* — St. James, Fr. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 10:30. Confession Sat. 10-10:45 and 4-4:45 pm.  
Brainerd — St. Andrew's, Fr. Gabriel Waweru, Sat. 4:30; Sun. 10:00 and St. Mathias Sunday 8:00.  
Brainerd — St. Francis, Fr. Michael Garry, Sat. 5:00; Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 and All Saints Saturday 4:00 and Sunday 10:30.  
Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sat. 5 p.m.  
Crosby\* — St. Joseph's, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass: Thurs. and Fri. at 8; Tues at noon, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30.  
Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, 218-692-3731; [www.ihmstmilys.org](http://www.ihmstmilys.org); Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm.  
Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. & Wed. 8; Sun. 10:30; Confession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101.  
Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass Wed. 9 & Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm  
Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483  
Hillman — Holy Family; Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt.  
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8; Tues. 5:30-6:30 pm  
Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Baxter, Lakes Area — Nondenominational; 7001 Highland Scenic Road; Bible Study every Wed. 7 pm; Worship 10:30-11:30. 218-828-1362  
Tamarack — Pastor Terry Banker, 608-475-1528, Worship 9:30; SS 10:45; Wed Youth 4 pm.

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10

**COMMUNITY**  
Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959

Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene- Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10, SS 9; 16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005  
Glen — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9 May-Oct.  
Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 pm  
Jacobson — Jacobson Community Church, Pastor George Collins, 218-252-5938, Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm  
Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.  
McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 10; 99 South 1st Street (at the McGregor United Methodist church [shared] in downtown McGregor) Pastor Joel Seibel.

McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm.  
Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ron Christenson; Service 11 & 6 pm. Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536.  
Merrifield — Ossipee Community, SS 10; Service 11; Wed. Bible Study Prayer, 7:00 p.m.  
Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Richie Bean; Service 10; Fellowship 9:30-10  
Outing\* - Narrows Community Church, Pastor Kenny Holm, 218-792-5530 Worship 9:30; 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy. 6 bridge  
Palisade —Hilltop Chapel (Waukenabo Twp)\*- service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's SS 9 a.m.; 49448 Osprey Avenue, Palisade.  
Tamarack — Church of Christ, 218-768-3898; Service 9:30; SS 10:45.

**EPISCOPAL**  
Aitkin — St. John's, Holy Communion or Morning Prayer 9 Brainerd\* — St. Paul's, Rev. Joyce A. Rush. In-person worship service at 10 am Sunday. Online at 5 pm Saturday. Call the church 219-829-3834 and leave a message with email to receive a Zoom invitation.  
**EVANGELICAL FREE**  
Baxter — Lakewood EFC, Pastor Matt Nagel; Worship at 9:00 and 10:45. Wednesday for all ages 6:30 pm.  
Crosslake — The Log Church 9:30, Pastor Troy Nelson; 218-692-4141, 37218 County Road 66, [www.crosslakeefc.org](http://www.crosslakeefc.org)  
Isle — Pastor Mark Lee; Sunday School 9:00 am; Worship 10:30 am, Sun. Youth group 6:00 pm, Wed. Adult Prayer 6:30 pm and Kids Connect 6:30 pm  
Malmo — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10; Worship 10:15  
Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Thu., Bible Study, 7 pm.

**HEBREW/MESSIANIC**  
Glen — Beth Shalom Tabernacle of Truth, Rabi Frank Dell, for information 320-684-2804

**LUTHERAN**  
Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun each month.  
Aitkin — First\* (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton; worship Sun. 99am (9am service also available via livestream on YouTube — First Lutheran Church, Aitkin and broadcast on KGIN 94.3 FM radio at 10am), take out community meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9am- 4pm.  
Aitkin (Cedarbrook) — St. John's (ELCA); Worship 9:00; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.  
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 Ingelwood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. [www.christbaxter.com](http://www.christbaxter.com).  
Baxter — Prince of Peace (LCMS); Communion every Sunday 9, Fellowship 10:15, Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am 218-829-7092 [www.princeofpeacechurch.com](http://www.princeofpeacechurch.com)  
Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun., 10:30.

Brainerd — First Lutheran Church (ELCA) Pastors: Patty Bjorklund and Jordan Gades. Sunday worship 9, Sunday School following worship. Services also available on YouTube and Facebook. 218-829-9552 [fcbraainerd.com](http://fcbraainerd.com) 424 8th Street South, Brainerd  
Brainerd\* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at [www.goodshepherdfreechurch.com](http://www.goodshepherdfreechurch.com), 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052  
Brainerd — Laestadian Lutheran Church, 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. ([www.lchurch.org](http://www.lchurch.org))  
Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th St. Brainerd, Worship time September through May 8:15am & 10:30am; worship (June through August) 9 am. 218-829-5147. Website: [www.trinitybrainerd.org](http://www.trinitybrainerd.org). Email: [trinity@trinitybrainerd.org](mailto:trinity@trinitybrainerd.org)  
Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9  
Brainerd - Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS) Pastor Steve Benson, Sunday Worship 9, Monday Worship 6 pm. Education hour Sunday 10:15 am. 220 N. 8th St. Brainerd. 218-829-4317. [www.zionbrainerd.com](http://www.zionbrainerd.com).

Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.  
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7 pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910  
Crosslake Lutheran Church (ELCA) [www.crosslakelutheran.com](http://www.crosslakelutheran.com) • 218-692-3682 Kristin Oltmann, Senior Pastor; Becky Swanson, Associate Pastor Labor Day-Mem. Day: Sun. 9:30am, Wed. 6:15pm; Mem. Day-Labor Day: Sun. Indoor 8:30am, Outdoor 10am

Crosslake — Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Leslie Uhrinak; Worship 9:30 with every Sunday Communion, Fellowship 10:30, Adult Bible Class 11, 218-692-4228, [www.missionofthecross.org](http://www.missionofthecross.org)  
Deerwood\* — Salem (ELCA), Pastor Amanda Kempthorne; Worship: 9; Sunday School 9:50.  
Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Worship 9 SS 9; 320-692-4773 or 877-406-9101.  
Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (LCMS), Rev. Caleb Worrel. Worship 10 with Communion Every Sunday. Adult Bible Study 8:30am, Sunday School Sept-May, 8:30am. Fellowship 11am. 320-692-4581. [www.shepherdofthelake.org](http://www.shepherdofthelake.org)

Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month 8:45.  
Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor M. Eckert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.  
Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9:30, SS 10. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)  
Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 10:30, (alternates with Zion of Crosby) 218-534-3069  
Isle — Faith (ELCA), Interim Pastor Rev. Henry French; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.  
Isle — Holden (ELCA), SS 9:30; Worship 10:30.  
Isle — Trinity (Missouri Synod), Rev. Mark Maunula; Worship 9; Fellowship follows; SS 10:30; Adult Bible 10:30.  
Jacobson — Carmel, Vicar Mark Wagner; SS 1st & 3rd Sun. 10, Service 11, fellowship follows.

Lake Shore — Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Interlachen Rd.; Worship 9 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and Bible study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N)  
Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA) Rev. James Muske: Sun. Worship 9am. Fellowship following Service. Communion every Sunday.  
McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.  
McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship 9; SS 9.  
McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (LCMC), Pastor Lorelie Robinson; 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)

Rev. Stephen Blenkush Worship 9:00 a.m., SS 9:15 a.m., Fellowship 10:15 a.m. Wed. Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Rossburg — Bethesda (ELCA); Comm. 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.  
Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor Ron Staudinger; 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10 am; 41163 Kestrel Ave 3.3 mi. South of Hwy 210  
Thor — Zion, Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.  
Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.  
Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua Reinke; Worship 10:30; Bible Study and Sunday School Sun. 9:30; Lent services Wed. 5:30 pm.)

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
Brainerd—Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30, 523 SE 11th Street, Brainerd, 218-454-0984  
Brainerd—Remnant Ministry Center, Pastor Ben Davis, Worship service is Sunday at 10am, 512 S 8th St., Suite 2, 218-829-2989.

**PENTECOSTAL**  
Baxter — Christ Alive, 12485 Forestview Drive, Baxter, MN 56425  
Emily — Cornerstone Church; Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.  
Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Irontone Town Hall\*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 pm.  
Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, Pastors Ken and Ron Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
Crosslake - Pastor Mark Ford, 218-692-4769; Worship 9; Fellowship 11. 14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, just passed the Community Center; [www.crosslakepres.org](http://www.crosslakepres.org).  
McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9.  
McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm.  
Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.

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

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
Aitkin — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 9:30, Bible Study 10:30; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; [www.aitkinadventist.org](http://www.aitkinadventist.org); 423-805-0933  
Brainerd — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 11:20, Bible Study 10; Bible Study & Prayer Mtg. Wed. 6:30 p.m.; 2910 Oak Street, Brainerd, 218-829-1676

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**  
Pequot Lakes — 28877 State Hwy 371, Pequot Lakes 10:30 1st and 4th Sundays. 218-330-3476

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Brainerd — First Congregational UCC, 415 Juniper St, Brainerd. Sunday worship at 10. Pastor; Leslie Moughty. Handicapped accessible.

**UNITED METHODIST**  
Aitkin\* — Aitkin - Pastor Dawn Houser; Worship 10, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible & Brew, Facebook live.  
Crosby/Deerwood\* — Cascade, Pastor Gary Taylor; Sunday Worship with YouTube live streaming 10 am with fellowship to follow. Cascade Ladies meet on the first Wednesday of each month at noon. Come & Eat Community dinner on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm. Please call the office to sign up: 218-534-3507.  
Cutler — Pine Lake Chapel, Worship 9, fellowship follows.  
Cromwell — Pastor Tim Homstad; Worship 10; SS 9  
Emily\* — Pastor Gary Taylor; Sunday Worship with Facebook live streaming 8:30 with fellowship to follow. 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; Worship 10:30; fellowship follows.  
Hill City — Pastor Roger Lynn; Worship 10  
McGregor\* — (Northern Lights Parish) Worship 8:45; fellowship follows.  
Onamia — Pastor Rick & Judy Wilder; Worship 11; fellowship 10; 2 blks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

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

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# Part of Governor Walz budget slates \$149.9 million to Get Out MORE

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has announced the programmatic framework that will guide how and where the historic, one-time Get Out MORE (Modernize Outdoor Recreation Experiences) investments will be focused.

The \$149.9 million Get Out MORE investments, part of Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan's One Minnesota Budget, will help Minnesotans of all abilities and interests enjoy a world-class recreation system, whatever outdoor experience they

choose. "The Get Out MORE investments are planned to ensure we are using this funding to do the most good in the most places," DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen said. "I'm thrilled about the transformative projects included in this plan and can't wait for people to start experiencing these improvements as they enjoy our public lands and waters. We are making great progress to ensure our outdoor recreation system can engage people of all abilities and interests, and help people Get Out MORE."

The Get Out MORE funding are focused in these key areas:

- Enhancing access and welcoming new users to public lands and outdoor recreation facilities (\$35.4 million)

The investment in enhancing access and welcoming

new users to public lands will result in refreshed recreational facilities, revitalized and sustainably re-engineered roads and trails that access recreational opportunities, and improved accessibility for all Minnesotans.

The breakdown of the \$35.4 million funding will be \$15 million for accessibility improvements, \$9.4 million for roads, \$8 million for hiking and paved trail surface improvements, \$2 million for improved wayfinding and signs and \$1 million for track chairs and other adaptive equipment

- Modernizing camping and related infrastructure (\$9.5 million)

These investments will focus on updating the camping infrastructure and experiences at two popular state parks in Minnesota with \$5 million for

a pilot to modernize experiences at Minneopa State Park including a campground designed with larger, accessible sites and modernized facilities, and improved wayfinding and trails and \$4.5 million for renewing wastewater infrastructure at Myre-Big Island State Park.

- Enhancing fisheries and fishing infrastructure (\$60 million)

These projects move Minnesota toward a state-of-the-art fish hatchery system with safe and biosecure water supplies, increased fish production, and improved staff safety. The investments will also enhance shore fishing sites and opportunities.

The budget includes \$24 million for the Waterville Hatchery, \$19 million for the Crystal Springs Hatchery,

\$12 million for other hatcheries and \$5 million for shore fishing.

- Modernizing boating access (\$35 million)

This investment will enable the DNR to update more than 100 public water accesses to be more accessible to all users, meet the needs of modern watercraft, improve protection of public waters from stormwater runoff and invasive species, and enhance climate resilience.

The budget breaks the \$35 million into \$30 million for 40 to 60 large-scale projects, which will include accessible features, stormwater improvements, aquatic invasive species prevention, healthy shorelines and accessible ramps for nonmotorized boats and \$5 million for 75-125 small-scale projects, including longer launch ramps, wider drive lanes, wider and longer parking stalls and improved stormwater treatment.

- Restoring streams and modernizing water-related infrastructure to support outdoor recreation (\$10 million)

Phase one of this investment will reconnect an estimated 63 miles of streams and restore an estimated 43,000 feet of habitat with \$5.6 million for channel restoration, dam removal and modification, and culvert replacements for streams. The balance of the funding will be used in the future.

For more information, visit the DNR's Get Out MORE webpage ([mndnr.gov/about-dnr/get-out-more](http://mndnr.gov/about-dnr/get-out-more)).

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\*With select plan purchase. Restrictions apply.

## Free tax help through Taxaide

The AARP Taxaide program for low to moderate income taxpayers will open by appointment only at the Aitkin Public Library beginning Thursday, Feb. 15 and be open every Thursday until April 11 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Those taxpayers who had their returns prepared by us last year will be called to set up an appointment. Other taxpayers may call 218-670-5588 and leave your name and phone number to be called for an appointment.

You must bring Social Security cards for taxpayers and

dependents, picture ID, all tax return information and last year's tax return. For married filing joint returns, both taxpayers must be present to sign the return. AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are not trained in all areas of income taxes. You may be advised to see a paid preparer if your return is out of scope.

Volunteers will also be available at the following times and locations:

- McGregor Public Library: Tuesday, Mar. 19 and Mar. 26 and Tuesday, Apr. 9. Call the McGregor Angels office for an appointment at 218-

768-2762.

- Waukenabo Community Center: Monday, Feb. 12 and Wednesday, Apr. 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

AARP is offering a new program this year called Facilitated Self Assistance (FSA). Taxpayers familiar with using a computer use a Chromebook provided by AARP and do their own taxes on a Taxslayer program with AARP counselors present to assist the taxpayer with tax law questions and program software assistance. Call 218-670-5588 for more information.

*Thank You!*

to the Aitkin Age, NewsHopper, Rialto Theatre, Sheriff Guida, Aitkin law enforcement & the 325+ people from the area who came to see the showing of "The Fall of Minneapolis"

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