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Select Minnesota laws that took effect January 1, 2025 part 1



Several new laws passed during the 2024 Minnesota legislative session took effect on January 1, 2025, bringing significant changes across multiple sectors, including housing, consumer protections, public safety, and healthcare.

Ticketing Fairness Act

Among the most notable is the "Ticketing Fairness Act," which aims to enhance protections for online ticket buyers. The law mandates full pricing transparency, requires ticket sellers to disclose all mandatory fees upfront, and prohibits deceptive practices

like speculative pricing. It also gives the Department of Commerce authority to investigate and take action against ticket resellers using bots to artificially inflate prices or secure tickets in bulk.

Concertgoers, sports fans, and other event attendees in Minnesota will benefit from stronger consumer protections when purchasing tickets online. The law introduces several key provisions aimed at curbing unfair practices and ensuring transparency in the online ticket market.

Among the new protections, ticket sellers will be

required to offer "all-in pricing," ensuring that consumers are aware of the total cost of their tickets upfront, including any hidden fees. This change is expected to help mitigate unexpected charges that often surface during the checkout process, a common complaint among online ticket buyers.

Additional provisions in the law include:

Proof of Purchase and Refund Policies: Consumers must receive confirmation of their purchase along with a clear explanation of the refund policy within 24 hours of completing the transaction.

Banning Deceptive Advertising and Speculative Pricing: The law prohibits misleading marketing tactics, such as falsely advertising ticket availability or pricing.

Transparency for Resellers: Online platforms operating as ticket resellers will now be

required to disclose this status clearly on their website, offering greater transparency for buyers.

The law also addresses the growing issue of "bots" and other automated technologies used by resellers to purchase large quantities of tickets, often inflating prices on secondary markets. Under the new legislation, if a reseller is found using such technology to bypass ticket sale limits, the Minnesota Department of Commerce will have the authority to investigate the practice. The department may then refer the case to the state Attorney General's office for potential prosecution.

The Ticketing Fairness Act was introduced by Rep. Kelly Moller (DFL-Shoreview) in the House and Sen. Matt

Klein (DFL-Mendota Heights) in the Senate.

Advertised prices to include all mandatory fees or surcharges

Minnesota businesses will be required to include all mandatory fees and surcharges in the advertised price of goods or services, ensuring that consumers are fully informed of the total cost before making a purchase.

The new regulation, part of a broader effort to increase

price transparency, aims to eliminate surprise fees that often appear at checkout.

Under the new law, any price advertised, displayed, or offered for goods or services must reflect the total cost, including all fees or surcharges that are required

Continued on Page 6



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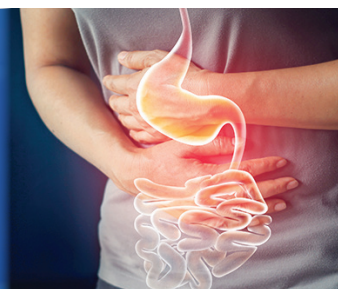


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Over 5,000 area veterans awarded Quilts of Honor in service recognition



Alex Schwartz, an Air Force Veteran from Aitkin, proudly shows his Quilt of Honor. Ann Schwartz photo.

By ANN SCHWARTZ

On a blustery winter’s day, about a month after Veterans Day, Alex Schwartz of Aitkin was presented with a Quilt of Honor.

His sister in-law Ginny Smith presented it. An active quilter in the Brainerd area, Smith presented it on behalf of the Brainerd Lakes Area Quilts of Honor volunteers.

Schwartz has struggled with health issues and was very touched to receive the quilt. It has the place of pride on his couch and he is very attached to it, as he is to the matching pillow case which now encases his favorite pillow.

Smith, Alex’s wife Ann and Alex all shed tears when the quilt was presented. Alex served in the United States Air Force from 1974 to 1978. He was a security policeman who guarded nuclear-loaded aircraft in North Dakota and Germany.

cotton, gender neutral, with patriotic or neutral colors. It doesn’t have to be red, white and blue because they also create nature-themed quilts. The website asks that fabric not have children’s images, armed forces logos or have floral or other patterns that are not neutral.

Quilt top kits are made up of fabric cut to fit a pattern. Volunteers pick up the kits at Country Fabrics, take them home and sew a quilt top. Then, the batting is put inside and the quilt is finished with a back and binding. A long-arm quilter adds the final touch. Quilting the fabric goes through all the layers – top, batting and backing -- holding it together. It is often finished with an attractive design.

The quilts are sized as lap quilts, great for snuggling on the couch or in the veteran’s favorite easy chair.

Donors of fabric or cash may email Sue Caroll at smc1652@hotmail.com for more information. “We really

appreciate cash donations as we buy the batting and backing fabric in bulk. Cash donations are very helpful,” noted Carroll.

Several quilts were presented in November 2024 at a veteran’s program at Brainerd High School. “We work with the high school and the Brainerd VFW to present quilts there,” explained Carroll.

More about Quilts of Honor

Gail Belmont is the founder and Executive Director of Quilts of Honor. She is a native Californian, born in Dos Palos. After high school, she entered the Women’s Army Corp Band playing trumpet. As a member of that Band, Gail played taps for fallen warriors. Since that time, Gail has played a prominent role in the support of her fellow veterans. She currently holds the position of District Director at the Jenny Lind Veterans Memorial, as well as continuing her service playing taps at the services of fallen warriors.

From the Quilts of Honor website:

“In 2005 we began our journey, one that would lead us to form a nonprofit organization called Quilts of Honor.

“Between 2005 and April 2010, Gail and our volunteers worked with an organization providing patriotic quilts to those service members touched by war. Since Gail was a veteran of the Vietnam era and had played taps for the fallen, she did not want any of our warriors to be forgotten.

“During those years, Gail and her friends worked fervently piecing and quilting quilts for our military. The Navy Seals asked for a special quilt to be given to President George W. Bush. The Presidential quilt was finally presented to him in 2007 —having been delayed by hurricane Katrina. In the fall of 2007, The Warrior Quilt, painted by Linda Hasbrook and quilted by Gail, was presented to the Pentagon and installed in the 9/11 Memorial Display Case. In June 2009, Gail, along with

her parents Bob and Virginia, left Valley Springs to travel across America to a special presentation of quilts to the Marine Corps at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. As they drove across America, they picked up quilts from quilters wishing to also honor our military. They began their journey with 200 quilts and arrived at Camp Lejeune with over 1,300 quilts. In August 2009, the Lady Warrior quilt was presented to the Women’s Memorial at Arlington Cemetery.

“Quilts of Honor was formed in 2010, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing healing, loving quilts to those who have served in harm’s way protecting our freedoms.

“We hope you will join us to honor members of our active military and veterans by showing them how much we appreciate their sacrifice and service with our Quilted Hugs of Gratitude. Our hope is that these quilts will pro

Continued on Page 3



Some of the other quilts that were presented at Brainerd High School November 11, 2024.. Photos by Sue Carroll

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Pre-order now for Crow Wing SWCD’s annual tree and plant sale

Help plant the future—one tree at a time. The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) kicked off its annual tree and plant sale as pre-ordering began Friday, Jan. 3. This year’s sale promises an exciting selection of trees, shrubs, and plant kits that support both local ecosystems and wildlife. Whether you’re looking to enhance your landscape or help restore native habitats, this sale is an opportunity you won’t want to miss.

The sale features bundles of bare-root trees and shrubs in sizes ranging from 5 inches

to 18 inches, with species like black and white spruce, red and white pine, paper birch, crabapple, sugar maple, and bur oak. There’s something for every planting project, whether you’re reforesting a wooded lot or creating a sustainable backyard.

In addition to trees, Crow Wing SWCD will offer plant kits tailored to attract pollinators like the endangered rusty-patched bumblebee and majestic monarch butterflies. You’ll also find plants specifically chosen for rain gardens, shoreline stabilization, and woodland edg-

es—perfect for landowners looking to restore natural beauty and improve local water quality.

And for those who want to go the extra mile in supporting local wildlife, a variety of seed mixes will be available. These include mixes for lake-shore restoration, songbird habitat, and pollinator-friendly gardens.

Orders can be placed online through March 31, 2025, by visiting cwsacd.org/shop or by calling the Crow Wing SWCD office at 218-828-6197. The trees, shrubs, and plants will be ready for pick-

up on Wednesday and Thursday, May 1 and 2 at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds’ curling building.

“We’re aiming to reach our goal of planting 1 million trees in Crow Wing County. To date, local landowners have purchased and planted over 924,877 trees through our annual sale,” said Melissa

Barrick, Crow Wing SWCD Manager. “We are grateful to all of our customers who continue to plant trees each year. Together, we are making a big difference.”

Since 1996, the Crow Wing SWCD has been helping landowners contribute to the health and sustainability of Crow Wing County’s natural

resources through tree planting and conservation efforts. The 1 million trees goal is an ambitious, yet attainable milestone, with nearly 925,000 trees already planted by local homeowners, businesses, and organizations.

For more information, visit cwsacd.org/shop or call 218-828-6197.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

January

- 4th - Breezy Point Resort Ice Fest 2024
- 4th & 11th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike, 7:30 8:30 p.m., guided by Bryan Pike. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots, and a headlamp for an hour hike. Class size is limited. The cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. Payment is due at registration.
- 8th & 9th - Snowmobile Trail Grooming Show at Ruttger’s Bay Lake Resort, 25039 Tame Fish Lake Road in Deerwood 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. on Wednesday and 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. on Thursday
- 16th - Cuyuna Lakes Chamber Annual Dinner at Ruttger’s Bay Lake Resort. Social hour 4:30 p.m., dinner 6 p.m. and presentations begin at 7 p.m. Tickets \$80. Call 218-546-8131 for more information.
- 18th - Icykel Fat Bike Race Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area at Miner’s Mountain Rally Center in Iron-ton. Winter races are the 10K at 10:30 a.m., 20K at 11 a.m., 40K at 10 a.m.

February

- 8th - Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce Ice Fishing Contest and Scorpion Homecoming. Call 218-546-8131 for more information.
- 8th - Winter Indoor Farmers’ Market at Deerwood Auditorium, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. with hand-crafted items offered.
- 9th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike, 7:30 8:30 p.m., guided by Bryan Pike. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots, and a headlamp for an hour hike. Class size is limited. The cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. Payment is due at registration.
- 15th - Pikes for Pups Darkhouse Spearing Contst on Nokay Lake from sunrise to sunset. Two-man teams, \$40 per team. Prizes awarded on the lake at 6 p.m. Proceeds benefit Northern Lakes Rescue.
- 22th - 2nd Annual Erin’s Wish Bar Olympics at the Town Tavern in Ironton. Proceeds benefit CRMC Courage Cabinet. For more information call the Town Tavern at 218-546-5997.



Send Us Your Photos!

Got an interesting photo and story to share? Just send it to hopper@croswyironton.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**!

LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 & Jan. 4, 2025)

WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING FOR TOWNSHIP OFFICE

Notice is hereby given for the time of filing affidavits of candidacy for the Township officers to be elected at the Wealthwood Township Annual Meeting and Election which will be held Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

Filings will be open Tuesday, December 31, 2024 and will close January 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Filing hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the office of the Clerk Office will be closed on legal holidays.

Call for an appointment 218-678-2880.

Offices to be filled are one Supervisor for a (3) three year term and a Clerk/ Treasurer for a (2) two year term.

Filing fee is \$2.00.
Dated: December 12, 2024
LINDA WENDLANDT, Clerk
Wealthwood Township 5.1

(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 & Jan. 4, 2025)

WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT

The Board of Audit for Wealthwood Township will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m. with the regular meeting to follow.

Dated: December 12, 2024
LINDA WENDLANDT, Clerk
Wealthwood Township 2.4



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OBITUARIES

PATRICIA SYLVESTER



Patricia Mae Sylvester, 79, of Bay Lake Township, died on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

A Memorial service was held at 12:00 p.m. Friday, January 3, 2024 at the Salem Lutheran Church in Deerwood. Burial was at the Scandia Cemetery in Deerwood. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday. Memorials are preferred to the Salem Lutheran Church Outreach Program in lieu of flowers.

She was born on August 8, 1945 in Sandstone to Elmer and Eleanor (Rabe) Lindeen. Patricia married Dean Sylvester in Braham on October 14, 1967. Pat was a member of Salem Lutheran Church in Deer-

wood. She enjoyed volunteering at the Mustard Seed in Deerwood. Pat was a loving mother and her main joy was family. She also enjoyed living the lake life on Bay Lake.

Pat is survived by her husband, Dean; son, Chad (Kristine) Sylvester of South Haven; daughter, Jill (Shannon) Martinson of Holdingford; brother, John (Becky) Lindeen of Stanchfield; three sisters: Sherrie (Jack) Witte of Cambridge, Judy (Doug) Bratvold of Cambridge and Gail (Curt) Mowers of Crosslake; and five grandchildren: Ashley Junker, Kallie and Sam Sylvester, Erika Martinson and Erin Dembowski.

Preceding Pat in death are her parents; and three sisters: Marilyn Blum, Janet Nyline and Peg Johnson.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go

GENE BORDWELL



Gene Lloyd Bordwell, 87, of Crosby, died on Friday, Dec. 27, 2024.

A Memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 10, 2024 at the Zion Lutheran Church in Crosby. Burial will be at the Lakewood Cemetery in Crosby. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday.

He was born on September 29, 1937 in Deerwood to Lloyd and Marion (Peterson) Bordwell. Gene was united in marriage to Helen Brooks on October 23, 1958 in Crosby. Gene was an accomplished artist and a retired art teacher for the Brainerd High School, Hibbing High School and the Junior College. He was also a successful business owner of Leuthold-Bordwell Men’s and Ladies Clothing

Stores in Cresco, IA and Houghton, MI. Gene was a people person and loved his family deeply. He was a very creative man, enjoying his many animals, gardening and traveling. His mission trips to Honduras was a highlight. He will be greatly missed.

Gene is survived by his wife Helen; three daughters: Deanna (Richard) Coccie of Deerwood, Jami (David) Kiphen of Brainerd and Kelly (Matthew) Hendra of Finksburg, Maryland; two sons: Chad (Sharon) Bordwell of Cresco, IA and Trent (Josherl) Bordwell of Houston, TX; brother, Lloyd Bordwell of Deerwood; 15 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Preceding Gene in death are his parents and two brothers: Elmer and Dean Bordwell.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to www.koopfuneralhome.com.

More Obituaries on Page 4

Quilts of Honor | Continued from Page 2



Sharon Endersbe presents a Quilt of Honor at Brainerd High School on November 11, 2024.

vide comfort, love and healing to those who have given so much.”

The mission of Quilts of Honor is to bestow a universal symbol and token of thanks, solace, and remembrance to those who serve in harm’s way to protect and defend our lives and freedoms.

Quilts of Honor are made by the loving hands of countless volunteers who wish to thank those who have served and to honor their service and sacrifice.

For local donations

Please email Sue Carroll at smc1652@hotmail.com, if you would like to donate fabric or cash to the project:

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Please Note: The Household Hazardous Waste Facility DOES NOT ACCEPT Florescent Light Bulbs, Business or Farm Hazardous Waste.

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OBITUARIES

ALLEN PETERSON



Allen Eugene Peterson, 91, of Isle died Saturday, Dec.21, 2024 at Aicota Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Funeral Service will be 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, Jan.4, 2025 in Trinity Lutheran Church, Isle. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.



Allen was born May 13, 1933 at the Peterson homestead farm in Lakeside township to Albert and Ruth (Kilmer) Peterson, one of nine children. His early years were spent on the farm milking cows and doing chores. He attended Eastwood School until entering high school in Isle. After high school, he worked many jobs close to home and out of state until he was drafted into the army in 1956. He served two years active duty in Germany and another two years in army reserves. When Allan returned, he went back into construction with Blacktop Service out of St. Louis Park. This is where he met and fell love with the beautiful young secretary from Montana. He asked Marlene out and never looked back. They were married October 25, 1958 in Isle. They spent the first years of marriage in the cities. They bought land in 1962, close to the homestead and started building their own family and farm. He and his brother started Peterson Blacktopping in 1964. After five years, he sold his part to his younger brother and became the custodian at Isle High School for 11

years. Having construction work in his blood, he returned to construction helping his sons begin North Central Paving, being their most beloved truck driver. Allan was a third generation logger. He has passed the knowledge and appreciation on to his family. Allan was always willing to take time to fish with family and friends. The annual family camping trip to Big Sandy holds many memories for all. Deer hunting was not just family but, old friends and relatives, the small house in the woods would burst at the seams with stories and laughter, somebody would always have “car trouble”. We can’t forget the love he had for horses that started when he was young and never ended, from Shetland ponies to draft horses. In every aspect of Allan’s life, family was always the center of who he was and what he was about.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Marlene Peterson, Isle; children: Rodney (Pamela) Peterson, Isle; Bruce (Dixie) Peterson, Onamia ; Donna (Tyler) O’Malley Pennington; 15 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; brother, David(Jean) Peterson, Mora; sister, Anna Marie Miller, Isle; brother-in-law, Walte r(Linda) Zimmer, Superior MT, sister-in-law Marge Olson, Apache Junction AZ.

Allan was preceded in death by his parents; brothers: Robert, Charles, Glenn, and Wesley; sisters: Virgie and Harriet; three brothers-in-law and five sisters-in-law.

Arrangements were with the So-rensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at www.srtfuneral.com.

BEVERLY CLUFF



Beverly Jean Cluff, 80, of Crosby, formerly of Aitkin, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024 in Heartwood Assisted Living, Crosby.

Graveside services will be held in Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery, Nordland Township in the Spring of 2025.

She was born April 16, 1944 in Aitkin to William and Jeanette (Sjodin) Grubb. Beverly was united in marriage to Craig Cluff on August 18, 1962 in Aitkin. Together they had four boys. Beverly was united in marriage to Gary Johnson on December 14, 2017 in Aitkin. Beverly loved playing cards, cooking, gardening and especially spending time with her

family and friends.

Beverly is survived by her boys: Steve (DeeAnn) Cluff of Aitkin, Chris (Paulette) Cluff of Taylors Falls, Dave (Stacy) Cluff of Aitkin and Matt (Laura) Cluff of Aitkin; five grandchildren: Bill (Julia) Cluff, Jim (Staci) Cluff, Brandin (Jahne) Cluff, Logan Cluff and Kyle Cluff; four great grandchildren: Mila, Jaxon, Hayden and Kash; sister, Debra (Dayton Jones) Grubb; nieces: Megan (Tanner) Johnson, Ellen (Wohee Kim) Grubb Jones and Alice (Ian) Tibbetts; other relatives and friends.

Beverly is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Gary Johnson; and sister, Pam Genosky.

Arrangements were with the So-rensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences

FRANK RIPLEY



Frank Darrelld Ripley, 92, of Otsego, died peacefully at home on Thursday, Dec.12, 2024, just 27 days after the death of his beloved wife of 67 years, Joanne.

A Mass of Christian Burial and life celebration will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers, donations be made to Catholic Charities or Alzheimer’s Association in Frank’s honor.

Frank was born on November 27, 1932 in St. Ignatius, Montana. Frank was a veteran who served during the Korean Conflict. After his service, his job as railroad telegraph operator moved him from Montana to Minnesota, where he met and married Joanne. As his family grew, Frank was a successful handyman and contractor. After 15 years in Maplewood, they purchased a 16-cabin resort in Nisswa and Frank worked at St. Joseph’s Medical Center as a Maintenance Engineer. Later

he and Joanne bought a smaller resort on Gull Lake. He was the first resort owner on Gull Lake to build accessible cabins and landscape features for clients with mobility challenges. In retirement Frank and Joanne traveled, eventually choosing Holy Trinity Monastery in St. David, Arizona as their winter home. He enjoyed volunteering his many skills at this warm, Catholic community. One of Frank’s greatest legacies in retirement was his love of gardening and sharing his harvest. His love of nature and mastery of woodworking came together in his carving and shaping of unique burls, stumps, and sticks that were gifted to many. Frank was a goodhearted prankster who brought joy to many through his humor and wit.

Frank is survived by his children: Ellen (Bruce) Johnson, Nancy (Jerry) Doucette, Ann Ripley, Paul Ripley, Lisa (Clark) Schmidt, Carrie Ripley; 20 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by wife Joanne; parents, Fred and Dorothy Ripley; brother, George; and sister, Shirley Littleton.

SHIRLEY FORREY

Shirley Forrey, 66, Pine River, died Friday, Dec. 20, 2024 at home.

A celebration of life was held at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 27, 2024 at the Pine River American Legion.

Funeral services were held at noon on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Pine River with a visitation the hour prior. She was born Oct. 27, 1958.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

ALLIANCE
Aitkin* — New Life Church of the CM&A; Worship 10:15 am; Services on Sunday at 10:15am and 6pm; 11-1st Street SW, newlifeaitkin.com 218-927-2823.
Baxter* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10; 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; 8:30, 10 & 11:30 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, 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; 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, Pastor William Verbeke, Worship 10:30, northwoodscommunitychurch.org
Baxter - The Journey North, Worshop 9 & 10:30, 218-824-5617 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
Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 www.thechurchonthewiseroad.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* — Jeff Shadrick, SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and 6 pm; Wed. Service, 6:30 pm.
Glory* — SS 9:15; Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wed 6pm Glory Family night, KidMin grades kindergarten - 6, Mad4Christ grades 7-12, 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.ihmstemilys.org; Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm.
Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. & Wed. 8; Sun. 10:30; Confession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101.
Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass Wed. 9 & Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm
Grand Rapids — St. Joseph’s, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483
Hillman — Holy Family; Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt.
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8; Confessions 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 — The Lighthouse 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
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 Konnect 6:30 pm
Malmö — 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, 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) Pastor Sarah Stadler, 602-318-6876, 27452 St. John’s Church Road, Aitkin. Worship on Sundays at 9:00 am followed by Sunday school at 10:00 am. stjohns-cedarbrook.weebly.com.
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.
Baxter — Prince of Peace (LCMS); Communion every Sunday 9, Fellowship 10:15, Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am 218-829-7092 www.princeofpeace-lutheran.church
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 flicbrainerd.com
424 8th Street South, Brainerd
Brainerd* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church, 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052
Brainerd — Laestadian Lutheran Church, 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. (www.llchurch.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. Email: 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.
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) Worship 9 (alternates with Immanuel Iron Hub) 218-546-6910.
Crosslake Lutheran Church (ELCA) www.crosslakelutheran.com
Kristin Oltmann, Pastor / Becky Swanson, Pastor 218-692-3682 September 8-Mid-May: Sunday at 8:30am & October-Mid-May: Wednesday at 6:15pm
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
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.
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 11, fellowship follows. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)
Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS) Worship 9, (alternates with Zion of Crosby) 218-534-3069
Isle — Faith (ELCA), Pastor Josh Blair; 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)
Malmö — 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), Worship 9; SS 9.
McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (LCMC), Pastor Lorelei 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 Telf; 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 Lutheran (LCMC Congregations in Mission for Christ) 11:30 service. Communion 1st & 3rd

Sunday each month.
Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor Ron Staudinger; 1st, 3rd and 4th 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. Pastor Walter Starr, 763-316-7270, Sunday Worship 10:00am, Wednesday Bible study 6:30pm
Emily — Cornerstone Church; Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.
Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Irondale Town Hall*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 pm. Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, Pastors Ken and Ron Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585

PRESBYTERIAN
Crosslake - Pastor Mark Ford, 218-692-4769; Worship 9; Fellowship 11, 14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, just passed the Community Center; www.crosslakepres.org.
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

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Aitkin — Pastor Josh Jeresek; Worship Sat. 9:30, Prayer Meeting & Bible Study Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.; www.aitkinadventist.org; 423-805-0933; 830 Minnesota Ave S
Brainerd — Pastor Josh Jeresek; Worship Sat. 11:10, 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* (South Aitkin County) — Pine Lake Chapel, Pastor Gary Taylor; Worship Sunday 1 p.m. 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 bks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

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

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New Minnesota laws that took effect January 1, 2025 part 1 | Continued from Page 1

to complete the purchase. This includes, but is not limited to, fees that cannot be reasonably avoided by the consumer or fees that a reasonable person would expect to be part of the transaction.

The law specifically excludes government-imposed taxes, such as sales tax, from the disclosure requirements.

Rep. Emma Greenman (DFL-Minneapolis) and Sen. Lindsey Port (DFL-Burnsville), who sponsored the bill, HF3438*/SF3537/CH111, noted that the legislation is aimed at enhancing consumer protection and promoting fairness in pricing.

The law includes specific requirements for delivery platforms, which often add additional fees at the point of purchase. Under the new rules, these platforms must display any extra fees clearly at the point when a consumer selects items for purchase. The total cost, including all fees, must then be itemized on a subtotal page before the consumer completes the transaction.

However, some exemptions apply to the law. Fees related to the purchase or lease of motor vehicles that are imposed by a motor vehicle dealer are not subject to the disclosure requirements. Additionally, fees charged by businesses regulated by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, or fees related to real estate settlement services (with the exception of broker commissions and fees), are also excluded.

Certain provisions of the law, particularly those affecting industries regulated by the Metropolitan Airports Commission, will not take effect until June 1, 2025.

This new pricing transparency measure is part of a broader initiative to protect consumers from deceptive practices and ensure that they are not misled when making purchasing decisions.

ELECTIONS
College campus voting locale, candidate residency proof

Two significant changes to Minnesota’s election laws are aimed at increasing accessibility and ensuring voter integrity.

One major provision requires that, in general elections or off-year city general elections, at least one additional polling place be designated on the campus of a post-secondary institution that provides on-campus housing for at least 100 students. This new polling place, which can be located within one-half mile of the campus, must be “reasonably accessible” to students and will be available for voting for at least one day. The provision allows for the polling place to be set up if requested by the institution or the student government organization.

To support this initiative, the Minnesota Secretary of State’s office will reimburse local election officials for the operational costs of setting up and staffing the additional polling place.

The law also introduces a new requirement for candi-

dates filing for office. Starting in 2025, when a candidate submits an affidavit of candidacy, they must present proof of their current address. This can be done by providing a valid driver’s license or state identification card, or by presenting other documentation authorized for Election Day registration. The goal is to improve the accuracy of voter rolls and ensure that candidates meet residency requirements for their respective districts.

Both provisions are part of a broader effort to increase voter participation and integrity in Minnesota elections. The law is expected to help address concerns around access to voting for students while also ensuring that the candidates on the ballot meet necessary residency standards.

Rep. Mike Freiberg (DFL-Golden Valley) and Sen. Jim Carlson (DFL-Eagan) sponsored the law, HF4772*/SF4729/CH11.2

EMPLOYMENT

Several new employment laws, HF3947*/SF3852*/CH110, will take effect in Minnesota, aimed at improving transparency in job postings, workplace safety in healthcare settings, and updating definitions related to minimum wage. The laws are part of a broader effort to address issues of equity, safety, and fairness in the workplace.

Salary ranges required in job postings

One of the most notable changes requires employers with 30 or more employees at

one or more sites in Minnesota to disclose salary ranges in all job postings. Under the new law, companies must provide the starting salary range or fixed pay rate for each position, along with a general description of benefits and other compensation.

The salary range must be specific, with no “open-ended” salaries allowed. The aim of this provision is to improve wage transparency and reduce pay disparities, particularly for women and workers from historically underpaid groups.

The provision is in the 2024 labor and industry policy law sponsored by Rep. Michael Nelson (DFL-Brooklyn Park) and Sen. Jennifer McEwen (DFL-Duluth).

Surgical Smoke Safety for Healthcare Workers

Another key provision of the 2024 labor and industry policy law addresses workplace safety in healthcare settings. Beginning January 1, 2025, healthcare employers will be required to adopt and imple-

ment policies to prevent exposure to surgical smoke. Surgical smoke is the by-product produced by electrosurgery, laser tissue ablation, or other surgical techniques, which can be harmful to both healthcare workers and patients. The law mandates the use of smoke evacuation systems during any surgical procedure likely to generate surgical smoke.

This measure is a response to growing concerns about the health risks posed by surgical smoke, which can contain toxic chemicals and viruses. The new requirement aims to ensure safer working conditions for medical staff, particularly in operating rooms.

Updates to Minimum Wage Laws

Additionally, the law makes changes to the Min-



nesota Fair Labor Standards Act (MFLSA) by moving the definitions of “large” and “small” employers out of the minimum wage statute and into the general definitions section of the act. The law also modifies certain minimum wage provisions, including those related to hotels and resorts with summer work travel exchange employees, as well as minor employees working for large employers.

To Be Continued Next Issue

Onamia man killed in truck crash

A 60-year-old Onamia man was killed in a single-vehicle crash on Sunday, Dec. 29 in Crow Wing County. The incident occurred at approximately 4:30 p.m. near the 8000 block of County Road 23, in Maple Grove Township.

According to the Crow Wing County Sheriff’s Office, the man was driving a Ford Ranger southbound on County Road 23 when the

vehicle left the roadway and crashed into a ditch. Deputies arrived on scene and found the driver unresponsive. He was later pronounced dead at the scene.

The identity of the driver is being withheld, pending notification of family members. The body has been transported to the Ramsey County Medical Examiner’s Office for an autopsy to determine the exact cause of death.

The crash is under investigation by the Crow Wing County Sheriff’s Office in collaboration with the Minnesota State Patrol. Authorities are working to determine the circumstances surrounding the crash.

Assistance at the scene was provided by the Minnesota State Patrol, North Memorial Ambulance, Garrison Fire Department, and Lakes Area Rescue.

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