



The **NEWSHOPPER** is furnished FREE, because of the advertisers. Please let them know you appreciate it.

First Copy FREE, subsequent copies \$1 per copy.

Vol. 26 • Issue 15

Sat., April 12, 2025

NEWSHOPPER

FREE

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

**VOTE District 6
Special Primary Election
Tuesday, April 15**

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

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

WHAT'S INSIDE

BRATWURST RECALL
Page 2

BIRTHS
Page 3

OBITUARIES
Page 4

CLASSIFIEDS
Page 5

NATURE ROCKS CON-
CERT SCHOLARSHIP
FUNDRAISER
Page 6

**YOUR SUCCESS
IS OUR GOAL**
NEWSHOPPER
Call Eric at
218-821-1393

Dancing with the Lakes Area Stars fundraising event dazzles



Tim Sowers and Cordella LaFlex won the Fundraising Extraordinaire award at the Habitat for Humanity Dancing with the Lakes Area Stars on April 3.

By ANN SCHWARTZ

A great night of entertainment took place in Brainerd at Dancing with the Lakes Area Stars on April 3.

So so as not to ruin all the surprises for readers who may attend the event next year, know it is an evening filled with great dancing and lively music.

Aspects of the ABC Television Show Dancing with

the Stars are apparent. The audience watches some "guest" or "featured dancers" who do numbers to entertain but are not in the competition.

Eight of the acts were entered into the competition and required an audience vote with a donation to match it. Audience members could vote by scanning a QR code and using their phone. Or, a more hands-on old school method was putting money in boxes labeled with each competitive acts' names, located in the lobby of the Gichi-ziibi Center.

Enjoyed by the audience were spinning, twirling and leaping in the genres of Native American Dance, inter-

pretive, jitterbug and much more. There was everything on the stage from hip hop to waltzes to costumed Vikings who acted out an interpretive dance.

Winning the Fundraising Extraordinaire award were young couple Tim Sowers and Cordella LaFlex. LaFlex showed much dancing versatility by appearing in many different acts showcasing numerous styles of dance.

Joel and Donna Jasmer, a long-time married couple, won the People's Choice for their sweet and romantic old-fashioned waltz. It was apparent by the looks on their faces they never expected to win over more athletic competitors. However, as Emcee Derek Owen noted, "you don't necessarily have to vote for the dancers who have the most technical expertise."

Oscar and Michelle Gonzales, owners of Spirit Move-

ment Dance Studio, contributed professional moves, stage presence and that certain sparkle to the evening — making it clear that they are the local go-to couple for professional dancing.

The audience also got a chance to meet Alex and Jessica and their six daughters. This young family of hers,

mine and ours girls is excited to build and own a Habitat for Humanity home in Pillager. All of the proceeds from the event goes toward the costs for building Alex and Jessica's home.

Over the previous five years, Dancing with the Lakes Area Stars made \$190,000 for affordable housing.



Joel and Donna Jasmer won the People's Choice for their sweet and romantic old-fashioned waltz.



LONG LAKE CONSERVATION CENTER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING CONCERT

GB LEIGHTON WITH THE JORGENSENS

JUNE 21 | 5-10 PM
Downtown Aitkin

\$25 ONLINE | **\$35** AT THE GATE

TICKETS AND MORE INFO AT:



NATUREROCKSCONCERT.COM



Good music. Great cause.

SHIFT CLINIC

INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE

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

Functional Medicine • Chiropractic • Acupuncture • Massage • Guided Weight Loss • Slim Laser • Magnesphere Resonance Therapy • PEMF

Fatigue Keeping You Down? CALL NOW! Get to the ROOT Cause

Schedule your first appointment by April 30, 2025 and receive a **FREE Consultation*** *Up to 15 Minutes



Hurry - Don't Delay Call Today!



NORTHERN AIR

PLUMBING AND HEATING

northernairplumbing.com

24/7 Emergency Service (218) 927-6828

Now is the perfect time to prepare for colder months.

\$79

Gas Furnace Inspection

Ensure your furnace is ready by scheduling a professional inspection. This proactive step not only enhances efficiency, but also prevents unexpected breakdowns when you need it the most. Stay warm and comfortable by addressing maintenance needs before the freezing temps set in.

Valuable Coupon Not to be combined with any other offer.



FOR SALE- Spacious home in Palisade, MN- Move-in-ready 3 BR 3 BA home, within walking distance to amenities of small town living, with room for outdoor entertaining, with large patio, several entrances make this home perfect for your home business! Spectacular kitchen and dining room space with fireplace, and counter seating, huge living room and storage galore, make this home appealing, in addition to the attached and detached garages and partially finished basement. Call Kaija Kokesh, Realty today to schedule your private tour! **218-232-5428.** **MLS#6694675**



**KAIJA KOKESH
REALTY**

**REAL ESTATE
FOR
SALE**

218-232-5428
kaijakokeshrealty.com

9TH ANNIVERSARY SALE

RESTONIC

White Glove Delivery **Professional Setup** **Financing Available***
*Subject to credit approval

 <p>RESTONIC Ortho III Queen Mattress</p> <p>NOW ONLY \$397</p> <p>SALE: \$397 TWIN.....\$197 FULL.....\$347 QUEEN.....\$397 KING.....\$597</p>	 <p>RESTONIC Ortho IV Queen Mattress</p> <p>NOW ONLY \$497</p> <p>SALE: \$497 TWIN.....\$397 FULL.....\$447 QUEEN.....\$497 KING.....\$697</p>
 <p>RESTONIC Ortho V Queen Mattress</p> <p>NOW ONLY \$497</p> <p>SALE: \$397 TWIN.....\$397 FULL.....\$447 QUEEN.....\$497 KING.....\$697</p>	 <p>RESTONIC Stevens 96th Anniversary Hybrid Queen Mattress</p> <p>NOW ONLY \$597</p> <p>SALE: \$597 TWIN.....\$397 FULL.....\$497 QUEEN.....\$597 KING.....\$797</p>

Queen Size Power Adjustable Bases Starting at: **\$499**



Twin Size Mattresses Starting at: **\$99**



371 FURNITURE & MATTRESS

Locally Owned and Operated

16413 Highway 371, Brainerd, MN 56401 • 218-828-3020

2 Miles North of Baxter on 371 • www.371furniture.com

371sales@gmail.com • Hours: Monday - Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 11-4

Prices Valid thru Friday, May 2, 2025

Buy It Today... Have It Today!*

* on In Stock Items

Lakes Area Music Festival presents Hub Mixtape on Sunday, April 13

The Lakes Area Music Festival concludes its Winter Series with Hub Mixtape, a thrilling program of contemporary chamber music performed by the trailblazing ensemble Hub New Music. Known for their innovative approach and genre-defying

Special primary election April 15

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz has called for a special election to fill the vacant Senate District 6 seat, previously held by Sen. Justin Eichorn. Eichorn resigned after being charged with allegedly soliciting a 17-year-old girl.

The Special Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, April 15, with the Special General Election scheduled for Tuesday, April 29. District 6 includes most of Crow Wing County, along with parts of Cass and Itasca Counties.

Voting Information and Early Voting

Voters are encouraged to participate in early voting to accommodate the short election timeline. Absentee and early voting for the Special Primary Election will be held from April 9 through April 14 at the Crow Wing County Historic Courthouse, located at 326 Laurel Street in Brainerd. Absentee voting for the Special General Election will be available from April 23 through April 28.

In-person absentee voting will take place during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday. Due to the short timeline, additional voting hours will be offered. For the Special Primary Election, extra hours will be on Saturday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on Monday, April 14, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For the Special General Election, extended hours are scheduled for Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Monday, April 28, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“Crow Wing County voters have a history of being civically engaged, and absentee voting is a great way for residents to stay involved in the election process,” said Jory Danielson, Administrative Services Director for Crow Wing County.

Precinct Changes for the Special Election

Due to the urgent nature of the special election, several polling places in Crow Wing County have changed. These changes only apply to the special election. Voters are encouraged to confirm their polling locations at mnvotes.gov.

Changes include:

- Breezy Point: New location at Breezy Point Public Safety Building, 8361 County Road 11
- Unorganized Territory P3 & P4: New location at Crow Wing County Historic Courthouse, 326 Laurel Street
- Unorganized Territory P1: New location at Crow Wing County Historic Courthouse, 326 Laurel Street
- Brainerd Ward 4 Precinct 1: New location at Brainerd City Hall, 501 Laurel Street
- Brainerd Ward 4 Precinct 2: New location at Brainerd City Hall, 501 Laurel Street

Curbside Voting Available

Curbside voting is available for those unable to enter polling places. Election judges will bring ballots to voters’ vehicles. For more information, visit crowwing.gov/Elections or contact your municipal clerk.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, unless otherwise noted by municipalities. Contact your municipal clerk or crowwing.gov/Elections before going to the polling place.

collaborations, Hub New Music brings an electrifying lineup of compositions from some of today’s most celebrated and forward-thinking composers.

The performance will take place on Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 3 p.m. at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa. Hub Mixtape features an eclectic and engaging selection of works, reflecting the ensemble’s commitment to expanding the possibilities of chamber music. The program includes works by Christopher Cerrone, Julius Eastman, Angélica Negrón, Dai Wei, Yaz Lancaster, and Nico Muhly.

“Each piece in this program represents a different voice in the ever-expanding world of contemporary music,” says Scott Lykins, LAMF Executive and Artistic Director. “We’re excited to present a sonic journey that highlights both the individuality of each composer and the dynamic interplay of sound, rhythm, and texture that makes modern chamber music so compelling.”

Founded in 2013 and hailed as “contemporary chamber trailblazers” by The Boston Globe, Hub New Music has captivated audiences worldwide with their dynamic programming and virtuosic performances. The ensemble—comprised of Michael Avitabile (flute), Gleb Kanasevich (clarinet), Meg Rohrer (violin/viola), and Jesse Christeson (cello)—has commissioned and premiered dozens of new works, earning a reputation as one of the most adventurous and forward-thinking chamber groups of their generation.

The ensemble’s residency in Brainerd Public Schools leading up to the concert will offer students an immersive experience in contemporary music, reinforcing LAMF’s mission to engage and inspire communities through transformative musical experiences.

To find out more visit lakesareamusic.org or call 218-ASK-LAMF (218-275-5263).

Johnsonville bratwurst issues recall

Johnsonville, LLC, a food manufacturer based in Mokena, IL, has announced the recall of approximately 22,672 pounds of cheddar bratwurst products that may be contaminated with foreign material, specifically hard plastic. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) made the announcement today, urging consumers to discard or return the affected product.

The cheddar bratwurst in question was produced on February 5, 2025, and is sold in 19-ounce sealed firm tray packages containing five pieces labeled “Johnsonville BRATS CHEDDAR Bratwurst.” These packages feature the product code B9FOD and establishment number “Est. 1647” on the front of the label.

Affected products were shipped to retail locations across multiple states, including Minnesota, Wisconsin, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The recall was initiated after Johnsonville received two consumer complaints regarding the presence of hard plastic in the bratwurst product. While there have been no confirmed reports of injury related to the consumption of these products, consumers who have purchased the recalled items are strongly urged not to consume them. Anyone concerned about injury should contact a healthcare provider immediately.

FSIS is concerned that some of these affected products may still be in consumers’ freezers. Consumers are advised to either dispose of the products or return them to the place of purchase for a refund. The agency will continue to monitor the recall to ensure that the product is no longer available to consumers.

FSIS will also provide a list of retail distribution locations on its website at www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls once it becomes available. In addition, the agency routinely conducts effectiveness checks to ensure the recalling firm has notified customers and that corrective actions are being taken.

Consumers with questions about the recall may contact Amanda Fritsch, Consumer Relations Coordinator, at 888-556-2728 or via email at anachtweyfritsch@johnsonville.com. Media inquiries should be directed to Stephanie Schafer, Director of Global Corporate Communications, at 920-889-0782 or sschafer@johnsonville.com.

For additional food safety concerns, consumers can contact the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-MPHotline (888-674-6854) or email MPHotline@usda.gov. Reports of problems with meat, poultry, or egg products can also be submitted 24/7 through the USDA’s online Electronic Consumer Complaint Monitoring System at <https://foodcomplaint.fsis.usda.gov/eCCF/>.





— Final Days to Shop! —

Ruttger's Winter Market

AT RUBY'S ON THE LAKE

We don't want to move it sale!

50% off EVERYTHING

Except the Easter display

Thursday 4-8 p.m. • Fri. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

HUNGRY? Stop In for Our Daily Specials:

Thursday: All-You-Can-Eat

Broasted Chicken 5 - 8 p.m.

Friday: All-You-Can-Eat

Fish Fry 5 - 8 p.m.

Saturday: All-You-Can-Eat *Flying Flapjacks*

8 a.m.- 11 a.m.

Sunday: Crepes 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Thursday Night Trivia League

Prizes!

Teams of 4 will play every Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the Fireplace Lounge located next to Ruby's on the Lake. Earn points that accumulate throughout the season. Prizes will be awarded to our top teams.

Through June 12

Trivia NIGHT

Easter Weekend Fun

Saturday, April 19

10 a.m. Annual Easter Egg Hunt
(We will be indoors & outdoors, dress accordingly)

11 a.m. Family Art Fun* fees range from \$8 to \$25
Easter Gnomes • Easter Baskets • Build a Critter

1 p.m. Family Trivia



EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Easter Brunch

Sunday, April 20 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Creamy Baked Eggs Eggs baked in Gruyere & 18-month aged parmesan cream sauce topped with green onions, served on Focaccia bread,

Strictly Mushroom Quiche Variety of locally grown mushrooms & Gruyere cheese, **Braveheart Brisket and Rib Smoked Gouda Mac and Cheese**, **Applewood Smoked Bacon**, **Chorizo Sausage Medallions**, **Blueberry Cream Cheese French Toast Casserole**, **Baked Gruyere & Cheddar Hashbrowns**, **Shrimp, Spinach & Prosciutto Frittata**, **Italian Benedict**

English muffin, creamed spinach, Prosciutto, basil hollandaise

Chef Carved Thielen Dark Cherry Wood Triple Smoked Ham Served with ham gravy,

Chef Carved Slow Roasted Rosemary and Sea Salt Braveheart Black Angus Prime Rib with Au Jus & Creamy Horseradish, **Peruvian Chicken with Aji Verde**, **Chef made to order Omelets and Crepes Station**, **Northern Waters Smokehaus Smoked Salmon & Peel-and-Eat Shrimp Display**, **Oysters Rockefeller**, **Seasonal Vegetables**, **Sour Cream & Chive Russet Mashed Potatoes**, **Fresh Fruit & Garden Salad Bar**, **Deviled Eggs**, **Cinnamon Rolls**, **Caramel Rolls**, **Donuts**, **Danish's**, **Pastries & Desserts**,

Kids Station: Scrambled eggs with cheddar cheese,

Mini breakfast corn dogs, Chicken tenders & French fries

\$56/Adult (Ages 12 & Older)

\$16/Child (Ages 4-11) • **Free** (Ages 3 & under)





Reservations required, call 218-678-4678



25039 Tame Fish Lake Rd., Deerwood

218-678-2885 • ruttgers.com

CASH 4 JUNK CARS AND MACHINERY



Call 218-839-3371

Rosenmeier forum to address Minnesota courts’ past, present, and future

The public is invited to attend an upcoming Rosenmeier Forum titled “The Past, Present and Future of Minnesota Courts” featuring two distinguished legal experts: retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Barry Anderson and retired Tenth Judicial District Court Judge Tad Jude. The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, at the Chalberg Theatre on the Central Lakes College Brainerd campus. The forum is free and open to the public.

Steve Wenzel, Executive Director of the Gordon Rosenmeier Center for State and Local Government, expressed enthusiasm for the event, saying, “We are most

pleased that the Rosenmeier Center will feature two outstanding jurists whose background and experience will provide for a most informative and interesting discussion about both the history and the future of Minnesota’s Judiciary and its court system. Justices Barry Anderson and Tad Jude were respected throughout the legal community for their integrity and expertise on the legal issues facing Minnesotans.”

Biographies of Featured Speakers

Barry Anderson
Barry Anderson, a retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, brings over 40 years

of legal experience to the forum. A graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College and the University of Minnesota Law School, Anderson served on the Minnesota Court of Appeals before being appointed to the Supreme Court in 2004. He retired in 2024 after serving 19 years on the Court.

Before his judicial career, Anderson practiced law in Fairmont and Hutchinson, specializing in civil trial work, including personal injury and mechanic’s lien litigation. He also served as Hutchinson’s city attorney for over a decade. Anderson has been involved in numerous community organizations and served on the Minnesota Judicial Council, playing a key role in the administration of the state’s judicial branch. He was also a member of the

Minnesota Citizens Commission for the Preservation of an Impartial Judiciary, which focused on issues of judicial selection and impartiality.

Tad Jude
Tad Jude, former District Judge for the Tenth Judicial District Court, brings a wealth of experience from both his judicial and legislative careers. Elected in 2010 and 2016 to serve Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, Sherburne, Washing-

ton, and Wright Counties, Judge Jude presided over thousands of cases. He also has an extensive background in public service, having served as a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, Minnesota Senate, and as Chair of the House Judiciary Committee during key developments in the state’s judicial system.

In addition to his legal career, Jude has been deeply involved in community ser-

vice, including leadership roles in organizations such as the American Legion Post 303 and Action for Children/ Zambia. He has also worked as a member of the US District Court Judiciary interview committee in Minnesota. Jude is a graduate of the College of Saint Thomas and William Mitchell College of Law, and has furthered his education through professional courses at the Antonin Scalia Law School.



LOOK WHOSE baby JUST ARRIVED

OAKLEY COLLINS

Oakley Cameron Collins, a boy, weighing 8 lbs., 14 ozs., was born April 2, 2025, in Aitkin, to Jabre Collins and Hunter Wagonhoffer of Aitkin. Grandparents are Melissa Tevik, Aitkin; Brian and Michele Watson, Aitkin and great-grandmother, Cassandra Allers, Aitkin.

SIMONE BOZELL

Simone Alana Bozell, a girl, weighing 7 lbs., 15 ozs., was born April 5, 2025, in Aitkin, to Alexi and Tanner Bozell of Aitkin. Grandparents are Michael Sinotte, Pillager; and Troy and Aimee Bozell, McGregor.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- April**
- 12th - Serpent Lake Association April Social, 4 -6 p.m., at the Woodtick Inn in downtown Cuyuna.
 - 12th - Great River Strings Spring Concert, 7 p.m., at Cascade United Methodist Church in Deerwood.
 - 12th - Cuyuna Range Whitetails Banquet held at the Hallett Center of Crosby. Social hour starts at 5 p.m.; dinner and raffles begin at 6 p.m. 14th - Community Table Meal, every Monday doors open at 5 p.m. and meal served from 5:30 to 6p.m. in St. Joseph’s Catholic Church Social Hall, 617 Poplar Street, Crosby. For more information, contact: Tammy Ringhand at 218-838-0658, Jill Larsen at 218-851-1488 or Ann Silgen at 218-330-9610.
 - 14th - Join Unlimited Learning at 1:30 p.m. to hear Steve Wenzel speak about the Vietnam War. The program will be at Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby. It’s free for members and \$10.00 for non-members.
 - 14th - Book Club at the Northland Arboretum, 5-6:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. “Pilgrim at Tinker Creek” by Annie Dillard. Attendees must obtain their own book. Participants must pre-register online at northlandarb.org. Northland Arboretum is located at 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd. Call 218-829-8770 for more information.
 - 16th - Cascade United Methodist Church free supper, 5:30 p.m. brings families and neighbors together to enjoy a home-cooked meal. The supper is held the third Wednesday of each month. Call 218- 534-3507 for a reservation. Cascade is located between Deerwood and Crosby at 22781 Black Lake Road, Deerwood on Highway 6 and 210.
 - 16th, 17th & 18th - Friends of the Brainerd Public Library Spring Book Sale 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Westgate Mall Brainerd
 - 24th - Registration deadline for Worms Eat My Garbage Vermicomposting Workshop at the Northland Arboretum on May 10, 10 a.m. -noon, \$95 per person. Each registrant will take home a 27-gallon worm bin. Northland Arboretum is located at 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd. Call 218-829-8770 for more information.
 - 25th - Free movie night at Mayberry Auditorium. “Mufasa” at 6:30 p.m. Light concessions are available.
 - 25th - Erik Koskinen takes the stage for Grassroots Concerts at the Live Well Nightclub and Coffee Bar in the Journey Church, Nisswa, 7:30 p.m. Grassroots Concerts, a non-profit, volunteer-run organization begun in 1988, charges \$15 at the door for adults and \$5 for children under 12 with listening attention. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. in the Journey Church, 5459 Lakers Lane (next to the school in Nisswa). Your nonperishable food, cash, or check donation to a local food shelf is welcomed. For information call 218-838-4266.
 - 26th - Stop the Stigma 5K for Mental Health Awareness, 9 a.m., at t Central Lakes College Brainerd campus. There is also a one-mile walk option. Proceeds will support the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen and the Central Lakes College Food Pantry. Race awards will start at about 10 a.m. Register: www.clcmn.edu/clc-5k/

Greetings from the Minnesota House of Representatives! I hope you’re as eager as I am for spring’s arrival—new leaves, green grass, and the chance to take my boys fishing in Minnesota’s beautiful weather can’t come soon enough.

Before diving into state updates, I want to address the recent wave of attacks on Tesla, a great American car company. Over the past few weeks, reports have surfaced of violent incidents targeting Tesla facilities and vehicles nationwide, including arson, vandalism, and the deployment of fire-starting devices. Closer to home, a Tesla was “keyed” in Bloomington on March 28, 2025. These acts coincide with Elon Musk and his Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) team working to cut waste, fraud, and abuse in federal spending—a mission I strongly support. Some see this as a reaction from those opposed to fiscal accountability. For more insight, I recommend watching the DOGE team’s recent interview with Bret Baier on Fox News.

Minnesota Miners Relief Act
This past week, we learned of the heartbreaking layoffs of over 600 miners from HibTac and Minorca mines. Our mining industry is the backbone of the Iron Range, and these miners, along with their families, deserve our full support during this challenging time. On Wednesday, my colleagues and I were joined by miners and union representatives for a press conference where we discussed our efforts to assist those affected.

We have introduced the Minnesota Miners Relief Act, a critical step in providing immediate relief through an extension of unemployment benefits for workers impacted by the mine closures. This extension will ensure that families

have the support they need as they navigate these uncertain times. In addition to addressing immediate needs, I am committed to modernizing our state’s mining regulations. This includes updating the sulfate standard and clarifying rules for reactive mine waste—both necessary steps to reduce delays and attract new investment to the industry.

I firmly believe that this legislation will help secure good-paying jobs, strengthen our local communities, and ensure a responsible, sustainable future for mining in Minnesota for years to come. Our beloved Cuyuna Range understands the devastation of losing mining in our community. We won’t let the same fate befall our neighbors to the north.

Tackling Rampant Fraud
Despite years of warning signs, Governor Walz has yet to hold anyone accountable for over \$600 million in waste, fraud, and abuse under his administration—most notably in programs like Feeding Our Future, Medicaid, and the Child Care Assistance Program. While on his nationwide town hall tour (jokingly called his “I Told You So Tour”), he’s criticized Musk and DOGE, diverting focus from Minnesota’s challenges. Here at home, with a 67-67 split in the House, Republicans are pushing forward. My “Mandatory Fraud Reporting” bill, requiring state employees to report fraud in agencies, is gaining bipartisan support. I’m optimistic it will reach the Governor’s desk, ensuring greater transparency for taxpayers.

Budget Priorities
House Republicans are finalizing budget targets that propose the largest spending cut in state history—a nearly \$4 billion reduction from the 2024-25 budget and \$1.2

billion below the 2026-27 base. We’re rejecting tax hikes and leveraging selective cuts proposed by the Governor and Senate to rein in spending. By contrast, the Governor’s plan grows government, adding full-time staff to an already bloated bureaucracy, the state’s largest employer—while cutting funds for nursing homes and non-public education. With a \$6 billion deficit looming, I’ll urge our caucus to prioritize fiscal responsibility with your tax dollars and keep us moving in the direction of cutting government spending and reducing the size of government.

Public Employee Unrest
Minnesota’s state workforce, the largest employer in our state, is facing growing tension. In March 2025, AFSCME Council 5, representing over 43,000 public workers, threatened to strike over Governor Walz’s push for a 50% in-office work mandate. Union members argue this ignores their needs after years of service, while others see it as resistance to accountability in a bureaucracy needing reform. With a \$6 billion deficit looming, we must balance fair treatment for workers with fiscal responsibility. I’ll advocate for policies that respect our public employees while ensuring taxpayer dollars fund services, not standoffs. Expect this issue to heat up as budget talks progress.

I’m committed to working hard for our district. As always, I welcome your input and stand ready to assist with any issues that matter to you. I look forward to seeing you around the district soon—until then, enjoy the spring ahead!

Have a great weekend,
Ben Davis, District 6A
State Representative

Requesting what’s fair is fair

The city of Crosby has established a history of compensating employees when they have taken on extra work that is outside of their normal job description. As an example, the former city administrator received substantial extra pay when he temporarily took over supervising the then troubled public works department whose foreman was out serving our country. There are other examples as well. So I find it hard to believe that the mayor who voted for that bonus, pay increase, what ever one wants to call it, now refuses to address council member [Paul] Heglund’s request to provide some sort of compensation for the two office

personnel, who have had to go way beyond their job descriptions dealing with assisting both the temporary administrators with not only their duties but things such as audits, handling personnel issues and other assorted drama the city has had to deal with resulting from a fleeing administrator who once sold himself as a lifetime employee.

Our mayor dictates the city’s so called personnel committee

and should both realize and understand the inconveniences and hardships this transition has caused our office personnel. The mayor even campaigned on how working for our city should be enjoyable. But what about fair? They should be compensated as well. I respectfully ask this council and mayor to simply examine council member Heglund’s request and please act accordingly. Thank you.

Chris Ryan, Crosby

Send Us Your Photos and Community Events!

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**!

Hurry - Don't Delay!

\$79 Gas Furnace Inspection

Not to be combined with any other offer.

NORTHERN AIR

PLUMBING AND HEATING

northernairplumbing.com

24/7 Emergency Service (218) 927-6828

Reasonable • Experienced • Reliable

Get on the List for Spring Clean Up

Turner & Son

We Do Rock Work, & Fire Pits

Full Service Lawn Care

Lawn Mowing/Trimming • Debris Removal

Tree Trimming • RipRap and Shoreline Repair

Paver & Retaining Wall Repair & Installation

Get on the list for Summer Mowing and Yard Maintenance

Serving the Lakes Area

Tim Turner 218-866-2349

David Turner 651-242-4796

NEED AN AUCTION?

89 Years in Business

Janzen AUCTIONEERS

Call us today for a free no obligation consultation.

WE CAN HELP!

BOOK YOUR 2025 ONSITE OR ONLINE AUCTION NOW

Contact Janzen Auctioneers:

Jeremy Janzen • Office (218) 927-4488

• Cell Phone (218) 851-0879

• jerjanzen77@gmail.com

Please visit our websites: www.janzenauctions.com or www.midwestauctions.com/janzen for full auction line up, photos and Janzen Like us on Facebook @ Janzen Auctioneers

GOT SOMETHING TO SELL?

NOW ACCEPTING ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AUCTIONS:

Vehicles, Trailers, Boats & Marine, ATVs, RVs, Firearms, Sporting Goods, Tools, Tractors, Collectibles... Etc.

Janzen Auctioneers is your professional, fully licensed, bonded & insured auction company since 1936.

Spring into Auction Season with

Reinhardt

PROFESSIONAL AUCTION SERVICE

34996 480th St., Palisade, MN 56469-2254

Upcoming Auctions:

- Sat., April 12, 10 a.m. - Palisade, MN
Logging/Farm Auction | Sherman Family
- Thurs., April 17, 10 a.m. - Aitkin, MN
Moving Auction | Jennice Kelly
- Thurs., April 24, 10 a.m. - Cromwell, MN
Retirement Auction | Dan & Gayle Heikkila
- Sun., April 27, 9 a.m. - Jacobson, MN
Firearm/Ammo Auction | Lynne Bliss
- Thurs., May 1, 10 a.m. - Virginia, MN
Retirement Farm Auction | Roger Manning
- Tues., May 6, 10 a.m. - Grand Rapids, MN
Estate of Loney Ross
- Sat., May 17, 10 a.m. - Aitkin, MN
Farm Sellout for Terry & Wendy Johnson
- Tues., June 3, 10 a.m. - Bigfork, MN
Moving Auction, Shorty & Barb Lewis

Work Hard - Sell Right

For more information visit our website:

www.reinhardtauctions.com

Contact us today to discuss your auction options

218- 845-2260 | info@reinhardtauctions.com

Hoppers Helper’s Service Directory

CONTRACTORS

Radtke Remodeling & Construction

Custom Built Homes • Remodeling • Garages

New Additions • Pole Buildings • General Contracting • Insulation

Dean Radtke, Aitkin, Lic. #20108758

www.radtkeremodelingconstruction.com

218-678-3403 • 218-839-6103

2024w39

FLOORING

JEFF WIBERG HARDWOOD FLOORS Installing, Sanding, Refinishing • Over 20 Years Experience **218-330-2576**

Check Me Out On Facebook

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Ken's Heating & Mobile Home Supply

LP & Natural Gas • Nationally Certified Service Technician — over 30 Years Experience

Residential & Commercial • Mobile Home Heating and Air Conditioning • RV's/Supplies

218-821-6720 • Aitkin • kensheatingllc.com w09/2025

WEBSITE

STELLAR WEB PROS Website, SEO & Digital Design Agency in the Lakes Area - Offering high-quality, budget-friendly websites for businesses and organizations. Contact us for your FREE no-obligation site design proposal today. **StellarWebPros.com**

OBITUARIES

LARRY NUTTING



Larry LeRoy Nutting, 85, died Monday, March 31, 2025, in Minnetonka.

Funeral service was held at Saturday, April 5, 2025 at Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin. Burial was at Glory Cemetery. Condolences can be sent to Mary Nutting at 5300 Woodhill Road, Apt 105, Minnetonka, MN 55345.

Larry was born October 15, 1939, in Des Moines, IA. Larry was united in marriage to Mary Ellen Hain on June 14, 1959.

He was survived by his children: Robin (Mike) Edgar, Scott (Kim) Nutting, Brett (Mary Beth) Nutting, and Stuart (Megan) Nutting; 11 grandchildren: Jaime (Curt), Erica (Pete), Nicole (Dustin), Andrea (Joe), Spencer (Courtney), Abigail (Jasper), Isabel (Parker), Grace (James), Elliot, Henry, George and seven great-grandchildren: Olivia, Preston, Nora, Graham, Austin, Alek, Brevick and Bennett.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Martha Nutting.

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

JEFFREY BOYD



Jeffrey Allen Boyd, Sr. Bebi-skaneayaash, 51, died Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at his home surrounded by his family.

Traditional Ojibwe Midewin Funeral Ceremony was held on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at the East Lake New Ceremonial Building in East Lake-McGregor. Ombishkebines will lead the ceremony. Burial was be at the Big Sandy Lake Burial Grounds.

He was born February 24, 1974 in Aitkin County the son of George Boyd, Jr. and Patricia (Pierce) Boyd. Jeffrey was united in marriage to Tabatha March 24, 2010 in Clark Co. NV. He was employed with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, and enjoyed playing cards, fishing and being with his family.

Jeffrey is survived by his wife Tabatha Boyd; mother Patricia Boyd; grandmother Aurelia Pierce; children: Branden "Husky" (Olivia) Sargent, Bradley (Alyssa) Buckanaga, Anthony Buckanaga, Amber (James) Buckanaga, Alyssa (Nicholas) Buckanaga, Aaron "Vito"(Dajia) Buckanaga, Isabel (Sterling) Boyd, Jeffrey (Molly) Boyd, Melissa

Boyd, Mary (Tom) Boyd, Amanda (Paul) Boyd, Richard Boyd, April (Tommy) Benjamin, Courtney (Cera) Hayes; grandchildren: Quinton, Fabian, Damian "Boo", James "Creech", Waabi, Shawn, Branden, Adriana, Niibaagizhig, Roxy, Blossom, Mila, Miley, Lylah, Harley, Charlie, Elody, Amirah, Waase, Bianca, Henry, Thomas, Derek, Ella, Otto, Carter, Paige, Alora, Daanis, Roylyn, Garrett, Bella, Zola, Owiyokipiwini, Zuya; brother George (Tina) Boyd, III; sister Tanya (Robb) Hallquist; nieces and nephews: Dakota Rose (Elliot) Haapoja, George (Autumn) Boyd, IV, Brielle, Kinley, Brooke, Brittany (Morgan), Dalia, Piper, and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father George Boyd, Jr., grandparents: George and Susan (Manitou) Boyd, Willis "Willie" Pierce, Grandson Avery Benjamin, Uncle Charles Durant, his loving dogs: Baby Girl, Mercedes and Jersey Girl, and other special family members and friends.

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

JANEL HANNAH



Janel Ann Hannah, 77, died peacefully on March 18, 2025 at Care Free Living in Brainerd.

A celebration of life will be held April 12, 2025, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Crow Wing Township Hall, 6930 Cuyuna Ave. SW, Brainerd.

Janel Hannah was born to Bernard and Carol Budish. She was the middle child of three. Later she met Jim Hannah and together

they had three children. After their marriage ended, she moved to Brainerd. She lived in Brainerd for the next 42 years with her sister Frankie Eck and friend Rosie.

She is survived by her children: Tabetha Merrill (Joe) of Brainerd, Steven Hannah (Patricia) of Emily, Cheryl Hannah (Dave) of Aitkin; six grandchildren, Desira Merrill, Micheal Merrill, Jake Merrill, Chanty Merrill, Steve Hanna III, and Rachel Cook.

Janel is preceded in death by her parents; sister Susan Otternes; and brother Bradley Budish.

BENNETT GREEN



Bennett "Mick" Green, 80, of Brainerd, MN, died peacefully on April 2, 2025, at his home in Brainerd.

A gathering to celebrate Mick's life was held on Tuesday April 8, 2025.

Mick was born on March 7, 1945, to Ben and Mary (Zimmerman) Green in Minneapolis. He moved to Brainerd in 1957. His parents owned Green's Groceries by the Green Lantern, a place where Mick was raised and learned the value of hard work. In 1965, he began his career with UPS as a janitor, and after

35 years of dedicated service, he retired in 2000 as a manager at the young age of 55. On February 27, 1994, Mick married the love of his life, Jeanne Zak. Together, they shared many happy years, building a life full of love, laughter, and family memories. Mick was a man of many passions, including hunting, fishing, and golfing. He was a dedicated fan of the Minnesota Vikings and loved watching Westerns.

Mick is survived by his wife, Jeanne; children, Shelley Green and Lynna (David) Strom; granddaughter, Allie Marie; sister, Sandy (Bill) Streiff; many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Pat Green and the mother of his children, Shirley.

HARRY BEMENT



Harry Steven Bement, 89, of Brainerd, died with family by his side on March 27, 2025, at Essentia Health – St. Joseph's Medical Center.

Funeral services were held on Friday, April 4, at 11 a.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brainerd. Harry was born on June 30, 1935, at home in Ripley Township, MN, to Robert and Bertha "Mary" (Olson) Bement.

He grew up in the Fort Ripley area and carried with him a lifelong love of family and community. Harry was known for his kindness, generosity, and sense of humor, always making those around him feel welcomed and valued. Throughout his life, Harry was actively involved in construction, he built, managed and owned rental properties, operated a tree service, and worked for the City of Brainerd. His strong work ethic and dedication left a lasting impact on those he worked with and the community he served.

Locally Owned & Operated

Sorensen-Root-Thompson
Funeral Home & Cremation Services
Aitkin, MN
218-927-2614

McGregor Funeral Home
& Cremation Services
McGregor, MN
218-768-3136

Traditional Funerals • Cremation Services
Celebration of Life • Pre-Planning Services

Directors: *Jason Brezinsky*
Jerry Thompson • Tad Brezinsky

www.srtfuneral.com

Koop Funeral Home

32 East Main St., P.O. Box 7 • Crosby, MN 56441
C.F. Michaloski, Director • Mary & Nick Zillmer, Owners/Directors

- Traditional, Graveside & Memorial Funerals
- Cremation Service
- Out-of-town Arrangements
- Pre-arrangement Plans

Over 80 Years of Caring Service on the Cuyuna Range & Surrounding Areas

218-546-5531

Area Open Houses, Engagements, Weddings & Community Events are published **FREE!** Send your e-mail to hopper@crosbyironton.net

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; hillicityagchurch@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 - Eagle Brook Church , Worship 9 & 11, www.eaglebrookchurch.com/locations/brainerd-lakes/
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/Winright — 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.ihmstemiys.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
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, 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 KKIN 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.lchchurch.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) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:15; 10:30 fellowship
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 • 35960 CR 66, Through Mid-May: Sunday at 9:30am & Wednesday at 6:15pm. Weekly Free Community Meal - Wednesdays at 5:15pm - All are welcome!
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), Worship 9:15
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.
McGregor — Zion (ELCA), 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 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. www.uccbrainerdmn.org

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 6:10 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.

SERVICES



LLCC announces lineup for Nature Rocks Concert scholarship fundraiser

The Long Lake Conservation Center (LLCC) is gearing up for an unforgettable summer solstice celebration with Nature Rocks – A Concert for Conservation. The highly anticipated event, taking place from 5-10 p.m. on Saturday, June 21, in downtown Aitkin, promises an evening filled with incredible music from two of Minnesota’s finest bands – GB Leighton and The Jorgensens.



This year’s concert not only celebrates the longest day of the year but also supports a meaningful cause: raising funds for scholarships to help

local kids attend Outdoor School or summer camp at Long Lake Conservation Center. Proceeds from the event will directly fund outdoor adventure camps and field trips, providing students with the chance to experience nature in a way that only Long Lake can offer.

Tickets for the event went on sale April 10 and can be purchased online at nature-rock-concert.com or by calling 800-595-4849. Advance tickets are available for \$25, while tickets at the door will be \$35.

“It’s going to be a great night of music for an even greater cause,” said Long Lake Manager Dave McMillan. “The summer solstice is a time to celebrate nature and community, and this concert is a perfect way to do both.”

This year’s event is made possible by the generous support of several local spon-



sors, including Riverwood Healthcare Center, Edina Realty – Kay Hill, Dam Lake Sportsman’s Club, Enbridge Energy, Aitkin County Economic Development, Climate Makers, Bob Lake, Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club, The Garrison Commercial Club, R & J Broadcasting, Block North Brew Club, and Antoine Electric.

The Nature Rocks concert is a key event organized by the Long Lake Conservation Foundation (LLCF), a

nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to environmental education, promoting responsible use of natural resources, and encouraging environmental stewardship. To learn more about the Foundation or how to support its

mission, visit llcfoundation.org.

About the Bands

GB Leighton
For nearly three decades, GB Leighton – led by the charismatic Brian Leighton – has been a staple in the Minnesota music scene. Known for his high-energy performances and heartfelt songwriting, Leighton’s music connects deeply with fans, leaving them singing along and dancing in the aisles. With fourteen albums and

countless live shows under their belt, GB Leighton has earned a loyal following for their timeless sound that blends rock and heartland vibes. Leighton himself is often described as “a man of the people,” always engaging with his audience and making each performance feel personal.

The Jorgensens

The Jorgensens, an eight-piece band led by Kurt and Brianna Jorgensen, is renowned for their soulful, authentic performances that blend classic musical influences with modern sensibilities. Their signature sound, which is both timeless and relatable, has captivated audiences across the region. With

their deep connection to music and their audience, The Jorgensens promise to bring a unique energy to the stage that’s sure to make this concert a memorable one.

Don’t miss out on this chance to enjoy great music while supporting a fantastic cause. Mark your calendars for June 21 and join the community in celebrating the summer solstice with an unforgettable night of music at Nature Rocks – A Concert for Conservation.



RECYCLE MORE!

These Items may all be recycled in Crow Wing County:

- DROPOFF LOCATIONS -

Crow Wing County Landfill - 15732 State Highway 210, Brainerd
Nisswa Community Center - 25636 Main St, Nisswa
Ideal Transfer Station - 33503 W Island Lake, Pequot Lakes

Recycling is good for the environment and our community.
LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME!
For more information on recycling in Crow Wing County please visit our website www.crowwing.us.

Flammable • Caution • Warning • Danger • Poisonous • Toxic • Explosive •

Never dump household hazardous waste such as pesticides, fertilizers, paint or solvents down the toilet, down the drain, into a storm drain, open waterway or ditch. Beyond posing a threat to our health and environment, such dumping is illegal.

Crow Wing County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
OPEN Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Automotive • Paint • Home Improvement • Workshop Crafts • Lawn • Garden • Household Cleaners

Read the Warning Labels: A product has one or more hazardous properties, if it shows the single words: Corrosive, Flammable, Caution, Warning, Danger, Poisonous, Toxic, Explosive or Reactive. It does not become any less hazardous when you throw it away.

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

The Collection Site is at the Landfill Nine Miles Southwest of Crosby on Highway 210

For more information call Crow Wing County Land Services at 218-824-1010.

Explosive • Reactive • Caution • Warning • Danger • Poisonous • Toxic •

R & R Landscaping & Construction

Aitkin, Minnesota
License# BC768287

218-839-3371

Specializing in Shoreline Restoration

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

General Building & Remodeling Contractor

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

Dozer & Backhoe Work

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

Tree Removal

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

For Your Landscaping & Construction Needs!

GET ESTIMATES NOW

Discount Prices!

Full Structural Steel Buildings
Home • Garage • Shed • Office • Ag
Call 218-839-3371 for an estimate

Specializing in Shoreline Restoration Rip-Rap-Rock Installation

YOUR EROSION EXPERTS!

Keep Cozy with Spray Foam Insulation!

Making Old Wood Look New!

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

Call Greg for a FREE ESTIMATE 218-839-3371