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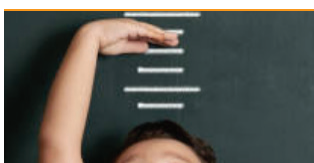
WHAT'S INSIDE

HEINTZEMAN
SWORN IN
Page 2

LEGAL NOTICES
Page 3

COMMUNITY EVENTS
Page 3

CLASSIFIEDS
Page 5



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Minnesota's Governor's Fishing Opener in Crosslake



Get ready for the biggest fishing event of the year—the 77th Annual Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener will take place May 10, in Crosslake, showcasing the area's stunning lakes, rich fishing opportunities, and vibrant resort community.

This year's event is extra special as it marks the first time Crosslake has hosted the Governor's Fishing Opener. Minnesota Governor Tim

Walz is excited to celebrate the region's exceptional outdoor recreation, saying, "This region is known for its phenomenal fishing and outdoor recreation. It is also home to an incredible resort community, making Crosslake the perfect place to kick off summer."

Event highlights

Friday evening Community Celebration at Zorbaz Crozz Lake, gives a chance to min-

gle, share fish tales, and enjoy a spectacular fireworks show at 8:30 p.m.

On Saturday, May 10, fishing kicks off early at 5 a.m. with anglers casting their lines in the waters of Cross Lake and surrounding lakes. The Shore Lunch at noon for registered attendees will feature classic Minnesota fare like walleye and wild rice pinwheels, baked beans or coleslaw and chips.

Fishing and outdoor fun

The Crosslake area boasts some of the best fishing in the state, with opportunities to catch walleye and northern pike, along with unique native species like the greater redhorse and white sucker. Anglers of the Crosslake area can enjoy dozens of lakes, including the 14 interconnected lakes of the Whitefish Chain of Lakes, which spans 13,500 acres of water, 119 miles of shoreline, and count-

less islands and bays.

Keep it clean and pristine: preventing aquatic invasive species this fishing opener weekend and beyond

As anglers gear up for the 77th Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener, and the summer fishing season, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is reminding everyone to do their part in protecting the state's waters from aquatic invasive species (AIS). These non-native species threaten Minnesota's lakes and rivers, so it's crucial to follow simple steps to prevent their spread. **Clean, Drain, Dispose**—These three words should be top of mind every time you leave a lake or river. Whether you're an avid fisherman, a recreational boater, or simply enjoying Minnesota's beautiful waters, taking these steps helps keep the state's lakes pristine:

Clean: Remove aquatic plants and invasive species from watercraft, trailers, and gear.

Drain: Empty all water from boats, livewells, and motors. Leave drain plugs out during transport.

Dispose: Dispose of unused bait in the trash, and never release bait, plants, or aquarium pets into the water.

Why does this matter?

Prevention is a shared responsibility. DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen highlighted the importance of community collaboration, saying, "Minnesota is nationally recognized for its AIS prevention successes, and that's due in large part to the powerful partnership model we have in place in the state." Local governments, nonprofits, universities, and lake associations are working together to keep Minnesota's

Continued on Page 6



MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

2025 Annual Meeting

All MLEC members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting!

Thursday, May 15th

MLEC Headquarters

23483 US Hwy 169
Aitkin, MN 56431

Registration & Pancake Dinner - 4:00-5:45

Business Meeting - 5:45

Bring a food shelf item and get a free pancake flipper!
RSVP online at www.mlecmmn.net

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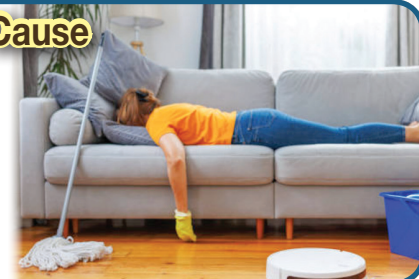
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Newly sworn-in Heintzeman brings real-world perspective to Capitol



Keri Heintzeman was sworn in Tuesday as the newest member of the Minnesota Senate representing District 6.

Just two weeks before the legislative session wraps up, Minnesota’s newest state senator has officially taken her oath—and she’s hitting the ground running.

Sen. Keri Heintzeman of Nisswa was sworn in Tuesday as the senator for District 6, following her April 29 special election win. The district spans parts of Cass, Crow Wing, and Itasca counties. A small business owner, mother of six, and now state lawmaker, Heintzeman says she’s ready to bring a fresh dose of real-world perspective to

St. Paul.

“I’m deeply grateful to the people of Senate District 6 for trusting me to be their voice in the Senate,” Heintzeman said following the ceremony. “I’ve run a business, raised a family, and dealt with the same challenges Minnesotans have been facing every day. That’s the perspective I’ll bring to St. Paul—practical, grounded, and focused on what actually matters to people.”

Sen. Heintzeman and her husband, Josh Heintzeman—who serves in the Minnesota House of Representatives—

own and operate a popular recreational rental business in Nisswa. Together, they’ve raised six children.

Her swearing-in comes at a whirlwind time. Lawmakers face a May 19 deadline to adjourn, and Heintzeman joins the Senate with a steep learning curve and little time to settle in.

Committee assignments for Sen. Heintzeman will be announced in the coming days, rounding out her role for the remainder of the 2025–2026 legislative session.

Still, she’s already making clear that she wants to hear directly from her constituents.

Sen. Heintzeman encourages constituents to reach out with ideas, concerns, or questions any time.

What issues do you hope Sen. Heintzeman prioritizes as our Senator?

Reach out to Sen. Heintzeman

Email: sen.keri.heintzeman@mnsenate.gov
Phone: 651-296-7079
Follow on Facebook for updates: fb.com/SenatorHeintzeman.

MLEC annual meeting May 15

Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 15, at 23483 U.S. Highway 169, Aitkin. Registration begins at 4 p.m.,

with the business meeting starting at 5:45 p.m. Key agenda items include the election of directors for Districts 1 and 2. Members can vote in person, by

mail, or online. This is a chance to stay informed and have a say in the cooperative’s future. For more information, contact 218-927-3768.

READER RIBBETS

Minnesota taxpayers’ heavy burden

In this update, I want to share what’s really happening in St. Paul, how we got here, and why I’m fighting for a leaner, more responsible government that puts the taxpayer first.

Unsustainable Growth

In recent years, Minnesota’s state government has embarked on an unprecedented expansion, growing at a pace that threatens our long-term fiscal stability and burdens taxpayers. The numbers tell a stark story: over the 2023 legislative session, state government spending surged by nearly 40%, an \$18 billion surplus was largely depleted, taxes were raised by approximately \$10 billion, and a State Government Omnibus Bill in 2024 added roughly \$410 million in new spending above the base budget. As a state legislator, I believe it’s time to reverse course, shrink the size of government (which employs nearly 60,000 employees, over 37,000 in the executive branch alone), and prioritize sustainable policies that respect Minnesotans’ hard-earned dollars. This is what I am advocating for.

Missed opportunity

The \$18 billion surplus was a once-in-a-generation chance to deliver meaningful tax relief and invest in infrastructure without adding to taxpayer burdens. Instead, lawmakers spent nearly the entire surplus, allocating \$12.5 billion to one-time expenditures and committing the rest to ongoing programs. This surplus presented a golden opportunity to invest wisely, reduce taxes, and help build a resilient economy – to which I advocated for. Instead, the Democrat trifecta—controlling the governor’s office, House, and Senate—opted for a massive spending spree, increasing the state budget to \$71 billion, a 38% jump from the \$52 billion budget of 2022-23.

Minnesota taxpayer funded

To sustain this expanded government, Governor Walz and Democrats raised taxes by approximately \$10 billion over the 2023-24 period, a decision that has sparked widespread criticism from taxpayers and businesses. While supporters argue these revenues fund essential social programs, opponents, including myself, contend that

they worsen Minnesota’s already heavy tax burden. Our state ranks among the top ten nationally for individual income tax rates, with a top rate of 9.85%, and leads the nation with a corporate tax rate of 9.8%. These high taxes strain job creators, small businesses, and families, driving wealth and opportunity out of Minnesota. Now, we are looking at a looming \$6 billion deficit.

2025 Omnibus bill

Serving as vice-chair of the State Government Finance and Policy Committee has been an eye-opening experience. The committee oversees constitutional and administrative offices. I knew Minnesota’s state government was growing rapidly, but my committee work revealed the true scale of this expansion. The state government employs more than 50,000 individuals, making it quite possibly the largest employer in the state. This size is unsustainable and it’s not right. Unlike private businesses, state government generates no income, it takes it from hard-working taxpayers and mandates away prosperity. Last biennium, the State Government Omnibus bill increased spending by \$410 million above the base. This year, the proposed budget bill adds another \$45 million. When will this relentless spending growth end?

As a legislator, I stand firmly against the ever-growing beast of government and will fight for a leaner, more accountable state government.

Ben Davis, District 6A
State Representative



Mother's Day Weekend Fun

May 10 - 11

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Saturday, May 10 Wine & Chocolate Pontoon Cruises - Games on the Green Opens - Family Crafts - and More!

Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 11 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Chef Carved Blackberry Glazed Pork Prime Rib; Chef Carved Prime Rib with Au Jus & Creamy Horseradish; Made to Order Om-lets; Made to Order Crepes; Baked Eggs over Sautéed Strictly mushrooms & spinach and topped with gruyere cheese; Duroc Applewood Smoked Bacon; Roasted Kielbasa, Bell Peppers & Onions, Herb Roasted Yukon Breakfast Potatoes, White Chocolate Croissant Bread Pudding Flaky Croissant in a Rich White Chocolate Custard and topped with Mixed Berries, Baked Feta & Egg Casserole Roasted Red Peppers, Cherry Tomatoes & Feta Cheese, Topped with Fresh Basil and Crispy Prosciutto, Traditional Benedict Thick Cut Canadian Bacon, Poached Egg & House Hollandaise, Chicken Cacciatore Breaded and Pan Seared Chicken Breast with red and yellow peppers, local mushrooms, Kalamata Olives, Tomatoes & served over linguini, Vegetable Lasagna Local Sautéed Mushrooms, Roasted Bell Peppers, Zucchini, Spinach, Onion & House Spicy Vodka Sauce, Shrimp Cocktail, Assortment of "Northern Waters Smokehaus" Smoked Salmon & Lake Trout, Assortment of Danishes, Sweet Breads, Donuts, Caramel Rolls, Cream pies & Cakes, Chef's Salad with an Assortment of Dressings, Pasta Salads, Yogurt Parfait & Fresh Fruit

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Thursday - Saturday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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Teams of 4 will play every Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the **NOW at WHITE OAK GRILL**
Earn points that accumulate throughout the season. Prizes will be awarded to our top teams.



The Garage, Ann's Boutique & Bay Lake Boutique are Now Open
Thursday-Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Auntie M's Opens May 3 & 4 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Spring Hours: Thursday-Sunday 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Spring Fashion Show

Saturday, May 17 12- 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the front desk or in our retail stores.

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Grand Opening
June 30, 2025 | 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

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- Food and beverages
- Musical entertainment
- Drawing

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These Items may all be recycled in Crow Wing County:



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Newspapers & Magazines



Glass All Colors



Junk Mail



Milk Jugs (Please Crush)



Corrugated Cardboard (Please cut and flatten)



Plastics with a neck Lids removed and thrown
*No containers used for chemicals or automotive products (oil, antifreeze, etc)



Metal Cans (Please wash)

- 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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- May**
8th, 9th & 10th - Friends of the Aitkin Library Used Book Sale Fri. and Sat. 9 a.m.-3p.m. at the Aitkin Library Community Room at 110 1st Ave NE in Aitkin. Books, DVDs, and CDS are \$.50-\$1.00. Proceeds help fund Aitkin library activities and supplies. A presale is offered Thurs., May 8 to members 3-5 p.m.
10th - 11th - Cuyuna Agate Mineral Show at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds in Brainerd. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday, May 11. Admission is \$2; mothers are free on Sunday (Mother's Day). For more information go to www.cuyunaroockclub.org.
12th - Registration deadline for The Final Gift Course at Crosslake Lutheran Church on Thursday, May 15, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. This six hour course provides participants with an overview of planning that creates a clear and concise plan for end of life choices. The program includes an attorney, funeral director, Pastor, RN, and other program leaders who will review parts of the process for end of life and services such as memorial and funerals. The participants will receive a planning book that can be used to develop a personal plan as "The Final Gift" to be available for their loved ones for use at end of life and after death. This event is free and is open to the public. RSVP by May 12 to Crosslake Lutheran Church office by calling (218) 692-3682.
14th, 17th, 21st, 24th & 28th - Bird Hikes at the Northland Arboretum, 8 a.m. Binoculars are provided or bring your own. Open to the public. Free for members, \$10 gate fee for non-members. Northland Arboretum is located at 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd. Call 218-829-8770 for more information.
21st - Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Garrison Bay Lake Area Lions at the Deerwood Auditorium in Deerwood, noon-6 p.m. Make an appointment at redcrossblood.org.
21st - 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.
30th - Registration deadline for the The Hallett Center of Crosby Kids Camp from June 2 to August 22. The camp offers three sessions: June 2 – June 27, June 30 – July 25 and July 28 – August 22 Camp hours are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 218-546-2616 or visit the Hallett Center at 470 8th Street NE, Crosby.
31st - Aitkin Food as Medicine Festival, 10 a.m.-1p.m. at the Aitkin Farmer's Market, 190 Southgate Dr., Aitkin clearlakegardens.org/events

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LEGAL NOTICES
(Published in NewsHopper Saturday, May 3, 10, and 17, 2025)
LIBBY TOWNSHIP MAY MEETING
The Libby Township Board will meet online at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 to discuss matters that may come before the board. The May 20 meeting will be conducted via Zoom. Contact Jane Jewett, clerk, at willowsedge.janes-farm@gmail.com to request the Zoom link.
Dated this 27th day of April, 2025
Jane Grimsbo Jewett Clerk,
Libby Township 2.78
(Published in NewsHopper Sat., May 10, 2025)
CITY OF TROMMALT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Trommald Planning Commission will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at Trommald City Hall, 18105 Whitetail Street, Trommald, MN to conduct a public hearing.
The purpose of the public hearing is to hear from staff and anyone else interested and to thereafter make a recommendation to the Trommald City Council regarding a vacation application request for a portion of Eagle Avenue. Anyone desiring to be heard regarding the proposed vacation may speak during the public hearing. A copy of the packet will be available at City Hall approximately one week before the public hearing.
Dated this 2nd day of May, 2025
Mona Geske, City Clerk
City of Trommald 4.45

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
w/sausages & scrambled eggs
SATURDAY, MAY 10 • 8-12
FREE WILL OFFERING
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BILL PAULY
Personal Property
CROSSLAKE MN AREA
Sunday, May 18 • 11 a.m.
Terrace Road just off County Road 36, Crosslake, MN
Directions: From the City of Crosslake head south on Hwy. 169 for 14 miles to left on 430th Ave.— OR— From the Junction of County Road #3 & #11 head north on Hwy. 169 for 5 miles to right on Hwy. 18 (Watch for signs)
PONTOON PACKAGE: 2000 Harris Kayot Tritoon Pontoon Package, model 260 Royal Heritage, 26 ft., powered by I/O MerCruiser, newer upholstery, with canopy & cover on Toon'r by Shoreland'r bunk trailer, in excellent condition **VEHICLE:** 2008 Ford F150 extended cab, 4.6 liter Triton V8 motor, 4WD, cloth interior, Tonneau cover, 129,600 Miles, great condition, NO RUST! **MOTORCYCLE:** 1980 Yamaha 1100 LG motorcycle "The Midnight Special" **SHOP TOOLS:** Sanborn 5 HP 30-gallon 155 PSI upright air compressor 120V, Rockwell surface planer, Dewalt compound miter saw, Bosch portable table saw, Delta compound miter saw, Ryobi 12 in. bench model drill press, Craftsman upright toolbox on wheels, Acetylene torch and tanks, Craftsman dual wheel bench grinder w/light, Porter cable air stapler & nailer in cases, Makita chop saw, Impact series 1.5 HP 3-gallon air compressor, Numerous air powered tools & sanding disks, Sockets both deep & shallow well, socket wrenches, Numerous open end & box end wrenches of all different sizes, Pliers, clamps, vice grips, hammers & more, Micrometers, screw drivers, allen wrenches & related, Century 4 in 1 battery charger, Snap On tool organizer, Large quantity of nuts, bolts & hardware, Dewalt corded skil saw & other hand power tools/ battery operated hand tools, Hardware organizers some full w/hardware, Various shop vacs, Jack stands & trailer hitch jacks, Extension cords & air hoses, Various lubes, oils & gas cans, Aluminum folding sawhorses, New style propane tanks, Grease guns, **LAWN & GARDEN RELATED:** 2013 Aluma 7210HBT aluminum trailer w/sides & folding rear ramp 6x10, Craftsman 22 in. front sive trimming mower w/bagger, Fimco 20-gallon ATV sprayer, 12 volt, Portable fuel station, ATV/Lawn tractor trailer, Glass top table & 4 matching metal chairs, Jonsered chainsaw, ATV or lawn tractor ramps, Propane powered mosquito magnets, Long handled lawn & garden tools, Wheelbarrow, Garden hose & hose reels, Lawn bag chairs **ITEMS OF INTEREST:** Large variety of antlers, whitetail, caribou, moose & more, Custom made, aluminum receiver hitch ATV carrier 4x6 ft., LG Tromm front load dryer very good condition, Newer top load washing machine (used very little), Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt & other NASCAR memorabilia, Hess scale trucks in boxes, Flambeau Bazuka Pro rod holder & assorted fishing rods, Flotech Jet tank system & Red Lion shallow well jet pump, new never used, 9000 BTU portable air conditioner in the box, KMC 19 in. rims new in the box, Miller High Life advertising mirrors, Various life vests, Numerous plastic storage containers & Coolers, Set of golf clubs, Variety of misc. furniture pieces & other household related items

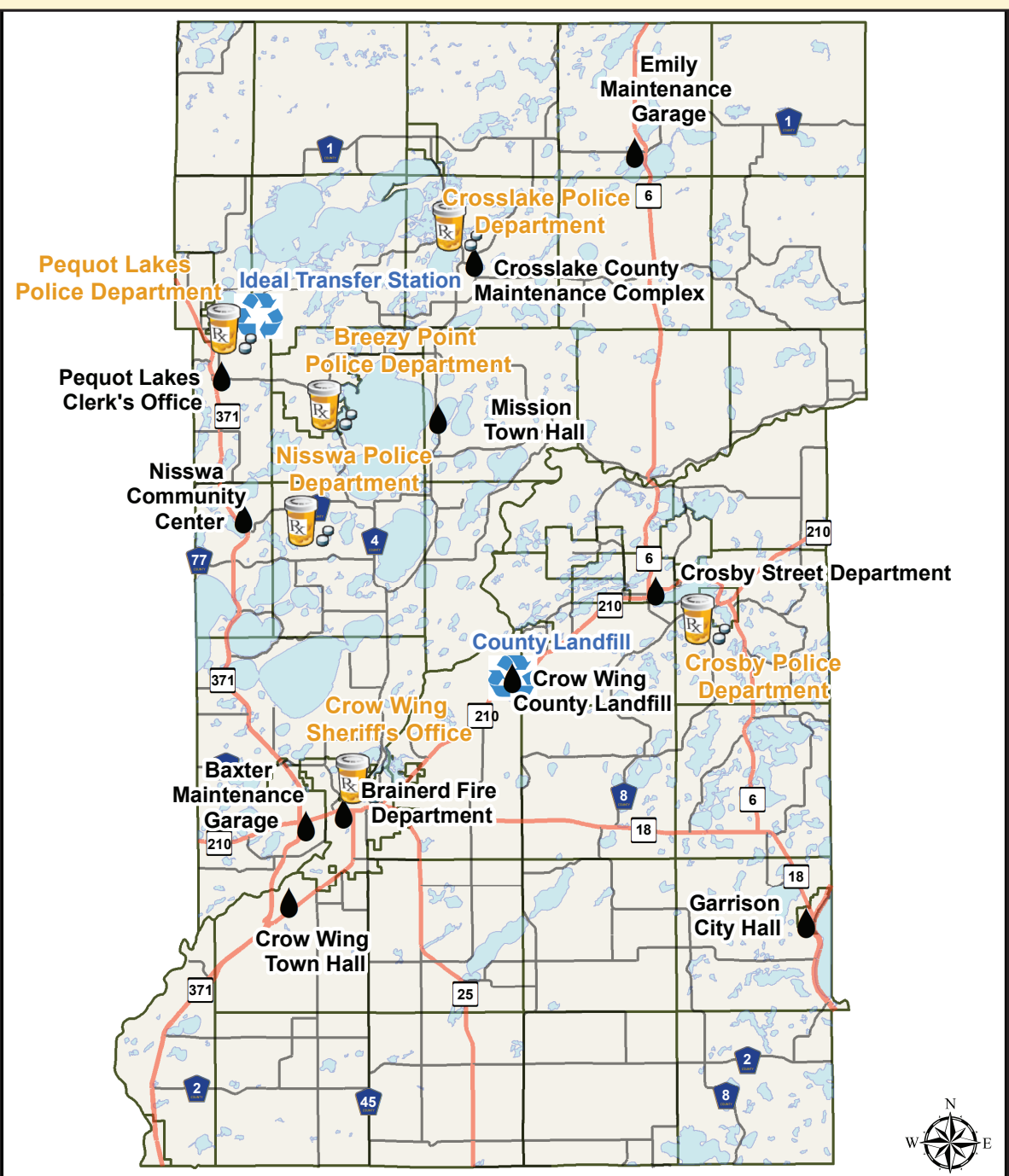
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JANZEN AUCTIONEERS
AITKIN AREA REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION
Estate of DAVID ERICKSON (Elwyn Erickson Trustee)
Saturday, May 17 • 10 a.m. Real Estate at 12 p.m.
10% Buyers Premium on Personal Property • 6% Buyers Premium on Real Estate
Address: 26169 Paddy Avenue, Aitkin, MN 56431

REAL ESTATE: This a wonderful property, spacious, versatile, and full of great amenities! A great opportunity to own this 3 bedroom 2 bath home with main level living within minutes of town. Some of the amenities to mention are an open floor plan, vaulted living room ceilings, in floor heat, central air and a fire place. All of this situated on 15 very nice acres for recreation and hunting with a wildlife pond out the living room window. The property features a 4 car detached garage set up for in floor heat and a 70x300 pole building previously used as boat storage for extra income. This property would be a great hobby farm, starter home or retirement home. This is a must see! **Parcel ID:** Crow Wing County 870244400C00009 (15 Acres) Legal Description: PT of the SE ¼ of SE ¼ (lengthy) Rabbit Lake Township Section 24 Township 47 Range 28 **MLS Number:** 6704874 Real Estate selling at 12:00 p.m.
CONTACT JANZEN AUCTIONEERS FOR SPECIAL REAL ESTATE AUCTION TERMS.

PERSONAL PROPERTY
TRACTOR & RELATED: Kubota B2601 diesel tractor w/LA435 swift tach loader, hydrostatic, 3 point, PTO, w/62 inch mower deck bucket, forks & trailer dolly attachments only 315 hours (great running tractor), 8 ft. back blade, 8 ft. tandem disk, **VEHICLES:** Rat Rod to be finished 1929 Model A body w/Ford 302 automatic motor, runs & moves but needs finishing, has many new parts, 2001 Chevy 3500 plow truck w/dump box 8.1 Liter gas (needs engine work), Chevrolet Loadmaster flatbed truck, 5 window intact, no motor, 1943 Oren Crash Firetruck cab w/doors & grill, 1969 Volkswagen van (no title), **CAMPING PACKAGES:** 2016 Wilderness by Heartland model 2850 ultralight 28.5 ft. travel trailer w/slide out AC & Propane heat (very good condition), 1988 Winnebago Super Chief Motorhome Chevy 454 engine, Onan generator, newer tires, 82,000 miles, good running unit, no title, great for the hunting property or lake lot **BOATING & RELATED:** 1988 Lund Rebel fishing boat 16 ft. w/ 25 HP Evinrude OB & Minnkota trolling motor on Yacht club trailer, 1978 Alumacraft 14' Aluminum boat w/25 HP Evinrude on trailer, 1992 Northwoods 16 ft. fishing boat w/40 HP Mariner OB new floor & 4 pedestal seats **Outdoor motors:** Johnson 1.5HP, 5HP & 9.9HP, Evinrude 2HP, Mariner 8HP, Many aluminum boats and trailers (without registration), **FIREARMS & RELATED:** Winchester model 97 pump 12 GA, Remington Nylon model 66 semi auto .22LR, Noble model 70D pump .410 3 in., Stevens model 6A semi auto .22LR, Remington model 14 30 REM, Winchester model 77 semi auto .22LR, J. Stevens Pump .22LR, Norinco SKS 7.62x39 w/scope, Remington Gamemaster model 760 pump 30-06 w/scope, Winchester model 12 pump 12 GA, Savage model 99C series H lever action .308, CAI ST 12 GA O/U, J. Stevens model 70 pump .22 short, Cannon digital gun safe **TRAILERS:** Sledbed 8x20 aluminum trailer, Karavan 7.5 x 12 trailer, 7x18 Tandem axle equipment trailer, **GARAGE TOOLS & RELATED:** Lincoln SP175T Electric wire feed welder, Sanborn Magna Force 5HP two stage air compressor, Campbell Hausfeld upright air compressor on wheels, Acetylene tack and torch set on cart, Champion 4450 starting watt generator, 2 Ton engine hoist Ryobi 10 in. table saw, Delta 10 in. compound miter saw, Makita compound miter saw, Husqvarna weed trimmers brush & grass heads, 2 Ton floor jack Construction supplies sheet rock & lumber related tools, Corded Milwaukee power tools & other hand power tools, Eskimo gas ice auger, Construction & mechanic hand tools, Homak upright tool cabinet on wheels, Stihl & Echo chainsaws, Extension & step ladders, Shop lights & electrical cords, electrical wire & air hoses, Long handled lawn & garden tools, Various fishing poles & tackle boxes, New Minnkota trolling motor, Log splitter on wheels, Misc. OSB and other lumber related, Wheelbarrow, Bench vise, Gas Cans, Assorted hardware, New trailer hitch jack, Car tire dolly's & appliance dolly **ITEMS OF INTEREST:** 1970's Scorpion Whip snowmobile, 1960's Ski Doo snowmobile, Numerous car parts, manifolds, carburetors, wiring & scrap metal, John Deere 62D mower deck, Fish house frame, Antelope, Fallow Deer & Swordfish mounts

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Crow Wing County Recycling, Pharmaceutical & Oil Drop Sites



Recycling Drop Locations
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 **Used Oil**  **Recycling**

CROW WING COUNTY MINNESOTA

218-824-1010
Map created by the CWC Land Services for reference use only. Not to scale.

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Aitkin School District makes solid plans for new elementary school



Site plan for the new property owned by the Aitkin School District.

By ANN SCHWARTZ
The Aitkin School District is proposing to construct a new preschool through grade 6 school to replace Rippleside Elementary. It will be presented to school district voters at the election on November 4, 2025.

While the plans are still in flux, the school would be located on 220 acres of land the district owns in south Aitkin, about 1.8 miles from from Rippleside and 2.3 from the current high school. It will cost at least \$64 million to build and grants are applied for totaling roughly \$13 million.

“I’m feeling pretty confident we would be awarded our grant requests,” said Dan Stifter, superintendent of schools, in an interview. Requested

“The city of Aitkin would seek the \$3.8 million in bonding to build the infrastructure,” explained Stifter. “Ultimately, though, that is the responsibility of the school district.”

The strategic plan calls for locating all district buildings and facilities to the property. Eventually, all the property and fields in town would be sold for housing or other development. That includes the high school and elementary school, a bus garage, old schoolhouse and various sports fields scattered about.

The ballot question will ask voters to fund a \$59.3 million elementary school and maintenance service center with a second question asking for approval of a community wellness center at \$6 million “At the May meeting, the

board will decide whether to build a preK-6 or pre-K through grade 12 facility,” said Stifter. A maintenance building is included, and a community center will be a separate ballot question. “Eventually, a preK-12 school would have shared spaces: gym, spaces, cafeteria, media center and common areas.”

The new elementary building would have three sections per grade with modern classrooms, separate parents and bus pickup and drop off, dedicated special education rooms, small group work areas, media center and commons, two full-sized gyms, a kitchen and cafeteria, offices for the school nurse and other support services, a new playground, outdoor classroom and green space. If approved by voters, a community wellness site would be added.

Stifter pointed out the benefits of the new space: better classrooms, more small meeting areas, specialist areas, adequate office space, more secure entries and drop off, adequate gym space, adequate nursing space and more.

The present elementary school is mostly over 60 years old. “We have infrastructure

issues — now we’re dealing with a sewer line issue and the main boiler is down at Rippleside. While this will be



Site plan for the new property owned by the Aitkin School District. Present property owned by the Aitkin School District. Graphics by the Aitkin School District.

a quick fix when we get the parts, there are lots of problems with the older buildings that the public doesn’t see.”

“A healthier and safer space will improve and increase learning. We are learning well in our present space but there is a lot of retrofitting and making do. Our kids and community deserve better than just making do,” Stifter said.

Benefits to the community? “A new elementary school will increase

community pride and the community wellness center could benefit everyone. The new gyms will be great for spectators and there may be a new walking track. Every space will be handicapped accessible.”

There is no set plan for disposing of the present properties: whether they will be developed into housing or businesses or torn down.

After the board votes on what type of school to be built, numbers can be crunched in earnest. Then the voters can find out the impact on their property taxes and make informed decisions for November’s vote.

Recycle and support education

Deerwood Technologies is hosting an electronics recycling drive on Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at their facility located at 21301 Archibald Road in Deerwood to benefit the Deerwood Technologies Scholarship Fund.

The drive offers a convenient and environmentally-friendly way to dispose of a wide range of electronics. All items collected will be taken to an end-of-life, environmentally safe recycling facility in

the U.S.

Accepted Items Include:

- Computer towers, monitors, laptops
- Speakers, keyboards, mice
- Routers, network hubs, cable boxes
- Batteries, printers, copiers, fax machines
- VCRs, DVD/CD players, radios, MP3 players
- Cell phones, digital cameras, camcorders
- Small electronics (razors,

hair dryers, curling irons, electric brooms, etc.)

The cost is just \$0.60 per pound for most items, and microwaves will be accepted for a flat fee of \$30. Televisions will be recycled for a donation of \$15 for those under 27 inches and \$20 for those over 27 inches. Additionally, old Christmas lights can be dropped off for recycling free of charge!

What’s not accepted? Major appliances like refrigerators, washers, and dryers won’t be taken, so please save those for another collection event.

By recycling your unwanted electronics, you’re not only clearing out space in your home but also helping provide educational opportunities for local students.

For more information, visit www.deertech.com/recycle, email events@deertech.com, or call 218-534-5357.

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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 - 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 5: 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.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
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.
First* — (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton, worship Sun. 9am (also available via livestream on YouTube — First Lutheran Church, Aitkin) and (broadcast on KGIN 94.3 FM radio at 10am), take out food ministry meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9am- 4pm. Office open M-Th 7:30am — 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 10:30, Pastor Donald Klatt 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)
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 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
Aitkin—Cedar Lake Norwegian Lutheran Church, service is the 3rd Sunday of the month May-October at 11am , 3100 Pioneer Ave., Aitkin.
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

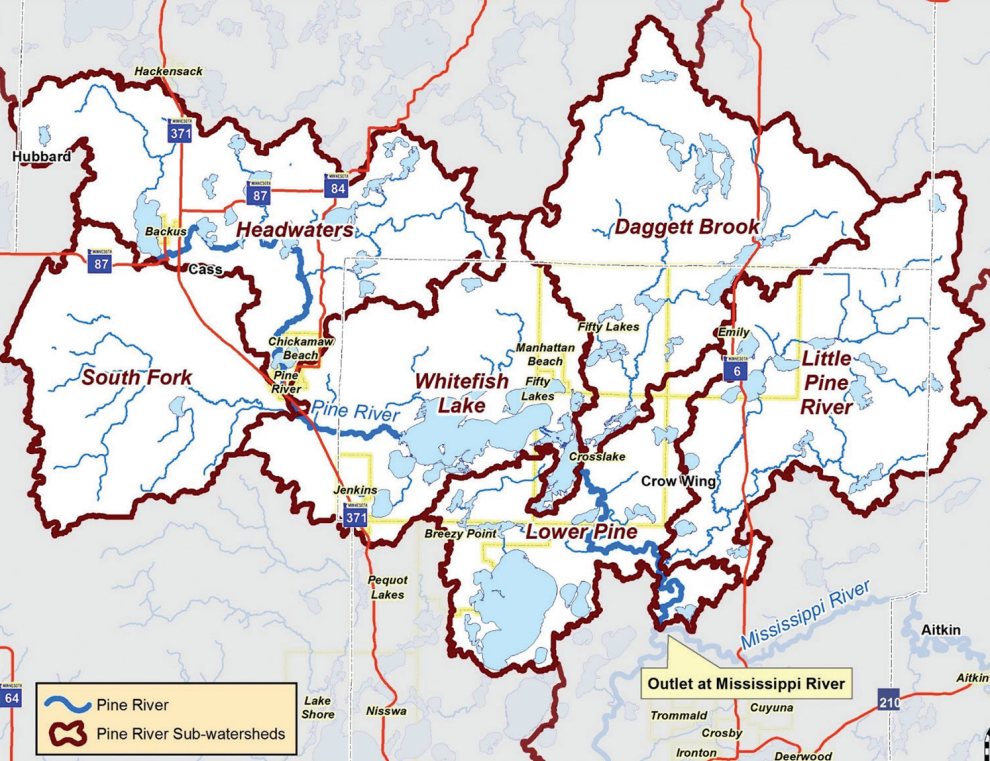
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
Pequot Lakes — 28877 State Hwy 371, Pequot Lakes 10:30 1st and 4th Sundays. 218-330-3476

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Brainerd — First Congregational UCC, 415 Juniper St, Brainerd. Sunday worship at 10. Pastor; Leslie Moughty. Handicapped accessible. www.uccbbrainerdmn.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. UJWF meet on the first Sunday of each month following worship. Men's prayer breakfast 2nd Saturday of each month at 8. Bible Study Thursday 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.

Public invited to weigh in on future of vital Pine River Watershed



Funding was provided by the Board of Water and Soil Resources through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

The future health of one of Minnesota's most vital water systems is now in the public's hands—or at least their inboxes. The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is inviting residents to share their thoughts on a proposed amendment to the Pine River Comprehensive Watershed Plan, an ambitious blueprint to protect and enhance a watershed that provides drinking water to more than 15 million people across the region.

Yes, you read that right—15

Plan" initiative. The program is voluntary and locally driven, but it's backed by serious expertise—and funding—from the Board of Water and Soil Resources, with support from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

A 10-member advisory committee made up of local volunteers helped shape the proposed amendment. The plan focuses on measurable, trackable steps to protect water quality, reduce runoff, and ensure the long-term sustainability of this extensive ecosystem.

To read the proposed amendment, visit: <https://www.crowwing.gov/1476/One-Watershed-One-Plan-1W1P>.

Here's how you can share your thoughts:

- Submit a comment online at <https://arcg.is/1arfm81>
- Email your comments directly to Jarrett Hubbard at: jarrett@cwsacd.org

Deadline for public input: Thursday, June 5, 2025, by 5:00 p.m.

This is your watershed—and your chance to make an impact.

To learn more about the project, visit: <https://www.crowwing.us/1476/Pine-River-1W1P>. You can also reach the SWCD office at (218)-828-6197 for further details.

Keep it clean and pristine: preventing aquatic invasive species | Continued from Page 1



Quick reporting helps prevent the spread of these harmful species.

Your role in keeping Minnesota beautiful

As Commissioner Strommen said, preventing the spread of AIS is not just about following laws—it's about preserving Minnesota's natural beauty for future generations. With everyone doing their part, we can ensure that the lakes we love stay clean and healthy for years to come.

For more information on AIS prevention and decontamination stations, visit the DNR's aquatic invasive species webpage <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/index.html>.

waters healthy.

Taking extra precautions

In addition to the basic steps, anglers and boaters can go the extra mile by using decontamination stations—available for free on the DNR's website—or by drying their watercraft, trailers, and gear for at least five days before using them in a different water body.

When in doubt, report it

If you think you've found an invasive species that isn't already known in your lake, contact a DNR aquatic invasive species specialist.



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Friday, May 23rd for the issue of May 31st.

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