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Deer hunters encouraged to buy license early

With nearly 500,000 firearms deer hunters in the state, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources encourages hunters to purchase their licenses early to avoid long lines and any potential system issues associated with the high sales volume. The 2016 Minnesota firearms deer season begins Saturday, Nov. 5.

"Don't wait until the last minute to buy a deer license. There can be long lines of people waiting to buy licenses in the days before deer opener. Last year we sold more than 145,000 licenses the Thursday and Friday before opener," said Steve Michaels, DNR licensing program director. "Buy early and you can spend more time getting ready to hunt and enjoying time with family and friends."

Deer licenses can be purchased at DNR license agents across Minnesota, by phone at 888-665-4236 or online at www.mndnr.gov/buylicense. There are additional fees for telephone and internet transactions. Deer licenses and tags ordered by phone and internet take three to five business days to arrive, so hunters

who choose these options should allow enough time for delivery. Hunters must have a valid deer license and tag in their possession when hunting deer.

Maintaining quality habitat to support an appropriate population level is good for deer, deer hunters and the habitats that sustain them. Deer populations, which vary in density from place to place and year to year are influenced by the severity of winter weather. Deer are ecologically, socially and economically important in a state where hunting and wildlife watching generate more than \$1.3 billion in annual economic impact.

Minnesota deer facts

An adult female whitetail deer weighs about 145 lbs., and males weigh about 170 lbs. The biggest whitetail deer recorded in Minnesota was a 500-pound buck. A whitetail's home range is about 1 square mile.

Deer hunting

There are nearly 500,000 firearms deer hunters in Minnesota.

Last year, 30 percent of Minnesota firearm hunters successfully harvested a deer. About 63 percent were

antlered bucks.

70 percent of Minnesota's firearms deer harvest typically occurs during the first three or four days of the season.

The average hunter spends five days afield during Minnesota's firearms deer season.

Hunters can register their deer via internet, phone or at walk-in big-game registration stations, except in southeastern Minnesota permit areas 339 to 349 during the firearms season while the DNR samples deer for chronic wasting disease.

The largest typical whitetail buck taken in Minnesota had a Boone & Crockett score of 202, shot by John Breen in 1918 near Funkley.

Minnesota's No. 1 nontypical whitetail buck had 43 points, shot by 17-year-old Mitch Vakoch in 1974.

Deer licenses

In total, about 606,000 deer hunting licenses and permits (all types) were sold in 2015.

Ninety-seven percent of Minnesota deer licenses are sold to state residents.

The DNR Information Center remained open 3 1/2



hours later on the day before last year's deer opener to answer more than 1,600 telephone inquiries, most of them related to the firearms opener.

Hunting economics

The following statistics are from the 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (www.census.gov/prod/www/fishing.html).

All hunting-related expenditures in Minnesota totaled \$725 million.

Trip-related expenses such as food and lodging, transportation were \$235 million. Hunters spent \$400 million on equipment.

Hunters spent \$90 million on other items such as magazines, membership dues, licenses, permits, land leasing and ownership.

Deer management in Min-

nesota.

The DNR is beginning the planning process to write a statewide deer management plan and the agency is interested in your thoughts about deer management. The public will have multiple ways to provide input into the planning process including membership on the Deer Plan Advisory Committee, public meetings, focus group meetings, and online public comments.

Deer Management Plan Advisory Committee

Applications are open for citizens interested in serving on a statewide deer management plan advisory committee that will provide guidance, input and feedback beginning this December and continuing throughout the planning process.

Continued on Page 1

Oktoberfest

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American Legion visit area veterans

The American Legion Auxiliary visited with veterans and Aitkin Auxiliary members at our local care centers on October 10. They especially enjoyed playing ball and balloons with the little ones. Pictured with 20 year Navy veteran Paul Rimarcik of Golden Horizons are Pauline Moore, Bonnie Mickelson with granddaughter Kierah, Roberta Elvecrog with grandson Jack and Harriet Simonson. Not Pictured is Barb Jones.

Public comment sought on trail

Crow Wing County Land Services is requesting public comment on a proposal to designate 14 miles of existing and two miles of new trail development as a multiple use recreation trail system located within and east of the City of Emily in Crow Wing and Aitkin Counties.

"We encourage all citizens interested in this trail proposal to submit written comments no later than November 17, 2016 at 5pm," said Land Services Director Mark Liedl. "All comments

received will be responded to in writing and presented to the County Board prior to their decision on the proposal," he added.

The proposed trail designation application and trail suitability analysis can be accessed by clicking the "Crow Wing County Listens" link on Crow Wing County's website, www.crowwing.us.

Copies of the proposed trail designation and criteria evaluation are available from the Land Services Department located at 322 Laurel

Street in Brainerd during the business hours of 8am to 5pm, or by contacting the Department at (218) 824-1010.

Written comments may be emailed to landservices@crowwing.us (Please include "Emily to Blind Lake Trail" in the subject line); mailed to Crow Wing County Land Services Department, Attn: Emily to Blind Lake Trail, Land Services Building, 322 Laurel Street, Suite #15, Brainerd, MN 56401; or faxed to (218) 824-1126.

CWSWCD sells native seed mixes

Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is selling native seed mixes for \$22 and \$35.25 per package.

Each packet covers 500 or 1500 square feet. Native plants are drought tolerant and grow in part to full sun. Packets include perennial flowering plants, grasses, and a cover crop. Plants generally become fully established in 2-3 years.

"This is a great opportunity for you to lessen your mowing and create a home for the bees, butterflies, and birds. These mixes also like area sandy soils," said Beth Hippert, SWCD District Technician.

Crow Wing SWCD is selling septic mound mix/bank stabilization (15 species, 1500 sq ft.), Wild Meadow (24 species- 500 sq ft), Steep Slope (30 species-500 sq ft) and Lawn Alternative Seed (5 species, 500 sq ft) mixes. Seeds can be purchased at the Crow Wing SWCD office at 322 Laurel St. Suite 22, downstairs.

Also available are "Meadow Blazing Star & Black-Eyed Susan" Seed Mix, or "Wild Lupine & Yellow Coneflower" Seed Mix, for \$20 per package. This will cover 200 square feet.

The mixes contain seeds that were harvested and

packed within 100 miles of Brainerd by Minnesota Native Landscapes, Inc. of Otsego.

Fall Dormant Seeding

For fall dormant seeding, starts after first frost of the year. Rake surface of seed bed prior to seeding to provide good seed to soil contact. Mix seed into bucket of moist (not wet) native soil or clean sand. The mixture should be 10-parts sand to 1-part seed. Spread seed by hand or with seeder. Install erosion control blanket on slopes over 30 percent (use natural fibers, no plastic net)

For seeds and more information contact 218-828-6197.

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Deer Management Plan Advisory Committee | Continued from Page 1

Twenty citizens will serve on the statewide committee. Approximately two-thirds of seats will be filled by invited representatives of hunting, agriculture, conservation, forestry and other organi-

zations. Five to seven "at-large" seats are available to any interested citizens who wish to apply.

Priority will be given to applicants who demon-

strate a willingness to work collaboratively with others from diverse perspectives and who have knowledge of deer management issues in Minnesota.

The committee is expected to meet approximately monthly (4-6 hours/meeting) between December 2016-December 2017. Meetings typically will be conducted during daytime business hours on weekdays at a central location (such as St. Cloud) or other locations of the committee's choosing. DNR will provide

lunch at the meetings and mileage reimbursement for members driving to and from meetings.

Complete the on-line application at <http://survey.mn.gov/s.asp?k=147032822094> by 11 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2016. Selected members will be notified by Nov. 21. To request a paper copy of the application, or for questions about the application process, please contact Katie Clower via email at [katie.clower@state.mn.us](mailto:kclower@state.mn.us) or by calling 651-259-5182.



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<p>2007 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD 4X4</p>  <p>\$14,982 #386031</p> <p>V8 AUTO FULL POWER EQUIPMENT ONLY 55,678 MILES</p>	<p>2016 ACURA RDX AWD</p>  <p>\$34,986 #N285039</p> <p>TECH PKG, MOON ROOF, NAV, ONLY 13,829 MILES</p>	<p>2015 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER XLE AWD</p>  <p>\$34,987 #185094</p> <p>HEATED LEATHER NAVIGATION AND POWER MOON ROOF</p>	<p>2014 TOYOTA RAV4 XLE AWD</p>  <p>\$20,987 #N2860113</p> <p>POWER SUN ROOF, BACK UP CAMERA ONLY 22,366 MILES</p>	<p>2009 CADILLAC SRX AWD</p>  <p>\$11,983 #N386093</p> <p>HEATED LEATHER NAVIGATION MOON ROOF 81,539 MILES</p>
<p>2014 KIA SORENTO AWD</p>  <p>\$17,952 #N2860130</p> <p>AUTO, FULL POWER EQUIPMENT, ONLY 20,491 MILES</p>	<p>2012 NISSAN MURANO AWD</p>  <p>\$15,967 #N185076</p> <p>V6 AUTO FULL POWER EQUIPMENT GROUP</p>	<p>2014 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LTZ AWD</p>  <p>\$29,984 #N185080</p> <p>LEATHER, NAVIGATION, MOON ROOF, REMOTE START</p>	<p>2013 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4</p>  <p>\$25,986 #280284</p> <p>OVERLAND LEATHER MOON ROOF AND NAVIGATION</p>	<p>2014 FORD ESCAPE AWD</p>  <p>\$17,963 #N2860238</p> <p>SE MODEL WITH FULL POWER EQUIPMENT VERY NICE</p>
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READER RIBBETS

Secret and double standards with Officer Jesse Smith termination

I would like to take this opportunity to address an article in the *Courier* from last week regarding the termination of Officer Jesse Smith.

I attended the regular city council meeting on Sept. 26 to see if anything regarding Officer Smith was addressed or would be on an upcoming agenda. No police report was given and nothing was noted.

On Sept. 28, a Notice of Special Meeting was posted at city hall for the consideration of allegations or charges against a city employee to be held Oct. 4. (Note this was a meeting Crosby residents did not know about, due to the timing and *Courier* deadlines).

I also attended this meeting as did a handful of concerned citizens. The *NewsHopper* dated Saturday, Oct. 8 has a very accurate article regarding this meeting, while the *Courier* online reported a limited account of the meeting.

This meeting was a preliminary meeting to determine what, if any, disciplinary action should be taken regarding Officer Smith. The meeting was adjourned and a Special Meeting was held on Oct. 6 for the purpose of consideration of discipline of a city employee. I

also attended this meeting with the understanding that this was not to be another preliminary meeting, but a meeting to determine disciplinary action, if any. The meeting was closed to the public after five minutes for approximately 35 to 40 minutes so that [Crosby Police] Lieutenant Randolph could address the mayor and council.

When the meeting was opened again to the public, there seemed to be a lot of confusion on the mayor's part, as well as the council, as to how to proceed.

Mayor Lattery continually looked to the city attorney to get direction on what she should do next. He directed her to ask for a motion to determine what action should be taken.

After a few minutes, [Council member] Paul Heglund stated, "I'll make that motion" and was directed by the city attorney to state what the motion was. Mr. Heglund was confused by what was said and was instructed by the city attorney that he could retract his motion, which he eventually did, after a few minutes.

Again, the mayor asked for a motion and after a few more minutes of silence, she was handing off the gavel to

[Council member] Dusty Paul, when [Council member] Ron Prushek made a motion to terminate Officer Smith. Paul Heglund seconded the motion, followed by [Council member] Jim Goshey, who had prepared a written statement (in last week's *Courier*) to terminate before he came to this meeting. He stated he was influenced to terminate after hearing Lieutenant Randolph's statements that morning. Dusty Paul went along with Goshey.

Also, I would like to address Lisa (Ferrari) Sova and the nearly \$3,000 error on an invoice billed to the city and paid by the city under her direction for a bill incurred from a law firm used by the city in 2013. She stated it needs to be "researched" to determine if an error was made. Who is doing this investigation? Is she on paid leave? Will she be fired for her error, as was Officer Smith?

I think not, as the mayor all the council members publicly stated what a good job she was doing and thanked her for all her hard work.

Double standards? I think so. Crosby citizens, are you really aware of who you are voting for?
Debbie Dewing, Ironton



LOOK WHOSE baby JUST ARRIVED

SADIE PERRINE

Sadie Marie Perrine, a girl, weighing 6 lbs., 15.5 ozs., was born October 5, 2016, in Aitkin, to Heather Lindgren and Josiah Perrine of McGregor. Grandparents are Duane Lindgren, Aitkin; Jean Rian, McGregor; Paul and Judy Perrine, McGregor. Great-grandparents are Thelma Tiessen McGregor; Art and Minyon Rian, McGregor; Charlotte Lindgren, Aitkin; Shirley Trujillo, McGregor and Elizabeth Perrine, Aitkin.

Pumpkin Patch in Aitkin on Oct. 23

This year the Aitkin Women of Today Pumpkin Patch will be held on Sunday, October 23 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Aitkin City Park. Activities at the Pumpkin Patch include games and prizes, arts and crafts, face painting, fall family photography

by Duane's Photography, pumpkins for sale, bake sale, concessions, and a not-so-haunted, haunted house. This event is free to the public and games are played by purchasing a ticket.

Proceeds from this event, and any event hosted by

the Aitkin Women of Today, always gets donated back to the community.

LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., Oct. 22, 29 & Nov. 5, 2016)

LIBBY TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Libby Township, County of Aitkin, State of Minnesota, that the Election of Town Officers for Libby Township will take place on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, and will be conducted by mail ballot.

By mail ballot, voters will elect: one supervisor, supervisor position "C," for a four (4) year term; and one clerk for a four (4) year term.

The ballot for Township Officer elections is included as part of the General Election ballot that has been mailed to all registered voters in the township.

JANE GRIMSBO JEWETT
Clerk, Libby Township
4.0

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Constitutional amendment to set state legislative salaries - vote NO

The Minnesota Board to Set State Legislative Salaries, Amendment 1 will be on the November 8 ballot in Minnesota as a legislatively referred constitutional amendment. I challenge you to read the proposed amendment, think how you might vote and then continue reading about what this really means and perhaps rethink how you will vote.

A "yes" vote supports creating an independent, citizen-run board to set the salaries of state legislators, thereby taking away legislators' power to set their own salaries.

A "no" vote opposes creating an independent, citizen-run board to set the salaries of state legislators, thereby continuing to allow legislators to determine

their own salaries.

Constitutional amendments in Minnesota require approval from a majority of all voters casting a vote in the election, which means that filling out a ballot but not voting on Amendment 1 has the same effect as voting "no".

Legislators typically have other jobs and being a legislator is serving, not their main source of income. The amendment gives the power to raise their salaries to a 16 member board (8 chosen by the Governor and 8 chosen by the Chief Supreme Court Justice of MN). So basically these 16 people would take all power and it really boils down to TWO people who chose them who decide the pay. I don't care if these two people choosing the board

are Democrat or Republican, it's too much power for two people.

They haven't raised their pay since 1999, but many feel \$31,141 is far pay for a part-time job. Even when a pay raise is justified, it should be done openly. If this is made a constitutional amendment, it will be forever and the board (no public input) can raise it as much and as often as the board wants. We are in effect, giving them a blank signed check to be given out whenever they wish.

If you vote "no", the legislators have to vote themselves to give themselves a pay raise and we, the people, can see how they voted. I would urge a "NO" vote for continued transparency.

Vickie Froehlich, Kenyon

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Receive a mortgage notice in the mail? Look closely to see if it's real

Minnesota Commerce Commissioner Mike Rothman announced that his agency has imposed an \$80,000 fine against an Atlanta-based company that allegedly sent deceptive mortgage refinance solicitations to Minnesota homeowners.

"Minnesotans should carefully review direct-mail solicitations they get that may look like they come from their current lender or a government agency," said Rothman, whose department regulates mortgage companies. "Some companies misrepresent themselves by disguising a mortgage loan sales pitch as something else in order

to mislead consumers into responding. That's against the law, and consumers need to be on the lookout."

According to allegations in the Commerce Department consent order, MiLend, Inc., mailed numerous misleading mortgage refinance advertisements to Minnesota consumers.

The Department alleges these advertisements were designed to get recipients to respond by leaving the impression that the mailings came from either their current lender or a government agency. Specifically, the ads included:

Words like "Statement

Date" or "Statement Notice" that could lead recipients to believe the mailing is from their current mortgage company;

Type fonts and layouts that gave the appearance of being sent by a government agency;

The company's name in very small type that could be easily overlooked, allowing the recipient to believe it was sent from their current lender or the government; and

Generic envelopes that didn't show the company's name but included a statement date and number, leading the recipient to believe it came from their current lender.

In addition to the \$80,000 fine, the consent order requires MiLend, Inc., to comply with Minnesota law that prohibits false, deceptive or misleading advertising related to residential mortgage loans.

Rothman said these types of misleading advertisements are a persistent problem across the country.

Using home mortgage information collected from public records and credit reporting agencies, companies will mail refinance solicitations to homeowners urging them to call. To increase the response rate, some companies design these mailings as "look-alikes" to make them appear as if they are legitimate notices from the recipient's current lender or a government agency.

Rothman offers Minneso-

tans these consumer tips:

Take a closer look. Don't be deceived by appearances. Read the fine print to see if what you're getting is just a sales pitch rather than a legitimate notice from your lender.

Contact your current lender. If you are interested in refinancing or modifying your mortgage loan, first contact your current lender to see what it can offer. Then shop around and get offers from at least two other lenders, preferably recommended by friends or family members who have recently refinanced.

Watch out for scams. What you get in the mail may be more than just a sales pitch. It could be someone trying to lure you into a scam. Be on the lookout for identity thieves who try to get you to disclose personal information

like date of birth, Social Security number and financial account information.

Beware of upfront fees. Another scam is when a company asks you to pay an upfront fee with the promise of lowering your interest rate or working with your current lender on a refinance. Requesting fees upfront before results are seen by the customer is illegal and should be a major red flag.

Maintain a healthy level of skepticism. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

If you have a question or concern about a possible scam or fraud, contact the Minnesota Commerce Department's Consumer Services Center by email at consumer.protection@state.mn.us or by phone at 800-657-3602

Plant-based diets linked to lower levels of chronic inflammation

You hear about "inflammation" in the body, but what is it, what does it mean for your health and how can you control it?

Inflammation is a protective response from the body. There are two types of inflammation: chronic and acute. Acute inflammation is what happens when you get sick or cut yourself. The body increases blood flow and moves proteins to the affected area to help the healing process—this lasts for a short time and is what causes redness and irritation.

However, when the condition causing inflammation persists long-term, the result is chronic inflammation, which harms rather than helps. Chronic inflammation

can be brought on by conditions like arthritis, but obesity is a major cause, and long-term inflammation is linked to chronic diseases like type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

In a 2016 systematic review published in *Obesity Reviews*, German researchers analyzed 29 different publications that examined the role of plant foods on chronic inflammation. Among 2,689 total participants, most of whom were overweight or obese, researchers found eating plant-based diets—emphasizing vegetables, fruits, whole grains and legumes with modest amounts of fish and dairy—were linked to an overall improvement in inflammatory biomarkers

(measurable substances in the blood that signify there is inflammation). Less chronic inflammation means lower risk of chronic disease.

Plant foods are beneficial for several reasons. They're generally lower in calories and pack more healthful nutrients than refined carbohydrates and meats that tend to be high in sugars and saturated fats. Plants can help with weight management and obesity prevention. They can also help fight oxidative stress and keep blood sugar levels in check. One particular plant-based diet noted for health benefits is the Mediterranean Diet, which has been linked to improved blood flow, kidney health and longevity.

Walnuts protect against colon cancer

Adding nuts to your daily diet has been linked with reduced risk of breast cancer and lower cholesterol levels and walnuts in particular have been shown aid in stress management. Now, 2016 research out of the University of Connecticut Health Center finds walnuts may also help protect your colon from cancer.

The study, published in *Cancer Prevention Research*, was broken into two parts. First, scientists fed mice walnuts along with standard diets. Adding the equivalent of about two ounces of walnuts per day resulted in a 1.3-fold

reduction in both numbers and volume of colon tumors. Then they repeated the study, but this time used a typical American (fairly unhealthy) diet. Walnut-eaters saw a 2.3-fold reduction in tumor numbers and 1.6-fold reduction in tumor size. Interestingly, the effect was only prominent in males.

To determine why walnuts were having this healthful effect, researchers looked into what might be going on in the gut microbiome. Findings suggest eating walnuts may help lower levels of bacteria linked with tumor initiation and promote levels

of bacteria linked with tumor suppression.

Walnuts make an excellent addition to your anti-cancer arsenal because they're a whole food. They're easy-to-find, taste delicious and are packed with a wide array of beneficial nutrients that together may help in the fight against cancer. In particular, walnuts contain a high amount of omega-3 fatty acids, which have been shown to help fight potentially cancerous growths in the colon. Walnuts also pack vitamin E, a powerful antioxidant that may inhibit tumor growth.

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