



# NEWSHOPPER

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## WHAT'S INSIDE

MLEC MEETING RECAP  
Page 2

COMMUNITY EVENTS  
Page 3

OBITUARIES  
Pages 4 & 5

FELTING CLASSES  
Page 5

CLASSIFIEDS  
Page 6

## Hopper's Savers

### Money Saving Certificates

See Page 3



## Attendance at Crosby city council meeting increases as supporters outnumber detractors 3 to 1 Crosby Mayor Hunter again rejects resignation request

Along the sidewalk leading to City of Crosby city hall there were two groups of people standing behind barricades with signs, before the City of Crosby council meeting on April 24. Crosby law enforcement stood by and opened the doors for people to enter city hall.

When the meeting began, once again, Councilman Paul Heglund started the meeting by asking if Jim Hunter was going to step down as mayor. This time, Heglund included a comment of never witnessing a protest in his entire life in Crosby before tonight.

The protest consisted of about six people holding signs that said "Crosby First", "Please resign" and "It's Not About You". There was also a larger group of about 20 supporters for Hunter. The supporters held signs that said "Jim Hunter = a better Crosby", "Keep our Mayor", "Jim Hunter don't Quit" and "Jim Hunter will not be bullied out of office".

In response to Heglund, Hunter indicated he would not resign and pointed out that he has not been convicted of any of the charges against him.

As Heglund continued to pressure Hunter, Hunter asked his attorney, Ed Shaw, to respond

to Heglunds' inquiry.

Shaw said, "In our system, one is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This case is in the early stages in court. Guilt or innocence will be decided by a jury not by the public and not by protests that's how the system works. And Mr. Hunter is relying on the system, as well he should."

After a few more flurries of comments from Heglund and responses from the audience, Hunter then warned the audience members, "We are not going to get involved in a back and forth about issues, this is a meeting for the City of Crosby, nothing else. And that's what we're going to do."

At the public comment portion. Hunter limited public comments to two minutes for each person. He also restricted comments to new topics only.

The first person to speak was Roger Bentley, 606 3rd Street SW Crosby. Bentley said, "We got a decent Mayor. And we have got people in this town that seem to have about the education of a two-year-old because they're acting like a two-year-old. And we got people on this council that was voted in. And you were voted in do the best job you can

for this town. And not sit there and pick on one person."

Jim Hiller, 19976 Hiller Lane, Crosby said. "It sounds like a turmoil taking over this county. Trump is going through the same thing. Liberals are fighting him. And it used to be that whoever lost got behind the president. It's a democracy. Jim [Hunter] was voted in and there are a lot of people that don't want him in there. But we got more people according to the votes that want him in there. Now the ex-mayor [Joanna Lattery], I know what you guys are trying to do, you're trying to get her back in. She texts the city clerk during the meeting. That shouldn't be. As far as I'm concerned, it was a legal election. Jim [Hunter] won. As far as him doing wrong, I don't believe it. Now, I'm not going to bad mouth the police department. I think they do an excellent job. I've never had a problem with them. They've always treated me respectfully. But the Lieutenant [Randolph], who I don't really know, seems to have it in for Mr. Hunter. As far as the original charge was theft by swindle, what did he swindle?"

Next was Ed Vukelich 201-4th Street NE Crosby "At the April 10 council meeting, Heglund asked

you [Hunter] if you wanted to resign or whatever. And at that time you said you weren't going to resign, because of all the support you were getting and donations and money. Well, I put 22 years of service in the City of Deerwood, 12 years on the City of Crosby council here. And my understanding was as an elected official or an employee of the city. You are not allowed to accept donations or money. Now if I'm wrong, I wish your attorney would correct me or the city attorney would correct me. So why did you accept donations and money when you weren't supposed to?"

Hunter replied, "I can answer that question. First of all the donations of food from people, I don't think [there is] any law that you can't accept food from your friends." Hunter then indicated the money was donated directly to help pay his attorney for legal defense. Vukelich then suggested the Hunter seemed to have a problem with the Crosby Police Department doing a background check." Then his two minutes expired. Hunter thanked Vukelich for his comments. On his way out, Vukelich said smugly, "Your welcome Mr. Hunter, resign will ya."

John Radinovich, 508 - 4th Street SW, Crosby said, "I'm not going to argue whether you are guilty or not guilty, but I am going to argue about when somebody stands up and belittles the police department for doing their job. They did their job. Now, if you're not guilty then you're not guilty. In their eyes, they did their job. And for somebody to sit in the cheap seats and call the police department inadequate, or whatever they said I don't really remember, I think that's disgusting, absolutely disgusting. I would hope you would stand up and at least dignify the police department for doing their job. In my neighborhood, I've got problems blocks away. I got methheads. I've got peeping toms, and got everything else. I wish they had ten more officers on. And somebody's got a vendetta against the police department, take it up with the police department don't sit here and call out from the cheap seats, that's disgusting."

Crosby business owner Rose Stromberg said, "This is the first year that the streets have been cleaned of the snowbanks off the sidewalk. When they want everybody to shop in town, you couldn't get through, because

Continued on Page 7

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# Mille Lacs Energy conducted annual meeting at 40 Club Convention Center

The 2017 Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative (MLEC) Annual meeting was held on April 20 at the 40 Club Convention Center. One hundred sixty-eight members were in attendance. At the business meeting, members heard comments from Board President Harold Harms, who spoke about how far coops have come to electrify the United States, showing how few had access to electricity in 1935 and our dependency on it now. General Manager Brian Zelenak introduced himself to the MLEC members. Zelenak

started at MLEC last August and this was his first annual meeting. Zelenak shared the happenings over the past year at MLEC, and the direction the co-op is taking in 2017. Members also heard from Tim Thompson, CEO of Lake Region Electric Co-op in Pelican Rapids. Tim spoke about the success of investing in their right-of-way planning, which started in 2004. Today, members experience half the average number of power outages, and the Right-of-Way program budget is down to less than half of money spent in previous

years. MLEC hopes to achieve similar results in the next 4-5 years by reclaiming our Right of Way, increasing safety and reliability to our members. Taylor Courier, a senior at Aitkin High School, gave a presentation and thanked the members for the opportunity to represent MLEC at last summer's National Youth Tour held in Washington D.C. Pat Scollard, President of the Mille Lacs Community Trust thanked members for their generosity of contributions to Operation Round Up, a program in which member's bills

are rounded up to the nearest dollar and the money raised is given back through grants to local organizations. Since its inception in 1998, the program has given back \$998,000. At the next meeting to distribute grant funds, the member donations will top the \$1M mark. Re-elected to the board of directors were Harold Harms of District Three, and Aileen Demenge of District Four. Also voted on and passed by the membership was an addition to the bylaws authorizing "Unopposed Candidates Elected by Acclamation." The passage of this bylaw enables MLEC to forgo a formal election process if board members are running unopposed during an election, saving the coop the costs involved in holding an election.

All member received a gift bag filled with a soup mug and wild rice soup mix from Minnestrangia in McGregor. Several door prizes were also given away during a drawing for those in attendance. Following the presentations and the official annual meeting, supper was served by staff of the 40 Club Convention Center.

# Gardner inducted into Lambda Pi Eta

Anna Gardner, a Film, Photography, and Visual Arts, Art History major at Ithaca Col-

lege's Roy H. Park School of Communications and Baxter native, was inducted into Lamb-

da Pi Eta, the honor society of the National Association of Communication, on April 18.



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**Thursday, May 4  
5 to 7 p.m.**



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Appointment required: 218-546-7462  
Please bring all immunization records

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<p><b>2013 NISSAN MAXIMA</b></p> <p><b>\$17,989</b> # N165092</p> <p>LEATHER, MOON ROOF, V6, SV</p>	<p><b>2014 CHEVROLET IMPALA</b></p> <p><b>\$18,750</b> # 175030</p> <p>LT, V6, BOSE STEREO</p>	<p><b>2011 BUICK ENCLAVE</b></p> <p><b>\$10,987</b> # N270081</p> <p>QUAD SEATING, BACK UP CAMERA</p>	<p><b>2011 NISSAN JUKE</b></p> <p><b>\$12,997</b> # 370218</p> <p>AWD, 60,319 MILES</p>	<p><b>2012 TOWN AND COUNTRY</b></p> <p><b>\$14,779</b> # 270144</p> <p>V6, TOURING, DVD</p>
<p><b>2007 CADILLAC ESCALADE</b></p> <p><b>\$17,982</b> # N165088</p> <p>AWD, DVD, BOSE STEREO, LEATHER</p>	<p><b>2015 KIA SORENTO AWD</b></p> <p><b>\$18,959</b> # 570257</p> <p>LX MODEL, FULL POWER EQUIPMENT</p>	<p><b>2015 GRAND CARAVAN</b></p> <p><b>\$18,983</b> # 270349</p> <p>SXT, QUAD SEATING</p>	<p><b>2016 JEEP COMPASS</b></p> <p><b>\$20,999</b> # 270427</p> <p>HIGH ALTITUDE, 4WD, ONLY 6,099 MILES!</p>	<p><b>2012 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER</b></p> <p><b>\$18,997</b> # 270358</p> <p>LIMITED, 4X4, MOON ROOF, LEATHER</p>
<p><b>2014 NISSAN PATHFINDER AWD</b></p> <p><b>\$21,968</b> # N270026</p> <p>SV MODEL, FULL POWER EQUIPMENT, 3RD ROW SEATS</p>	<p><b>2014 TOYOTA RAV 4</b></p> <p><b>\$23,987</b> # N265080</p> <p>LIMITED, AWD, MOON ROOF</p>	<p><b>2014 BUICK ENCLAVE</b></p> <p><b>\$23,990</b> # N175006</p> <p>AWD, LEATHER</p>	<p><b>2013 CADILLAC SRX</b></p> <p><b>\$29,983</b> # N175027</p> <p>NAVIGATION, SUNROOF</p>	<p><b>2014 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE</b></p> <p><b>\$28,972</b> # 175022</p> <p>V6, LIMITED, 4X4 NAVIGATION</p>
<p><b>2009 JEEP WRANGLER</b></p> <p><b>\$14,987</b> # 270382</p> <p>PW, PL, TILT CRUISE</p>	<p><b>2005 DODGE RAM</b></p> <p><b>\$10,996</b> # 370037</p> <p>LARAMIE, 4X4, HEMI</p>	<p><b>2014 DODGE RAM</b></p> <p><b>\$24,976</b> # 175038</p> <p>4X4, BIG HORN</p>	<p><b>2012 FORD F150</b></p> <p><b>\$22,977</b> # 270350</p> <p>XLT, 4WD, ONLY 41,XXX MILES!</p>	<p><b>2016 FORD F350</b></p> <p><b>\$47,987</b> # 270377</p> <p>CREW CAB LARIAT, 4X4, ONLY 12,823 MILES!</p>

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Ongoing Events:**

AA- Aitkin - Meeting closed Wednesday 3 pm Aitkin Alano Club

AA - Aitkin - 322 1st Ave. NE 218-927-6240 Sun. Women's Meeting 5:30 pm, Tue. Open Meeting 8 pm, Wed. Women's Meeting 6 pm, Thu. Sober Sailors Open 9 am, Friday Night Grape Vine 6:30 pm.

AA Garrison: Monday Night AA (open) 7:30 PM and Wednesday 7:30 PM at Community Alliance Church, 9475 Jefferson St.

ALANON - 322 1st Ave NE, Aitkin 6:30 pm Thursday evenings.

ALANON Garrison: Wednesday 7:30 PM at Community Alliance Church, 9475 Jefferson St.

Aitkin Friends of the Library meet 4th Tue. each month, 1 pm, Aitkin Public Library.

Aitkin Women of Today meet 2nd Mon. of month, 6:30 pm, Mille Lacs Energy Coop, info call 218-927-4558. Evening care is available and free. All are welcome!

American Legion Aitkin Lee #86 & Unit 86, meets the 2nd Thurs. of each month at 7 p.m.

Art Club meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the Jaques Art Center in Aitkin, 1-3 pm "Ask an Attorney", Aitkin Co. Sheriff's conference room, 4th Tues. of month at noon.

Blow-Hards, a lung disease support group, meets the 4th Thu. of each month, Kanabec Hospital in Mora. Contact Carol, 320-225-3646.

Buddhism-Nichiren meetings held at the Brainerd Public Library conference room on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 1 pm. For information contact Mike Engblom-Bradley 936-525-7843.

Care N Share Community Cafe Community Meal, Wednesdays Located in the fellowship hall in the Wesleyan Church on Highway #6 in Emily. Please call Sharon - 612 669-3295

Caregiver/Memory Loss Support Group. Meets the first Wed., 1-2 p.m. at Birchstreet Center, downtown Aitkin. 218-927-1383.

Circles of Support meets every Tue., 6-8 pm If you are living paycheck to paycheck and are ready for a change, Circles may be right for you, call Brandi, 800-997-5723.

Clear Lake Grange meets second Tue. each month, 6 pm potluck, 7 pm meeting. Meet in member's homes. Info call Vern 320-684-2244 or Roxy 218-927-4558.

Clothes Closet offers free clothing to men and women in need, open the fourth Saturdays of each month from 8 a.m. - noon. Located at 6297 Woods Bay Drive NE, just north of the Hwy. 6 bridge in Outing. For more information call 320-857-0182. Donations of clean, repair free clothing accepted that time also.

Cooks Night Out - 3rd Wed of month, McGregor Comm. Ctr., 5:30 p.m., no restrictions, donations welcome.

Cuyuna Rock Gem & Mineral Club, meet 2nd Sat. each month, 2:30 at Cuyuna Range Community Center, lower level.

Dance every second Tuesday at Moose in Grand Rapids.

Dance at VFW in McGregor every 1st Monday of the month, except holidays which will be on the following Monday

Dance at Waukenabo the second and last

Wednesday of the month.

Deerwood Lakes Lions meet the 2nd Monday of every month, 5:30pm social, 6:00 pm dinner/meeting, at the Heartwood Senior Living. Call 218-831-5683, if you need more information or would like to join our club. Lions affordable hearings aids available to those who qualify. For more information, call Diann Bates 218-546-5237 or 218-838-4768 cell.

Evergreen P.A.C. ATV Club meetings 1st Thu. each month, 7 pm, Jackson Hole, Lawler, open to public.

FASD Caregiver Support Group - For caregivers of individuals with a diagnosed or suspected Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). Meet with other caregivers (adults only please) for support, understanding, and networking. Meetings are 9 am the second Saturday of each month at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 418 8th Ave. NE, Brainerd. For more information, please contact Sheila York at 218-820-5903 or syork@mofas.org

Friends of Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge meet 3rd Wed. each month, at 1 pm. at the Visitor Center at 36289 State Hwy. 65, McGregor 218-768-2402

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous Meeting Tuesday evenings, 6:30 pm small conference room at Aitkin Library. No dues, fees or weigh ins. For more information call: 217-248-6434. www.foodaddicts.org

Food Shelf (Aitkin) Open every Wednesday, 10:30 am - 3 pm. 102 4th St. NW, Aitkin

Food Shelf (Aitkin) at First Lutheran Church open on 2nd and 4th Thurs, 9:30 am-5 pm, at 107 2nd St SE, Aitkin. Must register by 4:45 pm to be served.

Food Shelf (Aitkin) Emergency Food Shelf at St. James Catholic Church, Aitkin. Hours are Tuesday from 12 to 3 pm. To enter the food shelf go to the South side of the building, go to the 4th door and look for signs.

Food Shelf (Garrison) Open Tue. & Thu. 1-5 pm, at 9541 Madison Street; Garrison. For emergency Food Shelf, call 320-692-5399 and leave a message.

Food Shelf (Hill City) Trinity Lutheran Church 3rd Saturday 8 am - Noon or by Appt.

Food Shelf (Jacobson) Carmel Lutheran Church 60346 240th Ave, 1st and 3rd Thursday, 4 - 6 pm

Food Shelf (McGregor) 45898 Hwy 65 2nd and 4th Wednesday of Month 9 am - Noon

Garrison Fire Auxiliary meets 2nd Thu. 7:30 pm, Garrison Fire Hall.

Garrison Thrift Store, Thurs.-Fri. 10-4, Sat. 11-4.

Heart to Heart Support Group, 4th Tue. of month, 2 pm, Kanabec Hospital, int. of Hwy. 65 & 23, Mora.

Jacobson Seniors meets every Thu., 10-2 pm at Jacobson Comm. Ctr. Potluck at noon. Beverage provided. All are welcome. For more info., 752-1515.

Lymphedema Support Group, 3rd Mon. of month, 6:30 pm, Kanabec Hospital, int. of Hwy. 65 & 23, Mora.

Marsh and Meadows Hunting Retriever Club, Mon. 5:30 pm in Pequot Lakes, for more info call Brett 651-270-5648 or facebook/Marsh and Meadows Hunting Retriever Club

McGrath City Council, first Thu. of the month, 6:30 pm at fire station hall.

McGrath Senior Center meets every Mon. 1-4 pm, cards & games, all are welcome.

McGregor Community Meal served at the Community Center on Highway 65 on the Third Wednesday of each month serving from 5:30 - 6:00 pm.

McGregor TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) meets Thu., 4 pm weigh in, 4:30 meeting, Minnewawa Sportsman's Club, Goshawk St. (Co. Rd. 6). 218-768-2340 for more info.

MS Support Group, meets the 1st Thu. of the month at 7 pm, 606 NW 5th St, Brainerd, 218-824-5228.

Mystic Masonic Lodge meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7 pm except June, July & August meet only 1st Tuesday at 7 pm over the Eye Care Center in Aitkin.

National Alliance on Mental Illness meet Fri., 2:30, Community Presbyterian Church, 703 Pokegama Ave., room 105, Grand Rapids, Call Terrence at 218-327-1347.

North Central MN Farm & Antique Assn. meet 1st Wed. of month, Blackberry Town Hall. Info: Bruce 218-752-6592.

Order of Eastern Star, Woodland Chapter 122 in Aitkin meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays September through May and 2nd Tuesday in June and 4th Tuesday in August at 7:30 p.m. above the Eye Care Center in Aitkin; dark July, January & February.

Operation Minnesota Nice meets 3rd Monday each month at 6 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hill City. For info call Tina Harcey at 218-697-8144. www.operationminnesotanice.com.

Praise & Worship Services, 101 S. Maddy St., McGregor, Intercessory prayer Wed 6-7 p.m.; Praise & Worship Services Sat. 2 pm, Sun 10 am.

Recovery Worship Service, Cascade United Methodist Church, Crosby/Deerwood, 1st Sat., 5 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Rosary is ongoing the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 pm at the Big Fish, Garrison, contact Jean at 218-764-2665 for more info.

RSVP Bone Builders (Osteoporosis exercise program) Tue & Thu: 10-11 First Lutheran Church, Aitkin; 11:30-12:30 Blackrock Terrace, Aitkin; 12:45-1:45 Journey North Church, Aitkin; Wed: 10-11 Malmo Evangelical Free Church, Malmo & Fri: 10-11 Bethesda Lutheran Church, Malmo. Free of charge. Info call 218-927-1383.

Second Tuesday Card Party, Deerwood American Legion. Open to public, 1 pm social, card playing 1:30-3:30 pm. Cost \$3 per person. Refreshments.

Senior Dance at Deerwood Legion, 1-4 pm, 1st and 3rd Fri. each month.

TOPS Aitkin (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Every Tues at East Entrance, First Lutheran Church, 101 2nd St SE, Aitkin Weigh in at 4:30pm and meeting at 5pm

TOPS Deerwood (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Mondays 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Deerwood Legion, 23659 Forest Rd, Deerwood. For more information, please contact Lucy Bartz 218-839-2218 or Gwenn Smith 218-246-2180.

TOPS Ironton (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meet Monday, 4 pm weigh-in, 4:30 pm meeting at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Crosby. Call Mabel Semler 218-546-6523 for meeting location information.

Weight Watchers meets every Wednesday at 5:45 pm at the Deerwood VFW. Weigh in begins at 5:15 pm. For more information, call 218-820-9725.

White Pine Riders ATV Club meet 2nd Sat. each month (Feb. - Oct.) at McGrath Fire Hall, 10 am, open to public.

**April**

28th & 29th - "The White Sidewalls" A 50's Rock'n Roll Revue at 40 Club Convention Center, Aitkin \$15, doors open at 5 pm, show at 6 pm

29th - Smelt Fry Sponsored By Shepherd of The Lake Lutheran Church In Garrison 3-7pm at Andy Kokesh VFW Post 1816 in Garrison. Menu includes Smelt, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Rolls, Dessert, and Coffee. The cost for adults \$10, children \$5.

**May**

1st - Andy and Stu will be playing country, classics, old time and rock for a dance at the VFW in McGregor 1 to 4 p.m. All are welcome.

1st - Grand Opening of the Landing Welcome Center and Marketplace on Highway 6 promoting living for residents, businesses and visitors in Fifty Lakes, Little Pine, Outing, Emily and Fairfield.

2nd - The National Players perform 'The Giver' and 'The Grapes of Wrath' at the Chalberg Theatre on the Brainerd campus of Central Lakes College. 'The Giver' will have a 1 p.m. curtain. 'The Grapes of Wrath' will perform at 7:30 p.m.

4th & 5th - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Crosby, Rummage and Bake Sale.

5th - Hallett Community Center Gardens Returning gardeners, see Sandy at the Hallett Community Library on Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or for questions call Julie Dallas at 218-534-3584.

6th - Hallett Center of Crosby's Rock & Roll 1K Fun Run beginning at 9:15 a.m.; 5K begins at 10 a.m. Race starts and ends at the Hallett Center of Crosby. Block Party from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

6th -12th - Friends of the Aitkin Library will host their used book sale during regular library hours.

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C-I Quarterbacks  
LIC. #02536-002

**Meat Raffle**

**PEANUTS PUB at the MIDWAY BAR**  
Hwy. 210 (426 Mesaba St.) Crosby

Join us for the **Weekly Meat Raffles** on Fridays starting at 6:15 p.m.

Join us **Saturday, May 6 at 7:30p.m.** for our **"Moonlight Bingo"!**

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# OBITUARIES

## MARJORIE FISCHER



Marjorie "Marge" L. Fischer, 81, of McGregor, formerly of Long Lake, MN died Sunday, April 23, 2017 at her home near McGregor.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 11 a.m. from Our Saviors Lutheran Church in McGregor with Rev. Joshua Reinke officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.

She was born September 19, 1935 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Louis and Genevive (Jablonski) Gawronski. She grew up and attended schools in Minneapolis graduating from Minneapolis Vocational School in 1953. She lived and worked in California for a time. She returned to Minneapolis in 1963. She married David P. Fischer on February 5, 1966 in Rockford, MN. They made their home in

Long Lake and she worked for Red Owl, now Super Valu, as a cashier from 1970 until 1998, when she retired due to health reasons. She and her husband then moved to the McGregor area in 1998 where she has lived since. She is past president of the American Society of Sanitary Engineering Women's Auxiliary. She enjoyed crocheting, watching and feeding the birds, polka dancing and playing card games.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Deb and Art Pester, Montrose; sons: Greg Fischer, Monticello; Dan Fischer, McGregor; grandchildren; great grandchildren; and sister, Alice Holtzbauer, Howard Lake.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, David in 2012 and two sisters Doris and Irene.

Arrangements were with the McGregor Funeral Home in McGregor. Go to [www.srt-funeral.com](http://www.srt-funeral.com) to sign the online guest register.

## Felting classes with Lisa Jordan

Brainerd-area artist Lisa Jordan will be teaching students the art of needle-felting and wet-felting at The Crossing Arts Alliance. Both processes involve the creation of felt from loose wool fiber.

In the needle-felting class students will learn how to use a specially-barbed needle to make sculptural forms. Different techniques will be introduced and students will

create a potted cactus in the style of their choice. This class will be held Thursday, May 4 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Class fee includes all materials needed \$18 for TCAA members, \$23 for non-members.

Two wet-felting classes will be offered that involve the application of water and friction to loose wool fiber to make felt. In the felted soap class students will learn to

create a seamless wool cover that encapsulates the soap, creating a natural alternative to loofahs and washcloths. This class will be held Sunday, May 7 from 10 a.m. to noon. Class fee is \$15 for TCAA members, \$20 for non-members.

In the felted flower class students will create flat felt which they will layer and alter to make a large wool bloom. This class will be held Sunday, May 7 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Class fee is \$20 for TCAA members, \$25 for non-members. All materials are included for both classes.

For more information contact The Crossing Arts Alliance at 218-833-0416 or visit [www.crossingarts.org](http://www.crossingarts.org).

The Crossing Arts Alliance is located in the Franklin Arts Center, 1001 Kingwood St. Suite 114, Brainerd.



Needle felted cactus by Lisa Jordan

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**City of Crosby Council | Continued from Page 1**

there's a lot of vacant buildings. After Jim Hunter was mayor, it was the next snowstorm we had, all the snowbanks were gone. And I called up and I commented on it up here. That's something that should have been done. Nobody has seemed to work with that before. I appreciate that and I'm sure every business owner appreciates it too. And I'm probably really going over the line here, but if he wants more police officers maybe the police department shouldn't be putting them all on paid administrative leave."

Shirley Calderone, Deerwood said, "I've known Jim [Hunter] all his life. Any one of you in here if [you] were to ask for help, [Hunter] would be one of the first ones there to help you. And I know most of you know that. I think he's a good man. I think he's trying his best. But you know sometimes we've got to give people a chance, because everyone in here's done something wrong in their life. They've all got skeletons in their closets. Until he's proven guilty give Jim a chance that's all I'm asking."

Crosby business owner Jill Mattson said, "I love this community. I mean we all have our passions or what we think is right. I think that we live in a free country we can speak this. I hope we do it out of love and out of this is a council meeting for the good of Crosby. I'm saying this seems kind of trivial what Rose [Stromberg] is saying you know the sidewalks and taking care of downtown main street. And as for the passion of mine since I've been through Blandin with Linda Peebles and others. I see a huge danger, it's getting busier and busier and I want our community to keep growing in a positive vein. Half full is my motto. The sidewalks are getting to be quite a hazard. I know I need to be talking to you guys, but I kind of wanted to come tonight anyway to see what all happens here. So it's kind of interesting. There are bicycles on sidewalks that are pretty much local people riding on bikes on

the sidewalks. It's not the people coming from Minneapolis to come and support our businesses. I just really think there needs to be an address to this. We all break laws here and there. Get caught sometimes we don't get caught. If we're guilty we're guilty. We'll let the law take care of that I hope, not us." Mattson talked about the need for a ban on bikes riding on sidewalks.

Barb Blood, lifetime Crosby resident said, "I've known Jim [Hunter] for many years. He's one of the best hearted people. He's helped us many times and many things. And never taken a thing we're offered him. He's the first one there to help you out. My husband was very sick he was in the hospital, nursing home, back in the hospital and back in the nursing home. And Jim [Hunter] was right there to help with anything I needed. He never asked for a thing in return. I think he should be given a break and treated with a little dignity."

Jim Hunter, Jr. of Merrifield spoke about his father, "He has been a part of this community for many years. He has a business in town, he's had many businesses in town." He continued about his father working extremely hard at his businesses trying to make it in a small town. "Giving 100% effort serving as the Mayor of Crosby."

Following a short recess the meeting continued.

Mayor Hunter introduced Paula Przybilla to speak about ICS program from Unity Bank. She indicated the money involved in the program would earn 1% instead of the .25% as it currently does. The money would also be kept on the Crosby ledger and be made available to lend out for

local borrowers. Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Sova said monitoring the investments and ICS so they don't duplicate investment and exceed the \$250,000 FDIC insurance cap is very time consuming and not automatic. Using the current balance and rate at Unity Bank would yield about \$1,500 per month more in interest.

Przybilla said, "To be honest with you in my 25 years of banking, I've never had anybody fight so hard for us not to pay them three times more interest. So it's just kind of mind boggling."

Councilman Jim Traylor asked "What would you anticipate our oversight to be time wise?" According to Przybilla the sharing of investment plans between Unity Bank ICS and Northland Securities prior to the investments being made would eliminate duplicate investments. The time requirements is as long as it takes to do an email.

After being prompted by Councilman Paul Heglund, Sova talked about the potential for duplicate investments and a need for a City Financial Director position to monitor for duplications.

Przybilla said the system is automated and wouldn't need to have someone manually compare the two investment lists. Sova indicated that currently the money at Unity Bank is not invested and there is no risk of duplication. Sova also indicated that the fund balance would be reducing to pay for some major projects so the monthly yield would be less than Przybilla's projection.

Mayor Hunter indicated that Edward Jones had inquired about investing with them since they have a local office.

Councilman Jim Goshey

asked what the fund balance would be dropping to following making the project payments and moving funds to investments with Northland Security. Sova indicated the city was very limited on types of investments they can be involved in. Mayor Hunter said "We don't put more staff on assumption, we put more staff in when we know for a fact that it's an over burden to them." Councilman Paul Heglund said "What I don't understand is, Lisa's [Sova] done this for a long time and it seems like you've been bucking her from day one."

Hunter responded, "I'm not bucking her the people want to know the facts. So that's what we're giving them."

Heglund said, "She [Sova] knows a little bit what she's doing too."

Sova said, "I do know what I'm doing. I can assure you of that." The council tabled enrolling in the ICS program.

Council approve the Happy Hour Event for the Spalding House Pending Liquor License renewal.

Council approve the on sale liquor license and Sunday liquor for 3 Cheers Hospitality DBA Iron Range Eatery.

After much discussion about a request to replace a sidewalk at 302-4th St SW the motion to table the matter.

Council approved posting of

a Driver position in the Public Works Department.

Council approved posting the Assistant Foreman position in the Public Works Department.

Council approved advertising for two temporary student position in the Public Works Department.

Justin Burslie City Planning and Zoning presented five members to the Board with one alternate.

It was decided to reduce council liaisons from two to one non-voting liaison. Council approved these recommendations.

Council approved Summary for publication of Ordinance 2017-02.

Council received for review the Floodplain Ordinance. Mayor Hunter indicated that flood insurance if you are in the floodplain costs an additional \$1500 per year.

City Engineer Phil Martin presented to the council an estimated completion of the 2016 alley and utility project in North East Crosby sometime in mid-June to early July. The CSAH 33 project will start in early June. The related connecting the campground water and sewer hookups and resolving some drainage issues was going to add some costs to the project. Martin left the meeting to attend to a minor family emergency.

City Building Inspector Scott

Sadusky was back to reintroduce the topic of the Rental Ordinance. Sadusky also indicated that there were about 30 building permit applications already this year. Prairie Bay is moving along with their project. Councilman Ron Prushek spoke about the need for a rental ordinance. Prushek said "It's a benefit to everybody. I believe it's a benefit to the police department and the people that have rental property here also." Sadusky said the city has 52% rentals. That's really high. The trash issue was also a concern again. City Attorney Joe Langel spoke about the level of government protections. The State Hazardous Structure Statute that allows for the procedure for having the structure taken down. The City Nuisance ordinance that defines what a public nuisance is and what the steps are involved in removing the nuisance and accessing the property owner. Chief of Police Kim Coughlin talked about interactions between the police department and the good landlords. The rental ordinance would give them another option in place of the unlawful detainer action. City Attorney said the Rental Ordinance requires annual property/structure owner licensing inspections etc.. A copy of the rental ordinance was order by the Mayor to be given to every councilman for review.

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#P12026

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#P11933A

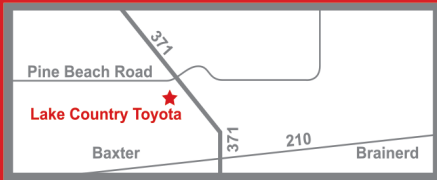
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#P11963A

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