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Crosby Council votes unanimously to appoint Novak and not to appeal Officer Jesse Smith's reinstatement

The Crosby City Council seemed to coalesce in its voting during its recent meeting on June 26, after a closed pre-meeting workshop with attorneys from the Minnesota League of Cities.

The change in the council is in stark contrast to when Mayor Jim Hunter and Councilman Jim Traylor walked out of a special closed meeting called on June 22 to decide if the city would take steps to appeal the decision of an arbitrator on the reinstatement

of Officer Jesse Smith to the Crosby Police Department.

Before that meeting, Crosby Mayor Jim Hunter was taken outside and informed by City Attorney Joe Langel he could not attend the meeting, because of a potential conflict of interest. During that time, Councilmen Paul Heglund and Ron Prushek exited the office of the city clerk and headed to the council chambers. Then Mayor Hunter and Councilman Jim Traylor spoke before the meeting in

the hallway before going into the chambers.

In the council chambers, Mayor Hunter was informed by Langel he would have to leave or he would be escorted out by the police.

Both Hunter and Traylor promptly left the council chambers; and only two councilmen remained: Paul Heglund and Ron Prushek. There was no longer a quorum, so after 30 minutes the special meeting was canceled and the rest of the

council left the chambers.

Then prior to the regular council meeting on June 26, a workshop with the entire council, mayor and many lawyers including those from the League of Minnesota Cities was assembled to discuss the council's decision process on whether or not to appeal the arbitrator's decision on Officer Jesse Smith reinstatement. Because of this workshop, City Attorney Joe Langel changed the process, so the closed session would be held

to allow Mayor Hunter to be present.

After the closed meeting, the city officials returned to the council chambers, and the meeting was resumed. Councilman Jim Traylor made a motion to not appeal the May 31 arbitrator's decision on Crosby Police Officer Jesse Smith and was seconded by Councilman Ron Prushek. All three councilmen voted not to appeal and Mayor Hunter did not vote.

Continued on Page 5

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Brainerd Community Theatre summer production opens July 6

Take a troupe of moderately talented actors, a bulldog stage manager, a disorganized director. Add a wannabe Shakespeare who's written a play she just can't help 'improving' on a daily basis. Give them all three days before opening night, when pressure is at its

greatest. Shake it up, and what you have is "Play On!", the Brainerd Community Theatre summer production. Opening on July 6, the play runs nightly at 7:30 on July 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15 in the Chalberg Theatre.

Director Patrick Spradlin describes the play in this

way: "If you've ever been in play, worked backstage on a play, or had the misfortune of seeing a really bad performance of a play, this show is for you."

"I've lived a lot of this play over the many years I've done theatre," said Spradlin. "The humor of this play comes for

the most part from the fact that these things really do happen during the rehearsal of a play. The audience just isn't aware of it, unless everything falls apart. Which, in this case, it does!"

The cast of 'Play On!' features many veterans of the Brainerd Community Theatre stage, along with a few newcomers. Bri Keran plays Polly, the cast's prima donna, with Marc Oliphant dutifully henpecked as Henry, her husband. Nick Kory is Billy, the leading man with an eye for

his leading lady. Shane Keran plays Saul, the sardonic wit of the cast capable of getting under everyone's skin. Beth Selinger is Aggie, the stage manager who must somehow bring order to the chaos. Jen Anderson is Gerry, the director of the whole shebang.

Newcomers to the BCT stage are Emili Lane, who plays the leading lady Violet, Michelle Waldoch as Smitty, the youngest member of the cast, and Clayton Castle as Louie, the technician. Capping the cast is newcomer

Rebecca Timmins as Phyllis, the would-be bard responsible for the script that seemingly never stops changing.

George Marsolek is set designer and technical director for 'Play On!', with Dawn Marks designing costuming and Ben Kent designing lighting and sound. Kerry Townsend is stage manager, with Paul Warmuth as assistant stage manager.

The public should note that a strobe lighting effect is used in the play, and a gun is fired on stage.



(Left to right) Clayton Castle, Beth Selinger, Marc Oliphant, Bri Keran, Michelle Waldoch, Shane Keran, Rebecca Timmins, Jen Anderson. Seated: Emili Lane, Nick Kory. Photo credit: Chris Bremmer, CLC.

Raveille Trucking in McGregor burns

A fire burned down Raveille Trucking service center at 106 East 1st Ave. in McGregor during the morning of June 24.

Damages are estimated between \$500,000 and \$700,000, including two trucks, tools and other equip-

ment used to maintain the trucking fleet.

Firefighters from McGregor, Aitkin, and Palisade Fire Departments responded to the blaze in McGregor around 4:30 a.m.

There were no injuries reported.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined. The fire is under investigation.

Gutzman benefit



There will be a wild rice hotdish dinner and a silent auction benefit for Oliver Gutzman for his medical needs on Friday, August 18 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Oliver was born on March 21, 2017 with a rare liver disease called Biliary Atresia.

Oliver is the son of Trevor and Jennifer Gutzman and his big Sister is Olivia.

Oliver has already undergone two surgeries. The first surgery was at Children's Hospital in May and the second in June at the University of Minnesota. The surgeons, as well as, the gastroenterologist's have said that due to the late development of this disease that his liver now has fibrosis and will eventually go into liver failure so Oliver in the near future will be needing a liver transplant.

Financial donations may be sent to Oliver Gutzman Benefit Fund, Deerwood Bank, PO Box 520, Deerwood, MN56444

Questions or donations for the silent auction can be directed to or delivered to: Deerwood Bank, 21236 Archibald Rd., Deerwood, MN 56444

For more information contact Julie Mohns at 218-534-3111 or Email Julie.mohs@Deerwoodbank.com.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Area Independence Day Festivities

Saturday, July 1

Big Sandy Lake - Fireworks over Big Sandy Lake, dusk between Davis and Goff's Bay
 Crosslake - Fireworks 10 p.m. view from Co. Rd. 16 bridge or the north boat access inside the Crosslake campground.
 Farm Island Lake - boat parade at noon. Gather at south landing.
 Isle - Isle Fire Department pancake breakfast 8 - 10 a.m., in the ambulance garage parking lot. Fly Our Flags High Motorcycle Ride leaving Isle at 11 a.m. and ending at Fiddlestix Golf Course featuring live entertainment. Municipal Liquor Store hosting "Stranded" band 8 p.m. to close.

Sunday, July 2

Bay Lake - Fireworks display at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge at dusk.
 Hanging Kettle & Diamond Lakes - boat parade, 1 p.m. Meet at Association Point.

Monday, July 3

Hanging Kettle & Diamond Lakes - boat parade, 1 p.m. Meet at Association Point.
 Onamia - Games, food and beer garden open at 4 p.m., live music at 8 p.m., fireworks at dusk.
 Pequot Lakes Food vendors 5 p.m., beer garden 6 - 10 p.m. - Bean bag toss tournament 6 p.m., live music 6:30 p.m., fireworks at dusk.
 Wahkon - Veteran's Park fireworks at dusk

Tuesday, July 4

Aitkin - Aitkin County Fair grounds, Fleming Methodist Pie Social 5 p.m., community band performance 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., presentation of colors 9 p.m., fireworks at dusk.
 Brainerd - Free corn feed hosted by the American Legion Post 255 at 708 Front Street, Brainerd at noon; parade, 4 p.m.; music 6:30 p.m. at Brainerd High School Don Adamson Field; fireworks, 10:15 p.m.
 Crosby - Parade begins in Ironton at 11 a.m. continues through downtown Crosby. Activities and live music in the Crosby Memorial Park all day: Andy Fischer 2 - 3 p.m., Mozey 3:15 - 4:30 p.m., Solo 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Jacked 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Version 5 at 9:00 - 10:00 p.m.
 Fireworks over Serpent Lake at Crosby Memorial Park at dusk.
 Fairfield Township - 9 a.m. Reading of the Declaration of Independence along with music and refreshments, Fairfield Town Hall 15 miles north of Crosby on Hwy. 6.
 Garrison - Fireworks display over Mille Lacs Lake starting at dusk at Garrison Bay.
 Glen - 8 a.m. 5K run/walk, 320-684-2229. 10:30 a.m. - Glen parade lineup at Slettom Farm on the north side of Clear Lake.
 Hillman - Parade at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4. Three categories of parade prizes.
 McGrath - Free pancake breakfast at the fire hall 7 - 11 a.m., kiddie parade 10:45 a.m., main parade 11 a.m., food court at noon, horseshoe toss 1 p.m. (sign-up by noon), logging contest at 1:15 p.m., turtle races 2:30 p.m., street dance 7-10 p.m., fireworks at dusk.
 Pequot Lakes - pancake breakfast 7 - 11 a.m. at Pequot Lakes Fire Hall, flea market, craft fair, food vendors & live music at Trailside 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., kiddie parade, Veterans Memorial walking path, 11 a.m.; main parade at noon.
 Round Lake - boat parade 1 p.m.

July

1st - Malmo Evangelical Free Church Summer Gospel Concert featuring the Kingery Family, 7 pm, bring a lawn chair. In case of rain or excessive heat the concert will be inside the air conditioned church. Refreshments will be available and a free will offering will be received. Located Hwy. 18 near the north east corner of Lake Mille Lacs.
 6th - 8th & 13th - 15th - "Play On!", Brainerd Community Theatre summer production at 7:30 in the Chalberg Theatre.
 6th - Community Blood Drive hosted by the Palisade Assembly of God with the American Red Cross noon to 6 pm. The Palisade Lions club will provide a refreshing snack. All blood types are needed. For more information or to schedule an appointment please contact Charles at 218-845-3893. An appointment is not necessary but helps to reduce waiting times.
 8th - Malmo Evangelical Free Church Summer Gospel Concert featuring the Bannisters, 7 pm, bring a lawn chair. In case of rain or excessive heat the concert will be inside the air conditioned church. Refreshments will be available and a free will offering will be received. Located Hwy. 18 near the north east corner of Lake Mille Lacs.
 11th - Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity Open House for individuals interested in learning more about volunteering for Habitat for Humanity. You are invited to attend the 30 minute open house that best fits your schedule at 8:00-8:30am, 12:30-1:00pm, 5:30-6:00pm at 1110 Wright Street in Brainerd. Volunteer time commitments start with as little as four hours per month. No experience is necessary and training is provided.
 11th - Lakes Area Unlimited Learning 1:30-3:30P.M. Mining Our History: Why Did the Union Win the War? Pam Brunfeld, Vermillion College history instructor, Heartwood Senior Living, non-members welcome \$5.00
 12th-14th and 18th-20nd - Pequot Lakes Community Theater production of the musical "Legally Blonde" sponsored by Zor-baz. More details at 218-568-9200.
 14th - Sons of Norway 'Tusenann Lodge #1-659' meeting and potluck picnic. Social 5 pm, picnic 6 pm at the home of Robert & Ann Kern located at 10728- 305th Ave. Princeton. Bring a food to share, a friend, a neighbor and each a lawn chair. If you have questions or need directions call Gary at 1-218-927-6557 or Candice 1-320-983-2886 or Ann Kern at 1-763-389-2393.
 15th - Malmo Evangelical Free Church Summer Gospel Concert featuring the Benson family, 7 pm, bring a lawn chair. In case of rain or excessive heat the concert will be inside the air conditioned church. Refreshments will be available and a free will offering will be received. Located Hwy. 18 near the north east corner of Lake Mille Lacs.
 22nd - Malmo Evangelical Free Church Summer Gospel Concert featuring Higher Call 7 pm, bring a lawn chair. In case of rain or excessive heat the concert will be inside the air conditioned church. Refreshments will be available and a free will offering will be received. Located Hwy. 18 near the north east

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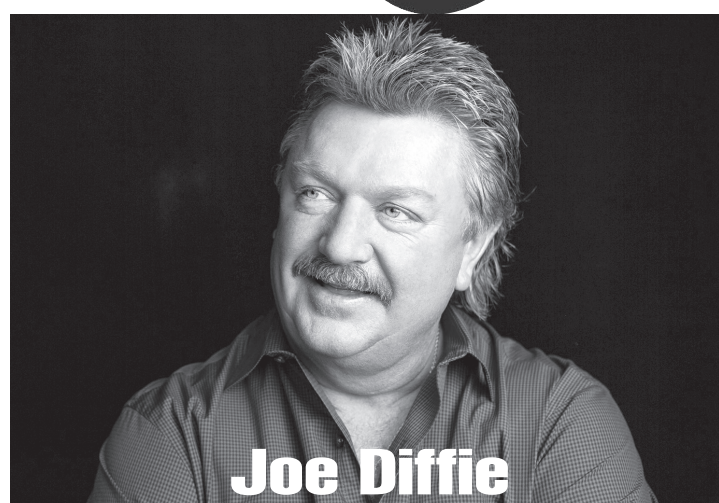
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Friday, July 7

9 pm – The Georgia Satellites
 7 pm – Eliminator (Tribute to ZZ Top)
 5 pm – New Black Seven
 4 pm – Gates Open



Crosby Council | Continued from Page 1

Council appoints Novak

The council interviewed four candidates for appointment to the one vacant council seat the left open when Councilman Jim Goshey's resigned. All applicants were allowed up to three minutes to talk about their work experience related to the council position.

The first candidate was Bob Novak. He told the council he had skills in human resources and 3M sales, as well as a business owner at the Hallett Bed and Breakfast and Pine Cone Antiques and Art in Deerwood. He also said he had lived at his current address in Crosby since 2004.

Former Mayor Joanna Lattery was next to speak. Lattery identified her skills in financial, human resources and city administrator business. She said she had served as Mayor as well as on the city council.

Dusty Paul cited his eight years on the council and 10 years working for the city.

Rick Shafer said he was a resident of Crosby for 25 years. He served as council member on the Salem Lutheran Church Board and owns a lawn care business with his son.

Councilman Paul Heglund made a motion to appoint Bob Novak and Councilman Ron Prushek seconded. All three councilmen voted for Bob Novak and Mayor Hunter did not vote.

The plan is Bob Novak will be sworn in at the next council meeting after a background check has been done.

Meeting information availability

Eric Heglund from the NewsHopper was requesting that the council meeting information packet be made available for free to better cover the council meetings. The packet is by law is available at city hall for anyone to look at for free.

According to Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Sova, the current policy states that each page of the packet would cost the NewsHopper 25¢ a page, even if Heglund took photos of the pages with his cellphone. The information in the packet makes it easier to report on the Crosby City Council meetings.

Heglund felt that this was not reasonable or lawful.

City Attorney Joe Langel said he had done some research on this matter. He found that according to the data practices act, there is an opinion about scanning of existing government documents which is like inspecting. And since inspecting is done for free, there should not be a charge for taking photographs of the pages.

Hunter asked for an explanation of the newspaper status from Sova. She said the current policy is the designated primary newspaper, the CI Courier gets a packet. The two secondary newspapers are the Brainerd Dispatch and the NewsHopper and they do not get a packet.

Councilman Jim Traylor asked if the packet provided to the Courier was an electronic version and Sova said it was.

Mayor Hunter asked City Attorney Langel, if there was any legal problem with providing the packet to the two other newspapers.

Langel indicated that was up to the city policy. Langel said that some cities make the packet available online to all for free download and some don't have electronic at all.

After some discussion Councilman Traylor made a motion to include the two secondary newspapers on the free emailed packet list with Councilman Paul Heglund seconding. The council passed this policy revision.

Brad Holmvig Excavating will be doing the work of filling the coal bin with fill furnished by the city and doing the sidewalk work on the property owned by Linda McLaughlin located at 1st Ave SW between Main St. and 1st St S.. The work should begin this coming week.

Fire Chief Jay DeCent requested the councils approval for the purchase of 35 pagers and chargers at a cost of \$15,505 for the Fire Department using funds to come from the Fire Department Donations Fund. The council approved this purchase.

Council approved a request to close the alley behind the Crosby Bar on July 29 for a Street Dance.

The request from Susan Cabelinski to replace and expand the Community Garden with funds coming from grants and the Community Garden Fund.

Sova said the city would need an actual cost of the project to act as a fiscal agent to use the established fund balance. The project was tabled until the actual cost of the project was given to the council. Council approved a cemetery lot exchange request.

A public hearing was set for the 3rd Street SW/CSAH 33 Project on Monday July 10 at 5 p.m..

JFHML

A letter from the Hallett Foundation letter was read aloud by Sova. The letter stated, "Since 1988 over \$18,000,000 has been granted from the E. W. Hallett Charitable Trust to organizations primarily from the Cuyuna Range area."

Sova said, "The Trustees support former Mayor Joanna Lattery's proposition of forming a commission, made up of Crosby residents to meet, study and address the current JFHML issues. And to encourage ideas for efficiencies and funding as outlined in her letter-to-the-editor in the Crosby Courier dated June 14,2017."

In response, Greg Maddux, JFHML Board Member read a letter

to the council. He said, "The statutes give the financial duties to the Library Board, not an independent commission. Additionally, all expenditures of the Library are channeled through the City and are reviewed and approved."

"Because of the \$105,000 reduction in the funding from the Hallett Trusts, representative of the Library Board have met with our Crow Wing County Commissioner, Our Crow Wing County Administrator, our House Representative from District 10, and our Crosby mayor. As a result of this very informative and helpful meeting, the Library Board has proactively begun the research necessary to formulate a multi-year revenue/expenditure budget and a process to move toward reapplying to the Kitchigami Regional Library System at a future date.

"This process will require a substantial financial increase from the City of Crosby to meet a projected annual budget of \$168,000; a budget amount established by the KRLS director. Crosby's application was denied, in part, because of the lack of increased financial commitment from the City of Crosby.

"With due respect to the views of the Hallett Trustees, the Library Board feels that a separate commission is not appropriate. To set up a commission to work outside the Board is not helpful to the positive process that has been started. The Board will review its staffing and its finances and will make appropriate adjustments to both to ensure the sustainability of the Library. That is the job that you appointed us to do."

After both letters were ready Mayor Hunter asked the Library Board to draft a letter to the Trustees to explain their plans to work toward a goal of joining the KRLS.

Council approved acknowledging the donations from the Hallett Trust for the Hallett Community Center.

Planning and Zoning

Justin Burslie NJPA Planning and Zoning Specialist had three items to discuss.

The first was for the City to adopt a Crosby Floodplain Ordinance for all cities that want to continue with the National Flood Insurance as prescribed by FEMA. Mayor Hunter pointed out that if they adopt the Floodplain Ordinance any property listed as within the floodplain would need to purchase insurance. Hunter used an example that the flood insurance for a property valued at \$60,000 would cost \$13,00 per year. It would be required for any bank financing on that floodplain property. Burslie showed a floodplain map. Burslie said if the city doesn't participate in the National Flood Insurance nobody in the city could be a federally guaranteed mortgage. Both Mayor Hunter and Phil Martin City Engineer had concerns about the accuracy of the maps and areas currently being effected. There will be a public workshop at 5:30 before the council meeting on July 24th to inform the residents on this floodplain ordinance and properties where insurance would be required.

The second matter was related to a request for having outside seating at Cuyuna Brewing on an extra wide sidewalk next to their building. The plan included four tables and an area to walk and enter their side entrance. At this point Burslie was checking with the council if they were in favor of an ordinance to allow the seating. Councilman Ron Prushek asked if the Brewery owner Nick Huisinga if he was planning on adding cameras on the side of the building where the proposed seating to keep an eye on things. He indicated if they were to get the outside seating it could become part of the plan. Mayor Hunter asked if there was any handicapped parking by the brewery since they had a handicapped entrance. Huisinga indicated it was all city street parking and nothing was designated as handicapped. The council approved having Burslie making a draft of the revision of the current ordinance to allow the outside seating for the Brewery. A public hearing would need to be held before it could go into effect.


The council approved appointing of a fifth member of the planning commission member and an alternate member.

Building Inspector Scott Sadusky informed the council that the Iron Range Eatery was up and running. Mayor Hunter asked Sadusky to look at the nuisance ordinance he gave to him before the next meeting.

City Engineer Phil Martin informed the council they received six bids on the Campground Sewer Project and the low bid was submitted by Pratts Affordable Excavating \$103,353.50. Construction would start on or after Sept. 11 when the last campsite rental is scheduled. Mayor Hunter asked about the electrical hookup pedestals should be raised because of the increase in elevation from the campground project. Also the electrical hookups should match better with the supply side of the vehicles or optional extension cord supplied to accommodate. Mayor Hunter will talk with the electrician about these items and estimated cost. It was decided to get a total project cost before the council would take an action.

Martin then spoke about the CSAH 33 project, there was a water leak that created a underground void below the High School Parking Lot and would need to be repaired. It was suggested to speak with some retired city workers to find out some more information that wasn't on the city maps.

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AITKIN ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Friday, July 7 • 11 a.m.

412 3rd Avenue NE, Aitkin, MN
Right at Security State Bank (Watch for Signs)

DORIS NORDEAN, OWNER

REAL ESTATE:
4 bedrooms 2 bath, two story home detached 30x36 garage and detached 30x34 garage/shop. All situated on 8 plus acres in the City of Aitkin on the Ripple River, City Sewer & Water. Parcel ID 56-1-12200, selling to the highest bidder call for Auction terms.



PERSONAL PROPERTY:
VEHICLE: 2007 Ford Edge Limited AWD leather & sun roof 92,000 miles excellent condition **LAWN & GARDEN RELATED:** John Deere GX345 lawn tractor, Husqvarna LTH 130 lawn tractor, Ford walk behind snowblower w/shield, (2) Agri-Fab lawn sweeps one new in box, JD 15 lawn cart. **GARAGE RELATED:** Craftsman 12 inch wood lathe & lathe wood tools, Milwaukee power tools, Bosch power tools, skill saw, drills, planers, sanders, battery chargers, Large wood organizer cabinet full of electrical supplies & hardware, small generator, gas cans, upright tool chest on wheels, torpedo heater, fish spear & more garage related **FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD:** Antique secretary desk curio cabinet with mirror, antique pump organ & stool, white wicker patio furniture, antique three drawer dresser w/mirror, antique vanity w/mirror & seat, barrister book case w/glass doors, china hutch, large dresser w/mirror & shelves, chest of drawers, mantel clocks, plus dishes, collectible glasswear and much more!

This is a surface listing something for everyone be sure to attend & bring a friend
Thank you in advance, *Janzen Auctioneers*

OUTING PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Saturday, July 8 • 10 a.m.

STAN & SHIRLEY JOHNSON, OWNER

6200 Smokey Hollow Road NE, Outing, MN
7 Miles north of Emily MN on Hwy #6
(Watch for Signs)

VEHICLE: 1995 Ford pick up standard cab 2WD w/topper **GARAGE RELATED:** Rigid table saw, Ryobi 10 in. drill press, Dewalt chop saw, Johnson transit, Porter cable air compressor, Circular saws, Black & Decker cordless hand power tools, Black & Decker belt sander, Ryobi planer, Chicago Forge bench grinder, Bostitch nailer & other nailers, Makita compound mitre saw, Bench grinder & grinding wheels, Saw blades, Hand saws, Wood clamps, Scaffolding set, Ladders, Draw knives, Electrical cords plus much more, **SPORTING RELATED:** 14ft. fishing boat on trailer, Wheel Horse snowmobile, Evinrude 4HP outboard, Scott Atwater 5HP outboard, Wood Duck Decoys modern & collectible, Wildlife mounts, deer antlers & fish, Clipper antique metal minnow bucket, Fishing poles, Antique reels, Framed Duck Stamps from 1930's, **FIREARMS & AMMUNITION NAMES LIKE WINCHESTER, RUGER, MARLIN, MOSSBERG, STEVENS** Shotgun & rifle ammunition **ANTIQUE HORSE DRAWN BUGGY:** 1902 Veli buggy w/ Amish made wheels, **LAWN & GARDEN:** Log Splitter on wheels, Lawn Boy trimming mower, Yard Machine trimming mower, Yard Machine 8 HP Snowblower **HOUSEHOLD & FURNITURE RELATED:** Hoosier cabinet w/flour sifter, Western Electric antique wall phone, Coronado radio, Antique egg beater & toaster, Settee, Pitcher pump, Kerosene Lanterns, Electric fireplace, Large Kitchen table & 6 chairs, Wildlife prints, Upholstered furniture, End tables, Department 56 Dickens Village, Precious Moments large scale doll collection, Cookie Jars Chickens & others, Antique coffee grinder, Crockware, Waco Clown music boxes, Hamm's beer collectible 1 gallon keg, wooden ski's,

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LOCAL FOODS

Lakes Area Growers Market 8 – 12:30 Tues. Franklin Arts Center PL Brainerd, Fri. Viking Land Harley Davidson PL, Baxter 2017-w41

Nisswa Farmers Market 8 – 12:30 Thursdays American Legion Nisswa Mid May – Mid October 2017-w41

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REAL ESTATE

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SALES

Clean, unbroken items are being accepted by the Aitkin County Historical Society for the annual garage sale in August. -Upholstered furniture, electronics, VHS tapes, cassette tapes, hardbound books (particularly encyclopedia sets), mattresses and clothing will not be accepted.- Donations can be brought to the Aitkin County Depot Museum on Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. w24

SERVICES

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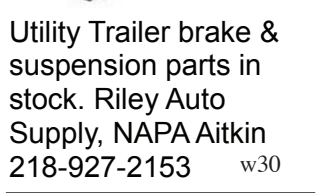


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Because of Brandon fundraiser

A fund raiser in memory of Brandon Houge, a young man from Ironton who unexpectedly passed away in 2015 from complications of diabetes, this year's Because of Brandon event will be Saturday, July 29, in Crosby. In addition to funding youth diabetes camps, proceeds go to patient travel expenses and educational events.

"I look forward to camp every year, because I can finally be with kids just like me. I love camp so much; it's my favorite place on earth," said Emma LaLond, 13, of Aitkin, one of the youth who will be attending Camp Needlepoint this summer with proceeds from Because of Brandon.

LaLond was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when she was six years old. She learned about Camp Needlepoint from her endocrinologist at McNeely Pediatric Diabetes Center in St. Paul. Located south of Hudson, Wisc., along the St. Croix River, Camp Needlepoint's goal is to help youth with Type 1 diabetes gain confidence and independence in managing their diabetes.

"My first year of camp I only went for a half week. I was kind of nervous because it was the first time I'd slept somewhere else besides my grandma's without my parents," said LaLond. "I got to know the people in my cabin and everything was so much

fun. I went swimming, rock climbing, horseback riding, and played fun games with the whole camp. The counselors are so amazing; they really care about each camper. When it was time to leave I didn't want to go home. This year will be my fifth time going to camp. Every time I go it gets even better."

The benefit for Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's Diabetes Education Department will include a beer and wine tasting, silent auction, barbecue, raffles, and street dance featuring Pandemic from St. Cloud, all at the Crosby Bar & Grill.

For more info call 218-545-4447.



Crossing Arts Kids featured artists

As part of its ongoing Second Saturday activities, The Crossing Arts Alliance will host a youth art event, a featured artist meet and greet, and a fiber art exhibit and demonstrations.

Crossing Arts Kids art programming, Sat. July 8, 10am to noon. Kids will use special paper and the power of the sun to create cyanotypes, or solar prints, which are a type of photographic blue print. The class is geared towards kids 5 to 13, but any age (even adult "kids at heart") are welcome to attend. Younger artists will require an adult helper. 10

a.m. to noon, lower level of the Franklin Arts Center in Brainerd. A \$3 per child/\$5 per family materials donation is requested but no child will be turned away due to need. This class is sponsored by Pelican Lakes Conservation Club.

Artist Evelyn Matthies and author Frank Weber will be the featured artists at The Crossing Arts Gift Shop for the month of July. The artists will be on hand to discuss their work on Sat. June 10, 10 a.m. to noon. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Evelyn's paintings will be on display and Frank

will be signing copies of his new book, 'Murder Book'.

"Conversations with Cloth 2" a fiber art exhibit featuring the work of area artists Carolyn Abbott, Kathy Bardolph, Karen DeVries, Karla Overland, Jan Sheets, Ellen Smith, and Joanne Wotczak will be on display in The Crossing Arts Gallery 10am to 2pm. Some of the artists will be giving free fiber arts demonstrations throughout the day. This exhibit is sponsored by Cherrywood Fabrics.

For more information contact The Crossing Arts Alliance at 218-833-0416 or visit www.crossingarts.org.

Whitesidewalls return to Aitkin

The look and sound of the golden era of rock 'n roll will be in Aitkin on Friday and Saturday, July 7 and 8 at the 40 Club Banquet Center with evening performances of The Whitesidewalls 50's Rock'n Roll Revue.

The cost to be transported back to the 1950's is only \$15

per night. The show is a family friendly event, so kids age 12 and younger are admitted free with an adult.

From Classic Doo-Wop to Rock-a-Billy to pounding rock'n'roll, The Whitesidewalls entertain with energy, humor and an attention to musical detail.

The energy is contagious, so don't be surprised if you find your toes tapping, your hands clapping and you might even find your way on to the dance floor.

Tickets are available at the 40 Club Restaurant and the Forty Club Inn. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Shane Martin Band and Ipso Facto perform at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge

Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge Summer Concert Series kicks into high gear with a pair of concerts in July – The Shane Martin Band on July 8 and Ipso Facto on July 14. Both concerts are at 6:30 p.m.

Shane Martin is a popular country rock performer known for his crowd-pleasing

high-energy concerts. His concert is the first street dance of the Ruttger's Summer Concert Series. Ruttger's will close down Old Highway 6 and convert it into party central with food, drink and plenty of room to dance.

Ipso Facto is a Minneapolis-based reggae/funk/jazz

band that has played for audiences around the world, including numerous times at Ruttger's. This concert will take place on the shores of Bay Lake.

"There is something magical about good live music on a sunny, warm summer night," Ruttger's President Chris Ruttger

said. "We are happy to provide a family friendly, high-quality entertainment option for our guests and members of the community. Everyone is invited to enjoy the shows."

All concerts are open to the public. Admission is \$5 per person for non-resort guests. Pay at the gate only.

Food and drink will be available. Seating and tables will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Concert goers are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs.

Ruttger's Upcoming events

Sunday, July 2 - Stroll the grounds and enjoy the fireworks at dusk.

Saturday, July 8, 6:30 p.m. street dance with Shane Martin Band

Friday, July 14, 6:30 p.m. Ipso Facto

Saturday, Aug. 26, 6:30 p.m. street dance with King Wilkie's Dream

Saturday, Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m. Copperhead Creek



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