



CROOKSTON WATCH

"NORTHWEST MINNESOTA'S REGIONAL NEWSPAPER"



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City of Crookston seeks DEED grant to demolish former Tri-Valley building

by Anna Phalen
Correspondent

The Crookston City Council is seeking a grant of up to \$650,000 to demolish the former Tri-Valley building at the intersection of Broadway and Robert Street. At its meeting Tuesday, Jan. 20, the council approved seeking the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Redevelopment Grant.

If the grant were approved, the city would use the grant for demolition and site preparation due to blight and public safety concerns. The resolution was updated to include the option of donating the parcel to

a qualified developer following demolition. Council Member Joseph Shostell voted against the donation provision; however, the resolution passed by consensus.

The council approved Phase 1 of the ABDO Position Classification and Compensation Study for non-union positions. Phase 1 places non-union employees on an established pay scale, with an estimated cost of approximately \$20,000.

Council members approved the appointment of Taylor Wyum as the new community development director. Council members expressed strong support for Wyum, citing

her qualifications and experience. Mayor Dale Stainbrook noted that Wyum is a great fit for the community.

By a vote of 5 to 2, the council approved a cannabis lower-potency hemp edible retailer license for Two Captains Inc., doing business as Crooks Bar and Bottle Shop. Voting in opposition were council members Clayton Briggs and Joseph Shostell.

The license allows the continued sale of products such as gummies and beverages and is required for compliance.

Shostell stated he was uncomfortable supporting the sale of cannabis prod-

ucts, citing concerns about increased traffic violations and crime.

Briggs and fellow council member Dylane Klatt also voiced concerns, though City Administrator Darrin Selzler noted that the city conducts compliance checks and maintains regulatory oversight.

Resident Bishop Jensen noted that East Grand Forks recently approved a full cannabis dispensary.

Forum

During the Crookston Forum, Tiffany Olson addressed the council regarding a recent accident involving her father, Briggs. Olson expressed gratitude to local law enforcement offi-

cers and medical personnel for their assistance and care during the incident.

Briggs later thanked the Crookston Police Department and local first responders for their quick response and assistance following his recent table saw accident.

Jensen also spoke during the forum, addressing several concerns. Jensen commented on the city budget and expressed that he felt residents were not adequately heard regarding the recent property tax levy increase. He also spoke about online threats he has received and thanked the Crookston Police Department for providing extra patrol and monitoring outside

of his business to ensure his safety. Jensen further urged the city to develop a plan to address recent civil unrest.

Council reports

During council reports, council members congratulated former Community Development Director Karie Kirschbaum on her years of service. Kirschbaum has taken a job in the private sector.

The council also introduced Jon Roscoe as the new city finance director and Katie Spoden as the new parks and recreation supervisor. Wyum was again congratulated on her appointment.



Crookston Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Chapter 14 recently collaborated with the Crookston American Legion Auxiliary Unit 20 to supply winter clothing to veteran families

at the Cathedral Elementary School. Pictured are (from left) members Jamie Cassavant and Jean LaJesse, Principal Steph Webster and member Margee Keller. (Submitted)

North Country Food Bank receives \$200,000 grant

Supplies food to food shelves

The Otto Bremer Trust has awarded a \$200,000 grant to North Country Food Bank Inc. of East Grand Forks. The grant will be used to purchase food for distribution to address food insecurity throughout northwest and west-central Minnesota.

In November and December, the Otto Bremer Trust awarded \$17,415,000 in grants.

"From economic development to health services to meeting basic needs, these

grants reflect the diverse ways organizations are serving their communities," said Frank Miley, co-chief executive officer and trustee, OBT. "We are honored to continue Otto Bremer's mission by supporting this vital work."

State totals for grants awarded include:

- Minnesota: \$11,775,000
- Montana: \$1,700,000
- North Dakota: \$570,000
- Wisconsin: \$3,370,000

The Otto Bremer Trust is a private charitable trust based in St. Paul. Since its founding, OBT has invested more than \$1 billion.

Applicants sought for public arts grants

Applications are open for arts grants for nonprofit arts organizations, communities, schools, and other nonprofit organizations from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council's seven-county region including Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake and Roseau counties.

Nonprofits and government organizations can apply for one arts project at a time. Upcoming grant deadlines for these are February 28. Grants are between \$500 and \$10,000.

Funding sources for these grants are Clean Water, Land and Legacy funds and general allocation funds from the State of Minnesota.

Organizational arts activities funded through these very important grant opportunities include festivals, community theatre projects, folk music entertainment, sponsorship of visual demonstrations, creative writing workshops and many other activities that improve the quality of life of people in our communities. This is a great way to bring

arts experiences to your community.

NWMAC is offering a grant writing workshop online or in person to assist applicants with their applications. Applicants are welcome to come to the NWMAC office in Warren for the workshop or to work on their grants. RSVPs are required for grant writing sessions — email director@nwmac.org.

The grant-writing session will be held Thursday, Feb. 12 at 4 p.m. Applicants can also set up a time to work

one-on-one with the NWMAC director on the grant writing process.

Schools in NWMAC's seven-county region can also apply now for an artist residency grant of \$2,600 plus an additional \$400 if the residency needs supplies. Its teaching artist roster is a great resource to view artists available to teach in our area and is available at www.northwestminnesotartaartsCouncil.org under the artists tab. Another resource

Page 2

Ways and Means Committee discusses Charter Commission

by Anna Phalen
Correspondent

The Crookston Ways and Means Committee reviewed the composition of the Charter Commission at its meeting Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Members discussed that the City Charter allows for between seven and 15 members, with the city currently leaning toward the lower

end of that range. Mayor Dale Stainbrook suggested adjusting meeting schedules in order to better accommodate member availability and improve attendance.

The committee also discussed the appointment of June Donarski to the Development and Policy Review Board. Donarski is an accountant at Rydell and a resident of Crookston.

Students of the Month named

Wieland and Plante chosen for the honors

The Crookston Rotary Club has announced the Crookston High School Rotary Students of the Month for January and February. Taylor Wieland was named the January Student of the Month, and Zachariah Plante was named the February Student of the Month.

Taylor Wieland is the January Student of the Month. She is the daughter of Josh and Sarah Wieland. She has a brother, Asher.

Wieland is involved in Leo Club, Student Council, National Honor Society, FFA, girls tennis and girls golf. She also serves as the

girls basketball manager. Wieland enjoys being at the lake, hunting, fishing, hanging out with friends and family, watching and playing sports, shopping, baking, and traveling whenever she gets the chance.

Wieland plans to attend North Dakota State University and major in respiratory therapy and minor in nutrition science.

Zachariah Plante is the February Student of the Month. His family members are Kayla, Jacob and Olivia Snyder, and Sophia Fee.

Plante is involved in Camp Ryla, Leo Club (earning three letters), orchestra (earning three letters) and NHS. He has been involved in theater, serving as assistant director for two years and earning three letters. Plante has also participated

in speech, earning three letters and competing at State twice. He has served as the junior high play co-director for three years. Plante serves as the high school team dance manager. In ninth and 10th grades, he participated in soccer. Plante has been an employee of Scooters and Club Kid, both for a year.

Plante's hobbies include being with friends and family, video editing, and driving.

Plante plans to go to the University of North Dakota to major in either secondary education or social media marketing, and minor in psychology. After that, he would like to either become a high school English teacher or a digital marketing manager.



Taylor Wieland (far left) and Zac Plante have been named the Crookston High School Rotary Students of the Month for January and

February, respectively. They are pictured with Brandon Lee, Crookston Rotary president. (Submitted)

Stand Out in the Crowd!



Have an event coming up that you want to promote?
Want to be the only ad on the page?
Want to make sure people see your ad?
We Can Make it Happen!

Place your ad on the front page of the newspaper!

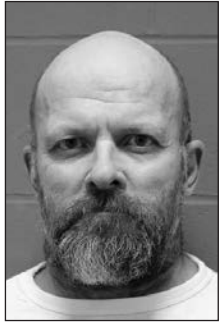
Call us to ask how!

CROOKSTON WATCH • 218-681-4450

Thompson, N.D., man sentenced for drug offense

by April Scheinoha Editor

A Thompson, N.D., man was sentenced Tuesday, Jan. 13 in Polk County District Court for possessing more than 17 grams of substances containing methamphetamine or cocaine with the intent to sell it in July 2024.



Benjamin John Steinberger

Benjamin John Steinberger, 51, was sentenced for a felony charge of first degree controlled substance crime – sale and a misdemeanor charge of fourth degree driving while impaired – Schedule I/II controlled substance, according to online court documents. A felony charge of second degree controlled substance crime was dismissed.

For the first degree charge, Steinberger was sentenced to 107 months in prison. He was given credit for eight days served. Steinberger was ordered to not use or possess firearms or ammunition for his lifetime. He was ordered to provide a DNA sample. Steinberger was also ordered to pay \$210 in fees and fines.

For the misdemeanor charge, Steinberger was sentenced to 90 days in jail. That sentence is to be served

currently with the first degree charge. He was given credit for eight days served. Steinberger was also ordered to pay a \$50 fine.

The sentencing order indicated that Judge Jeffrey Remick and the prosecution recommended that Steinberger should be admitted into the Challenge Incarceration Program.

The charges stemmed from a traffic stop July 23, 2024, at about 1:24 a.m. on Broadway Avenue in Crookston, according to the complaint. Steinberger, who was driving a motorcycle, exhibited signs of impairment from a controlled substance. He failed field sobriety tests.

A Polk County sheriff's deputy searched Steinberger after his arrest, finding he had \$1,474 in cash in his wallet. The deputy and other officers searched the motorcycle, finding four zip-top bags of methamphetamine weighing about 40 grams with the packaging and a container of cocaine weighing about 6.4 grams with the packaging. Also found on the motorcycle were multiple additional small zip-top bags and some drug paraphernalia. Given the amount of the meth, its packaging, the ad-

ditional small bags, the large amount of cash and Steinberger's criminal history, the deputy believed Steinberger planned to sell the meth to others.

A search warrant was later executed for a urine sample. The test was positive for the presence of cocaine, meth, amphetamine and THC (marijuana).

The complaint indicated that, according to the North Dakota courts website, Steinberger had been previously convicted of the following felony drug-related offenses:

- Felony possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver – meth and felony possession of drug paraphernalia in April 2015
- Felony possession of drug paraphernalia (two counts), misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance (five counts) misdemeanor forgery or counterfeiting and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia in November 2017
- Felony possession of drug paraphernalia in January 2019
- Felony possession with intent to manufacture/deliver – meth – 50 grams or more in December 2021
- Felony unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia in October 2002

Crookston Library hosts events for kids

The Crookston Public Library will host a hands-on learning activity offering youth ages 5 to 13 a chance to learn about how to use the library, as well as an opportunity for parents and caregivers to explore the many educational resources the library offers. The program will be held in two sessions, one on Monday, Jan. 26 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and the other on Tuesday, Jan. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The following week, a Special Storytime featuring Miss St. Croix Valley 2026

Whitney McClain, will be held Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 4 p.m. at the library. More information can be found at larl.org/colormyworld.

A weekly Storytime is held at the Crookston Public Library on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., inviting children and their caregivers to enjoy an exploration of different themes with stories, songs, rhymes and more. Storytime is geared for youth ages 3 to 6, but all ages are invited to join the fun.

All events are offered free of charge.

Two water main breaks reported

In a 24-hour period this past week, the City of Crookston responded to two water main breaks.

The Public Works Department worked quickly to address the issues. On Monday, a water main break was reported in the neighborhood of North Broadway, Stearns Street and Fourth Avenue North. On Tuesday, a water main break was reported in the neighborhood of Elm Street and Summit Avenue. Both water main breaks have now been fixed.

Crookston Library announces 2026 book club selections

Did you know that the Crookston Public Library has not one, but two book clubs? The library is proud to welcome readers to its book clubs. The Reading by the Red Book Club meets at the library and the After Hours Book Club meets at Drafts Sports Bar & Grill. The meetings are scheduled in alternating months.

The Reading by the Red Book Club, which meets in the library's River Room on the fourth Tuesday of the month, will read the following titles in 2026:

- January: Anxious People by Fredrik Backman
- March: The Bell in the Lake by Lars Mytting

• May: The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying Club by Helen Simonson

• July: The Wedding People by Alison Espach

• September: The Quiet Librarian by Allen Eskens

• November: Crow Talk by Eileen Garvin (Held the third Thursday of the month)

The Books & Brews Book Club meets off-site at Drafts Sports Bar & Grill on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Appetizers are provided by the Friends of the Crookston Public Library; participants are responsible for the cost of any additional food and all drinks. All adults are welcome to at-

tend. The Books & Brews Book Club will read the following titles in 2026:

• February: Mother Daughter Murder Night by Nina Simon

• April: Poetry Month Reader's Pick! Read a book of poetry or bring a poem to share

• June: Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

• August: Everything is Tuberculosis by John Green

• October: North Woods by Daniel Mason

Registration is not required. For more information, visit larl.org/events or call the library at 218-281-4522.

University of Minnesota Crookston releases fall semester dean's list

The University of Minnesota Crookston has announced its dean's list for the fall 2025 semester.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded (A-F) credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

Crookston students named to the dean's list included Cassidy Baatz, Norden Bista, Tristan Brown, Heidi DeBoer, Daniela de Lucas Rivera, Terezie Drasilova, Jackson Garmen, Aurora Hesby, Brooke Hoven, Harshwardhan Jejarria, Adreanna Kaas, Abrar Khan, Payton King, Nghi

Luu, Abril Manas Hernandez, Aspen Mendez, Alexander Ndong Abegue, Thy Nguyen, Asli Oktay, Delaney Penner, Pramika Raya, Saimon Shan, Belle Syrett, Lauren Thompson and Samuel Tilahun.

Public arts grants/Continued

(Continued from Page 1) to view artists available to enhance curriculum is COMPAS.

Schools can initially apply for one residency. Then based on remaining funding, schools can request up to three additional residencies into spring and summer.

Funding for residency activities comes from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment in Minnesota.

To learn more about these grant programs and start an application, visit www.northwestminnesotaarts council.org. The grant

application process is completely online and NWMAC Director Mara Hanel can help walk applicants through the process of using the grants portal to get accustomed to it. Contact her at director@NWArtsCouncil.org or call 218-745-8886.

Crookston Area Ministries

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH
23928 265th St SW - Crookston (East of Highland School)
Church: 281-5629
Preston Hoiseth, Pastor
Web: www.biblebaptistcrookston.org
Email: biblebaptist@midco.net
Sundays: 7:45 a.m. & 10:05 a.m., Heavenly Sunlight radio program on KROX, 10 a.m. Bible Classes for all ages including adults, 11 a.m. Morning Worship, 6 p.m. Evening Worship
Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer Service

CLIMAX LUTHERAN CHURCH SAND HILL LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 49 - Climax, MN 56523
Pastor Matt Williams
218-857-2215 • 218-857-3362
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship

FISHER LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
209 2nd Street S - Fisher, MN
www.fisherbyglad.org
Pastor Gretchen Enoch
218-891-4632
Sundays: Worship times alternate, please visit our website or call for information.

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
1727 Widman Lane - Crookston
For information call: 218-281-6252
Sundays: 10 a.m. Public Talk, Watchtower Study
Thursdays: 7 p.m. Christian Life, Ministry Meeting

RESURRECTION FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC
415 West 6th St - Beltrami
Pastor Joel Kangas
Church email: resurrect@gvtel.com
Church website: www.resurrectionfree.org
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship

TRINITY LUTHERAN
402 6th St E - Beltrami
Pr. Dan Morton
Sundays: 11 a.m. Worship
Check out website for further information
www.unitedinchristlutheranparish.org

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN
100 Jefferson Ave SW - Fertile
Pr. Dan Morton
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
Check out website for further information
www.unitedinchristlutheranparish.org

FREEDOM CHURCH
Pastor Joel Schwartz
218-275-2350
101 W 2nd St Crookston
hellofreedomchurch.com
Sundays: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Worship

GOSEN CHURCH, INDEPENDENT
Gary Johnson, Pastor
http://www.gosen-church.com
Facebook: Gosen Church
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosen-church.com)

LITTLE NORWAY LUTHERAN
10802 423rd St SE - Fertile
Pr. Dan Morton
Sundays: 11 a.m. Worship Service
Check out website for further information
www.unitedinchristlutheranparish.org

RODNES LUTHERAN
35473 180th Ave SE - Erskine
South of Hwy 2 on Cty 210
Office: 218-687-4345
Pastor Joel Smeby
www.facebook.com/RodnesLutheran
Sundays: 7 a.m. Radio Broadcast on KRJB (106.5FM), 10 a.m. Worship (live on Facebook and in person)

MAPLE LAKE LUTHERAN
13960 380th St E - Fertile
Pr. Dan Morton
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship Service
Check out website for further information
www.unitedinchristlutheranparish.org

BYGLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
40976 235th Street SW - Fisher, MN
www.fisherbyglad.org
Pastor Gretchen Enoch
Phone: 218-893-4243
Sundays: Worship times alternate, please visit our website or call for information.

ENCOUNTER CHURCH
209 North Main - Crookston
Pastor Mathew McWaters - 218-281-4017
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Children's Church (ages 4-12)
Find us on Facebook

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Pastor Noah Thompson
Pastor John Merseith
1221 Barrette St #2605 - Crookston
Phone: 218-281-4342
Sundays: 1:30 p.m. Worship

LIVING WATER FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Nielsville, MN
Monty & Amanda Brown
For information call: 218-456-2675
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship
Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Evening Service

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
707 4th Ave. NE - Crookston
Phone: 218-456-2568
Pastor David Jahn
Saturdays: 10 a.m. Sabbath School, 11:30 a.m. Worship

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
205 S Broadway - Crookston
Rev. Gregory Isaacson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Michael Ozaki, Associate Pastor
218-281-4276
9 a.m. Broadcast Worship live over Crookston Cable TV Channel #3, KROX Radio 1260AM, KROX 105.7FM and streaming live on Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church, Crookston, MN.
For additional information and calendar updates, please check out our website at www.trinitycrookston.org
Sundays: 9 a.m. - Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church, 10:45 a.m. - Worship at First Presbyterian Church
Thursdays: 1 p.m. - Book Study at First Presbyterian Church

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - CROOKSTON & ST. PETER'S - GENTILLY
702 Summit Avenue - Crookston
218-281-1735, Parish,
218-281-1835, School & RE Offices
The Most Reverend Bishop Cozzens
The Very Reverend
Msgr. David Baumgartner
Saturdays: 5 p.m. Mass at Cathedral, 10:30 a.m. Mass at Gentilly
Daily Mass: 7:45 a.m. Tuesday-Friday (Monday Communion Service 7:45 a.m.)
Please visit our website:
www.crookstoncathedral.com for more information.

FAABERG LUTHERAN AT RINDAL, MN
4391 340th Ave - Fertile
Pr. Dan Morto
Sundays: 8:15 a.m. Worship Service
Check out website for further information
www.unitedinchristlutheranparish.org

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ERSKINE (NALC)
Church Office: 218-687-4035
332 Vance Avenue - Erskine, MN 56535
Rev. Pamela Thorson, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship
Worship also on GVTel TV, Facebook and Youtube

MAPLE BAY FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor David Jore
Parsonage: 218-574-2222
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH - FERTILE
10480 438th St SW
Fertile
218-945-6649
Fr. Larry Delaney
Sundays: 8:30 a.m. Mass

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, FISHER (LCMS)
Church Office: 218-891-4581
Pastor Doug Thompson
Website: tlctstpaul.org
Email: trinity.st.paulparishes@gmail.com
Sundays: 10 a.m. Bible Study, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Worship Service - Communion celebrated on the second and last Sunday of the month.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
321 5th Avenue South - Crookston
218-281-5402
Pastor David Johnson
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, MENTOR
105 Harrison Ave N - Mentor
Pastor Rev. Michael Sletto
218-637-8263
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ERSKINE (NALC)
Church Office: 218-687-4035
332 Vance Avenue - Erskine, MN 56535
Rev. Pamela Thorson, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship
Worship also on GVTel TV, Facebook and Youtube

NEXUS CHURCH
605 3rd Ave NE - Crookston
Lead Pastor, Danny Holwerda, Jr.
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH - MENTOR
Fr. Larry Delaney
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Mass

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
701 Eickhof Blvd - Crookston
218-281-3393
website: crookstonmethodist.com - view services here
email: wesleyumcrox@gmail.com
Rev. Ruth Sanders, Pastor
Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (Sept. - May), 10:45 a.m. Worship (Communion 2nd Sunday)

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
2814 Cherry Street - Grand Forks, ND
Bishop Derek Pruitt
435-979-4491
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH - LUTHERAN CHURCH, MISSOURI SYNOD
33276 339th Ave. SW - Eldred, MN
c/o Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Crookston, MN - 218-281-1239
Pastor: Steven Bohler
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Service

HARVEST CHURCH
520 Fisher Avenue - Crookston
218-281-2264
Pastor Dave Finsaas
www.harvestchurchcrookston.com
Sundays: Worship Service online or in-person at 10:30 a.m. Livestream can be found on our Facebook and YouTube channel.
Facebook: Harvest Church Crookston
YouTube: Harvest Church Crookston, MN
Instagram: @harvestchurchcrookston

OUR LADY OF SORROWS' CHAPEL - Society of St. Pius X
600 E Robert St - U.S. Hwy 2 E - Crookston
218-281-6880, 218-773-8020
Sundays: 2 p.m. Holy Mass

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - EUCLID
Sundays: For the months of January, February, and March, weekend Mass on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Tuesdays: Mass at 8:30 a.m.

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN - LUTHERAN CHURCH, MISSOURI SYNOD
Crookston
Pastor Steven Bohler
Sundays: 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Services, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
11330 435th St SW - Fertile - 218-945-3677
www.hope4fertile.org
email: hope4fertile.worship@gmail.com
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship

PRAIRIE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
27897 170th Ave. SW - Crookston
218-281-3506 or 218-280-2084
Pastor Pat Baranski
Sundays: 10 a.m. Church Service, 11 a.m. Sunday School - Adult Sunday School

THRIVING LIFE CHURCH
22722 350th St. Erskine, MN 56535
Pastor Jim Binder
218-556-1545
https://thrivinglifemn.org
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship

THIRIVING LIFE CHURCH
22722 350th St. Erskine, MN 56535
Pastor Jim Binder
218-556-1545
https://thrivinglifemn.org
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN - LUTHERAN CHURCH, MISSOURI SYNOD
Crookston
Pastor Steven Bohler
Sundays: 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Services, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
701 Eickhof Blvd - Crookston
218-281-3393
website: crookstonmethodist.com - view services here
email: wesleyumcrox@gmail.com
Rev. Ruth Sanders, Pastor
Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (Sept. - May), 10:45 a.m. Worship (Communion 2nd Sunday)

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516 Walsh Street | Crookston, MN 56716 | www.benedictinecrookston.org
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Monument & Marker SALES
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PROULX REFRIGERATION & HEATING INC.
Complete Sales & Service • Commercial & Domestic
Furnaces | AC | Heat Pumps | Electric, Gas or Oil Boilers
TRANE Goodman IBC
524 Marin Avenue • Crookston, MN | Phone: 218-281-1370 | Fax: 218-281-1376

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GROW YOUR BUSINESS



324 Main Avenue North
P.O. Box 100
Thief River Falls, MN 56701
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Fax: (218) 681-4455
e-mail: trftimes@trftimes.com
http://www.trftimes.com

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Scott DCamp
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Correspondent
Ad Sales



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Cindy Baldwin
Sales and
Marketing
sales@trftimes.com



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subscribe@trftimes.com

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THIEF RIVER FALLS Times

OFFICE HOURS

The Times office hours are:
Monday - Thursday
8 am - 5 pm

Friday
8 am - 3 pm

DEATH NOTICES

Sister Dominica Gerszewski, 99

Crookston - Sister Dominica Gerszewski, age 99, died peacefully January 14, 2026, at RiverView Hospital, Crookston.



She was born on July 11, 1926, in Grand Forks County, Turtle River Township, ND, the second of eight children of Dominica John Gerszewski and Suzanna (Paschke) Gerszewski. She was baptized on the same day by Mathilda Barto, a midwife, who was her godmother. Her parents named her Frances Louise.

Louise, as she was called as a youngster, attended Turtle District No. 10 country school. After finishing eighth grade, she came to Mount Saint Benedict Academy for high school, where she was known as Frances. During these World War II years, Mount boarding students attended classes at Cathedral High School in Crookston. In her junior year, the sisters resumed classes at the Mount for the aspirants and postulants. In her senior year, she was admitted to the community as a postulant in January 1944.

On July 11, 1944, Frances received the habit and the name Sister Dominica. In 1945 she made first monastic profession and in 1948 her final profession of vows. Six years after Sister Dominica entered the monastery, her sister, Sister Jolenta, did also.

Her first assignment was helping Sister Gertrude Knopke with piano lessons in Bemidji. Other places she served were Barnesville, Slayton, Saint Francis in Moorhead, Benson Osseo, Detroit Lakes, and then finally at MSB.

One of Sister Dominica's fondest memories was a trip in 1983 to Europe, where they toured about thirteen different countries. That year the Passion Play was performing. They also visited the Vatican, had an audience with the Holy Father, re-

ceived his blessing, and saw the museum and several different churches.

Sister Dominica filled summers with college classes at the Mount and Viterbo College in LaCrosse, WI, where she received her bachelor's degree in music. In 1988 she received one unit in Clinical Pastoral Education from United Hospital, Grand Forks, ND. That year she also received a Certificate in Ministry at MSB Center.

In her spare time, she enjoyed crocheting, reading good novels and biographies, listening to music, watching movies, and keeping up with the news.

Sister Dominica wrote, "Every day, I thank God for my vocation to this Benedictine community. There have been many changes in our community during my lifetime. I have received many blessings throughout the years."

She is preceded in death by her parents, Dominic John Gerszewski and Suzanna (Paschke) Gerszewski; siblings: Irene Czapiewski, Delphine, Sister Jolenta, Cyril Gerszewski, James Gerszewski and David Gerszewski.

She is survived by sibling, Dennis Gerszewski; and by many nieces and nephews; and the Sisters of Saint Benedict of Crookston.

A prayer service celebrating Sister Dominica's life was held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 2 p.m. in Sacred Heart Chapel at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, 620 Summit Ave, Crookston. Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrew H. Cozzens.

Interment will be held later this spring.

Funeral Arrangements by Stenshoel-Houske Funeral Home, Crookston.

A00003B2026JA24

Gerald "Jerry" Martin, 68

Gerald "Jerry" Lee Martin, 68, passed away on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

A memorial service celebrating Jerry's life will be held at Stenshoel-Houske Funeral Home in Crookston, on Monday, January 26, 2026, at 2 p.m. Visitation with the family will be one half-hour prior. The service will be livestreamed, a link to which will be available at <https://www.stenshoel-houske.com>.

Vincent Mendez, 71

Vincent Mendez, 71, passed away in Wailuku Maui, Hawaii on January 12, 2026.

A Celebration of Life will be held on March 7, 2026 in Wailuku Maui at the Cameron Center on March 7, 2026.

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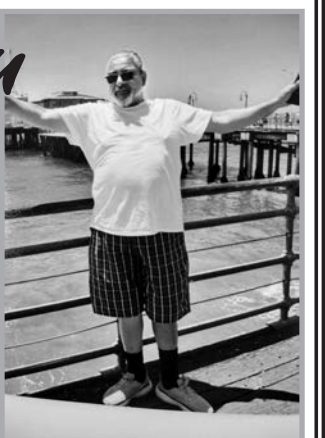
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Thank You

The family of Gregg Bergoz IV would like to thank the community of Crookston for all the prayers and all the kind words we received following Gregg's recent passing. A very special thank you to the Altru ICU department in Grand Forks, ND, and to all the doctors, nurses, nursing attendants, and custodial and maintenance staff for the comforting care they showed Gregg.



God bless you all.
Peace & Love,
The family of Gregg Bergoz IV

And another very special thank you to the Bingo crowd and staff for the prayers and support, and for the recent celebration of life for Gregg at the Eagles.

Business Manager

The Warren-Alvarado-Oslo School District is seeking a Business Manager to oversee financial operations and ensure sound fiscal management and compliance with state and federal requirements. Responsibilities include budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting, including accounts payable and receivable and maintaining general ledgers. This position ensures accurate reporting through proper use of UFARS codes and established accounting practices. The Business Manager works closely with school leadership to support responsible financial planning and accountability.



Please see : <https://mnschooljobs.org/jobs/business-manager-in-warren-minnesota-56762-us/> for more information

HS Head Football Coach

Our Warren-Alvarado-Oslo high school is seeking a dedicated football coach to lead a proud program with strong community support. The ideal candidate values integrity, mentorship, and developing student-athletes academically and athletically. This is an opportunity to make a lasting impact in the lives of young players. Come be a leader our school and community can rally behind.

Please contact the WAO district office if interested.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Crookston ISD #593, MN

Pursuant to MN Statute 471.6161, notice is hereby given that Crookston ISD #593, MN requests proposals for Group Health Insurance.

Specifications will be available from the District's agent of record, National Insurance Services, at 14852 Scenic Heights Road, Suite 210, Eden Prairie, MN 55344, phone 800-627-3660. Proposals are due no later than 2 p.m. February 18, 2026 to Crookston ISD #593 at 402 Fisher Ave Suite 593, Crookston, MN 56716 and as specified in the RFP.

Crookston ISD #593, MN reserves the right to reject proposals, waive formalities, and to select the proposal that best meets the District's needs.

Criteria for the evaluation of proposals will be provided when the specifications are requested.



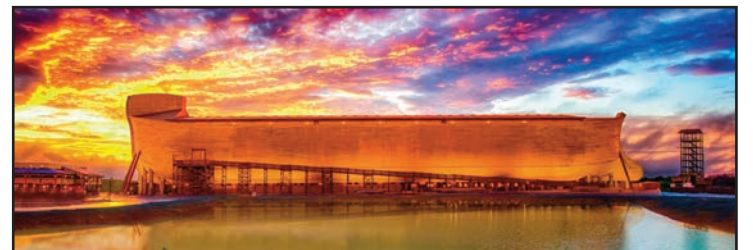
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Day 4
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State individual income tax filing season opens Jan. 26

The Minnesota Department of Revenue will open the state Individual Income Tax filing season on Monday, Jan. 26. This date matches the opening day for the Internal Revenue Service. The filing deadline to submit 2025 Minnesota and federal income tax returns is Wednesday, April 15.

"As always, we encourage taxpayers to file electronically and choose direct deposit for any refund they're owed. This remains the most secure, accurate, and convenient way to file both state

and federal tax returns," said Revenue Commissioner Paul Marquart. "The department takes protecting your personal information and state tax dollars very seriously. We will take the time to review every return for accuracy and to ensure all taxpayers report, pay, and receive the right amount when filing their returns."

Protect yourself by filing electronically and choosing direct deposit

Tax time is also prime-time for identity theft and fraud attempts. Revenue encourages taxpayers filing their returns to use electronic tax filing software and choose direct deposit for any refund. In addition to being the most convenient and secure way to file your taxes, electronic filing also ensures that you have the

most up-to-date forms and instructions when you file. A list of approved tax software providers will be available on the department's website as the opening date gets closer.

Minnesota Child Tax Credit

Taxpayers may qualify for a Child Tax Credit of \$1,750 per qualifying child, with no limit on the number of children claimed. This is a refundable credit, meaning you can receive a refund even if you do not owe tax. You must file a 2025 individual income tax return in order to claim the credit.

Nearly 225,000 Minnesota families claimed the Child Tax Credit last year, putting more than \$577 million into family budgets across the state. Minnesota's Child Tax Credit is expected

to reduce childhood poverty across the state by more than 30%.

Advance payment option available for Child Tax Credit recipients

If a Child Tax Credit recipient chooses advance payments of their 2026 credit when filing their 2025 tax returns this filing season, they will receive a portion of their 2026 credit in three installments going out at the end of July, September and November. They will receive the remaining portion of the credit amount when they file their 2026 income tax returns.

Nearly 17,000 families chose to receive advance payments of their 2025 Child Tax Credit last year. The average advance payment was \$448.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

Executive Office and Administrative Specialist

University of Minnesota Extension is hiring an executive office and administrative specialist. The person hired may choose to be located in the Moorhead or Crookston Regional Office. The primary responsibilities for this position include supporting Volunteer Management & Systems and the Extension Learning Technologies team.

Job ID (371820)
<https://hr.myu.umn.edu/jobs/ext/371820>
 First review of applications: January 28, 2026

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity employer and educator.

Chancellor's list announced

The University of Minnesota Crookston has released its chancellor's list for fall semester 2025.


To qualify for the chancellor's list, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded (A-F) credits while attaining a 4.0 grade point average.

Crookston students named to the chancellor's list included Lam Bo, Nhan Dinh, Ava Edwards, John Hua, Alex Kozitka, Tu Luong, Elizabeth Medlen, Hermon Tegegn, Huyen Than, Renae Wesenberg and Halle Winjum.

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Mason Seeger (left) and Isaac Rath are Lafayette High School seventh graders who talk hockey during each broadcast of the Red Lake Falls hockey on Garden Valley Television channel 34. (Photo by Grant Nelson)

Rural Reflections ...

Talkin' hockey with Mason and Isaac

by **Grant Nelson**



"He ripped it, top shelf!" "It's a barnburner!" or "Tic-Tac-Toe!" punctuate the words we hear from two unseen voices, talkin' hockey, during each broadcast of Red Lake Falls hockey on Garden Valley Television channel 34. Lisa and I discovered the broadcast of hockey a few weeks ago and have watched several times since then. The games were great but what really got us listening was the commentary behind the game which originated with Lafayette High School seventh grade students Mason Seeger and Isaac Rath.

I made arrangements with LHS Principal Brad Kennett to meet the commentators. Kennett said the televised games began during the Covid pandemic and have not decreased in-person attendance. Quite the contrary, it has opened up access to those who may not have been able to enjoy these sports as spectators in the past; even Kennett's mother enjoys the broadcasts at her home in Canada.

I met Mason and Isaac and was able to interview them in a conference room.

Their confidence and enthusiasm was infectious; they are both professional and well spoken. Our conversation revealed their passion for sports and a friendship which shows up in the way they describe what we are watching.

Mason said that they had begun online broadcasts back in 2022 with Facebook live events and a hockey match in Warroad was their first broadcast. It was a natural progression from there to television. I asked if they were ever nervous and Isaac said that they "just went with the flow and had fun."

Mason and Isaac have that inviting combination of humor and knowledge in their broadcast. They know when to have fun and they know when to deliver straight play-by-play. They share their knowledge of what is happening on the ice through their own experience as hockey players. I think what keeps their listeners glued to their screens is the friendship that Mason and Isaac share. In their words, "we are just two best friends talkin' hockey and we love it!" It's fun to watch the hockey broadcasts; however, the experience is even better when listeners have a spot next to Mason and Isaac.

Mason and Isaac pointed out to me that they are grateful for their broadcast team who are all part of the Multi-Media Club under the direction of teacher Seth

Schmitz. While they talk, there is a camera operator at the school capturing the video of the story they share from behind the microphone. They have a control board which controls volume from their microphones to describe the action we see from a camera mounted near the broadcast booth.

Mason and Isaac said the players like their broadcasts and are supportive; one former broadcaster plays on the current team. Future plans include live interviews with the coaches and a separate YouTube feed that will include full broadcasts and highlights.

During the interview, the now-familiar patter between Mason and Isaac drew me into the conversation. One particular line came out as Mason described the need to maintain a good mental picture of play when it drifted into a corner of the rink that was a bit beyond their immediate vision. He said that you sometimes have to "knowledge the play" to keep up with what is going on beyond vision. It's Mason and Isaac's knowledge and descriptions like that that keep us coming back. Isaac wrapped the interview perfectly when he said, "We're always going to be excited, even if it's a blowout." That's what we will count on, and part of what draws us to listen to Mason and Isaac, just two good friends "talkin' hockey."



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 - City Department Heads + More





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POLICIES

Letters To The Editor: The staff of the *Northern Watch* encourages written responses to editorial comment or letters with original thoughts or ideas of general interest. Letters should be intended for publication in *Northern Watch* exclusively; letters sent to multiple publications will generally not be accepted. Right is reserved to edit letters for length and clarity and to reject letters deemed to be promotional in nature or in poor taste.

Letters Must Be Signed: All letters must be signed and contain an address or phone number of the writer so authenticity can be verified. **Signatures must appear on letters published.** The staff believes that there is greater credibility in

letters signed in print and will not withhold names of writers from publication.

Responses Invited: Letters critical of individuals or other entities may be shown to those individuals or representatives of those entities in advance of publication with an invitation by newspaper staff for response in the same issue as the original letter.

Corrections: If an error is made in news or advertising publication, the staff encourages readers to call it to our immediate attention by calling 681-4450. We will attempt to correct the error or clarify the misunderstanding in the next issue.



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Otters pull away for 5-3 win over Pirates

Fergus Falls outscored Crookston by two goals in the final period to break a 3-3 tie and take a 5-3 win Monday night at the Crookston Sports Center.

The game was knotted 3-3 after two periods were in the books.

The Otters struck first with a goal by Averie Tonneson a little over three minutes into the opening period.

The Pirates tied the game with a power play goal by Rilyn Aubol, with Ava Martin on the assist, with 10 minutes left in the first.

The Otters regained the lead on a power play goal of their own, with Rachel Debrito finding the net and Brook Zierden on the assist, with 7:24 left in the first.

The Pirates evened things up at two goals apiece with an unassisted marker by Emma LaPlante 4:02 into the second frame.

Adley Vigness gave the Pirates their first lead of the night with another unassisted goal with 8:35 remaining in the second.

The Otters tied the game less than three minutes before the second intermission, with Tonneson scoring her

second of the night unassisted.

The Otters took the lead for good with a goal by Ella Dirkman 5:08 into the third period. They added an insurance goal by Aubree Nelson on the empty netter with 32 seconds remaining.

Goaltender Olivia Jurgens picked up the win for the Otters, saving 16 of the 19 shots she faced. Madilyn Abrams faced 29 shots on goal and allowed four for the Pirates.

Scoring	1	2	3	T
Fergus Falls	2	1	2	5
Crookston	1	2	0	3

First period - FF, Averie Tonneson (unassisted) 3:04; Crookston, Rilyn Aubol (power play) (Ava Martin) 7:00; FF, Rachel Debrito (power play) (Brook Zierden) 9:36.

Second period - Crookston, Emma LaPlante (unassisted) 4:02; Crookston, Adley Vigness (unassisted) 8:25; FF, Averie Tonneson (unassisted) 14:17.

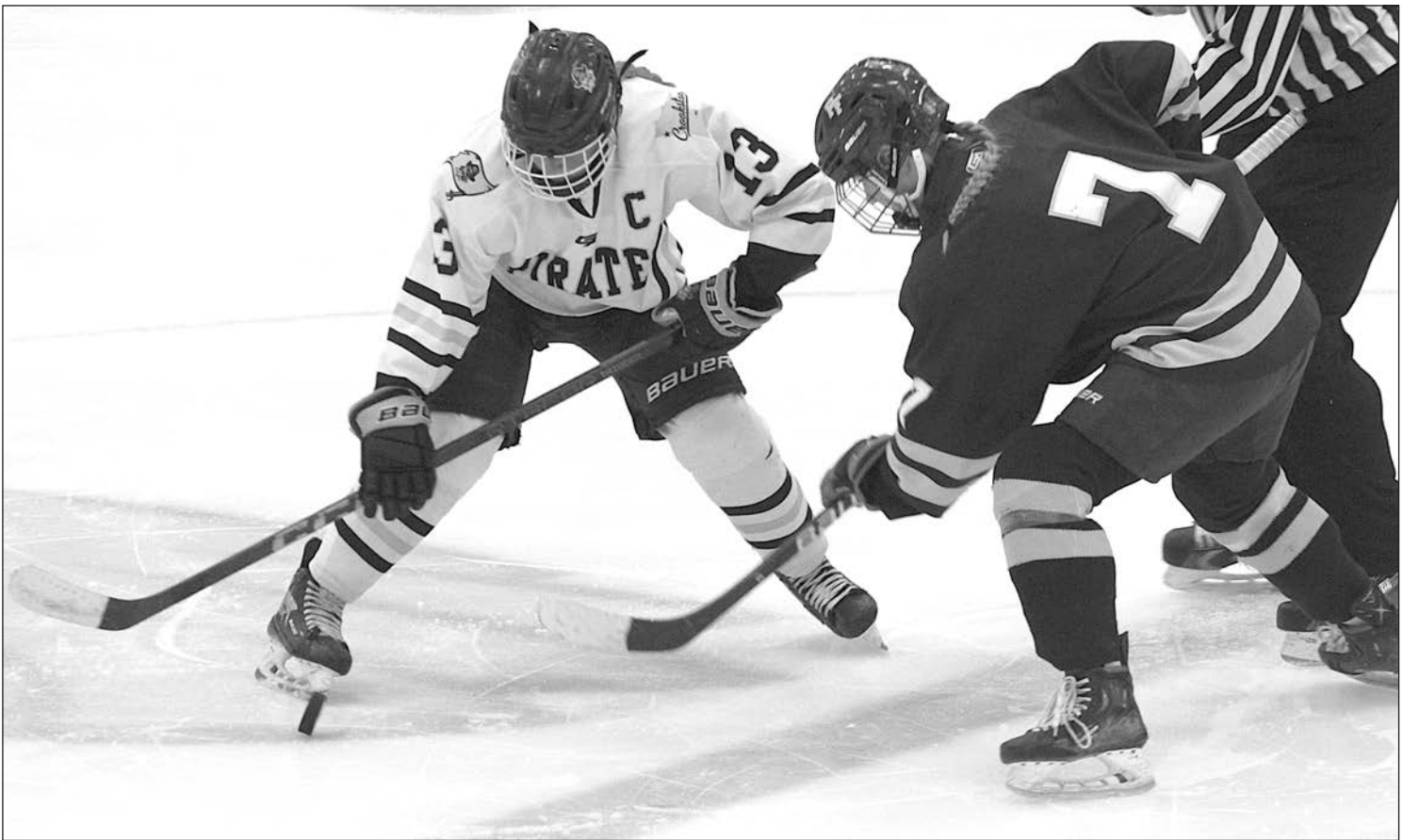
Third period - FF, Ella Dirkman (Kynzie Zender, Katie Bergren) 5:08; FF, Aubree Nelson (Hannah Johnson) 16:28.

Shots - FF 10-7-13 - 30; Crookston 3-8-8 - 19.

Power plays - FF 1-for-3; Crookston 1-for-3.

Penalties - Fergus Falls 4 (8 minutes); Crookston 4 (8 minutes).

Goalie saves - FF, Olivia Jurgens 16; Crookston, Madilyn Abrams 25.



Senior forward Emma LaPlante (13) wins a face-off against the Otters' Brinley Harris (7) during Monday's game against Fergus Falls. LaPlante scored a goal during the second period of the team's Senior Night matchup. (Photo by Isaac Telle)

Crookston boys drop games to RLC, DGF and LPA

The Crookston boys basketball team dropped games to Red Lake County Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton and Lake Park-Audubon during a busy and challenging five-day stretch.

The Pirates hosted the Rebels, currently ranked second in Class A, on Thursday, Jan. 15. The Rebels nearly doubled up the Pirates in the opening half, taking a 35-18 lead into the locker room, and pulled away in the second for the 65-40 win.

The Rebels had four play-

ers in double figures, led by Ethan Johnson with 21 points. Crookston senior Nolan Casavant was the only Pirate in double figures with 12 points.

The challenging five-day stretch continued Monday night with a trip to Glyndon to face Section 8AA-leading Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton. The Pirates played the Rebels close for one half, before the Rebels broke the game open in the second half for the 73-45 win.

Carter Fee, 16, and Reggie

Winjum, 11, finished in double figures for the Pirates. Mason Bjerkman, 24, Quincy Cox, 11, and Nolan Verdi, 10, were leading scorers for the Rebels.

The Pirates returned home Tuesday night to face the Raiders of Lake Park-Audubon. The Raiders had won three of their past four coming into Tuesday night's game and they stayed hot with a 69-53 win over the Pirates.

Winjum scored a game-high 24 points in the Pirate

loss, with Fee and Beau Smith also hitting double figures with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Luca Beske, 20, Mac Voth, 13 and Brody Hanson, 12, all reached double figures for the Raiders.

Scoring	1	2	T
Red Lake County	35	30	65
Crookston	18	22	40

Red Lake County - Ethan Johnson 21, Will Gieseke 14, Connor Duden 10, Ben Gullingsrud 10, Thor Thompson 4, Gunnar Halverson 2, Nate Powers 2, Nick Suchy 2.

Crookston - Nolan Casavant 12, Beau Smith 9, Reggie Winjum 7, Jacob Halvorson 4, Nolan Johnson 4, Carter Fee 2, Josh Hesby 2.

Scoring	1	2	T
Crookston	27	18	45
DGF	34	39	73

Crookston - Carter Fee 16, Reggie Winjum 11, Gunnar Groven 8, Nolan Johnson 5, Beau Smith 3, Josh Hesby 2.

DGF - Mason Bjerkman 24, Quincy Cox 11, Nolan Verdi 10, Jaxon Oman 9, Jake Dawson 7, Chase Johnson 4, Wyatt Conklin 3, Finn Ahonen 2, Hezzy Toga 2.

Scoring	1	2	T
LPA	40	29	69
Crookston	21	32	53

Lake Park-Audubon - Luca Beske 20, Mac Voth 13, Brody Hanson 12, Leif Shervoy 8, Tydan Eiter 7, Troy Nerdaahl 7, Jackson Kastel 2.

Crookston - Reggie Winjum 24, Carter Fee 11, Beau Smith 10, Nolan Johnson 5, Nolan Casavant 2, Gunnar Groven 1.



Senior Nolan Cassavant marches up the court during the Pirates' 69-53 loss on Tuesday to Lake Park-Audubon. Cassavant recorded 2 points and had 3 rebounds in the game. (Photo by Isaac Telle)

Girls Basketball

Pirates rout Prowlers, lose at buzzer to Rams

A late three-pointer by Roseau's Anna Ulvin gave the Roseau Rams a 67-66 win over Crookston Tuesday night at Roseau High School.

The Pirates and Rams traded the lead for much of the night with the Rams holding a 35-34 edge at the break.

Audrey Hayden scored 24 points to lead the Rams, with Ulvin, 18, and Brooklyn Hulst, also hitting double digits.

Chloe Boll had a big night for the Pirates with 22 points and nine rebounds. Madi Bruggeman scored 21 points and Grace Boll reached double figures with 12 points.

The buzzer beater by Ulvin kept the Pirates from securing their second two-game winning streak of the season. On Thursday, the Pirates picked up their fourth

win of the season in a 47-31 triumph over Thief River Falls.

Chloe Boll, 14, Bruggeman, 14, and Grace Boll 11, led the Pirates to Thursday night's win.

Scoring	1	2	T
Crookston	21	26	47
Thief River Falls	14	17	31

Crookston - Chloe Boll 22, Madi Bruggeman 14, Grace Boll 11, Brooklyn Waldal 4, Halle Nicholas 3, Morgan Boll 1.

Thief River Falls - Taylor Berg 9, Aniyah Fields 6, Kenzie Reynolds 4, Harper Vigen 4, Alli Grosz 4, Davdine King 2, Karena Bakken 1, Piper Greene 1.

Scoring	1	2	T
Crookston	34	32	66
Roseau	35	32	67

Crookston - Chloe Boll 22, Grace Boll 12, Brooklyn Waldal 9, Madi Bruggeman 21, Morgan Boll 2.

Roseau - Emma Olson 3, Brooklyn Hulst 14, Aliviah Mather 8, Anna Ulvin 18, Audrey Hayden 24.

Wrestling

Crookston goes 1-1 at Thompson Triangular

The Crookston boys wrestling team earned a two-match split, defeating Thompson before falling to Hillsboro/Central Valley in a triangular meet Tuesday night in Thompson.

The Pirates got wins from Mauricio Arriaga, Gabriel Perala, Kolton Bahrenfuss, Jose Contreras, Gavyn Hlucny, Jose Arriaga, Jaron Knutson, Miles Corneillie and Jack Odegaard agasint the Tommies.

Mauricio Arriaga, Hlucny, Lucas Perala, Knutson and Odegaard picked up wins for the Pirates in the second dual.

Crookston 53, Thompson 17
107: Xavier Swartz, THOM over Jackson Haaland, CROO (TF 18-1 (4:15)); 114: Mauricio Arriaga, CROO over Garrett Krebs, THOM (TF 18-2 (5:55)); 121: Forfeit, CROO vs. Forfeit, THOM (DFF); 127: Gabriel Perala, CROO over Gabe Fleck, THOM (F 0:43); 133: Kolton Bahrenfuss, CROO over Forfeit, THOM (FF); 139: Jose Contreras, CROO over Forfeit, THOM (FF); 145: Mason Bartels, THOM over Forfeit, CROO (FF); 152: Gavyn Hlucny, CROO over Hudson Goldade, THOM (F 0:48); 160: Jose Arriaga, CROO over Forfeit, THOM (FF); 172: Caden Kurz, THOM over Lucas Perala, CROO (F 5:05); 189: Jaron Knutson, CROO over Jaxson Tozer, THOM (F 1:46); 215: Miles Corneillie, CROO over Dominic DeFoe, THOM (F 3:10); 285: Jack Odegaard, CROO over Forfeit, THOM (FF).

Hillsboro/Central Valley 47, Crookston 26
107: Logan Burger, HCV over Jackson Haaland, CROO (F 0:20); 114: Mauricio Arriaga, CROO over Emery Jennen, HCV (TF 18-3 (5:37)); 121: Sawyer Lee, HCV over Forfeit, CROO (FF); 127: Justin Torroll, HCV over Gabriel Perala, CROO (TF 17-2 (1:31)); 133: Zander Dovenmuehler, HCV over Kolton Bahrenfuss, CROO (F 0:45); 139: Jackson Klecker, HCV over Jose Contreras, CROO (F 1:12); 145: Lane Nelson, HCV over Forfeit, CROO (FF); 152: Gavyn Hlucny, CROO over Carson Kozojed, HCV (Dec 10-9); 160: Lucas Perala, CROO over Cade Mueller, HCV (F 2:57); 172: Jaron Knutson, CROO over Ben Nelson, HCV (F 3:36); 189: Easton Beach, HCV over Miles Corneillie, CROO (F 0:49); 215: Devin Wigdahl, HCV over Raymond Suarez, CROO (F 1:04); 285: Jack Odegaard, CROO

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Pirates outlast Flyers 7-5



Senior goalie Brady Chandler makes one of his 41 saves during the second period of Crookston's 7-0 loss to Warroad. (Photo by Isaac Telle)

The Crookston Pirates boys hockey team picked up a much-needed 7-5 win over Bagley/Fosston Thursday, Jan. 15 at the Crookston Sports Center. The Pirates had dropped three straight going into Thursday night's game between Section 8A teams.

The Pirates scored three goals in a four-minute span in the middle of the opening period. Tate Hamre and Greyson Ecker scored unassisted goals nine seconds apart with 7:57 and 7:48 remaining, respectively, and Garret Fischer scored with 3:53 remaining to stake the Pirates to a 3-0 lead. Jay Reese and Hamre were credited with assists on Fischer's goal.

The Pirates and Flyers traded goals early in a wild second period that would see a combined six goals between

the teams. Reese scored his first of the night 3:13 into the second period with Fischer on the assist. Bagley/Fosston's Logan Dillich answered with a power play goal to put the Flyers on the board, and Fischer scored his second of the night short-handed to make it 5-1 Pirates with 7:28 left in the second.

The Flyers came back quickly with three goals in just under two minutes to make the score 5-4. Dillich scored his second power play goal of the period and Wyatt Gerbracht scored twice in a 54-second span with the latter coming with 2:29 left before the second intermission.

The Flyers tied the game at the 4:48 mark of the third period with their third power play goal of the night. Reid Gerbracht scored with James Palmer and Dillich on the as-

sists. The Pirates regained the lead a couple minutes later as Fischer completed the hat trick, with Reese on the assist.

Reese scored his second of the night unassisted with just under three minutes remaining.

Both goalies finished with 33 saves, with Brady Chandler getting the win for the Pirates and Brookston Hildebrandt taking the loss for the Flyers.

Warriors blank Pirates
Fourth-ranked Warroad held Crookston to just five shots on goal en route to a 7-0 shutout victory by the Warriors Tuesday night at the Crookston Sports Center.

The Warriors pulled away gradually, scoring two goals in each of the first two periods before putting three pucks in the net in the third

period. Scoring goals for the Warriors were Wyatt Samuelson, Broden Hontvet (2), Rodrick Jackson, Casey Hendrickson, Ryan Shaugabay and Gavin Anderson.

Warroad goaltender Finn Hanson got the shutout after turning away all five Crookston shots on goal. Teegyn Johnson finished with 34 saves for the Pirates.

Scoring

	1	2	3	T
Bagley/Fosston	0	4	1	5
Crookston	3	2	2	7

First period - Crookston, Tate Hamre (unassisted) 9:03; Crookston, Greyson Ecker (unassisted) 9:12; Crookston, Garrett Fischer (Jay Reese, Tate Hamre) 13:07.

Second period - Crookston, Jay Reese (Garrett Fischer) 3:13; Bagley/Fosston, Logan Dillich (power play) 5:17; Crookston, Garrett Fischer (short handed) 9:32; Bagley/Fosston, Logan Dillich (power play) (Grant Merschman, James Palmer) 12:49; Bagley/Fosston, Wyatt Gerbracht (even strength) (#3 Reid Gerbracht, #13 Logan Dillich) 13:37; Bagley/Fosston, Wyatt Gerbracht (Logan Dillich, James Palmer) 14:31.

Third period - Bagley/Fosston, Reid Gerbracht (power play) (James Palmer, Logan Dillich) 4:48; Crookston, Garrett Fischer (unassisted) (Jay Reese) 6:48; Crookston, Jay Reese (unassisted) 14:09.

Shots - Bagley/Fosston, 10-18-10 - 38; Crookston 17-11-12 - 40.

Power plays - Bagley/Fosston 3-for-7; Crookston 0-for-1.

Penalties - Bagley/Fosston 1 (2 minutes); Crookston 7 (14 minutes).

Goalie saves - Bagley/Fosston, Brookston Hildebrandt 33; Crookston, Brady Chandler 33.

Scoring

	1	2	3	T
Warroad	2	2	3	7
Crookston	0	0	0	0

First period - Warroad, Wyatt Samuelson (Ryan Chamernick, Taylor Humeniuk) 10:30; Warroad, Broden Hontvet (Ryan Shaugabay, Gavin Andersen) 16:32.

Second period - Warroad, Rodrick Jackson (Ryan Lee, Gavin Andersen) 10:56; Warroad, Casey Hendrickson (Broden Hontvet, Wyatt Samuelson) 13:14.

Third period - Warroad, Ryan Shaugabay (unassisted) 5:05; Warroad, Gavin Andersen (unassisted) 8:35; Warroad, Broden Hontvet (even strength) (Rodrick Jackson, Gavin Andersen) 13:43.

Shots - Warroad 13-19-9 - 41; Crookston 1-2-2 - 5.

Power plays - Warroad 0-for-5; Crookston 0-for-3.

Penalties - Warroad 3 (6 minutes); Crookston 5 (10 minutes).

Goalie saves - Warroad, Finn Hanson 5; Crookston, Teegyn Johnson 34.



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