



CROOKSTON WATCH

"NORTHWEST MINNESOTA'S REGIONAL NEWSPAPER"



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Council approves hemp edible license

by Anna Phalen
Correspondent

The Crookston City Council approved a lower-potency hemp edible retailer license at its meeting Monday, May 18.

The license was approved for MPT Enterprises, doing business as Best Buy Liquors/IC Muggs. City officials noted the applicant had satisfied all required conditions for licensure, including payment of applicable fees and compliance with zoning, safety and operational standards. Officials also reiterated that the state had already approved the license.

During discussion, council members were reminded that the city's role is limited to determining whether an applicant complies with legal and zoning requirements.

Approval came two weeks after the council initially rejected the license.

Resident addresses council concerns

During the Crookston Forum, resident Bishop Jensen spoke to the council regarding several concerns, including what he described

as a lack of representation and the recent denial of a lower-potency hemp edible retailer license after the state had already issued approval.

Jensen said there continues to be a stigma surrounding hemp edible products and also pointed to a pattern of council absences at recent meetings. He additionally thanked Fin and Fit for its continued efforts in the community.

Pool Mural Project approved

The council also approved the Crookston Community

Pool Mural Project, which will be completed at no cost to the city.

Local artist and Fin and Fit board member Trey Everett volunteered his time and artistic services to design and paint the mural. Fin and Fit also agreed to cover all material costs, including paint, supplies and protective coating.

The Crookston Park Board previously reviewed mural options and unanimously recommended the first design for approval.

Emergency sewer repair authorized

Council approved emergency sanitary sewer repairs on North Front Street after city staff identified a sewer main that is nearing failure. According to city officials, failure of the line could result in major disruptions to sewer service, damage to public and private property, impacts to businesses and schools, environmental concerns and increased emergency repair costs.

The sewer main, originally installed in 1942, is expected to cost approximately \$100,000 for engineering, design, bidding, construction

and related services.

Farm lease renewed

The council also approved a one-year cash farm lease agreement with BTB Farms for approximately 80 acres of city-owned land commonly referred to as the Colborn Property/Industrial Park.

Officials said planned development on the property will not occur in 2026, and leasing the land helps avoid mowing and weed maintenance costs.

Crookston Veterans Council to hold remembrances for fallen heroes

The Crookston Veterans Council, which includes the American Legion and Auxiliary, DAV and Auxiliary, VFW Post and Auxiliary, and the BYR of Crookston, invites Crookston area residents to join in the remembrance of our nation's fallen heroes and their families.

The council invites the public to pause on Monday, May 25 to remember those who have fought for our freedoms:

- 8 a.m. – Hafslo Cemetery
- 8:45 a.m. – Gentilly Cemetery
- 10 a.m. – Oakdale Cemetery and flag raising

• 11:15 a.m. – Sampson Bridge – Naval Ceremony

The Crookston Veterans Council auxiliaries will also place an American flag and wreath "in remembrance" of our heroes and their families at the following locations: Villa and Memorial Walkway and Euclid Cemetery.

Memorial Day is the day Americans set aside to honor those brave men and women who met tragic ends during times of war.

We must use this day to honor their sacrifices, to pray for their families, and to bow our heads in recognition of their service. We must never forget.



Gay Webster (holding award) has been named RiverView Auxiliary's 2025 Volunteer of the Year. She is pictured with (front row) Auxiliary members Judy Mosher, Marlys Mjoen;

(back row) Jean LaPlante, Kathie Barnes, Deb Normandin, Ruth Cameron, and Krista Proulx. (Submitted)

Gay Webster named RiverView Auxiliary's Volunteer of the Year

Gay Webster embodies the true meaning of the word "volunteer." She freely gives her time and talents to support her community and is known for being reliable, compassionate, proactive, flexible, and willing to step in wherever help is needed. In recognition of her dedication and service, she was recently named the recipient of the RiverView Auxiliary's 2025 Alta Hermodson Heart and Soul Award.

Established in 2003, the annual award honors a volunteer who exemplifies the Auxiliary's mission of volun-

teerism and service to RiverView Health, much like Alta Hermodson herself. Hermodson devoted countless hours to her church, library, hospital, and museum, giving generously to the organizations and causes she believed in.

"Gay is a shining example of what the Alta Hermodson Heart and Soul Award stands for," said Jean LaPlante, Auxiliary president, at the group's spring meeting. "Whether through her past work as a teacher, her ongoing dedication to her church, or her many hours of

community service, she gives generously – not only with her time and energy, but with genuine care for others. She is someone people can depend on and someone who is always willing to step forward where help is needed."

Visitors to RiverView's Limited Addition Gift Shop on Tuesdays will likely find Gay creating welcoming displays and arranging merchandise throughout the store, where she has faithfully volunteered for many years.

She is also a valued mem-

ber of the Auxiliary Board, helping with fundraisers and blood drives that support the health and well-being of the community.

Her service to RiverView is only one part of her long-standing commitment to volunteerism.

At St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Fertile, she serves in numerous roles. She teaches Sunday school for students in grades 5-7, fostering a welcoming environment where faith and learning come together

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Crookston Mayor Dale Stainbrook presented RiverView SLS Director Cindy Strom with a proclamation recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month. (Submitted)

RiverView's Senior Life Solutions encourages "More Good Days, Together"

This May, RiverView Health's Senior Life Solutions program is recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month by embracing this year's theme, "More Good Days, Together."

"Mental health matters at every stage of life, and our team is committed to supporting older adults and caregivers in our rural communities with compassionate, meaningful care," said Program Director Cindy Strom, RN, BSN. "Mental Health Awareness Month is an opportunity to start conversations, reduce stigma, and connect people with support. At Senior Life Solu-

tions, we are highlighting the unique mental health needs of older adults and encouraging our community to take small steps that can lead to more good days, together."

To support mental wellness and encourage meaningful conversations, Strom offers the following suggestions:

- Challenge misconceptions: Depression, anxiety, and other mental health challenges are not a normal part of aging. They are common, treatable conditions that deserve attention and

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Our Savior's Lutheran School students presented their spring program Wednesday, May 6. The preschool class opened the evening by sharing some of their favorite songs from throughout the year. K-6 grade students then performed the musical "The Lions, the Switch, and the Warm Robes." The clue-solving main characters collected points

in their virtual reality video game as they encountered Daniel in the lions' den, the Hebrew boys in a fiery furnace, and some mysterious handwriting on the wall. They discovered that there is one true God who delivered the Old Testament characters and they learned about the ultimate deliverer – Jesus Christ. (Submitted)

Because Health Needs Don't Wait.

Weekdays 7 AM - 7 PM and Weekends 9 AM - 1 PM

RIVERVIEW CLINIC
323 S MINNESOTA STREET | CROOKSTON

Extended clinic hours for your schedule.
Call 218.281.9595 to make an appointment.

Encouraging “More Good Days, Together”/Continued

(Continued from Page 1) care.

- Start conversations: A simple check-in can make a meaningful difference. Open conversations about mental health help people feel supported and less alone.
- Support caregivers: Caregivers play a vital role in the well-being of older adults. It's important for caregivers to prioritize their own mental health as well.
- Foster connection: Social connection can positively impact emotional well-being. Reaching out to a friend, neighbor, or loved one may brighten someone's day.
- Encourage help-seeking: Asking for help is a sign of strength. Early support can make coping and recovery easier.

“Even small actions can make a meaningful impact,” said Strom. “When we check in on one another, listen without judgment, and connect people to support, we help create more good days for older adults, caregivers, and families across our community.”

Specialized support for older adults

RiverView's SLS program provides outpatient services tailored to the unique mental health needs of older adults, typically those age 65 and older. The program helps individuals develop coping and communication skills to improve emotional well-being and overall quality of life.

Services include:

- Group therapy
- Individual therapy
- Psychiatric evaluation
- Medication management

The care team includes a board-certified psychiatrist, licensed therapists, a registered nurse, and other professionals dedicated to supporting the emotional well-being of older adults in

the community. Individuals may benefit from the program if they are experiencing symptoms or life events such as:

- Anxiety
- Changes in appetite
- Depression
- Difficulty sleeping
- Feelings of sadness or grief lasting more than two weeks
- Feelings of worthlessness or hopelessness
- Loss of a spouse or close family member
- Loss of energy
- Loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities
- A recent traumatic event

Meeting needs in-person, remotely

In addition to in-person services, the program also offers teletherapy appointments, allowing patients to receive mental health support from the comfort of home using a telephone, computer, or tablet.

Anyone can make a referral to RiverView's SLS program, including self-referrals, provider referrals, and referrals from family members or friends.

If you are taking steps to improve your mental health but still feel stuck, or if you are unsure where to begin, talk with your primary care provider about available services or call RiverView's SLS program at 218-281-9559.

City Hall switches to summer hours

Beginning Tuesday, May 26, the Crookston City Hall will work summer hours from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and 7 to 11 a.m. on Fridays.



The Crookston Ambassador Team horsed around to honor and congratulate Ashley Peterson, owner of ASH Performance Horses. Raise your hand if you know that Crookston has a horse hotel at what was known as the old Winter Shows building. Although some hotels are pet friendly, ASH Performance truly is 2,000-pound pet friendly. Stalls and pens are prepaid. Lights, water and wheelbarrows are provided; maids are not. There are 30 vacancies in this space. Ashley continued the tour where 30 more heated stalls were filled with the horses that had her attention and heart each day. This is where the magic happens. These are the horses that come here to learn and to work. On average, a horse stays here 90 days to train. If they are here to learn a certain

discipline or trade, their stay will be more in the realm of a year or so. Current events consist of barrel races, open rides, various clinics, cowboy mounted shootings, and auctions. Services include colt starting, clinic and coaching, showing, sales and marketing. Contact Ashley Peterson at 701-720-6660 or petersonhorsetraining@gmail.com. Her services can also be found on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Pictured are (from left) Taylor Wyum (Crookston Economic Development Authority), Tracy Kuchan (LeBlanc Realty), Ashley, Lydia Hoffman (AgCountry Farm Credit Services), Bobbie Torkelson (H&R Block) and Keenan Devier (City of Crookston). Carrie Bergquist is not pictured. (Submitted)

Auxiliary Volunteer of the Year named

(Continued from Page 1) naturally.

Gay also serves as president of the Rosary and Altar Society, coordinating Sunday morning breakfast schedules to support families while children attend classes. She helps organize cleaning and service groups for grieving families following funerals, offering quiet compassion during difficult times. Through meal ministry and prayer blanket making, she reaches out to hospitalized individuals,

providing comfort and reassurance when it is needed most.

Within the church, Gay serves as a lector and choir member with the former West of Winger – WOW – Singers, helping uplift others through scripture and song. During the summer months, she also shares flowers from her own garden to create fresh arrangements that brighten the church sanctuary.

“What makes Gay's service especially meaningful is

that it is never done for recognition,” LaPlante stated. “It is steady, humble, and given with a loving heart. Her willingness to serve strengthens every organization she touches and reminds us all of the power of kindness and consistency.”

“Gay Webster is truly deserving of this honor, and Alta would be very proud to see such a dedicated individual receiving an award that bears her name.”

CORRECTION

In last week's Crookston Watch, the wrong elective offices were listed for Polk County. The following will be on the ballot this fall:

- District 2 county commissioner
- District 4 county commissioner
- County attorney
- County sheriff
- District 1 East Polk soil and water supervisor
- District 2 East Polk soil and water supervisor
- District 1 West Polk soil and water supervisor
- District 3 West Polk soil and water supervisor

Crookston Area Ministries

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH
23928 265th St SW - Crookston
(East of Highland School)
Church: 281-5629
Preston Hoiseith, Pastor
Web: www.biblebaptistcrookston.org
Email: biblebaptist@midco.net

Sundays: 7:45 a.m. & 10:05 a.m., Heavenly Sonlight 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

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.

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
Sundays: 9 a.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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FIRST ENGLISH 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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
510 North Broadway - Crookston
218-281-4853
crookstonfirstpres.org
Sundays: 10:45 a.m. Worship (live-streaming at crookstonfirstpres.org or on our Facebook page) Communion 1st Sunday

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.

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)

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

HARVEST CHURCH
520 Fisher Avenue - Crookston
218-281-2264
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

HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
11330 435th St SW - Fertile - 218-945-3677
www.hope4fertility.org
email: hope4fertility.worship@gmail.com
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship

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

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

LIVING WATER FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Nielsville, MN
Monty & Amanda Brown
For information call: 218-946-2675
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship
Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Evening Service

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

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

OUR LADY OF SORROWS' CHAPEL - Society of St. Pius X
600 E Robert St - U.S. Hwy 2 E - Crookston
218-281-6880, 218-230-8860
Sundays: 10 a.m. Holy Mass

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

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

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

RODNES LUTHERAN
35473 180th Ave SE - Erskine
South of Hwy 2 on City 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)

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
707 4th Ave. NE - Crookston
Phone: 218-945-6649
Pastor David Jahn
Saturdays: 10 a.m. Sabbath School, 11:30 a.m. Worship

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

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH - MENTOR
16180 336th St SE - Mentor
218-637-8178
Fr. John Kleinwachter

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

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - EUCLID
Sundays: For the months of April, May, and June: weekend Mass on Saturdays at 5 p.m. **Tuesdays:** Mass at 8:00 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN (ELCA)
1214 University Avenue - Crookston
Email: stpauls@midconetwork.com
Website: stpaulscrookstonmn.com
Phone: 218-281-3638
Pastor Curt Peterson
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship
You may worship via Facebook Live: facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn

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

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
205 S Broadway - Crookston
Rev. Vern Christopherson
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.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, FISHER (LCMS)
Church Office: 218-891-4581
Pastor Doug Thompson
Website: tlcstpaul.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.

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)

This Church Directory Is Sponsored By The Following Businesses

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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

Summer Reading Program announced

Travel through time with reading at the Crookston Public Library this summer. Lake Agassiz Regional Library is bringing a time travel-themed Summer Reading Program to youth and teens in communities in Becker, Clay, Clearwater, Mahanomen, Norman, Polk, and Wilkin counties. Beginning June 1, participants can read to win prizes as well as attend educational and entertaining programs at their local library or library LINK Site.

Those interested in participating are encouraged to stop by the Crookston Public Library to pick up a reading log beginning June 1. Information about the program

and event lists are available at larl.org/explore.

The program will be offered from June 1-July 31. A number of engaging programs will be held in connection with the reading challenge, including performances by dance parties with Conductor Jack, an award-winning children's educator, YouTube and entertainer, as well as up-close experiences with a real printing press, stops by Prairie Public's Learning Express Trailer and much more. All programs are offered free-of-charge. More information is available at larl.org and a full list of programs, dates and times can be found at larl.org/explore.

Distracted driving campaign leads to citations for nearly 5,500 drivers

A driver cited for their sixth violation of the hands-free cell phone law. A driver even caught for using both a laptop and phone while in traffic. Those were just a few of the dangerous behaviors law enforcement officers encountered during the April distracted extra enforcement and awareness campaign.

During the campaign, 296 Minnesota law enforcement agencies reported 5,426 hands-free cell phone use citations. The Crookston Police Department cited one driver for a wireless communications violation during that timeframe. The Polk County Sheriff's Office cited two motorists for wireless communications violations and arrested a motorist for driving while impaired.

"The results of this cam-

aign show that we still have a lot of work to do to keep people from using their cell phones while driving," said Mike Hanson, director of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Office of Traffic Safety.

The campaign ran from April 1 through April 30 and was coordinated by OTS with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The campaign included extra enforcement from law enforcement agencies statewide.

City Hall to be closed

City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

Nearly all of state's public water systems met all federal drinking water standards

The Minnesota Drinking Water Annual Report for 2025, released by the Minnesota Department of Health recently, showed that more than 99% of Minnesota's public water systems met all federal health-based drinking water standards in 2025. Where violations occurred, consumers were notified and corrective actions were taken.

"Because of the hard work happening at the city, county and state levels, millions of Minnesotans across the state can turn on the tap and feel confident that their water is safe," said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Dr. Brooke Cunningham.

The 2025 report documents progress made last year on key priorities, including how more than 6,500 community water suppliers throughout Minnesota are working to keep the state's drinking water safe now and in the future.

Additional highlights of the 2025 report include:

- Reducing childhood lead exposure: In 2025, MDH expanded its work on lead in early care and education settings by, for example, providing guidance, free testing, remediation grants and an interactive Minnesota Lead in Drinking

Water in Early Care and Education Facilities Map, which allows families to check results for the facilities their children attend. Additionally, Minnesota water systems continue working to replace all lead service lines and eliminate this exposure to lead from drinking water by 2033.

- Supporting systems with the greatest needs: MDH continued to prioritize providing planning, funding and technical support to water systems serving communities with the greatest infrastructure challenges and fewest resources. For example, the Source Water Protection Grants program helps public water systems undertake critical projects to safeguard their drinking water sources, particularly smaller and under-resourced systems.

- Expanding testing for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and emerging contaminants: MDH contracted engineers to collect more than 1,800 water samples at community and noncommunity water systems across the state to test for PFAS, helping systems prepare for the EPA's enforceable PFAS limits, which take effect in 2029. Through the Clean Water Fund, the Public Health Laboratory has been able to

LEGAL NOTICES

May 23, 2026
 60-PR-26-500
STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF POLK DISTRICT COURT NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
 Court File No.: 60-PR-26-500
 Case Type: Informal Probate
In Re: Estate of Randall Robert Ganyo a/k/a Randall R. Ganyo a/k/a Randall Ganyo, Decedent.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that PEGGY GANYO, 3741 Daytona Dr., Bismarck ND 58503 is the Personal Representative for the Estate of Randall R. Ganyo, a resident of the State of North Dakota. On April 16, 2026, the Personal Representative filed with the Court an Application to be appointed as Personal Representative and stating an intention to exercise as to assets in Minnesota, all powers of a local personal representative and to maintain actions and proceedings in Minnesota in accordance with Minn. Stat. 524.4-205.

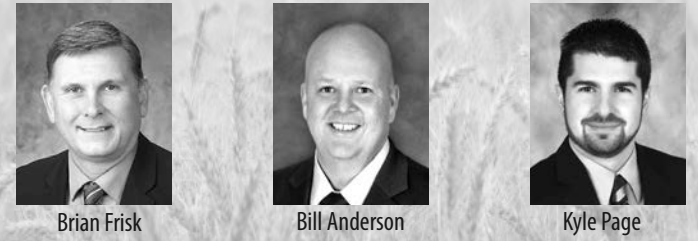
Notice is also given that any Minnesota creditor who objects to the Personal Representative's exercise of power over assets in Minnesota must file a written objection within 60 days from the Personal Representative's filing. If no objections are filed, the representative may, after the expiration of the 60-day period, exercise all powers of a local personal representative.
 Dated: 5/16/2026
 /s/ Kathy Narlock / CW
Court Administrator

SANDRA B. DITTUS
 Dakota Law Group, P.C.
 3770 South Washington St, Ste. B
 Grand Forks, ND 58201
 Telephone Number (701) 772-8111
 Attorneys for: Personal Representative of the Estate of Randall R. Ganyo



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DEATHS

Cordelia "Corry" Jean Frenz, 68

Cordelia "Corry" Jean Frenz, 68, of Crookston, passed away on Friday, May 15, 2026.

A memorial service celebrating Corry's life will be held on Friday, May 29, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Stenshoel-Houske Funeral Home in Crookston. Visitation with the family will be one hour prior to the service, at 12 p.m. The service will be livestreamed, a link to which will be available on www.stenshoelhoueke.com/obituaries/cordelia-corry-frenz. Interment will immediately follow the service, at Oakdale Cemetery.

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 If you wish to have your name, address and telephone number in the ad, please write it on the numbered lines provided.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 - \$6.00
16	17	18	19	20
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For a full job description, application, and general job openings information, go to www.co.polk.mn.us and click on "Careers" or call 218-281-5408 Polk County Administrator's Office. EOE



"The Ash Patch" is among the unattended stations that have cropped up. It is located east of Viking and north of Lilac Ridge Mobile Home Court. (Submitted)

Rural Reflections ...

Unattended stations crop up

by Grant Nelson



There exist little outposts of commerce and learning in both urban settings and along gravel roads in our world. Most of these little spots are not placed for high traffic but because the owner lives there. These sites include honor boxes, micro libraries or any self-service site, often selling vegetables or other homemade items. The most descriptive phrase I could find to include them all was "the unattended station."

Our first experience with these stations was the vegetable honor box just north of Thief River Falls. We know the owners and always enjoyed stopping there to get fresh vegetables during our Sunday drives. As I recall, this honor box was fairly large with a separate box to make change, a simple transaction.

We still use the large, mobile trailer food stand/honor box on Main Avenue North in Thief River Falls. This stand is sometimes staffed and sometimes it's self-serve. We usually get our pumpkins here. I've seen other sites advertised on social media that sell gift items, eggs, etc. Micro libraries seem

much more prevalent to me. I see them just driving around, and Lisa and I scout for them on Sunday afternoons. I think these tiny libraries are probably more expressive of the owner than the more utilitarian vegetable stations, which makes sense. I mean look at the difference between a grocery store and a library.

I have considered a micro library, but I became mired in details. I designed an elaborate, barn-themed library that featured sliding doors and other features that would have made it quite heavy. It would have required two posts (at least) to hold it in place, particularly when the ground moves during the winter. My design reminded me of some of the birdhouses I built when I was young.

I did a quick check for phone apps that would help find all forms of unattended stations. "Little Free Library" showed lots of locations around the area, along with a picture and some background information about the micro library. I tried a few different phone apps for unattended and attended vegetable vendors and found only one online. Your results may vary, go drive around and search them out. It's probably more fun that way. It's how we found one such stand last week.

"The Ash Patch" is one such unattended station east of Viking and north of Lilac Ridge Mobile Home

Court. Lisa and I discovered the stand via social media and quickly located it as Lisa was guided by a former Viking resident, me. We purchased freshly-baked monster cookies, sourdough bread and bagels. The baker's husband, Gus, happened to be restocking at the time, so we told him how much we enjoyed their little retail station. It was a nice experience and the baked goods were excellent.

I think that last sentence leads me to an insight to people who build unattended stations; any of these stands seem a very friendly and kind act. It is an effort of connection within a community without intrusion. It's also a way of showing people who you are by what you read or what you think deserves your hard work. It's free books and inexpensive food all delivered on the societal contract of trust that someone will do the right thing. Finding these places is part of the fun and well worth the effort.

Aleah Bienek graduates from Triane

Aleah Bienek of Crookston graduated from Trine University at the end of the spring 2026 semester. Bienek earned a degree in exercise science and Master of Business Administration.

University of Minnesota Crookston names Bell as an associate vice chancellor



Dr. Megan Bell

by University Relations

The University of Minnesota Crookston has officially named Megan Bell, Ph.D., as the associate vice chancellor for the Business, Arts and Education division. Bell, who has served in the role in an interim capacity since August 2025, will begin her permanent appointment on June 15.

The Business, Arts and Education division at UMN Crookston comprises the

Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education Department, the Business Department, and the Early Childhood Development Center.

"Congratulations to Dr. Megan Bell on her selection as the division's associate vice chancellor," said Rosemary Erickson Johnsen, Ph.D., Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. "I am delighted that she will continue in her leadership role. I look forward to Megan's ongoing contributions to the campus academic affairs team, and to seeing BAE continue to flourish under her leadership in the years ahead."

In her role as associate vice chancellor, Bell provides leadership to the division's faculty, academic programs, and staff. Reporting directly to the senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, she collaborates with the Academic Affairs Council and serves as a member of the chancellor's senior leadership team. Her responsibilities include leading unit-level strategic planning, oversight of fac-

ulty hiring and evaluation, and creating faculty development programs to support teaching and research.

Bell's connection to the Crookston campus spans generations going back to her grandfather, Russell Tollefson, who was a graduate of the Northwest School of Agriculture, the residential high school located on the Crookston campus from 1905 through 1968. Bell herself is an alumna of UMN Crookston, graduating in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in scientific and technical communication. She went on to earn her master's and doctorate degrees from the University of North Dakota in communication and public discourse.

A faculty member since 2004, Bell served as the communication program lead for several years before moving into administration. Her teaching expertise includes News and Social Media Communication, Intercultural Communication, Visual Communication, and Publication Design and Management.

RiverView Foundation wins Giving Hearts Day bonus

Giving Hearts Day 2026 continues to bring good news for the RiverView Foundation. As previously announced, the Feb. 12 online fundraiser for nonprofits was a tremendous success, raising more than \$303,000 in support of healthcare at RiverView Health. Now, there's even more to celebrate.

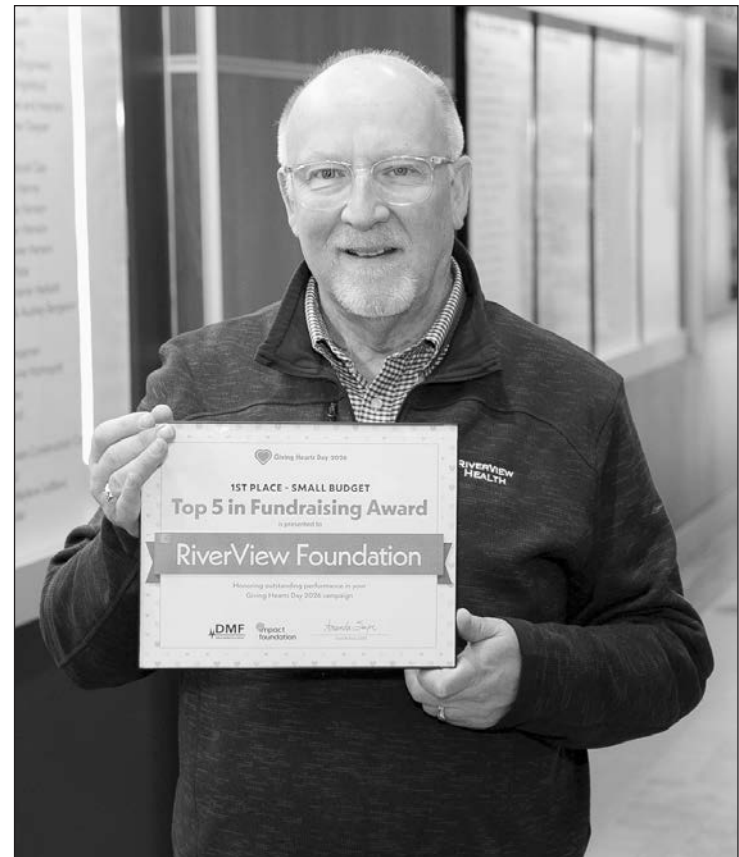
After crunching the final numbers, the Dakota Medical Foundation recently announced that the RiverView Foundation earned first place in fundraising in the Small Budget division, which recognizes organizations with annual budgets of up to \$250,000.

The honor comes with an additional \$10,000 prize, boosting the Foundation's 2026 Giving Hearts Day total to more than \$313,000.

"When I heard the news from Dakota Medical concerning the award and their gift to 2026 Giving Hearts Day, I was so thankful," said Foundation Director Randy Schoenborn. "I know that we could not do it without the generous support of our donors, who are the reason for our success."

"Thank you to Dakota Medical and all the generous people for their level of confidence, support, and trust to help keep quality medical care close to home."

According to the Dakota Medical Foundation, 639 charities participated in this year's Giving Hearts Day event, raising approximately



Randy Schoenborn is pictured with the plaque the RiverView Foundation recently received, along with a \$10,000 bonus award, for earning first place in its fundraising division during Giving Hearts Day. (Submitted)

\$30.8 million through 39,946 donors. Since the event began in 2008, Giving Hearts Day has generated more than \$256 million for nonprofits across North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.

To support the RiverView Foundation and help en-

hance care for RiverView Health patients, contact Randy Schoenborn at 218-281-9249 or rschoenborn@riverviewhealth.org, or visit the Foundation's new office in RiverView Health's main building at 323 S. Minnesota St. in Crookston.

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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Chuck Edwards (right) has been selected as Dee Manufacturing's April Employee of the Month. As the Employee of the Month, he received a \$100 Walmart gift card along with an Employee of the Month certificate in recognition of his hard work and dedication. The certificate and gift card were presented by Foundry Operations Manager Scott Page. (Submitted)

Chuck Edwards named Dee Employee of the Month

Dee Manufacturing has announced Chuck Edwards as its April Employee of the Month.

Edwards serves as the EHS assistant, but his impact reaches far beyond his day-to-day responsibilities. Whether it's helping out in Casting or stepping into Per-

manent Mold, Chuck is always ready to lend a hand wherever he's needed most.

His willingness to step up when someone calls in truly shows his dedication and commitment to the team. Chuck consistently goes above and beyond, demonstrating teamwork, depend-

ability, and a positive attitude every day.

As the Employee of the Month, Chuck received a \$100 Walmart gift card along with an Employee of the Month certificate in recognition of his hard work and dedication.

Pirates fall to Lakers in section championship

The Crookston boys tennis team reached the section championship match with wins over Thief River Falls and Detroit Lakes Monday before falling to top-seeded Minnewaska Area in the championship match Tuesday morning. All three matches took place at Choice Health and Fitness in Grand Forks, N.D.

The second-seeded Pirates were nearly perfect in their opening-round win over the seventh-seeded Prowlers on Monday. The Pirates swept doubles play and won singles matches two through four in a 6-1 win over the Prowlers.

Picking up singles wins for the Pirates were Gunnar Groven in the number two spot, Sam Widseth at three singles and Ean Deleon at number four. On the doubles side, the Pirates got wins

from the team of Reggie Winjum and Hudson Rick in the number one spot, Colton Osborn and Sawyer Anderson over Kameron Price and Cooper Sabo in the two spot, and Alex Zammert and Jacob Halvorson at three singles.

Thief River Falls' lone win came from the number one singles spot, where Jett Cornelius avenged a loss to Grant Funk from one week prior.

The Prowlers followed up the quarterfinal win over the Prowlers with a 4-3 nail biter over the third-seeded Lakers Monday night. Winjum, Funk and Deleon won singles matches in the one, two and four spots, and the three doubles team of Zammert and Halvorson provided the lone doubles win to propel the Pirates to the section championship round for the second

consecutive season. The section championship was a rematch from a year ago and the final result was ultimately the same, with Minnewaska Area defeating Crookston 5-2.

The Lakers took three of the four singles matches, with Drew Bleick defeating Groven in the number one spot; Carter LeClair defeating Sam Widseth in the number two spot; and Carson Beyer defeating Hudson Rick in the number three spot. On the doubles side, the Lakers picked up wins from the number two tandem of Easton Palmer and Carter Myrom over Osborn and Anderson for the Pirates; and the number three team of Tyler Kohn and Aidric Vold over Alex Zammert and Jacob Halvorson.

The Pirates' lone singles

win came from Deleon over Ethan Klick in the number four singles match; and Winjum/Funk over Marshall Kopp/Landon Schiffler in the number one doubles match. The Pirates end the season with a 15-2 record.

Crookston 6, Thief River Falls 1
Singles: No. 1 - Jett Cornelius, Thief River Falls, def. Grant Funk, Crookston, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2 - Gunnar Groven, Crookston, def. Kaleb Funk, Thief River Falls, 6-2, 2-6, 10-7; No. 3 - Sam Widseth, Crookston, def. Anthony Larson, Thief River Falls, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4 - Ean Deleon, Crookston, def. Jaxen Larson, Thief River Falls, 6-3, 6-1;

Doubles: No. 1 - Reggie Winjum/Hudson Rick, Crookston, def. Andy Dagg/Nathan Dearth, Thief River Falls, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2 - Colton Osborn/Sawyer Anderson, Crookston, def. Carter Svendsgaard/Kameron Price, Thief River Falls, 6-1, 6-2; No. 3 - Alex Zammert/Jacob Halvorson, Crookston, def. Dawson Sheridan/Cooper Sabo, Thief River Falls, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

Crookston 4, Detroit Lakes 3
Singles: No. 1 - Reggie Winjum, Crookston, def. Max Mercil, Detroit Lakes, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2 - Grant Funk, Crookston, def. Jude Houghum, Detroit Lakes, 6-2, 6-2; No. 3 - Rhett Walter, Detroit Lakes, def. Gunnar Groven, Crookston, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4 - Ean Deleon, Crookston, def. Tristan Bristlin, Detroit Lakes, 6-4, 6-3;

Doubles: No. 1 - Max Splonkowski/Bauer Walter, Detroit Lakes, def. Sam Widseth/Hudson Rick, Crookston, 6-4, 6-4; No. 2 - Damarion Moss/Owen Lipton, Detroit Lakes, def. Colton Osborn/Sawyer Anderson, Crookston, 6-3, 7-5; No. 3 - Alex Zammert/Jacob Halvorson, Crookston, def. James LaChapelle/Beau Carlson, Detroit Lakes, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Minnewaska Area 5, Crookston 2
Singles: No. 1 - Drew Bleick, Minnewaska, def. Gunnar Groven, Crookston, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2 - Carter LeClair, Minnewaska, def. Sam Widseth, Crookston, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3 - Carson Beyer, Minnewaska, def. Hudson Rick, Crookston, 6-3, 6-3; No. 4 - Ean Deleon, Crookston, def. Ethan Klick, Minnewaska, 6-4, 6-2;

Agassiz Valley All-Conference Team



Agassiz Valley All-Conference and All-Conference Honorable Mention selections were announced prior to the conference championship game Thursday, May 14 in Thief River Falls. (Submitted)

Wagner, Aubol receive Agassiz Valley softball awards

The following players have been selected to the Agassiz Valley All Conference Team and Honorable Mention Team.

All-Conference Team: Ana Wensloff, Roseau; Ella Ketring, Roseau; Brooklyn Hulst, Roseau; Blake Brockpahler, Sacred Heart; Izzy Cwikla, Sacred Heart; Allysen Wagner, Crookston; Amiya Julien, East Grand Forks; Haley Olson, West

Marshall; Brooklynn Dahle, Northern Freeze; Braylee Wiene, Thief River Falls; Sophia Tougas, Thief River Falls; Piper Greene, Thief River Falls; Kate Johnson, Warroad; Gracie Palm, Warroad; Kailey Hanson, BGMR; Teagan Landsrud, BGMR; Grace Knutson, Red Lake Falls; Shandi Nelson, Red Lake Falls; Layna Schindler, Red Lake Falls; Kylie Klipping, Red Lake Falls.

Honorable Mention Team: Lexie Dahl, BGMR; Rilynn Aubol, Crookston; Macey Boe, West Marshall; Bella Steinhauer, Northern Freeze; Maddee Magnusson, Roseau; Megan Weiss, Sacred Heart; Ellie McDermott, Thief River Falls; Mollie Dauksavage, East Grand Forks; Atlee Larson, Warroad; Ava Seeger, Red Lake Falls.

Individual award winners

include:
• **Agassiz Valley Coach of the Year:** Ben Hanson, Red Lake Falls;
• **Agassiz Valley Player of the Year:** Kylie Klipping, Red Lake Falls;
• **\$500 Agassiz Valley Scholarship Award Winners:** Braylee Wiene, Thief River Falls; and Brooklyn Hulst, Roseau.

Pirate softball season ends with loss to Wolverines

Wadena-Deer Creek took control early with seven runs in the bottom of the first and never let up in a 16-0, four-inning win over Crookston in the play-in round of the Section 8AA softball tournament Monday afternoon in Wadena.

The Wolverines' offense was firing on all cylinders, capitalizing on nine walks and eight hits to end the game in four innings.

Jada Dykhoff had a massive day at the plate, going 3-for-4 with a triple, a double, and 3 RBIs to lead the Wolverines. Ashley Pavvek went 2-for-2, scoring four runs and hitting a triple; and Isabelle Lehmkuhl contributed a multi-hit game, going 2-for-3 with an RBI and a walk.

The Wolverines were also aggressive on the base path with a total of four stolen bases credited to Pavvek, Celia Rinio, Karly

Haverkamp, and Lily Parker.

It was a quiet afternoon for the Pirates' bats as they were held to a single hit by the Wolverines' pitching. Allysen Wagner accounted for the Pirates' only hit of the game, finishing 1-for-1. Brynna Kopecky earned the Pirates' lone walk.

Scoring
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 R H E
Crooks 0 0 0 0 X X - 0 1 3
WDC 7 1 5 3 X X - 16 8 0
Pitching - (Crookston) Allysen Wagner - L, 3.0 IP, 6 hits, 13 runs, 7 earned runs, 7 walks, 1 strikeout; Brea Lessard 1-0 IP, 2 hits 3 runs, 1 earned run, 2 walks; (WDC) Braelyn Becker - W 4.0 IP, 1 hit, 0 runs, 0 earned runs, 1 walk, 6 strikeouts.
Offensive highlights - (Crookston) Allysen Wagner 1-for-1; Brynna Kopecky, walk; (WDC) Jada Dykhoff 3-for-4, triple, double, 3 RBI; Ashley Pavvek 2-for-2, triple, 4 runs scored; Isabelle Lehmkuhl 2-for-3, walk, RBI.

Section 8AA Softball
■ Bye - No. 1 Roseau
■ Play-in round, Monday, May 18

- Warroad 8, Barnesville 7 (F/9); Wadena-Deer Creek 16, Crookston 0; Park Rapids Area 15, East Grand Forks 5; Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 14, Menahga 0; Thief River Falls 13, Otter Tail Central 2; Hawley 14, Frazee 3; Breckenridge-Wahpeton 11, Perham 4.
■ Second round, Tuesday, May 19 - Roseau 9, Warroad 0; Wadena-Deer Creek 7, Park Rapids Area 5; Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 8, Thief River Falls 0; Breckenridge/Wahpeton 4, Hawley 3.
■ Quarterfinals, Thursday, May 21 - No. 1 Roseau vs. No. Wadena-Deer Creek; No. 2 Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton vs. No. 6 Breckenridge/Wahpeton.
■ Elimination games - Warroad vs. Park Rapids Area; Thief River Falls vs. Hawley.
■ Semifinal and elimination games, Tuesday, May 26 at Neutral Site TBD 5 p.m.
■ Elimination semifinal and championship game 1, Thursday, May 28 at Neutral site 3 p.m./5 p.m.
■ Championship game 2, if needed, Friday, May 29 at Neutral site TBD 10 a.m.

Section 8A Softball
■ Play-in Round, Tuesday, May 19 - No. 8 Bagley 8, No. 9 NCE/UH Titans 3; No. 4 Mahnomen/Waubun 14, No. 13 Marshall County Central 4; No. 5 Sacred Heart 12, No. 12 West

Marshall Fusion 0; No. 10 Fertile-Beltrami 4, No. 7 Ada-Borup-West 3; No. 3 Lake Park Audubon 9, No. 14 Clearbrook-Gonvick 1; No. 6 East Polk North Stars 10, No. 11 Lake of the Woods 1.

■ Second round, Tuesday, May 19 - No. 1 Red Lake Falls 10, No. 8 Bagley 0; No. 5 Sacred Heart 13, No. 4 Mahnomen/Waubun 4; No. 2 Badger/GB-MR 15, No. 10 Fertile-Beltrami 0; No. 6 East Polk North Stars 7, No. 3 Lake Park-Audubon 2.
■ Quarterfinals, Thursday, May 21 - No. 1 Red Lake Falls vs. No. 5 Sacred Heart (Red Lake Falls); No. 2 Badger/Greenbush-Middle Creek vs. No. 6 East Polk North Stars (Greenbush).
■ Elimination, Thursday, May 21 - Bagley vs. Mahnomen/Waubun Thunderbirds (at Greenbush); Fertile-Beltrami vs. Lake Park Audubon (at Red Lake Falls); Winner of Bagley/Mahnomen-Waubun vs. Loser of Badger/GB-MR vs. East Polk (at Greenbush); Winner of Fertile-Beltrami/LPA vs. Loser of Red Lake Falls/Sacred Heart (at Red Lake Falls).
■ Semifinal, elimination quarterfinal and elimination semifinal, Tuesday, May 26 at highest remaining undefeated seed - 4 p.m., 6 p.m.
■ Championship game 1 and 2 if necessary, Thursday, May 28 at highest remaining undefeated seed TBD.

Winjum/Funk win Section 8A Doubles Championship

The doubles team of Reggie Winjum and Grant Funk went 4-0 in matches Tuesday and Wednesday to claim the 2026 Section 8A doubles championship in boys tennis.

Winjum and Funk started the tournament, which began Tuesday and continued Wednesday at Choice Health and Fitness in Grand Forks, N.D., with a perfect double bagel victory against Cameron Price and Dawson Sheridan, Thief River Falls. Winjum and Funk then wrapped up day one with a straight-sets win over the Detroit Lakes pair of Splonkowski and Moss to advance to the final four.

The Pirate duo kept their championship run going with a 6-2, 6-1 semifinal win over Max Mercil and Bauer Walter of Detroit Lakes. That set up a tight championship battle with Carter LeClair and Marshall Kopp of Minnewaska Area.

Winjum and Funk dropped the opening set 6-4,

putting the top-seeded Laker duo on the ropes early. The second set went to a grueling tiebreaker with Winjum and Funk staying alive with the 7-6.

In the third set, Winjum and Funk pulled away with a 6-3 victory to secure the section title.

Section 8A Individual
Doubles: Reggie Winjum/Grant Funk, 4-0, first place - Round 1: def. Cameron Price/Dawson Sheridan, Thief River Falls, 6-0, 6-0; Round 2: def. Max Splonkowski/Damarion Moss, Detroit Lakes, 7-5, 6-2; Semifinals: def. Max Mercil/Bauer Walter, Detroit Lakes, 6-2, 6-1; Championship: def. Carter LeClair/Marshall Kopp 4-6, 7-6, 6-3.
■ Doubles: Hudson Rick/Jacob Halvorson, 0-1, DNP - Round 1: def. by Kaleb Frohling/Paytan Myers, 7-5, 6-0.
■ Singles: Gunnar Groven, 1-1, DNP - Round 1: Thief River Falls 6-1, 6-1; Round 2: def. by Drew Bleick, Minnewaska Area, 6-0, 6-0.
■ Singles: Sam Widseth, 1-1, DNP - Round 1: def. Carson Beyer, Minnewaska Area, 2-6, 6-2, 7-6; def. by Jett Cornelius, Thief River Falls, 6-0, 6-1.



Crookston's Rilynn Aubol crosses the plate during the Pirates' six-run fourth inning against the Northern Freeze on Thursday, May 14. (Photo by Scott DCamp)

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Pirates win two to close out regular season

The Crookston Pirate softball team wrapped up the 2026 regular season May 14 and 15 with a pair of wins. The Pirates rallied from a 5-1 deficit to defeat the Northern Freeze Thursday night in Thief River Falls, and rallied from a 3-2 deficit to defeat the West Marshall Fusion 10-6 at home on Friday.

Trailing 5-1 through two innings Thursday night, the Pirates took a 7-5 lead with six runs in the bottom of the fourth inning. The Freeze tied the game with two runs in the top of the fifth, but the Freeze regained the lead with a run in the bottom half of the fifth.

The Freeze again tied the game with a run in the top of the sixth, with the Pirates again answering and taking the lead for good with two runs in the bottom of the inning.

The Pirates' offense was headlined by a balanced attack, particularly at the top of the order. Rilynn Aubol had a perfect day at the plate, going 3-for-3 with a double, an RBI, and two runs scored. She was also a menace on the base paths with four stolen bases.

Leia Parkin set the tone from the leadoff spot, going 2-for-4 with two doubles, an RBI, and a pair of runs scored.

Brea Lessard provided the Pirates' primary power surge, driving in a team-high three runs while going 2-for-4; and starting pitcher Allysen Wagner helped her own cause by going 2-for-3 with 2 RBIs.

Brooklyn Dahle led the Freeze in hits, going 3-for-4 with an RBI and a walk.

Greta Rominski went 1-for-3, but she made her only hit count with a 3-RBI double. She was also showed great plate discipline with two walks.

Hadley Reese set the table effectively for the Freeze, going 2-for-4 with an RBI, a run, and two stolen bases; and Jayden Peterson reached base three times, going 2-for-3 with a walk and two runs scored.

Wagner went the distance to earn the win for the Pirates, allowing eight runs, five of which were earned, on 12 hits with 10 walks and six



Crookston pitcher Allysen Wagner struck out six Northern Freeze hitters in a 10-8 win by the Pirates over the Freeze during a rainy evening in Thief River Falls on Thursday, May 14. Following the game, Wagner was named to the Agassiz Valley All-Conference Team during an awards ceremony. Joining Wagner with All-Conference recognition was Rilynn Aubol, who was named to the Agassiz Valley All-Conference Honorable Mention team. (Photo by Scott DCamp)

strikeouts. The following afternoon, the Pirates found themselves trailing 3-2 through two and a half innings at home against the West Marshall Fusion.

The Pirates tallied a run in each of the first two innings, and the Fusion answered with three runs on one hit and a pair of walks in the top of the third.

The Pirates again answered, scoring a run on two hits in the bottom half of the third to tie the game at 3-3.

The Fusion regained the lead in the fourth, scoring a run on one hit, but the Pi-

rates answered with three runs on two hits in the bottom of the inning to take a 6-4 lead.

The Fusion would get back to within a run in both the fifth and sixth innings, but the Pirates would answer each score. The Pirates scored a run on three hits in the bottom of the fifth to go up 7-5, and they answered the Fusion score in the sixth with three runs on four hits in the bottom of the sixth to take a 10-6 lead that would hold up for the final score.

Aubol led the Pirates with a perfect 4-for-4 performance at the plate. She batted in three runs, and she hit two doubles and one triple, totaling 8 bases.

Parkin went 3-for-4 with three runs scored and one RBI. She was also highly active on the basepaths, recording five stolen bases. Brylee Darco went 2-for-2 with a walk, contributing an RBI and scoring a run; and Emma Pierson went 2-for-4

and recorded three stolen bases.

Macey Boe led the Fusion in hits and extra-base power, finishing 2-for-4 with a triple and two runs scored. Olivia Winge went 1-for-4 with a double and an RBI; and Taylor Wentz reached base twice, going 1-for-3 with a walk.

Wagner picked up her second win in as many days for the Pirates, going five innings and allowing six, three of which were earned on five hits with seven strikeouts.

Brea Lessard picked up the save for the Pirates, pitching two scoreless innings.

Scoring											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E	
NF	0	5	0	2	1	0	0	-	8	12	1
Crooks	1	0	0	6	1	2	X	-	10	11	3

Batting									
	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO			
Northern Freeze									
Hadley Reese	4	1	2	1	0	0			
Dannica Erickson	0	0	0	0	1	0			
Greta Rominski	3	0	1	3	2	1			
Ireland Klausen	4	0	0	0	0	3			
Elin Reese	0	0	0	0	1	0			
Maddie Waterworth	5	1	1	0	0	1			
Brooklyn Dahle	4	0	3	1	1	0			
Kylie Gustafson	4	1	2	0	0	1			
Tarson Erickson	2	1	0	0	2	0			

Bella Stienhauer	2	2	1	1	2	0
Jayden Peterson	3	2	2	0	1	0
Totals	31	8	12	6	10	6

Highlights - 2B: Greta Rominski; SB: Hadley Reese 2, Elin Reese, Jayden Peterson, Kylie Gustafson, Maddie Waterworth; CS: Maddie Waterworth; E: Hadley Reese.

Crookston									
	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO			
Leia Parkin	4	2	2	1	0	0			
Brea Lessard	4	1	2	3	0	0			
Shyuh Burnette	3	1	0	0	0	0			
Rilynn Aubol	3	2	3	1	0	0			
Bryanna Kopecky	4	0	0	1	0	2			
Emma Pierson	3	1	1	2	0	1			
Peyton Demarais	3	0	1	0	0	0			
Brylee Darco	2	0	0	0	0	2			
Prudhomme Shane	0	1	0	0	1	0			
Allysen Wagner	3	0	2	2	0	1			
Totals	29	10	11	10	1	6			

Highlights - 2B: Leia Parkin 2, Rilynn Aubol; HBP: Rilynn Aubol, Shyuh Burnette; SB: Rilynn Aubol 4, Brea Lessard, Cora Prudhomme Shane, Emma Pierson, Shyuh Burnette, Silla Gonzalez; E: Shyuh Burnette 2, Brea Lessard.

Pitching

Northern Freeze	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Brooklyn Dahle	2.0	1	1	0	0	3
Sofi Wawrzyniak (L)	4.0	10	9	9	1	3

Crookston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Allysen Wagner (W)	7.0	12	8	5	10	6

Scoring											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E	
WM	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	-	6	5	1
Crooks	1	1	1	3	1	3	X	-	10	14	3

Batting									
	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO			
West Marshall									
Macey Boe	4	2	2	0	0	1			
Haley Olson	2	1	0	1	2	0			
Olivia Winge	4	1	1	1	0	0			
Josie Johnston	2	2	0	0	2	1			
Taylor Wentz	3	0	1	0	1	0			
Rachel Wimpfheimer	4	0	0	1	0	1			
Carol Mclean	2	0	1	1	2	0			
Carrie Jensen	2	0	0	0	0	2			
Korie Stroble	2	0	0	0	0	2			
Kinley Parker	2	0	0	0	1	1			
TOTALS	27	6	5	4	8	8			

Highlights - 2B: Olivia Winge; 3B: Macey Boe; SB: Carol Mclean 3, Haley Olson 2, Taylor Wentz 2, Josie Johnston, Macey Boe; E: Josie Johnston.

Crookston									
	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO			
Leia Parkin	4	3	3	1	0	0			
Brea Lessard	4	1	1	0	0	2			
Shyuh Burnette	4	1	1	1	0	0			
Rilynn Aubol	4	2	4	3	0	0			
Bryanna Kopecky	4	0	1	1	0	2			
Emma Pierson	4	1	2	0	0	2			
Peyton Demarais	4	0	0	0	0	4			
Brylee Darco	2	1	2	1	1	0			
Allysen Wagner	3	0	0	1	0	0			
Totals	33	10	14	8	1	10			

Highlights - 2B: Rilynn Aubol 2, Brea Lessard, Shyuh Burnette; 3B: Rilynn Aubol; SB: Leia Parkin 5, Emma Pierson 3, Rilynn Aubol 2, Bryanna Kopecky, Silla Gonzalez; E: Shyuh Burnette 2, Bryanna Kopecky.

Pitching

West Marshall	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Haley Olson (L)	6.0	14	10	7	1	10
Crookston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Allysen Wagner (W)	5.0	5	6	3	8	7
Brea Lessard (S)	2.0	0	0	0	0	0

CROOKSTON SPORTS

Tuesday, May 26
 ■ Baseball - Section 8AA Play-in Round at high seed 5 p.m.
 ■ Golf - Crookston Boys and Girls at Section 8AA North Subsection (Roseau) 9 a.m.
Thursday, May 28
 ■ Baseball - Section 8AA Second Round and Quarterfinals TBD.
Friday, May 29
 ■ Track & Field - Crookston Boys and Girls at Section 8A Meet (Mahnommen) 10 a.m.



Crookston's Leia Parkin belted a line drive double to center during the Pirates' six-run fourth inning against the Northern Freeze Thursday, May 14 in Thief River Falls. (Photo by Scott DCamp)

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<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2024 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">BLAZER 2LT AWD</div> <p>Summit White, Cloth, Convenience! Driver Confidence! Floor Liner Pkgs., 33,395k \$28,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2024 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">BLAZER RS 4WD/AWD</div> <p>Riptide Blue Met., Leather, Power Panoramic Sunroof, Loaded 16,667k \$38,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2024 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">EQUINOX RS</div> <p>Sterling Gray Met., Cruise, Cloth, Heated Seats, 8-way Pwr Lumbar, 10,581k \$28,990</p>
<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2023 GMC</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">TERRAIN DENALI</div> <p>White Frost Tricoat, Leather, Loaded, Hands-Free Programmable Liftgate, 21,586k \$30,790</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2020 JEEP</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">CHEROKEE TRAILHAWK</div> <p>Granite Crystal Met., Cold Weather Group, Blind Spot Detection, 88,200k \$20,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2019 GMC</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">ACADIA DENALI</div> <p>Dark Sky Met., Cruise, Leather, Adaptive Cruise Control, 79,152k \$21,990</p>

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<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2026 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">SILVERADO 1500 RST</div> <p>Radiant Red Tintcoat, Z71 Off Road Pkg, All Star Edition, Trailering Pkg, 2,930k \$59,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2024 GMC</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">SIERRA DENALI</div> <p>Onyx Black, Leather, Sunroof, 6.2L V8, Trailering Pkg, 40,395k \$56,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2023 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">CUSTOM TRAIL BOSS</div> <p>Sterling Gray Met, Cloth, Remote Start, Trailering Pkg, 86,805k \$35,990</p>
<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2021 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">3500 SILVERADO HIGH COUNTRY DIESEL</div> <p>Summit White, 2-Tone Leather, 5th Wheel/Trailering Z71 Off Road Pkgs, 61,170k \$54,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2020 CHEVY</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">SILVERADO RST DIESEL</div> <p>Summit White, Leather, 3.0L Duramax Turbo, Z71 Off Road Pkg, 118,935k \$28,990</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">2015 GMC</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">SIERRA 1500</div> <p>Sonoma Red Met, 5.3L V8 SIDI Active Fuel Mgt, Leer Topper, 174,105k \$15,990</p>

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Mike Brose
Sales/Finance

David Brost
General Mgr.

Eric Brost
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