NewsHopperTM



CLARA NISKANEN

Clara Noelle Niskanen, a girl, weighing 6 lbs., 15.5 ozs., was born Dec. 3, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Brian and Noelle Niskanen. Clara is welcomed home by sibling Margo. Grandparents are: Jim and Sharon Niskanen, Dassel; and Mel and Peggy Schaupp, Mora.

MASON HARPER

Mason David Harper, a boy, weighing 8 lbs., 8 ozs., was born Dec. 4, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Travis and Jennifer Harper of Isle. Grandparents are: Larry and Gloria Templin, Isle; and Tom and Nancy Ivers, Minnetonka.

ALEXANDER DECOURSEY

Alexander Benjamin DeCoursey, a boy, weighing 8 lbs., 4 ozs., was born Dec. 4, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Ben DeCoursey and Mindy Webeck of Wahkon. Alexander is welcomed home by siblings: Natalie and John. Grandparents are: Gerald and Darlene Hastings, Isle; Wayne and Judy Thompson, Aitkin; and Mike and Betty DeCoursey, Isle.

MARISKA KUMPULA

Mariska Evelyn Kumpula, a girl, weighing 9 lbs., .5 oz., was born Dec. 5, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, Amber Kumpula of Mora. Grandparents are: Darlene Alice Kilpela, Tamarack; and John Kumpula Jr., Minneapolis.

COLE JENSEN

Cole Robert Jensen, a boy, weighing 7 lbs., 11 ozs., was born Dec. 6, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Derek and Natalie Jensen of Mora. Grandparents are: Chris and Deanna Johnson, Mora; Richard and Joyce Jensen, Braham. Great-grandparents are: Jeanette Johnson, Mora; and Dwaine and Dianne Carlson, Sandstone.

SAMANTHA GILBERT

Samantha Rain Gilbert, a girl, weighing 5 lbs., 14.25 ozs., was born Dec. 6, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Stephanie Gregor of Mora. Samantha is welcomed home by sibling Ella. Grandparents are: Sharyn Gregor, Mora; Anita Gilbert, Menagha; and Peter Gilbert, Minneapolis.

BRIANNA KOCH

Brianna Marie Koch, a girl, weighing 7 lbs., 2 ozs., was born Dec. 11, 2007, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Nathan and Melissa Koch of Pine City. Brianna is welcomed home by sibling Weston. Grandparents are Steve and Joan Thieman, Marie and John Angstman, and Russ and Barb Koch.

RIPLEY SMITH

Ripley Jane Smith, a girl, weighing 9 lbs., 13 ozs., was born Dec. 9, 2007, at Riverwood Healthcare Center in Aitkin, to Deborah and Jonah Smith of Aitkin. Grandparents are: Madeline Duprey, Hermantown; Jerry and Jeanette Smith, Palisade.

Students do service project



Merideth Silgen, Deerwood, Luke Ringhand, Deerwood, Chris Hendricks, Crosby and Michael Hoge, Ironton, along with other 6th-8th graders from St. Francis of the Lakes Catholic School, recently helped load a truck with gifts for Appalachian families.



Community EVENTS

Ongoing Events:

- Aitkin Singles, meets monthly for various activities such as music, hiking, and dancing. For more info call 218-927-3153. Aitkin Women's Tennis meets at the Aitkin
- courts every Tues. and Thurs. morning, 8-10 a.m. All playing levels welcome.
- Blind Lake (Aitkin Area) ATV Club, meets the second Fri. of each month at Aitkin City Hall, 7:30 p.m. New members welcome.
- Blow-Hards, a lung disease support group, meets the fourth Thurs. of each month at Kanabec Hospital in Mora. Contact Carol in Respiratory Therapy, 320-225-3646.
- Cancer Support Group, meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at Riverwood Hospital conference room "B", in Aitkin. This is sponsored by Riverwood Healthcare Center and Cuyuna Regional Medical Center. Call 218-927-2121 x2257 or 218-546-4302 for more information.
- Circles of Support meets every Tues., 6 - 8 p.m. If you are living paycheck to paycheck and are ready for a change, Circles may be right for you. Circles of Support provides an informal, confidential support system that consists of volunteers and community-based support networks of allies partnering with families. If you are a self-starter and self-motivated, call Brandi, 800-997-5723.
- Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) -- Captain Robert Orr Chapter DAR meets the second Saturday of every month, May thru Oct., at Embers/ SawMill Inn in Brainerd. at 10 a.m. followed by lunch. New members and interested women are welcome. For more information call Shirley, 218-927-2757 or Jeanne, 218-829-2737.
- Dial-A-Ride is offering service in Aitkin. Call for pick up: 218-326-3503 or 1-800-642-6143.
- Emergency Food Shelf at St. James Catholic Church, Aitkin. Hours are: Thurs. afternoons only from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. Access the Food Shelf from the south side of the building. Go to the 4th door and look for signs.
- Garrison City Council meetings are the first Thurs. of each month at the City building.
- Hope for the Future Support Group for those dealing with emotional issues, 1st and 3rd Thurs., 1 p.m., Access North, 105 4th St. NW, Aitkin, 927-3748.
- Ironton TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) meets Mon. evenings, 7 p.m. at 212 Viola Ave., Ironton. All interested is invited. Call Paula Robinson, 218-545-2180 for more info.
- Jacobson Busy Bees meets every Thurs., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Jacobson Community Bldg. Potluck at noon. Beverage provided. Cribbage, cards, Phase 10 and socializing are enjoyed. All are welcome. For more info., call 752-6652.
- Legal Aid meets in Aitkin every other month on the third Wed., at Security State Bank, 2nd floor, 402 Minnesota Ave. N in Aitkin, 10 a.m. to noon. Contact the Senior Office, 218-927-3811 for appointment. 2007 dates: Nov. 21.
- LinkAge Line[™], 4th Thurs. of the month, 9:30 to 11:30 at Aitkin Co. Senior Office (Security State Bank bldg., 2nd floor).

- Rainbows Grief Support Group meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 9:30 a.m. at Grace Lutheran (Log) Church. For more information call Mary Ann at 218-426-3491 or Diane Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. to noon at 218-426-3343.
- Stroke Support Group, meets the fourth Monday of each month at First Lutheran Church in Aitkin, 2-3 p.m. Family caregivers as well as stroke patients are welcome.
- Kids Game and Bible Activity night at Palisade Assembly of God. 7-8 p.m., K-12.
- Sertoma Presents Winter Wonderland at the Northland Arboretum, From Thanksgiving through Dec. 30, visitors can drive through the Arboretum to view the litht displays. Open Wed. - Sun., 6-9 p.m. Cost - \$8 per vehicle with proceeds going to area charities.
- 1st Annual Festival of Lights, This Old Farm Pioneer Village, 7 miles E. of Brainerd on Hwy 18. Every Fri.-Sun. 5-8 p.m., \$5.00 per vehicle. Call 218-764-2524 for more information.

December:

- 21st Free Open Skating, Brainerd Civic Center, 12-1:30 p.m. Call 218-454-6924 for more information.
- 23rd TPT MN channel 17 will be airing the ANGELS - A Friendship Connection, 6 p.m.
- 27th 28th Tamarack Sno-Flyers Annual Safety Training will be held a their clubhouse in Tamarack from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Must be at least 11 years old. Call Tina Johnson at 218-644-3903 to register.
- 28th Teen Dance, sponsored by Cuyuna Range Activities For Teens (CRAFT), 7-10 p.m. at the Deerwood Auditorium. Admission is a suggested donation of \$4.
- 29th Fireworks presented by the Outing Chamber of Commerce, 6 p.m. at Luscher's Park in Outing.
- 29th 30th WPSA Regional Snocross Race, at Brainerd Internation Raceway, Call 218-824-7220 for more information.
- 31st McGregor VFW Post New Year's Eve Dance, 8 p.m. - Midnight, Music by Jerry Bierschback.
- 31st Free Open Skating, Brainerd Civic Center, 12-1:30 p.m. Call 218-454-6924 for more information.

January:

- 6th West Range Country Show, 6:30 p.m., Greenway High School Auditorium, Coleraine. Handicap accessible - Door prizes.
- 7th McGregor VFW Post dance, 1-4 p.m., Music by Country Pride.
- 9th Dance at Waukenabo Community Center, 1-4 p.m., music by Roman and Don.
- 10th Cuyuna Range Youth Center spaghetti dinner, 6-8 p.m. at the Deerwood Auditorium.
- 11th Tamarack Sno-Flyers snowmobile club monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse in Tamarack.
- 11th 12th Ice Fest Breezy Point Resort, call 218-562-4441 for more information.
- 12th IIRA Ice Car Racing, Brainerd International Raceway, Call 1-866-444-4455 for more information.
- 18th 20th Antique Snowmobile Rendezvous, Trailside Park, Pequot Lakes, 1

Kallos Classic Rock

Counselors will assist with Medicare-related issues. For an appt., call 800-333-2433.

McGrath Area Civic Organization, first Wed., following the first Thurs. of the month, 9 a.m. at 1865 Cafe.

McGrath City Council, first Thurs. of the month, 6 p.m. at Fire Station Hall.

McGregor TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) meets Thursdays, 3:30 p.m. at Lake Minnewawa Sportsman's Club, Goshawk St. (Co. Rd. 6). 218-768-2340 for more info.

McGregor VFW Post dances, 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 1-4 p.m.
MS Support Group, 3rd Mon., 1 p.m., Access North, 105 4th St. NW, Aitkin, 927-3748.

Ripple River Quilters meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m., for location call 218-927-5760. p.m. Call 218-543-4146 for more info. 21st - McGregor VFW Post dance, 1-4 p.m., Music by Gary Martin.

22nd - Red Cross Bloodmobile, noon-6 p.m. at Emily City Hall. Walk-Ins are welcome, but if you would like to make an appointment call Nancy Moritz at 218-763-3097.

26th - Roosevelt Lake fishing tournament at the Luscher's Park pavilion in Outing, sponsored by the Outing Chamber of Commerce.

- 26th Brainerd Jaycees \$150,000 Ice Fishing Extravaganza, Hole in the Day Bay - gull Lake, 12-3 p.m. Call 218-824-9461 for more information.
- 30th Dance at Waukenabo Community Center, 1-4 p.m., music by Loren Lindevig.