

# OBITUARIES

## ROSEMARY R. LITTMAN

Rosemary R. Littman, 83, of Aitkin formerly of McGregor and Brooklyn Center, died Sun., July 13, 2008, at Aitkin Health Services in Aitkin.

Services will be held Tue., Aug. 5, 2008, at 11 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church near McGregor with Rev. Dan Heath officiating. Burial will be in the Pine Needle Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.

She was born Oct. 9, 1924, in Albertville to Francis and Ruth (Lund) Duffy. She grew up and attended schools in North East Minneapolis. She married Rudolph Littman on July 25, 1942, in Brooklyn Center. They lived in Brooklyn Center for over 40 years. She worked as a teacher's aide at the Earle Brown Elementary School in Brooklyn Center for 15 years. Upon retirement, in 1984, they moved to Big Sandy Lake near McGregor. She had been a resident at the Aitkin

Health Services for the past year and a half. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in McGregor and former member of Hope Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. She was also a member of the McGregor Lions and past president of the McGregor Lioness Club. She also helped with the Special Olympics Program.

She is survived by her husband, Rudy, Aitkin; daughters and sons-in-law: Mikki (Dave) Clyne, Princeton; Patti (Gerry) Page, Brooklyn Park; son and daughter-in-law, James (Barbara) Littman, Champlin; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home of Aitkin. Go to [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com) to sign the online guest register.

## WILLARD C. TIBBETTS



Willard C. Tibbetts, 88, of Aitkin, died Thur., July 17, 2008, at the Riverwood Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Services were held Tue., July 22, 2008, at St. Johns Lutheran Church in Aitkin with Rev. David Becker officiating.

Burial was in the Lakeview Cemetery in Aitkin.

He was born Aug. 5, 1919, in Aitkin, to James and Mary (McGillis) Tibbetts. He grew up and attended schools in Aitkin. He farmed his whole life and also drove truck for the Cattle Sales Barn, the Aitkin Coop Creamery and the Cuyuna Mines. He married Dora Peterson on Oct. 25, 1938, in Little Falls. They lived in Aitkin ever since. He was

a member of St. Johns Lutheran Church in Aitkin and the Lutheran Layman's League.

He is survived by his sons and daughter-in-law: Harvey (Pat) Tibbetts, East Dubuque, IL; Rev. Ron Tibbetts, Grey Eagle; daughter and son-in-law, Mary Jean (Richard) Peterson, Aitkin; six grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Dora; sons, Duane and a stillborn baby; brothers: Donald, James, George, and Albert; and sisters: Margaret, Jessie and Mildred.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home of Aitkin. Go to [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com) to sign the online guest register.

## ANDREW G. NOVICKI



Andrew G. Novicki, 86, of Emily, died Fri., July 18, 2008, at Cuyuna Regional Care Center in Crosby.

Services were held Wed., July 23, 2008, at St. Emily's Catholic Church in Emily. Burial was in the Pine Ridge Cemetery in Emily with full military honors given by the Myrin-James American Legion Post 443 of Ironton.

He was born Jan. 21, 1922, in Minneapolis to John and Julia (Guzi) Novicki. He was a retired proprietor of Andy's Broken Arrow Bar and Steakhouse in Emily.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, John (Carol) Novicki, St. Louis Park; daughters

and sons-in-law: Andrea (Charles) Atwater, Emily; Mary (James) Meacham, Crosby; brother and sister-in-law, Michael (Gert) Novicki, Robbinsdale; sister, Dorothy Johnson, Anchorage, AK; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Edna; son, Andrew J. Novicki; daughters: Charlotte Novicki and Patricia Crow; sisters: Julia Wilson and Mary Novicki; and brother, John Novicki.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

## MATTHEW A. KOVATOVICH



Matthew Anthony Kovatovich, 92, of Crosby, died Sat., July 19, 2008, at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby.

Services were held Thur., July 24, 2008, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crosby. Burial was in Lakewood Cemetery in Crosby.

He was born July 2, 1916, in Ironton to Frank and Della (Ryan) Kovatovich. He was a retired Soo Line Railroad conductor with 37 years of service and a WWII US Navy veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys; sons and daughters-in-law: Dennis (Jean) Kovatovich, Denver, CO; Richard Kovatovich, Crosby; Kelly

(Linda) Kovatovich, Crosby; Damian (Jill) Kovatovich, Crosby; Patrick Kovatovich, San Diego, CA; Jason (Paula) Kovatovich, Brainerd; daughters and sons-in-law: Sharon (Richard) Hamilton, Marshall, MI; Colleen (Greg) Spalj, Minneapolis; Jennifer (Conrad) Turner, Deerwood; Kim (Joey) Kretzman, Edina; Nicholette Kovatovich and Jake Schlaeger, Minneapolis; brothers: Jerome Kovatovich, Tacoma, WA; Thomas Kovatovich, Dallas, TX; sisters: Faye Preston and Pat Stippes, both of California; 17 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

## ANGELINE B. WADENA

Angeline B. Wadena (Gidagigwannebiikwe), 73, of McGregor, died Sun., July 20, 2008, at her residence.

Services were held Thur., July 24, 2008, at East Lake Community Center. Tribal Rites were by Lee Staples. Burial was in the Big Sandy Burial Grounds.

She was born July 24, 1934, in Cloquet to George and Susan (Manitou) Boyd, Sr. On July

13, 1972, in Aitkin, she married John Wadena. She was a cook for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and a home maker. She was a two time Midewin and a member of Drum Societies.

She is survived by her sons: Richard Boyd, McGregor; Francis Colton, Isle; Roger Colton, McGregor; daughters: Eloise Colton, McGregor; Mary Dalquist, McGregor; Rosa Colton, McGregor; Alida Colton Matrigous, Sandstone; Jennifer Wadena, McGregor; Ruth Sam, Onamia; brother, George Boyd Jr., McGregor; sisters: Kathy Hedstrom and Marene Hedstrom, McGregor; 23 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, John; husband, Roger Colton; brothers: Franklin, Charles and Lawrence; and sisters: Mabel, Susan, Bernice and Louise.

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

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

\* Indicates handicap accessible. NOTE: All times are Sunday morning (a.m.) unless indicated otherwise.

## ALLIANCE

Garrison\* — Pastor Michael H. Palkie; Adult & Children's SS 9:30; Worship & Children's Church 10:30; Wed. 7 p.m. Church/Home Bible Study. McGregor/Big Sandy — Rev. S. DeMars, 426-3408; E. of Sather's Store; Worship 9:30; Children's Church 10-10:30.

## ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Aitkin — Rev. Dan Turner; SS 9; Worship 10; Wed. 7 p.m.  
Crosby — Rev. Michael Towers; Worship 10:30  
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeth;  
Hill City — Rev. G. Valley; Worship 10 and 6:30 p.m.; Bible Study Thurs. 7 p.m.  
Palisade — Pastor Ed Sornberger; SS 9; Worship 10; Bible Study, Wed. 7 p.m. at church, Wed. 7 p.m. kids games and bible activity, grades K-12.

## BAPTIST

Aitkin — Westside, Pastor D. Smith; Worship 9 & 10:45; SS 11.  
Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor G. Fisher; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study and Our Kids for Christ Wed. 7 p.m.  
Deerwood — Pastor W. Skog; SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m.; Wed. Service, 7 p.m.  
Glory — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 927-3678; SS 9:15; Worship 10:30 am.  
Hill City — Pastor L. Lee; 697-2645; SS 9:45; Worship 11 am, 7 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.; Bible Study, Fri., 7 p.m.  
Isle — Pastor Nick Skogen; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.  
Opstead — Pastor P. Johnson; 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.; [www.opsteadbaptist.tzo.com](http://www.opsteadbaptist.tzo.com).

## CATHOLIC

Aitkin — St. James, Fr. Paul Fruth, Mass: Sat. 4:30 pm; Sun. 8:30 am; Confession Sat. 3:45 p.m. Call 218-927-6581.  
Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sun. 11  
Crosby — St. Joseph's, Mass: Sat. 4 p.m.; Sun 10:30; Tue & Thu 8:30  
Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, Mass: Sat. 4 p.m.; Sun. 8 & 10:30  
Deerwood — St. Joseph's, Fr. H. Eisel, Mass: Sat. 7:30 p.m.; Sun. 8:30 am; Daily: Mon. & Fri. 8:30.  
Emily — St. Emily, Fr. Roman Spoor, Mass: Sat. 4:30 p.m.; Sun. 10 am; 218-763-2101.  
Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Paul Fruth, Mass: Sat. 7 p.m.; Sun. 11 am; Confession Sat. before Mass.  
Hillman — Holy Family, Fr. Paul Fruth, Mass Sun. 9, confession before Mass.  
Hill City — St. John's, Fr. Jerry Weiss; Fr. Keith Bertram, asst. pastor Mass: Sun. 8:30  
McGrath — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. J. Fleischhacker, O.S.C., Mass: Sun. 11.  
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. J. Fleischhacker, O.S.C., Mass: Sat. 5:30 p.m.; Sun. 9.  
Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Aitkin — Worship and SS 10:00; Mtgs. 1st & 3rd Wed., 7:30 p.m.

## CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Bradley Deuermeyer, Br. President, 218-927-3875; Priesthood/Relief Society, 10; S.S. 11; Sac. Mtg. 11:50

## COMMUNITY

Aitkin Community — Nondenominational; 927-2749; Worship 10; at 219-1st Ave. NE.  
Emily, Community Cornerstone Christian — Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.  
Glen, mile east of Glen — Rev. R. Stauter; Worship 9, May-Oct.  
Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 p.m.  
Jacobson Community Church (the little white church in Jacobson). Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 p.m.  
Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.  
McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 9:30 at McGregor VFW; Bible study Sat. 7 p.m. VFW basement; Contact: Pat Perrine 218-768-2234  
Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Larry Harshman; SS 9:45; Service 11 & 6 p.m.; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536.  
Merrifield — Ossipee Community, Pastor Ralph Hegman; SS 9:15; Service 10:30; Wed. Bible Study Prayer, 7:30 p.m.  
Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Dave Uhrich; Service 9; Fellowship 10; Contemporary-Worship 10:15.  
Palisade/Waukenabo Twp. — Hilltop Chapel, Pastor B. Hite; Service 8 & 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's Sunday School 9 a.m.; located between Esquagama & Round Lake. Handicap Accessible.  
Tamarack — Church of Christ, Pastor Brandt Johnson, 218-768-2965; Service 9:30; SS 10:45. Wed. worship, 6 p.m.  
McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

## COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

Aitkin — Community of Christ, Elder S. Wasserzieher, 218-678-2506 for meeting place and time.

## CONGREGATIONAL

Aitkin (UCC) — First, Rev. Richard Celley; Worship 10; Comm. 1st Sun.; Trustees Mtg., 2nd Sun.; Diaconate Mtg., 3rd Sun.; Adult Bible Study Sun. 9 am.

## EPISCOPAL

Aitkin — Rev. Karl E. Bell, plus Rev. John Willms 2nd Sun. of month. St. John's, Holy Comm. or Morning Prayer, Sun. 9

## EVANGELICAL FREE

Crosslake — Pastor Fred Cressman; Call for Service Times at 218-692-4141, email [thelogs-church@crosslake.net](mailto:thelogs-church@crosslake.net)  
Isle — Pastor Charles Visser; Worship 9; SS 10:15; Wed. Youth Group 6 p.m.; Adult Prayer 6:30 p.m.  
Malmo — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10:30; Worship 10:50; Wed. Care Group 9:30  
Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Wed., Bible Study, 7 p.m.

## INDEPENDENT PENTECOSTAL

Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Irondale Town Hall\*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 p.m.

## LUTHERAN

Aitkin — Bethel\* (CLB), Rev. G. Salmonson; Worship, 9:30; Wed. Wed. Kids Club (starting 9/19) 3:30; Thurs. Bible Study & prayer 7; SS following morning worship.  
Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Cindy Gray; Worship 8:30 and 10; SS 10; Holy Comm. 1st Sun. each month.  
Aitkin — First\* (ELCA), Rev. Lance E. Isaacson, Sr. Pastor; Rev. Sarah Cordray, Assoc. Pastor; Sat. Worship 5 p.m.; Worship: Sun. 8 and 9:30; coffee fellowship 9; Contemporary 2nd & 5th Sun., Communion 1st & 3rd Sun.; 9:30 service broadcast live on KKIN (930 AM) & on TV cable channel 8 at 9 am Wed.  
Aitkin — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor D. Becker; Worship Sun. 9 a.m.  
Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sundays, 10:30.  
Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA), Rev. Sandy Berg-Holte; Worship 8:30; SS 9:30; Saturday SS; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.  
Crosby — Immanuel (ELCA) Pastor Paul Mattson; Sat. 5 p.m. worship; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; fellowship & coffee 10. SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.  
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910  
Crosslake — (ELCA), Pastor Mark Anderson; Worship Sun. 9:30; SS 10:15; Coffee Fellowship 10:30. 218-692-3682.  
Crosslake — Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Steve Anderson; SS/Bible Study 10:45; Worship 9:30; Fellowship follows; Holy Comm. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays; Confirm./Youth Group Wed. 6 p.m.; 218-692-4228  
Deerwood — Salem (ELCA), Pastor D. Anderson; Fall Worship: 8 & 9:30 a.m.  
Giese Immanuel — Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. each month 8:45.  
Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Pastor Chris Hill; Worship 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship 10:0 a.m.; Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; 320-692-4773.  
Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (Missouri Synod), Pastor Matthew Ruesch, Bible Study & SS Sun. 8:45; Worship 10; Fellowship 11.  
Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor Volkert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.  
Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Pastor Cathie Rhodes; Sun. Worship 9:30. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)  
Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 10:30; 218-534-3069.  
Isle — Faith (ELCA), Pastor John Lundberg; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.  
Isle — Trinity (Missouri Synod), Rev. Mark Mounula; Worship 8:30; Fellowship follows; SS 9:45; Adult Bible 10.  
Jacobson — Carmel, Pastors Loren & Judy Anderson-Bauer; SS 9:30, Service 11, fellowship follows.  
Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA), Rev. Jim Raisanen; Sat. Informal Worship 5 p.m.; Sun. Worship 8 & 10; Fellowship between services; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.  
McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 p.m., Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.  
McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor James Sodergren; Worship 9; SS 9.  
McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (ELCA), Pastor D. Heath; Sun. Worship 9 a.m. Fellowship hour follows; Sat. Worship 5:30 p.m.  
McGregor — Our Savior's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Henry Koopman; Worship 9; SS 10; Bible Study Tue. 9, Wed. 7 p.m.  
Opstead — Holden (ELCA), SS 9:30; Worship 10:30.  
Outing — Our Saviors; Worship 9.  
Palisade — Bethel (ELCA), Rev. W. J. Sass; Worship 9:30; SS: pre-school - 1st grade, 10:00; 2nd grade & up, 10:45; SS also offered for pre-school - 6th grade on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.  
Rossburg — Bethesda (ELCA), Rev. Sandy Berg-Holte; Worship 10:30; SS 2nd Sat of Mo. 9 - 1 p.m.; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.  
Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor P. Franz; 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. 11; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. 1  
Thor — Zion, Pastor G. Salmonson; Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.  
Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.  
Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Henry Koopman; Worship 10:30; Bible Study Thu. 10.

## PENTECOSTAL INDIAN

Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, 218-768-3585, Pastors Ken and Robin Fairbanks, Praise and Worship, Sat., 11. Everyone Welcome!

## PRESBYTERIAN

Crosby/Ironton — Pastor Norma Spurgin 1st St. SE, Hallet Ave.; Worship 10 a.m.; SS during worship.  
Crosslake — Pastor John Hill; Adult Education 9; Worship/SS 10, 14444 Daggett Pine Rd., 218-692-4769  
McGrath — Calvary, Interim Pastor - Rev. Bill Chadwick; Worship 9:30; SS 10:30.  
McGregor/Round Lake — Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 9:30.  
Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11. Round Lake — Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 9:30.

## SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Aitkin — Pastor R. Brauer; Worship, Sat. 9:20; Sabbath School 10:20; Prayer Mtg. Tue. 7 p.m.

## UNITED METHODIST

Aitkin — Rev. Judith A. Clark; Adult SS and classes for 3 yrs. to 9th grade, 9; Worship & Nursery 10:30.  
Crosby/Deerwood — Cascade, Rev. Shirley Nelson; Worship 9:45; fellowship follows.  
Emily — Pastor Lois Hansen; Worship 8:45; fellowship follows.\*  
Northern Lights Parish (United Methodist) — Pastor Russ Christensen Cromwell — Worship 11:00; SS 9. Pastor Russ Christensen  
Fleming — Worship 10:30; handicap accessible.  
Hill City — Rev. Russ Christensen; Worship 10:45  
McGregor — Pastor Russ Christensen .Worship 8:45; S.S. 10:15.\*  
Palisade - Pastor Russ Christensen; Worship 9.  
Cutler — Pine Lake Chapel, Rev. Judith A. Clark; Worship 8:30; SS 9.

## WESLEYAN

Emily — Rev. Jeff Drake; Worship 9; Friendship Time 10; SS 10:30; Wed. Activities 6:30 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.

# AUCTION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2008, 10:00 AM  
LIGHT OF THE CROSS CHURCH  
2 BLOCKS WEST OF SUPER-VALU; GARRISON, MN

Open to consignments or donations from community at large.  
Clean, usable items in good working order are accepted.  
Sorry, no mattresses, box springs, hide-a-beds, TVs, or computer equipment.  
Items can be dropped off at church parking lot  
Friday, Aug. 8, 8 AM to 8 PM and  
Saturday, Aug. 9 from 7:30 am to 9:30 am.  
Refreshments available.

All proceeds benefit Light of the Cross.  
Questions call 218.678.3550; 218.678.3492; 218.678.2034

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Northland Aboretum  
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AFCL Home Missions Department  
email: [homemis@afcl.org](mailto:homemis@afcl.org)  
Brainerd Contacts:  
218-828-0750 or 218-562-4498  
Visit AFLC website: [www.afcl.org](http://www.afcl.org)  
Links Info - HM 2008 Brainerd Project

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engagement & wedding announcements



Wergin — Barnett

Charla Barnett and Joshua Wergin, both of St. Cloud, announce their engagement and upcoming wedding.

Charla, the daughter of Gary and Kari Abbott of Tamarack, is a 2002 graduate of McGregor High School and is currently attending the College of St. Scholastica majoring in accounting and management.

Joshua, the son of Richard and Betsy Wergin of Princeton, is a 2004 graduate of Princeton High School and is enrolled at St. Cloud Technical College.

The wedding is planned for Oct. 10, 2009, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in McGregor.

Aitkin County...A gangster hideout

By PHILIP NEESE

During the 1920s, 30s and 40s gangsters had hideouts in our land. How was this possible?

A resident of Aitkin County put it this way. "Those were different times back then. Honest people had gripes with banks back then, and many had more sympathy with the robber than with the institutions that had mistreated them.

"My dad had a nice farm in Iowa during the Great Depression years, and he went to the bank that he had used all of his life to get a loan of \$300 to pay for the threshing and harvest crew. The bank approved the loan and Dad asked that the money be put in his checking account, which was in the same bank. This was done and the very next day the bank shut it's doors and Dad was told that his money was gone. That was not bad enough. They told him that he still owed the \$300 loan and that the bank wanted prompt payment. Well, Dad lost his farm and needless to say, he was not a happy man.

Many people in our country lost their savings in this manner and this seemed to reinforce the idea that a person should just keep his mouth shut and not put their nose in where it didn't belong."

Sue who lives in the

McGregor area tells us, "Many of the old timers tell of John Dillinger and his hangouts on Lake Minnewawa. He stayed at a resort called "The Retreat" and he participated in a lively nightlife at the Pavilion, a nightclub whose dance floor extended out over the lake.

"The Retreat had a lodge with a large fireplace. The fireplace still stands (see photo) and is part of a cabin, however, the lodge has been gone for a long time. Dillinger was also alleged to have owned three lots out on Sheshebe Point, but I guess his career ended before he could utilize the beauty of the place."

John Dillinger nicknamed the "Jack Rabbit" was called a dangerous bank robber by some and Robin Hood by others. John Dillinger was killed on July 22, 1934, in a shoot out with the FBI.

Dave Tjosvold puts it this way, "There were all kinds of stories going around when I was a kid. The owner of the Pleasure Palace had customers that looked like Bonnie and Clyde and he kicked them out."

Dave continues, "The area around Big Sandy Lake and Lake Minnewawa was called a "Lay Off Spot" by gangsters from Chicago. When these gangsters were shot up, fellow



The fireplace still stands. It was part of the resort visited by John Dillinger.

gangsters would drive them up to this surgeon in St. Paul (This doctor did not want his name spread around) and the surgeon would patch the guys up and send them up here to Northern Aitkin County to recover.

"I dated a girl many years ago when I was sixteen and she told me that her aunt owned the resort on Glacier Lake where many celebrities came for relaxation. Some of the notables were said to be Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Frank Sinatra.

"Now I have an acquaintance who owns a house in this area and it has a lot of small rooms in it. He was told the gang owned this house and had it remodeled so that they

could run girls up here. I don't think those plans worked out very well!"

Hank Meyers and his son purchased 40 acres north of Tamarack and while exploring they found some broken crockery. Hank tells us about it, "I thought we were into Native American relics until I saw a Red Wing impression. I got to talking to the neighbors and they told me that there had been several stills in the area nearly a hundred years ago and that during the Gangster era, Al Capone and others used to come to what is now my 40 acres to obtain their favorite libation."

LOOK WHOSE baby JUST ARRIVED

SAGE WRIGHT

Sage Christina Wright, a girl, weighing 8 lbs., 14 ozs., was born July 14, 2008, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Autumn Peterson and Chris Wright of Brook Park. Grandparent is Eric Peterson, Hinckley.

ELI BLATZ

Eli Mabern Blatz, a boy, weighing 8 lbs., 11 ozs., was born July 16, 2008, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Heath and Annette Blatz of Grasston. Eli is welcomed home by siblings: Ethan, Lydia and Elliot. Grandparents are: Alvin and Ferrell Blatz, Stanchfield; and Mabern and Barb Listor, Mora.

Habitat for Humanity now accepting applications

Itasca County Habitat for Humanity's Family Selection Committee announced that they are accepting homeowner applications.

Applications are reviewed by the Family Selection Committee based on the following criteria:

The applicant must meet the income guidelines established by the Affiliate. Income must not exceed 50 percent of 2008 HUD Median Income for Itasca County based on family size.

The applicant must be able to pay for the home. ICHFH sells the mortgages to the families with no interest for a term of 25 years.

The applicant must be willing to partner with Habitat. The core of the program is centered

around the family contributing 300 to 600 hours of sweat equity. Sweat equity must be completed on construction of the family's home and on another family's home or another Habitat project.

The present living condition of the family must be inadequate which may include but is not limited to: overcrowding, improper wiring, plumbing, or structural problems, other unsafe conditions, more than 30 percent of household income is used for housing, etc.

"Selecting three families is no easy task", said Ralph Nyquist Family Selection Committee Chair. "There are hard decisions to make and many sleepless nights."

Applications can be picked

up at the Itasca County Habitat for Humanity office located in the Grand Rapids Business Center, 525 East Itasca Street, Suite 104 or they can be picked up at any of the following locations: Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Itasca Resource Center, Bovey City Hall, and the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce. Applications must be returned to the Habitat office by Aug. 14

Since its founding in 1992, Itasca County Habitat for Humanity (ICHH) has helped 23 Itasca County families move from substandard housing into decent and affordable homes that they own. Utilizing volunteers, locally raised funds and the "sweat equity" of partner families, ICHFH and

its partners bring the American dream to life. Habitat homes are purchased by the Partner Family with a zero percent interest mortgage over a period of 25 years. The bottom line is that ICHFH is building a healthier community for us all in Itasca County and around the world.

Aggressively moving forward in 2008 with three new homes, ICHFH needs passionate volunteers and committed partners to continue this community building effort. If you, your business, your church or organization has an interest in making the county and the world a better place, please call 218-326-6185 or go to www.itascahabitat.org.

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9th Circuit to Decide on Constitutionality of Anti-Catholic Resolution

San Francisco calls the Catholic Church's teachings hateful, defamatory and insensitive.

The liberal 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will decide whether a scathing anti-Catholic resolution from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors is unconstitutional.

The resolution, passed unanimously in 2006, accused the Vatican of operating as a "foreign country" and called the Church's teachings "hateful," "defamatory," "in-

sensitive," "ignorant" and "insulting to all San Franciscans." It was issued in response to the Church's requirement that adoptive children be brought up by families with a mom and dad.

"They're condemning the Catholic Church as 'hateful' and 'harmful,' and that is clearly a violation of constitutional law, where no governmental entity is to be hostile to any particular religion," said Brian Rooney, an attorney with the Thomas More Law Center, who represented the Church in court this week.

Susan Fani, director of com-

munications at the Catholic League, called the resolution a scare tactic that had to be challenged.

"So many times we're told the Church needs to butt out of the state," she said, "but here we have a perfect situation of what the First Amendment is addressing.

"Our goal is that they don't do this again, that they learn to step back and not overstep their authority."

Around the same time, the San Francisco board also voted to banish 25,000 evangelical teens who had gathered in the city to pray.

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