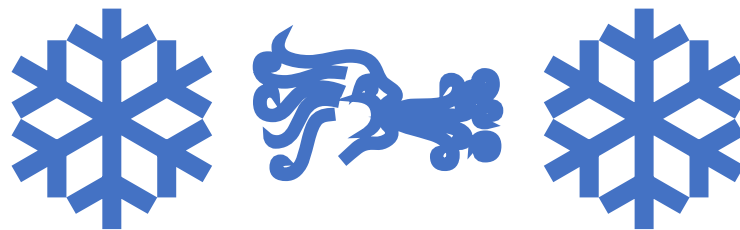


FLYING FINN
7503 LEVANDER RD
EMBARRASS, MN 55732
JANUARY 2021
ISSUE #355



**Pancake Breakfast
CANCELLED**

Happy New Year



Martin Luther King Jr Day – January 18

Embarrass Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

Please submit materials for the February 2021 issue to the
Embarrass Clerk's Office by January 20, 2021.

JANUARY 2021

					1	2
3  4-H Meeting (check with leader)	4 Flower & Garden Club meeting canceled	5 Ladies Coffee	6	7 Conversational Finn 1-3 p.m.	8	9
10	11	12 Ladies Coffee	13 Township Board Meeting & Reorg. Mtg 6:00 p.m.	14 Conversational Finn 1-3 p.m.	15	16
17	18 SISU Meeting Maximum 10 persons, 6' apart for social distancing	19 Ladies Coffee	20 Flying Finn Deadline	21 Conversational Finn 1-3 p.m. Fair Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. Timber Hall	22	23
24	25	26 Ladies Coffee	27	28 Conversational Finn 1-3 p.m.	29	30
31						

FROM THE EDITOR:

The Flying Finn strives to represent both Embarrass and the surrounding area. To submit articles, advertisements, community notices, letters to the editor, photos, artwork, etc. for the newsletter, mail them to Embarrass Town Hall, 7503 Levander Rd, Embarrass, MN 55732, or e-mail them to embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net. Please include your name, phone number and e-mail address. Photos or other materials will be returned as soon as possible. The township regrets that it is unable to purchase or reimburse for materials which are published. The Town of Embarrass reserves the right to publish or not publish any letter to the editor or other submitted material. Call 218-984-2084 with any questions. ***** Thank you. Diane Nelmark, Editor

Town of Embarrass

Regular Meeting -December 9, 2020

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

Present: Roy Worsham, Gary Rantala, May Novak, Jennifer Boese, Gene Wright (*via phone*); Visitors: Roger Davies, Bernie Mettler, Kirk Saranpaa

Meeting was called to order by Roy Worsham at 6:02 p.m. with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to approve the November 2020 minutes. Carried 3-0.

Motion/Wright: Second/Worsham to approve the November Treasurers Report. Carried 3-0.

Clerk informs supervisors that the Post Office furnace repairs were made but were not covered under warranty, it was considered yearly maintenance. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Wright to have the furnace at the post office on a list for yearly maintenance. Carried 3-0.*

Rantala reports that the township roads are in good shape for this time of year.

Worsham gives maintenance report for November.

Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to put the two heaters up for bids. Minimum bid of \$100 to include both heaters, one listed as is, not working but can use for parts. Carried 3-0.

Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to recall Ed to work for 21 hours a week, until another decision is made in January. Carried 3-0.

Cemetery deeds were signed by all supervisors and clerk.

Clerk informs the supervisors about a Covid Relief Grant from St. Louis County that was applied for by an unknown source for the Nelmark Museum. Clerk contacted SISU board with no results as to who applied. St. Louis County was in contact with clerk requesting information but was only able to provide known information for the grant, due to the fact of the unknown source and expenses that were being asked of. Clerk completed grant best to ability and funds in the amount of \$469 were approved and sent. Clerk requests to be contacted if any grants are applied for to save time and

confusion. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to sign the \$469 check from St. Louis County Covid Relief Grant, over to SISU treasurer that came for Covid relief costs for the Nelmark. Wright would like the clerk and supervisors to be informed next time there is a grant applied for by any SISU board or members to avoid confusion. Carried 3-0.*

Discussion was held on the GMC truck claim. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to contact MATIT Insurance Agent with questions regarding the GMC claim. The board decided to keep the truck as salvage and put it up for bids at a minimum bid of \$260. Carried 3-0.*

Discussion was held on trailer that was damaged. To fix the trailer to make it safe to use on roads would cost in the range of \$500 - \$600. Not worth the price for the older trailer. *Motion/Wright: Second/Rantala to put the damaged trailer up for bids. Minimum bid of \$1. Carried 3-0.*

Worsham received a call that the new plow truck is in and will be ready to be picked up once the plow has been installed on the truck. Motion/Wright: Second/Worsham to take \$12,250 from General Fund, \$10,000 from Capitol Fund, \$5,000 from Recreation Fund, and \$10,600 from savings to pay for the truck. Once truck is paid for by township the \$12,250 will be reimbursed from the USDA grant that was approved will need to be put back into the general fund account. The \$2,840 received from MATIT insurance claim back into the general account to cover sales tax. Carried 3-0.

Clerk informs supervisors of January 5th Annual Fire Department Meeting. Discussion was had on contract and supervisors agree they need to come to township meeting. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala that the ERVFD will need to be contacted regarding the contract and feel this should be negotiated by both boards. Supervisors request for a board member of the department come to a township meeting to discuss the issue, if unable to attend township meeting then a special meeting can be set up. Carried 3-0.*

All present at meeting thank Gary Rantala for the wonderful work with the township as this was his last meeting as a supervisor on the Embarrass Town Board. Thank you, Gary.

Questions were asked by Saranpaa about the temporary easement on township land. Worsham was given phone number to call to contact logging company. After contacting and relooking at easement agreement the logging is accurate to agreement.

Audit was completed by supervisors. All claims and disbursements were found accurate and in order. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to accept the audit completed by the supervisors. Carried 2-0. Wright abstained as he was present by phone.*

Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to accept the claims (17680-17703, \$\$10,039.31) and correspondence. Carried 3- 0.

Worsham adjourned meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer Boese

Clerks Corner

Happy New Year!! Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas regardless of all that is going on. My family and I were fortunate to have a wonderful Christmas.

The Ice Candle Celebration at the Embarrass Cemetery was beautiful as always. A BIG thank you to Roger and Bonnie Davies for the long and late hours of making all 614 ice candles this year. To the 4H volunteers who helped place and light the candles, Katy Brophy, Molly Brophy, Rachael Brophy, Ida Rukavina, Delia Dahl and Lucia Dahl. Jack LaMar for suppling his wheeler and trailer, and also to Natalie and Jim Nelmark, the township is very thankful for all the dedication. You all made this special event happen and continue to keep the tradition going.

The skating rink is ready for you ice skaters. Thank you to Bill and Jared Wright and for preparing the ice. The township appreciates the help during this time of year.

The reorganizational and regular board meeting will be held on January 13 at 6 p.m. If you plan on attending, you must follow state guidelines.

I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year in 2021!

Take Care, *Jennifer Boese, Embarrass Town Clerk*

ADS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Suggested donation to The Flying Finn

1/4 Page = \$8; 1/2 Page = \$13;

Full Page = \$22

To place an ad, write to:

The Flying Finn, 7503 Levander Rd

Embarrass MN 55732

Email embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net

or call the Embarrass Town Clerk at 984-2084.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Persons interested in subscribing to The Flying Finn may drop off or send a donation of \$15 for one year, payable to the Town of Embarrass, 7503 Levander Road, Embarrass, MN 55732.

The Flying Finn makes a great gift for someone who has moved out of the community!

The Flying Finn and the Town of Embarrass welcome announcements about community events and community groups. These submitted announcements are printed here and on following pages. Neither the Town of Embarrass nor The Flying Finn necessarily endorses the viewpoints or ideology of these groups or their events. The Town of Embarrass reserves the right to publish or not publish any letter to the editor or submitted material.



Waasa Township

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2020; 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mike Johnson, Steve Sipola, Carrie Westvik, Bonnie Keller and Sandra Gibson

Visitors: Rich Niemi, Floyd Joki and Nina Honkola

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair, Mike Johnson and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Minutes Approval: *Mike moved to approve the October 7, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. Steve supported. Carried (3-0).*

Treasurer's Report: Receipts for today:

- State of MN, \$19.58, Market Value Credit—Agricultural
- Twin Metals Minnesota LLC, \$1,648.00, Yearly Lease Payment for Wells

Total Disbursements October 7, 2020 Regular Meeting: \$6,951.53. *Steve accepted the report and Mike supported. Carried (3-0).*

Approval to Pay Bills: *Mike moved to approve payment of the bills listed below plus payroll and PERA with support from Steve. Carried (3-0).*

- Election Judges and Administrator, \$1,150.00, Wages for General Election
- Gibson, Sandra, \$83.51, Election Supplies & Mileage
- L & M Supply, \$6.18, Elect. Supplies: Alcohol Wipes & Tape
- Lake Country Power, \$72.60, Electricity for Town Hall
- Sipola, Steve, \$25.88, Mileage: Picked up Bench for Cemetery

Visitor In-Put: There was a question about why more brushing wasn't done on Beckman Road. Steve explained that the area in question was difficult to work in because of all the rocks. This will be checked out again in the spring. The N.E. corner of the cemetery road has a hole that should also be filled in this spring.

Road Report: Roads are melting off at this time but are in descent condition.

Cemetery: The memorial bench project has been completed. It was moved in place on the cement slab at the lower section of the cemetery near the building. Thank you to Babbitt VFW Post 1539 members who gave Steve Sipola a hand. It has been suggested that a solar light be mounted on the building to shine on the bench. This will be considered by the board in the spring.

Old Business: Mike found an on-line source for the (3) cemetery signs and (2) "Waasa Township" signs in green for a reasonable price. This purchase was approved at the August meeting Mike will get them ordered as soon as possible and turn in a voucher.

The "Wish List / To Do List: Mike has just returned from a several week-long work detail but is more than willing to get the following projects done: contact a couple of electricians in the area for estimates to add a couple of new outlets in the town hall, put up the new window plastic and take care of sidewalk patching, if the weather is favorable. Carrie has been checking around to find the pieces needed to fill in the siding on the back of the town hall.

The clerk reported the election results from the MN Secretary of States on-line site. The township offices which were on the ballot were for Board Supervisor: Mike Johnson received 140 votes with 2 write ins. For Town Treasurer: Nina Honkola received 79 and Kimberly Daugherty received 55 with 0 write ins.

New officers, Mike Johnson and Nina Honkola, will take the Oath of Office on Monday, January 4 at the Waasa Town Hall at 7 p.m.

Waasa Township follows the MN mandates during the pandemic. Each person in attendance must wear a mask and only 5 visitors in addition to the 5 board members are allowed in person. Mike pointed out to all that he will use his phone to connect into the conference number. This way anyone can join in our meetings remotely at **TELECONFERENCE CALL: 701-802-5057 & USE ACCESS CODE: 3131553#**. After some discussion, the board reached the decision to continue "In Person" meetings following the above guidelines.

New Business: A letter was received from St. Louis County Public Works Department, Kevin McConnell concerning the change in total township roads within Waasa. He has changed the distance from 5.15 miles to 4.99 miles. (This is in reference to our road maintenance agreement).

The board was in agreement that the new edition of the St. Louis County Road Atlas should be ordered.

Correspondence: All mail was read and filed.

Adjournment: *Mike moved to close the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and was supported by Steve.*

Respectfully Submitted, Sandra Gibson, Waasa Town Clerk; Mike Johnson, Waasa Board Chair

PIKE SANDY WOMEN'S CLUB



Due to COVID-19 we have made the very difficult decision to cancel all club events from September 2020 through May 2021.

Embarrass Flower and Garden Club



The Embarrass Flower & Garden will not be meeting again in January due to COVID 19. Please check the Flying Finn for future announcements. For further information, please contact: Linda Cox, President (218) 984-3002 or (218) 780-4143.

Pancake Breakfast



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the Embarrass Region Fair Association Pancake Breakfasts are **cancelled** until further notice.



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Embarrass MN Post Office

4878 Hwy 218-984-3027

Pickup/Retail Hours:

Monday-Friday 7:00am-11:00am

Saturday 7:00am-9:00am

Lobby is open 24 hours for those with post office
boxes at this location



Memorial Forest Monument:

Names can be added for the
price of \$50 a name. The
honoree does not need to be a
resident of Embarrass

Township. Contact Clerk's Office at 218-984-
2084 for more information.

Embarrass Transfer Station



7530 Koski Rd
Embarrass, MN



Hours of Operation

Thursday

10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday

12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m

**WAASA TOWNSHIP
Treasurer Retirement**



At the December 2 Waasa Regular Board Meeting, Bonnie Keller was presented a plaque in her honor for many years of service to the township as Waasa Treasurer. Bonnie began as a board appointment on August 10, 1983 and was elected many times thru the years. She opted not to run in the November election after nearly 37 years in office. The entire Waasa Board, Mike Johnson, Steve Sipola, Carrie Westvik and Sandy Gibson, wishes to thank Bonnie for her dedication! (Shown in the photo is Board Chair Mike Johnson and Bonnie Keller).

KIITOS!

Thank you to Bill and Jared Wright for preparing and maintaining the skating rink this season! The rink is ready for the skating this holiday season.

A big thank you for the monumental effort in placing and lighting the Ice Candles at the cemetery. The 4H volunteer were Katy Brophy, Molly Brophy, Rachael Brophy, Ida Rukavina, Delia Dahl and Lucia Dahl. Jack LaMar for suppling his wheeler and trailer, and last but not least Natalie Nelmark and Jim Nelmark.

Thank you from Embarrass Township!!!



*** OBITUARIES ***

Harvey Koski, 80

Harvey Nicholas Koski, 80, of Vermillion Township, rural Tower, MN, passed away on December 3, 2020, from complications of the COVID-19 virus.

He was born on January 16th, 1940 to Nicholas and Evelyn (Dahl) Koski. Harvey graduated from Embarrass High School in 1958 and then attended the Area Vocational Technical Institute for Automotive Mechanics in Duluth. He worked at the Hillside Garage in Duluth, Ahola Ford in Ely and Karki Ford in Tower.

He enlisted in the United States Army in 1961 where he served as an Electrical Power and Lineman with assignments at Fort Gordon, Georgia, Fort Lewis, Washington, and Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He was also stationed in Bangkok, Thailand, in support of Vietnam war operations. Upon discharge from the Army, he worked as a Diesel Mechanic at Reserve Mining in Babbitt for almost twenty years and then for Consolidated Freightways in Minneapolis from where he retired after another twenty years.

An experienced snowmobiler himself, Harvey was a member of the Minnesota Snowmobile Association. He was also a very active Parishioner of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on Highway 169. An avid outdoorsman, Harvey truly enjoying fishing, hunting and four-wheeling. Additionally, as an accomplished wood worker, Harvey crafted many beautiful gifts and household items for family and friends. He'll surely be missed.

Harvey was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his daughter, Cynthia (Kurt) Peterson of Kenosha, Wisconsin; brother, Michael (Susan) Koski of Embarrass; and sisters, Kathryn (Bruce) Carlson of Tower and Lois (David) Lahti of Hermantown. Survivors also include his grandchildren, Taran and Tasha; six great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

The Family expresses their sincere appreciation to the Staff at Heritage Manor in Chisholm for their compassionate care of Harvey during his final days. Those desiring should send their memorials to the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at 6959 Highway 169, Virginia, MN 55792.

A grave side service is planned for early spring at the Vermillion Lake Cemetery with arrangements by Range Funeral Home in Virginia. To sign the online guest book or send condolences visit www.rangefuneralhomes.com.

William R. Lamppa

William R. Lamppa, 92, of Embarrass, died on Dec. 12, 2020, at Essentia-St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth. Funeral arrangements are pending with Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.



Barbara Lois Lassila, 84

Barbara Lois Lassila, 84, passed away peacefully on Dec. 17, 2020, at Carefree Living in Babbitt. Per her wishes, there will be no funeral services. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Barbara was born on Aug. 12, 1936, in Roseau, the daughter of Lloyd Harry and Marguerite Freda (Bell) Nelson. She attended school in Roseau and Ely and graduated from Embarrass High School in 1955. She was a hair stylist for many years, sidelining with belly dance classes, as a bookkeeper, and as a secretary for HUD.

Her real passion was antiques. She owned and managed two stores, The Mountain High Antiques in Prescott Valley, Ariz., and the Red Door Antiques in Junction City, Kansas. Barb was known as The Linen Lady in Kansas for her creativity and love of embroidery. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and past member of the Red Hat Ladies.

Survivors include her daughters, Cynthia (Frank) Dilegame of Clermont, Fla., and Kathy (Lonnie) Salo of Babbitt; sons, Russ Salo of Embarrass and Billy (Julie) Smith of Babbitt; sister, Patricia B. Olson; brother-in-law, Bob Olson; grandchildren, Brian (Betsy) Johnson, Dave Salo, Stacy Johnson, Angie (Tobias) Dilegame, Laurel Salo, Katie Dilegame, Erin (Corey) Burch, Colton Salo and Jenna Smith; great-grandchildren, Aliah (Robert) Sherman, Faith Martin, Ayden Johnson, Logan Johnson, Keegan O'Neill, Thomas Salo, Jude Dilegame and Saani Fauser; nephews, Bob (Kathleen) Olson, Mark (Margie) Olson and Bruce Olson; and nieces, Patty (Gerald) Niskala and Chris (Larry) Urbus. She was preceded in death by her parents; nephews, Terrence and David Olson; and son, Roger Salo who passed away in October 2019.

Judith Marie Wirtanen, 80

After a tough fight for almost a month, Judith Marie Wirtanen, 80, lost her battle against COVID-19. She died on Dec. 9, 2020, at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Judy was born to Carl and Irene Milbridge on Nov. 23, 1940. She grew up in Embarrass and graduated from Embarrass High School. Judy was united in marriage to Dave (Hoopee) Wirtanen on Dec. 21, 1963. She worked as a waitress for many years at the El-Roy in Britt, and she also managed the Goodwill store in Virginia for many years.

Judy is survived by her daughters, Gayle (Craig) Lukkonen, Tracy (Brent DeBenedet) Wirtanen and Tricia (Ted) Miller; grandchildren, Alan (Breyan Knutson) Gibson, Sirkka Miller, Helia Miller, Paivi Miller, Tuula Miller, Lilla Wirtanen- DeBenedet, Sami Wirtanen-DeBenedet, Taavi Wirtanen-DeBenedet, Jen (Dan) Palo and Neil (Alexis) Lukkonen; great-grandchildren, Trey, Ryder, Isabelle, Lydia, Camden, Sylvie, Ava and Aiden; sister, Carla (Bim) Boelk; and many nieces, nephews and extended family. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dave; and son, Gary Mattonen.

*** OBITUARIES ***

Alice Ruth Niemi, 92

Alice Ruth Niemi, 92, died at Edgewood Vista in Virginia on Dec. 19, 2020. A celebration of life will take place in her garden during the spring of 2021, and when we can all be together again. Memorials may be directed to Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners, PO Box 244, Cook, MN 55723.



We are forever grateful to the staff of Edgewood Vista, Essentia Hospice, Dr. Keith Peterson, and all of her nurses and caregivers these last few months. They were there when COVID wouldn't let us be there. Christmas will be harder this year without the hand-knitted mittens, scarves, afghans, and quilted blankets she always gave for gifts. While Alice claimed there were too many things left unfinished, nothing about the love she gave her family was ever incomplete.

Alice was born on June 22, 1928, in Embarrass and lived there for the first 72 years of her life. She married her husband, Leonard Niemi, at the age of 19 and had three daughters, Berta, Barbie and Becky. She was part owner in Lamppa's Store where she worked alongside her siblings, Ernie Lamppa, Alvin Lamppa and Bertha Niemi. Once she was at home, she could be found in her garden watching and waiting to can all of the string beans, pickles, beets and jams that her grandchildren, Tricia Shuck, Jeff Pike, Jason and AJ Hegg could stand to eat. She shared her love of gardening as an active member of the Embarrass Garden Club. Alice and Leonard moved to Virginia at the turn of the century, and she immediately planted apple trees, raspberry bushes and vegetables in the back yard. Alice enjoyed visiting with her great-grandchildren, Carissa Kurtti, Noah Shuck, Carter Hegg, Shaylene Pike, Anders and Levi Hegg. They never left without a knitted gift in their hands or a warm slice of Finnish biscuit in their belly.

After Leonard died in 2005, Alice remained an active member in Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Priscilla Circle, and the Fiber Arts Guild. She could be found on many early mornings with a magnifying glass and her beloved Hardanger, or packing up her latest quilt for Mission Sewing. Alice was a tough liberal Finn and proud of it. No discussion of politics, tarts, biscuit, or bread will ever be the same without her having the last word and sending you home with a jar of jam.

She is survived by her daughters, Berta and Barbie; grandchildren, Tricia, Jeff, Jason and AJ; great-grandchildren, Carissa Kurtti, Noah Shuck, Carter Hegg, Shaylene Pike, Anders and Levi Hegg; "in-laws" and handymen, David Pike and David Hegg, Scott Shuck, Angie Pike, and Cara Hegg.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Becky; husband, Leonard; parents, Axel and Minnie; and siblings, Ernie Lamppa, Alvin Lamppa and Bertha Niemi.

Willard Jacob Aho, 91

Willard Jacob Aho, 91, of Virginia, died on Dec. 8, 2020, at Edgewood Vista in Virginia. The family held a private funeral service with Pastor Amy Janssen officiating at Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church. Interment was in the Greenwood Cemetery.

He was born on Feb. 21, 1929, the son of Oscar and Amelia (Pylkka) Aho. He grew up in Embarrass and attended school there until the ninth grade, when he left to work at the family farm. On Aug. 13, 1955, he married Elsie Pohto and they were blessed with four children. They lived in Aurora until moving to Virginia in 1960. Willard was employed by Superior Copper Mining Co. in Arizona and Erie Mining Company in Hoyt Lakes prior to a 27-year career as the Maintenance Supervisor at the East Range Clinics in Virginia and Aurora. He was a "Mr. Fixit" able to repair just about anything. Willard was a man of faith, and an active member of Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church. He mentored many while serving the church, and kept the building in good repair. He had a servant's heart, helping with Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, and the Quad City Food Shelf. Willard was a man of strong Finnish heritage, loving Finnish culture, saunas, and teaching all his grandchildren The Sauna Song. He cherished time spent at the cabin on Lake Leander, and loved spending time with his family, most especially his grandchildren. He will be fondly remembered for his faith, his sense of humor, his laughter, and his love for others.

Willard is survived by his children, David Aho of Virginia, Daniel Aho of Angora, Sheryl (Kim) Kochevar and Sheila (Deron) Davidson, both of Virginia; siblings, Elizabeth "Betty" White of Shakopee and Darrell Hanson of Omaha, Neb.; grandchildren, Kyle (Elena) Aho of Richfield, Chase Aho of Waseca, Jacob (Paige) Rosandich, Amanda Rosandich, Hannah (Sam) Davidson-Teff, Sarah Davidson and Rebekah Davidson, all of Virginia; great-grandchildren, Juhani, Audii, Taavi, Rubii and Lillian; numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife of 50 years, Elsie; sisters, Hazel Aho, Mayme Toikka, Lila Maki and Helen Anderson; and brothers, Herbert, Benjamin, Edwin, Wesley, Wilbert, Benhardt and Wallace.

Elsie Dahl, 91

Elsie Dahl, 91, of Tower, passed away on Dec. 7, 2020, at Edgewood Vista in Virginia. A service celebrating her life will be held at a later date due to the dangers of gathering during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Elsie was in declining health as she began palliative care to make her remaining months more comfortable. She was so happy that, after months of restrictions on visitors due to the pandemic, she would be able to see her friends and family again. This time was cut short when she was infected with the coronavirus and died within four days of diagnosis. She would want each of you to take the necessary steps to protect yourself and the ones you love from this cruel and contagious disease.

*** OBITUARIES ***

Elsie Dahl (cont.) Elsie was born on April 23, 1929, in Erie Township, to Oscar and Esther Stenvik. She lived on the family farm until she moved to Thief River Falls for high school. She married Alhert Dahl on April 19, 1948. They farmed in the Goodridge area until 1955 when they moved to Tower. Elsie was a longtime resident of Tower until she moved to Edgewood Vista in 2018.

Elsie was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower and was active in the Women in the Evangelical Lutheran Church. She and her dear friend Joyce Aronson started the quilting club that brought people together to sew quilts for Lutheran World Relief to send to countries in need. Over the years, Elsie enjoyed being an election worker, Sunday School teacher and Den Mother for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Elsie was passionate about baking, gardening and sewing. Her caramel rolls were a favorite of everyone who tried them. Her lovely flowers and raspberry patch were favorite summertime projects, and she had a green thumb with her indoor plants. She sewed a quilt for every member of her family including a great-granddaughter expected in January 2021. Elsie was most passionate about her family and friends and everyone was welcome around her kitchen table.

Elsie is survived by her children, Ricky Dahl (Deann) of Duluth, Wayne Dahl (Karen) of Embarrass, Allen Dahl (Patty) of Virginia and Noreen Dahl of Arlington, Va.; sister, Doris Mosher (Ben) of Tower; sister-in-law, Lorraine Stenvik of Goodridge; grandchildren, Lance Dahl of Rochester, Jesse Dahl (Ida Rukavina) of Virginia, Jason Dahl (Beverly) of Bellingham, Wash., Angela Dahl (Dan Combs) of Moorhead, Ashley Dahl (Jeff Mulligan) of Hudson, Wis., Jeric Moesenthin of St. Louis, Mo., Jen Stank (Rick) of Superior, Wis., Kelsey Bock of Roseville and Haley Bock of Duluth; great-grandchildren, Clara and Blake Dahl, Delia and Lucia Dahl, Jane and Charlie Dahl, Lincoln Challey, Fintan, Macrae and Lula Mulligan, Jordy and Jack Stank; and numerous nieces and nephews who thought of her as their second mom.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Alhert W. Dahl in 2003; four siblings who died from cystic fibrosis, Irene (infant), Roy age 10, Wallace age 19 and Jeannette age 24; brothers, Orland Stenvik and Norman Stenvik; and only seven months ago, her dear sister, Edith Eidelbes.

Delores E. Sampson, 89

Delores E. Sampson, 89, of Hibbing, died on Dec. 7, 2020, at Heritage Manor in Chisholm. A private memorial service was held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Hibbing with Rev. Kevin Olson officiating. A spring interment will be in Grandview Memorial Gardens in Hibbing.

She was born on June 24, 1931, to John and Elsie Johnson in Hibbing. Delores was a lifelong resident of Hibbing and attended Hibbing schools. She graduated from Hibbing High School in 1949. She later was employed as a nursing assistant with Golden Crest, Leisure Hills, and Buchanan nursing homes throughout her career.

She was a longtime member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Hibbing. Her church was very important to her. She loved spending time with her family, enjoyed cooking, knitting afghans and slippers that she lovingly shared with her family, watching westerns and various other old television shows, doing word searches, spending time with The Golden Girls, and according to her family was "One of the biggest Minnesota Vikings fans ever!" The last game she attended was the first game ever played at US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Delores is survived by her daughter, Diane Johnson of Hibbing; grandchildren, Gabe Johnson of Hibbing, Sean (Maribel Galvez) Johnson of Minneapolis, Shannon (Eric) Parvey of Fargo, N.D., Nicole Zbacnik and David Lervik, both of Chisholm; great-grandchildren, Mike, Dakota, Blake, Owen, Everett and one on the way; one great-great grandchild; sisters-in-law, Rosetta Default of Hibbing and Eunice LaPlant of Grand Rapids; and brother-in-law, Kenneth Berens of Embarrass.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Chester Sampson in 1972; daughter, Gail Sunty; granddaughter, Christine Wilen; parents; brother, Ray Johnson; and sisters, Vi Campbell and Nancy Berens.

Ida Faye Byron, 85

Ida Faye Byron, 85, died peacefully in Waupun on Dec. 4, 2020. The family would like to thank the volunteers and staff at Heartland Hospice and the teams at Home Instead and Prairie Ridge for their compassionate care. A celebration of life will be held once there is widespread distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Ida was born on Sept. 27, 1935, in Eveleth, to Emil and Vienna (Nahkala) Haanpaa. She graduated from Eveleth High School in 1953, where she excelled in her studies. After graduation she worked at a local bank while her husband-to-be, Bill Byron, went on to play football and study at the University of North Dakota. They were married while Bill was still in Grand Forks, where they lived for a period of time.

Ida and Bill moved to Waupun in the early 1960s, where Bill taught art at the high school and Ida focused on raising their young family. Once the children were shrewd enough to cause trouble without getting caught, Ida returned to the work force as the Director of the Waupun Senior Center, where she worked until her retirement. Ida loved organizing trips and activities for the seniors and making sure that meals were delivered to those in need. Ida and Bill were both very active in the Waupun Hockey Association from its early years through the graduation of their youngest hockey player in 1988. Ida was a President of the Hockey Association Women's Auxiliary, and spent many years scheduling volunteer staffing for the concession stand during hockey games. When people failed to show for their scheduled shifts, Ida would be there in their place with a smile on her face.

Most of all, Ida and Bill loved spending quality time with friends and family in the north woods of Wisconsin and Minnesota. They always said that the best part of having a lake place in northern Wisconsin was that they got to know and spend time with their grandchildren. Ida will be missed by all who had the good fortune to share their lives with her.

*** OBITUARIES ***

Ida Faye Byron (cont.) A full-blooded Finn, Ida was very proud of her Finnish heritage and embodied the Finnish national credo of *sisu*, which is described as stoic determination, tenacity of purpose, grit, bravery, resilience and hardiness.

Ida is survived by her brother, Jack (Trish) Alexander of Eveleth; sister-in-law, Jackie Carlson of Embarrass; son, Kraig (Kathy) Byron; granddaughter, Chloe Byron, of Oregon, Wis.; and grandson, Colin Byron of Milwaukee, Wis.; son, Lance (Alexia) Byron of Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica; son-in-law, James Janke of Wausau; granddaughters, Emma (Cody) Buckli of Wausau and Lana (Evan) Robertson of Pensacola, Fla.; and nieces and nephews, Jason (Julia) Alexander of London, Michael (Pepper) Carlson, Laurie (Paul) Kess, Beth (Andy) Haasl, Dave (Pam) Carlson and Tim Carlson, all originally from Embarrass, and all of whom she loved like her own.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Bill Byron; parents; and daughter, Brenda Byron Janke of Wausau.

Karen Anita Schmidt, 81

Karen Anita Schmidt, 81, of Embarrass, passed away on Nov. 27, 2020, at New Journey Residence in Biwabik. There will be a private graveside service at the Embarrass Cemetery.

She was born on July 6, 1939, in Biwabik to Hjalmer and Helia Waisanen, graduated from Embarrass High School, and continued her education at the Duluth Business School. Karen married Adolph Schmidt on June 4, 1960.

Karen was involved in the community of Embarrass. She was a lifetime member of Pike Apostolic Lutheran Church and was a Sunday School teacher for numerous years, was a Girl Scout Leader and Cub Scout Den Mother, and, for a while, wrote articles in the *Sisu* Paper. She was also an accomplished seamstress and quilter.

Karen is survived by her four children, Steven Schmidt, James and Rana Schmidt, Jo Ann and Jerry Flansburg and Brian and Kris Schmidt; grandchildren, Jennifer Burke, Jesse Schmidt, Eric Flansurg, Emily Slater, Emma Schmidt, Andrew Schmidt, Isaiah Schmidt, Zachery Schmidt, Tyler Tyssedal, Brandon Schmidt, Jeremiah Schmidt and Parker Schmidt; and numerous great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; and husband, Adolph Schmidt in October 2019.

Richard Wayne Miller, 79

Richard Wayne Miller, 79, of Bensalem, Pa., formerly of Embarrass, passed away on Nov. 25, 2020, at St. Mary Medical Center in Langhorne, Pa. Visitation was held on Dec. 5 at Bauman Vermilion Funeral Home in Tower. A committal service followed in the Embarrass Cemetery.

Richard was born on Aug. 21, 1941, to Wayne and Dolores (Rieber) Miller in Fargo, N.D., the oldest of 11 children. Richard graduated from Embarrass High School and then served in the United States Navy. After his discharge from the Navy in 1962, Richard and his beloved Norma started their family in the Twin

Cities area working for Simer Pump before being hired at the Reserve Mine in Babbitt, until their close in the early 80's. He then became an over-the-road tractor trailer driver until moving east in 1986, where he worked as a heavy equipment mechanic for Giles and Ransome Caterpillar until his retirement in 2011.

While living in Embarrass, Richard served his community as Scout Master of the Embarrass Scout Troop, Justice of the Peace, and as Embarrass Constable. Richard was an incredible father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, son, husband and friend. He shared unconditional love for all, and taught his children and grandchildren the true meaning of love and family.

Richard is survived by his children, John (Sharon) Miller of Claymont, Del., Dean Miller, (Carin Scholl) of Babbitt, Cheri, (Lance) Rodriguez of Bensalem, Pa., and Lisa Miller-Cusmina of Leesport, Pa.; brothers, Ken Miller, Ben (Theresa) Miller, Paul Miller and Lynn (Debbie) Miller; sisters, Eileen (Don) Landers and Marsha (Clyde) Sink; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. He was received into heaven by his loving wife and soulmate, Norma Hanson Miller; parents; brothers, Walter, Michael, Timothy and Brian; and many other family members and friends.

Lucine D. Renskers, 85

Lucine D. Renskers, 85, of Hibbing, passed away on Nov. 20, 2020, at Heritage Manor in Chisholm. Services will be held at a later date.

She was born on May 15, 1935, in Ottertail, to Omer and Eva (Wilcox) Preston. Lucine spent her early life in North Dakota, attending grade school in Fairdale and later graduating from Bemidji High. Lucine lived in Embarrass for over 30 years. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting and reading.

Lucine is survived by her sons, Richard Brownlee, Thomas Brownlee, Bradley (Denise) Brownlee and Mathew Brownlee; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; five sisters; one brother; and many extended relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Omer and Eva; husband, Arnold Renskers; four brothers; and four sisters.

Shane Russell Monson, 63

Shane Russell Monson, 63, of Embarrass (Pike River), passed away on Nov. 17, 2020, at Chris Jensen Rehabilitation Center where he lost his brave battle with Lewy Body Dementia. Sherri, the love of his life, was there at his side. He is now with our Lord and Savior and finally free from the ravages of the disease. A great appreciation goes out to Chris Jensen and St. Croix Hospice for their love, care and compassion for Shane and Sherri.

Shane's greatest wish was to be remembered with smiles and laughter, rather than sadness and tears. For this reason, there will be a celebration of this great man's life but, due to COVID-19, it will be held at a later date.

Shane was born on Dec. 25, 1956, to Martin and Thora (Inglebret) Monson in Grand Rapids. They moved to Pike in 1959. He started school in the Little Pike School, went to the Embarrass School until it closed, and graduated in 1975 from Roosevelt High School in Virginia.

*** OBITUARIES ***

Submitted to the Finn:

Shane Russell Monson (cont...) In January 1979, he met Sherri Field, whom he would love until his passing. When they decided they wanted to expand their family, they married on Sept. 14, 1985. A son, Clinton Anthony, was born on Nov. 17, 1986, while they were in San Jose, Calif. Their daughter, Mallory Jean, was born on June 7, 1990, in Virginia, the spring after they purchased their home.

Shane was a working man, on the job and off. When he met Sherri, he was at Minntac. He was there until massive layoffs in 1982, during the recession. He found work as he could in the area but ultimately moved to the Cities where he worked as a hot tar roofer. Shortly before they married, Shane headed to Nebraska to work with Sherri's dad, Jim, while she continued wedding preparations. Jim has often said, "He's an animal. He works like three men." When the job was finished, they headed west to California. They lived in Novato, Sunnyvale and San Jose. They moved back to the Range when the Plumbers and Steamfitters offered an apprenticeship program. After completion he would get his journeyman's license. He became the second generation to be employed by Mesabi Mechanical Engineering Contractors in Virginia. He would remain there until their doors closed. He then worked for various contractors in the area. He was diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia in 2017, after nearly two years of his and Sherri's search for answers to changes in his health.

Shane was recently described as a "Giant of a Man." He had a giant love for his wife and her cooking, his dear children, music, friends, fishing, hunting and family. He was like an Energizer Bunny with energy to spare, always going that extra mile.

Shane is survived by his loving wife, Sherri; loved children, Clinton (Amanda Roman) and Mallory (Jason Siebert) White; grandson and special buddy, Derek White; mother, Thora Monson; brother, Kerry Monson; sister, Holly (Craig Johnson); and nephew, Dylan Johnson.

He was preceded in death by his dad, Martin; nephew, Michael Monson; mother-in-law, Janice M. Field; brother-in-law, Jamie R. Field; both sets of grandparents; and other extended family members.

REMEMBERED
LOVED

Remembering My Best Friend, Alice

Alice was born in Embarrass and lived here for 70 years, before moving to Virginia in 1998. She worked at the family-owned business, Lamppa's Store, as an accountant. Alice was an early riser who cleaned her house before work and would usually get loads of laundry out on the line to dry before walking over to the store. There was a pioneering spirit about her that gave her ability to always step up to the task and keep things neat and tidy.

She was a charter member of the Embarrass Flower & Garden Club. I can still see her and Lyna Lamppa out weeding the community gardens. In our amusing conversations, she would recall our garden club adventurous trip to Minneapolis when we visited the Arboretum, community garage sales and garden centers. Alice was also an excellent seamstress, who sewed all her children's clothes. She loved her family and being a mother to her girls. Alice was a dedicated homemaker and wife who had a wealth of knowledge about sewing, crocheting, cooking, baking, and gardening. She always had ongoing projects tucked in places within her house that she was making for the family or church. Her spirit was kind, yet fisty and was caring and thoughtful of others. When I would visit her, she was always pulling out her fresh baked goodies and having me taste her famous Christmas tarts, never hesitating to share her recipes with me.

I asked her many years ago, what day was the most important day of her life that she could remember. Without hesitation she said, "it was the day they got indoor plumbing," and she remembered all the details.

Well, my dear friend, there must be a special place in heaven for you where you are basking in the warmth of the sun and enjoying a place where there is only flowers and happiness. I hope you are growing your favorite varieties of irises, peonies and raspberries while walking and visiting with all your siblings of yesteryear.

Alice Niemi died on December 19, 2020 at Edgewood Vista, after complications with Covid-19. She might have been 92 years young, but she had a "Sisu Spirit" and a mind that remembered everything. She will truly be missed, especially by me. Plant on, my sweet friend where there are no more weeds, just endless flowers forever. You will always be forever in my heart and loved beyond measure.

Written by Linda Cox

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Sunday School Classes, 10:20 a.m.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study, 9 a.m.

Wednesday Kids on the Rock, 4 p.m.

Wednesday ENGAGE Youth, 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services:

December 24, 2020, 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY MESSAGES:

January 3 "God's Messenger: A Voice in the Desert"

January 10 "No Identity Issues"

January 17 "Always Pointing to Jesus"

January 24 "Eulogy for a Great Man"

January 31 "Who is Mark, and What is he up To?"

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Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus outbreak, Social Distancing guidelines will be adhered to if services are held. Services will resume January 3, 2021 and be held Sunday's at 10:30 a.m. Speaker schedule to be determined.

Sisu Heritage - 2020 Report

Submitted by Ron Sutton

In spite of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, Embarrass Sisu had a good year with many volunteers helping out from home to further impact the community of Embarrass for another year. Yes, 2020 was the year of the China virus and yet life goes on.

We had to cancel our summer concert series, two concerts, but have rescheduled them for the summer of 2021 at the Apostolic Lutheran Church on Highway 21. We have been working on establishing this historic church on the National List; we have completed the application with a support grant from the Minnesota State Historical Society and are awaiting for the results. We did have an outdoors September live concert and community night out at the Housebarn on Comet Rd with good attendance from the community.

The Nelimark Museum was opened in July and hosted many visitors from July through September. The artisans who staff the site had successful sales of their creations and hosted visitors for the November opening as well; December's Christmas at the Nelimark had to be cancelled but folks are already looking forward to next year.

Many of our monthly meetings were cancelled but it was great to see many volunteers carrying the load anyway. At our January meeting we are opening bids for restoration work on the Apostolic Lutheran Church next year. Our 2019 audit has been completed and will be available for the inspection by the public.

2020 was a challenging year but folks in Embarrass with "Sisu" have survived and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2021.

Nov. 22 19/31 trace sn trace pc	Nov. 23 16/33 sn. 10" pc .02"	Nov. 24 15/27	Nov. 25 27/32 sn .50" pc .03"	Nov. 26 28/31	Nov. 27 22/31 sn 1.30" pc .05"	Nov. 28 21/29 trace sn trace pc
Nov. 29 21/41	Nov. 30 15/31 trace sn pc .01"	Dec. 1 5/25	Dec. 2 6/34	Dec. 3 6/29	Dec. 4 13/35	Dec. 5 6/31
Dec. 6 14/31	Dec. 7 25/32 trace sn trace pc	Dec. 8 25/30	Dec. 9 18/35	Dec. 10 14/43	Dec. 11 28/36	Dec. 12 19/28
Dec. 13 -1/19	Dec. 14 0/20 sn .50" pc .05"	Dec. 15 -4/4	Dec. 16 2/17 snow 1" pc .04"	Dec. 17 9/24	Dec. 18 16/29	Dec. 19 6/30 sn .80" pc .08"
Dec. 20 8/25 trace sn trace pc	Dec. 21 19/29 sn 1.40" pc .08"	Dec. 22 18/29 sn .50" pc .05"	Dec. 23 18/33 trace sn trace pc	Dec. 24 -10/33 snow 3" pc .30"		2020

Dec. 1 17/31 sn 5.50" pc .59"	Dec. 2 -18/31	Dec. 3 -18/31	Dec. 4 19/29	Dec. 5 21/32	Dec. 6 9/27 sn .70" pc .02"	Dec. 7 7/27
Dec. 8 16/33	Dec. 9 4/29 sn 5.70" pc .31"	Dec. 10 -10/4 snow 1" pc .06"	Dec. 11 -27/-3	Dec. 12 -21/0 sn .10" pc .01"	Dec. 13 0/14 sn .30" pc .03"	Dec. 14 0/25 sn 1.50" pc .12"
Dec. 15 -25/10 trace sn trace pc	Dec. 16 -25/10 snow 1" pc .01"	Dec. 17 -5/15 sn .30" trace pc	Dec. 18 -35/13	Dec. 19 -31/6	Dec. 20 -31/23	Dec. 21 18/26
Dec. 22 10/34	Dec. 23 11/42 trace sn trace pc	Dec. 24 17/28	Dec. 25 27/31	Dec. 26 27/34 sn .40" pc .08"	Dec. 27 21/33 trace sn trace pc	Dec. 28 14/30
Dec. 29 16/31 sn 4.50" pc .62"	Dec. 30 24/33 sn 1.10" pc .17"	Dec. 31 11/24 sn .80" pc .08"				2019