FLYING FINN 7503 LEVANDER RD EMBARRASS, MN 55732 MARCH 2024 ISSUE #389



#### **Pancake Breakfast**

Blood Drive Health Care Worker Appreciation Saturday, March 2 Timber Hall

## **TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETINGS**

**MARCH 12** 

Embarras Township Meeting 7 p.m. Waasa Township Meeting 7 p.m.

Saint Urho's Day – March 16 Saint Patrick's Day – March 17



# Embarrass Town Board Meeting Wednesday, March 13, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

Please submit materials for the April 2024 issue to the Embarrass Clerk's Office by March 21, 2024 Office Hours Monday-Thursday 10 a.m-3 p.m.

|                                       |   | MAF   | RCH 2  | 2024   |    |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|----|--|
|                                       |   |   |  |  | 1  | 2<br>Quilting Class<br>9 a.m. – 4 p.m. |
| 3<br>4 Corners 4-H<br>4 p.m.          | 4 Flower and Garden Club Meeting 7 p.m. | 5<br>Presidential<br>Nomination<br>Primary<br>Election<br>Ladies Coffee | 6 Bookmobile at Four Corners 5:00-6:00 p.m. Game Nite 5-7 p.m.                               | 7<br>Conversational<br>Finn 1-2:30                 | 8  | 9                                      |
| 10                                    | 11                                      | 12 Ladies Coffee Annual Meeting 7 p.m.                                  | Township Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.   | 14<br>Conversational<br>Finn 1-2:30                | 15 | 16<br>Hall Rental                      |
| 17                                    | 18 Sisu Meeting 6:30 p.m.               | 19<br>Ladies Coffee   | 20   | 21 Conversational Finn 1-2:30 Flying Finn Deadline | 22 | 23                                     |
| 24 Dehydrating Class  31 Happy Easter | 25                                      | 26<br>Ladies Coffee   | 27<br>Sewing 8-4<br>Bookmobile at<br>Four Corners<br>5:00-6:00 p.m.<br>Game Nite<br>5-7 p.m. | 28<br>Conversational<br>Finn 1-2:30                | 29 | 30                                     |

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 email <a href="mailto:embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net">embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net</a>.

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**

# Reorganizational & Regular Meeting January 10, 2024

Present: Jack LaMar, Shireen Lee, Eric Garman, Mary Novak, Jennifer Boese; Visitors: Paul Knuti, Bill Wright, Mickey White

Call meeting to Order by LaMar at 6:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer's Report given by Novak. Updated supervisors on financial reports and printed reports given. Clerk to send reports to supervisors to prepare for 2025 levy proposal.

Motion/Lamar: Lee to approve minutes with amendments made. Spelling error corrected. Minutes indicated that Knuti said township should sell Pyhala property. Knuti did not state to sell the property. Knuti suggested economic development committee for the Pyhala property. Minutes corrected on the errors. Motion/Garman: Second/Lee. Motion carries. 3-1 (Clerk would like it noted and publicly apologize to Knuti for the error.)

Motions: Lamar voted in as Town Board Chair by Garman and Lee. Lee voted in as Vice Chair. and Maintenance Supervisor by Garman and LaMar. Garman voted in as Road Supervisor. Motions carried.

Discussion of meeting twice a month was had. Motion/Garman: Second/Lamar Schedule of Regular Board Meetings to remain on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Motion carries. 3-0.

Motion to leave Board Chair compensation as is. Motion carried 3-0. Compensation for Town Officers and Employees remain as they are set. Motion carried. 3-0. Noted: Earned sick and safe time is now in effect by law for employees only. Motions carried. 3-0 Motion/Garman: Second/Lee Election Judge increased to \$14.00 an hour. Motion carried. 3-0 Motion/Garman: Second/Lee summer hire to \$15.00 hourly at maximum. Motion carried. 3-0.

Timberjay to remain as official publishing newspaper.

No changes to posting places. Embarrass Post Office, Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union, Embarrass Town Hall, Trapline Liquor & Convenience Store.

No changes in Banks/Financial Institutions. Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union (1 savings account) and Northern State Bank (1 checking account, 1 savings account and 2 CD's).

Campground Rates reviewed; campground site rates remain the same. Overflow area to remain same. Firewood \$5.00 per bundle. Card transactions costs discussed. Table to review charges.

Flying Finn Rates- Invoice local organizations advertising. Lee gives thanks to the Fair Board and SISU for coming forward offering to pay for advertisements. With the expenses to print and distribute, subscription increase discussed. Motion/Garman: Second/Lee yearly Flying Finn subscription to increase to \$27, advertising rates remain the same. Motion carries.3-0

Town Hall Rental Rates reviewed and remain same. Kitchen monitors and Safe Serve training discussed. Town Hall contract to be reviewed by board for changes needed. Subject tabled.

Cemetery Rates – Garman to research more on neighboring cemetery rates.

Mileage Rates increase to 67 cents per mile beginning January 1, 2024.

2024 Ice Candle Celebration to be held on December 14, 2024.

Review of Code of Ethics & Open Meeting Law Policies by supervisors and signed.

Upcoming Training Opportunities discussed.

Local Board of Appeal to be held April 30, 2024, 6-7 p.m.

Campground / Worsham's will be returning as caretakers in 2024.

LaMar to contact Worsham to speak on the tree concern at campground.

Meeting Conduct Resolution discussed. Supervisors have some changes for the resolution. Tabled for February meeting.

- -Consent Agenda approved.
- -Claims & Correspondence. Motion/ to approve claims and correspondence. Motion carried. 3-0

Adjourn at 10:32 p.m. by LaMar.

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer Boese, Embarrass Town Clerk

#### **March Clerks Corner**

The Presidential Nomination Primary Election will be held on March 5th. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

The Embarrass Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Embarrass Town Hall. The board has prepared a 2025 levy proposal that will be presented at the meeting. There is also a copy in this issue of the Flying Finn.

Local Board of Appeal and Equalization will be held on April 30, 2024, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Have a great month everyone!

Jennifer Boese, Embarrass Township Clerk 218-984-2084. <a href="mailto:embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net">embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net</a>

#### **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.

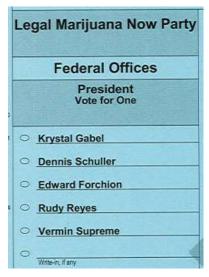
The Flying Finn makes a great gift for someone who has moved out of the community!

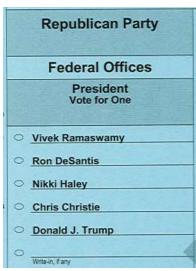
The Flying Finn and the Town of Embarrass welcome announcements about community events and community groups. These submitted announcements are printed here and on following pages. Neither the Town of Embarrass nor The Flying Finn necessarily endorses the viewpoints or ideology of these groups or their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

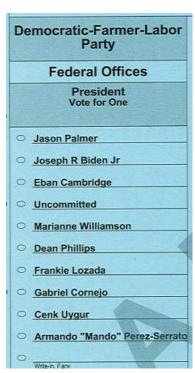
# 2025 Proposed Levy

| FUND                     | 2020      | 2021      | 2022                          | 2023        | 2024      | 2025 Proposed |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| 100- General             | 87,000    | 93,000    | 96,500                        | 106,000     | 123,150   | \$100,000     |
| 225- Road & Bridge       | 2,500     | 8,500     | 6,000                         | 6,000       | 5,000     | \$8,000       |
| 226- Fire                | 28,000    | 29,000    | 28,000                        | 28,000      | 28,000    | \$32,000      |
| 227- Town Hall           | 2,000     | \$8,000   | 8,000                         | 9,000       | 10,000    | \$23,000      |
| 229-Solid Waste          | 0         | 0         | 0                             | 0           | 0         | \$1,200       |
| 230- Recreation          | 2,000     | 4,000     | 4,000                         | 4,000 4,000 | 4,000     | \$6,000       |
| 231- PERA                | 4,300     | 2,000     | 5,000                         | 2,000       | 5,000     | \$2,000       |
| 232. Cemetery            | 0         | 0         | 0                             | 0 2,000     | 1,500     | \$2,000       |
| 233- Insurance           | 9,500     | 9,500     | 9,500                         | 9,000       | 0         | \$9,000       |
| 235- Post Office         | 0         | 0         | 0                             | 0           | 0         | \$0           |
| 255-Campground           | 0         | 0         | 0                             | 0           | 0         | \$2,000       |
| 401- General Capital     | 6,000     | 2,000     | 7,000                         | 2,000 7,000 | 5,000     | \$5,000       |
| 260- Historic Properties | 9,000     | 4,000     | 2,000                         | 2,000       | 2,000     | \$3,500       |
| TOTAL Levy               | \$153,300 | \$166,000 | \$166,000 \$178,000 \$183,650 | \$178,000   | \$183,650 | \$202,700     |

8.19 % Increase from 2024 Levy to the 2025 Levy







#### **Federal Recreational Trail Program**

This program exists to encourage the maintenance and development of motorized, non-motorized, and diversified trails by providing funding assistance.

#### Eligible projects

Motorized and non-motorized trail projects; maintenance/restoration of existing recreational trails; development/ rehabilitation of recreational trail linkages, including trail side and trail head facilities; environmental awareness and safety education programs relating to the use of recreational trails; and redesign/relocation of trails to benefit/minimize the impact to the natural environment.

#### Ineligible activities

Condemnation, trail construction in federally designated wilderness areas, and facilitating motorized trail use on trails predominantly used by non motorized users prior to May 1, 1991.

#### Who may apply

All projects must be sponsored by a unit of government, preferably in cooperation with a local trail organization.

#### **Priorities**

The Minnesota Recreational Trail Users Association annually prioritizes funding categories prior to the solicitation process. Projects that involve urban youth corps workers such as the <a href="Conservation Corps Minnesota">Corps Minnesota</a> & <a href="Lowa">lowa</a> opens in a new browser tab (CCMI) will be given special consideration. (CCMI fact sheet (PDF).)

#### Level of assistance

A 25% cash or in-kind match for eligible elements of the project proposal is required. Costs must be incurred and paid for before reimbursement. Neither this funding source nor the cash match may be used to meet existing payroll; only contract services, materials and supplies are reimbursable. Federal funds can in some cases be used as match for this program.

The minimum grant request is \$2,500, and the maximum trail grant award is \$200,000. Maximum request per equipment grant is \$75,000. Equipment grant requests also require a 25% secured match.

#### **General information**

Funding comes from revenue received by the Federal Highway Trust Fund. All projects funded in 2024 must be completed by June 30, 2026.

#### How to apply

The completed application is **due February 29, 2024.** Grant application materials are linked below.

#### **Grant awards**

The Department of Natural Resources and the state's trail advisory council will review and rank applications during the spring of 2024. Grant awards will be announced in summer of 2024; however, **funds will first become available in October, 2024**.

#### **Contact information**

Dan Golner, Grants Specialist Coordinator, 651-259-5599 <a href="mailto:Daniel.Golner@state.mn.us">Daniel.Golner@state.mn.us</a>.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Trails 500 Lafayette Road, Box 39 Saint Paul, MN 55155

Applications are reviewed by DNR and the state's trail advisory council, the Minnesota Recreational Trail Users Association (MRTUA).



## **Waasa Township**

Reorganizational & Regular Board Meeting Wednesday January 3, 2024

Board Members Present: Mike Johnson, Eric Pulkinen, Steve Sipola and Kim Daugherty; Visitor: Bonnie Keller as acting clerk

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

#### REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Select Town Board Chair and Vice Chair:

Motion made by Mike and supported by Eric to approve Mike as Board Chair and Steve as Vice Chair.

#### Adopt Schedule:

Motion made by Mike and supported by Eric to approve current schedule of 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of the month.

#### Set Compensation:

Motion made by Mike and supported by Eric to approve current compensation of \$135.00 /mo. for Chair &Clerk, \$125.00/mo. For 2 supervisors, Maintenance Work \$15.00/hr., Cemetery Sexton \$17.00/hr.

Treasurer will remain at \$200.00/mo. Plus hourly rate for tax preparation and year-end reports.

#### **Cemetery Rates**

\$35.00/single grave, \$60.00/family lot. Non-resident rate of \$310 & \$610.00.

Motion by Steve supported by Eric to keep these rates the same.

Road Supervisor and Noxious Weed Inspector

Motion by Mike supported by Eric to appoint Steve as Road Supervisor & Noxious Weed Inspector.

Motion made by Steve supported by Mike to designate Babbitt Weekly News as Official Newspaper

Motion made by Mike supported by Eric to designate posting places as Embarrass P.O., Embarrass C.U., Trapline Liquor and Town Hall

Motion made by Eric supported by Mike to designate Embarrass Vermillion Federal C.U. as official Town Depository.

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

Minutes Approval: Steve motioned to approve the December 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes and was supported by Mike. Carried (3-0).

Treasurer's Report: Total Receipts for December \$749.06. Disbursements were \$2,835.09.

Approval of Treasurer's report and Approval to pay Bills plus payroll and PERA.

Mike motioned to approve Treasurer's Report and to Pay Bills. Steve supported. Carried (3-0).

#### Claims:

- Sandra Gibson, \$26.75
- Lake Country Power (Capital Credit was applied), Electricity for Town Hall
- MATIT, \$212.00, Insurance Premium
- MATIT, \$379.00, Worker's Comp.
- Menards, \$121.38, Ladies Room Remodel Items
- Pulkinen, Eric, \$11.99, Glue for Bathroom Vanity Top
- St. Louis County Auditor, \$97.20, Proposed Tax Notice Prep
   Delivery
- Sipola, Steve, \$56.95, Mileage Reimbursement
- U.S. Treasury, \$199.55, Form 941-4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023

#### Receipts received by clerk:

- State of MN, \$749.06, Office of Management & Budget
- Embarrass V. Fed. C.U., \$55.92, Dividend—4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023

#### Address Visitors: NONE

Road Report: Steve said the roads were muddy with potholes from the recent rain.

Cemetery: Steve said the cemetery is in good shape-so is the road.

**Old Business:** Mike attended the Fire Department annual meeting on January 2. The Fire Department is planning a 3% increase in their levy for the year 2025. They have installed a landing pad for LifeFlight helicopters which needs additional work. The Department had 91 runs for the year 2023. The members put in 1900 hours of volunteer time in 2023.

Mike reported that H&S Electric from Ely installed new LED lights throughout the Town Hall. This was done on January 2, 2023.

Rip Rap on Niemi Road-approximate cost would be \$3200.00 for 40 tons. It was decided to table this for now. Steve will talk to Pat Erchul from St. Louis County for ideas and estimates.

**New Business:** Steve removed the old leaky water filter and replaced it. He said the filter should probably be changed about every 3 months.

There was some discussion of the annual meeting and the suggested levy. It was decided to table this for now and discuss it further at the February meeting.

**Correspondence:** The township received a letter from the St. Louis County Fair Board requesting a donation for their events. This was tabled for now and can be discussed at the February meeting.

**Adjournment:** Mike moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. and was supported by Eric.

Respectfully Submitted: Bonnie Keller, Substitute for Clerk; Mike Johnson, Waasa Board Chair

NOTICE:

# Presidential Nomination Primary (PNP)

# Waasa Town Hall

3795 Hwy. 21

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 Polls OPEN 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The purpose of the PNP is for voters who identify with a major political party to vote for a presidential candidate who they wish for their party to nominate as the candidate on the November State General Election ballots. Polling place election judges must record in the polling place roster the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested. The county auditor must include the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested with the voting history of the nomination primary election.

The major political party whose ballot selected by a nomination primary voter is private data, except that it will be shared with the chairs of the major political parties in the State of MN. *If the voter refuses to select on party ballot, they will NOT be allowed to vote.* 

Sandra Gibson, Waasa Town Clerk, <a href="mailto:sgclerk@yahoo.com">sgclerk@yahoo.com</a>

# WAASA ANNUAL MEETING

Will be held on

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

7 p.m.

Waasa Town Hall 3795 Highway 21 Embarrass, MN 55732

Sandra Gibson, Clerk



# **Pike Sandy Women's Club**

We're Back! - March 5, 2024 at 7 p.m. Pike Town Hall.

At this time the club would like to give notice of their annual scholarship. The Plke Sandy Women's Club 2024 Scholarship Award will be given to a local graduating senior who lives in the Pike, Sandy, Wouri, or Embarrass Townships or in an Unorganized Township that borders Pike Township. The Scholarship Award will be announced at the April 2 meeting of the Pike Sandy Women's Club. Your letter of interest in this scholarship must be received prior to or no later than April 1,2024. Please include in your letter, which College or Technical College you will be attending any personal information about yourself, including your curriculum plus any extracurricular activities in which you have participated. The Scholarship monetary award of \$300 is payable to the scholarship recipient upon the receipt by the Pike Sandy Women's Club of a transcript of the completed first semester/quarter with satisfactory grades. Please send your letter to: Lynne Stuckey P.O. Box 616 Virginia, MN 55792 (218)410-0167 Lynnestuckey04@gmail.com





# **Trapline Liquor**

4897 Hwy 21 218-984-BYOB (2962)

traplineliquor@outlook.com

Don't limit happy to an hour

Open Mon-Sat, 8 am-10 pm Sunday 11 am – 6 pm



Come see us for your Celebration Needs!

# **Trapline Convenience Store**

4897 Hwy 21 - - - 218-984-2962

Monday – Saturday 8am-10 pm, Sunday 11 am-6 pm



SNACKS: Pop, Juice Energy Drinks Candy, Chips GROCERIES: Milk,Eggs

Bread, Butter Italian Bakery

---lots more!

READY TO GO: Sandwiches

Ice

Coffee

ATM

Lottery

Cigarettes

Tobacco Products

**DNR Licenses** 

Landfill Cards

FROZEN ITEMS:

Ice Cream

Pizzas

OTHER:

Cleaning Supplies

Baking/Cooking

Items

Toilet Paper

Misc Personal

Care

Some Auto Fluids



# EMBARRASS REGION FAIR ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

(pending approval)

#### **ANNUAL MEETING**

February 8, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

**Board members present:** Tana Johnson (Chair), Sarah Wallert-Ramponi (Vice Chair), Preston Tripp (Treasurer) Janine Patten (Secretary) William Ramponi, Zane Beaton, Carissa Smith **Attendees:** Tracey Muhvich, Laura Stella, Jared Wright, and John Munz.

<u>Call to order:</u> A quorum of Directors was present. The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

Minutes: January 11, 2024 meeting minutes were approved by email on 1/27/24 by unanimous consent. Per Association bylaws, all Directors signed a written consent affirming their votes. The written consent will be filed with January minutes.

<u>Chair Update</u> (Tana) –Tana recognized Janine Patten and Jerry Meier for their years of dedicated service to the Board. Thank you, Janine and Jerry!

#### **Committee Updates:**

#### Nominating & Governance Committee (Sarah) -

<u>Proposed Amendment Article VIII</u> – Nominations of Directors

Sarah made a motion to accept the changes to Article VIII. Carissa seconded. The motion passed with unanimous approval. The amended version of Article VIII will be incorporated into the bylaws.

<u>Proposed Amendment – Article IV- Meetings</u> (paragraph 1)

Sarah made a motion to accept the changes to paragraph 1 of Article IV. Janine seconded. The motion passed with unanimous approval. The amended version of Article IV will be incorporated into the bylaws.

#### Policy 20 - Maintaining Bylaws & Policies -

Sarah made a motion to accept Policy 20. Carissa seconded. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Policy 20, "Maintaining Bylaws and Policies" will be incorporated into the Policy Manual.

<u>21-Day Food License</u> – The license has been received and is on display in a prominent place.

#### Nominations:

 There were no additional nominations from the floor for any Board positions.

- Zane Beaton made a motion to accept Tracey Muhvich as a Director. Sarah Wallert-Ramponi seconded. Motion passed with unanimous approval.
- Zane Beaton made a motion to accept Laura Stella as a Director. Sarah Wallert-Ramponi seconded. Motion passed with unanimous approval.
- Zane Beaton made a motion to accept Laura Stella as Secretary of the Board. Sarah Wallert-Ramponi seconded. Motion passed with unanimous approval.

#### Finance Committee (Preston) -

Preston reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Board. Sarah Wallert-Ramponi made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Janine Patten seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Preston reviewed the 2024 goals of the Finance committee. Preston suggested obtaining a credit card from the Embarrass Vermilion Federal Credit Union to facilitate online purchases. The Board agreed to the idea after policies regarding the use of credit cards are established. Preston recommends obtaining the card by May 31, 2024. A first draft of the policies will be ready for review by the March 14, 2024 meeting.

Preston proposed setting up an autopay for the Lake County Power accounts. Zane Beaton made a motion to allow auto-pay for the Lake Country Power accounts. Tracey Muhvich seconded. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Preston will set up auto-pay.

Preston proposed that the Board consider a maximum dollar amount of purchases that could be completed without board approval, as this is a common practice for other organizations. The Payment Request form will be updated to include a place for the committee manager's signature. The Treasurer will not complete reimbursement to an individual without that signature.

Preston found that there is a charge account for the Association at L&M Fleet Supply in Virginia, MN. Zane Beaton made a motion to keep the account and remove two authorized individuals. William Ramponi seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 7 to 1 vote.

Janine reviewed candidates to hire as the Association's CPA. Candidates were asked about their ability to not only file taxes, but to consult and audit. Janine contacted 7 firms, two did not respond. Janine presented her findings. Preston Tripp made a motion to hire Charles Zeugner, CPA as the Association's CPA. Zane Beaton seconded. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

**Strategic Planning and Grant Committee** (Zane and Tana) -

All revisions for the Strategic Plan and Goals that spans 2024 – 2029 have been completed. The Board is awaiting the completion of the pre-design contract from DSGW so that grant funds can be accessed, and work can begin. Two grant applications are pending.

#### Marketing Committee (Carissa) -

2023 Accomplishments were highlighted.

Items and ads for Feb. Flying Finn should be sent to Carissa by February 20.

Volunteer Committee (Carissa and Laura) –The volunteer database has been updated to include contact information for volunteers. Out of the 175 volunteers in the database, only 11 do not have any contact information available. After discussion with the Events Committee, a full volunteer appreciation dinner in April has been cancelled. Volunteers will instead receive a Thank You card with a discount at either Trapline Liquor or Tower Café. Both businesses have agreed to collect the cards and then invoice the Association for the discounts provided. A larger event will take place the Thursday before the Fair.

Fair Committee (Janine) –Carissa made a motion to vote for Tracey as Fair Manager. Sarah seconded. Motion passed unanimously to appoint Tracey as the Fair Manager. Tracey accepted. A recap of what went well at the 2023 Fair was provided and 2024 Fair goals were discussed. More activities for kids and teens are a large goal, as well as continuing to attract new events such as the K-9 Unit demo. A new food vendor for Team Penning has been secured. A larger effort will be made to collect participant data for 2024. Nina Wycoff and Katie Erickson will oversee Little Miss Embarrass for 2024.

Maintenance Committee (grounds and building) (Jared) - The new kitchen faucet was installed and the wiring in the floor cleaner was fixed. Scaffolding will be brought in to clean inside light fixtures. An inventory of the outbuildings and equipment will be done in the spring. Jared recommended that the Board begin to budget for the purchase of a new commercial grade lawn mower.

**Event Committee** (Carissa) –The Event Committee was formed in 2023 and has been very successful with events like the Pancake Breakfasts, blood drives, and the book swap. Winter Festival will be held on February 17, 2024 from 11am – 5pm and will showcase our collaboration with several community organizations. The Easter Egg-stravaganza will be held in March and is a joint effort between the Association and Miller's Just Bite Me Bait in Babbitt.

**Arena Committee** – The arena committee has been formed with Carl Peterson and Nicole Rinas comanaging. No updates from this committee yet.

**Review Action Items** (Tana) – Five items were completed. New items are gaming license due – March; Attend township meeting – March; Hire CPA – March; and create a policy for the proposed credit card.

Miscellaneous: None.

Public Comments: None.

Committee updates will be on file at Timber Hall with the February 8, 2024 meeting minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Stella, Secretary, Embarrass Region Fair Association

To put an item on the agenda or for copies of the minutes, contact the Secretary at info@embarrassrfa.org.

Feedback – Contact Tana Johnson or any board member. Let us know what you like, dislike, and where we can improve. Contact Tana at 218-269-1331 or <a href="mailto:tana)tanajohnson@ymail.com">tanajohnson@ymail.com</a>. Email the Board: <a href="mailto:info@embarrassrfa.org">info@embarrassrfa.org</a>. Timber Hall Event Center, PO Box 83, Embarrass MN 55732

The Embarrass Region Fair Association will meet again on March 14, 2024 @ 6:30 at Timber Hall. MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**Fair Planning Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month beginning in May**. All fair event coordinators and volunteers interested in helping with the 2024 Embarrass Region Fair are invited to attend the kick-off meeting on Thursday February 15, 2024 at 6:30 pm at Timber Hall.

# <u>UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS at the TIMBER</u> HALL EVENT CENTER:

- Indoor Walking Mondays and Wednesdays 5:00pm-7:30pm
- Tae Kwon Do Mondays and Wednesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Pancake Breakfast Theme: Healthcare Workers Appreciation, Saturday, March 2, 8-11:00 am
- Event Committee Meeting Tuesday, March 5 and Tuesday, March 19 @ 6:00pm
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Tuesday, March 12 @ 6:00pm
- ERFA Board Meeting Thursday, March 14 @ 6:30pm
- Easter Egg-Stravaganza Saturday, March 23 11:00am 1:00pm

To put an item on the agenda, contact the Secretary at info@embarrassrfa.org.

# Timber Hall Event Center

## **Events:**

| Sunday | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday                               | Friday | Saturday                              |
|--------|--|---|--|--|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 2229   |  |   |  |  | 1      | 2<br>Pancake<br>Breakfast<br>8am-11am |
| 3      | 4<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm  | 5<br>Event<br>Committee<br>Meeting 6pm                  | 6<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm  | 7                                      | 8      | 9                                     |
| 10     | I1<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm | 12<br>Strategic<br>Planning<br>Committee<br>Meeting 6pm | 13<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm | 14<br>Association<br>Meeting<br>6:30pm | 15     | 16                                    |
| 17     | 18<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm | 19<br>Event<br>Committee<br>Meeting 6pm                 | 20<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm | 21                                     | 22     | 23<br>Easter<br>Party<br>11am-1pm     |
| 24     | 25<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm | 26  | 27<br>Indoor<br>Walking and<br>Tae Kwon Do<br>5pm-7:30pm | 28                                     | 29     | 30                                    |
| 31     | Apr 1  | 2<br>Event<br>Committee<br>Meeting 6pm                  | 3  | 4                                      | 5      | 6<br>Pancake<br>Breakfast<br>8am-11am |

# **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



# **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

# Timber Hall Event Center

Hoyt Lakes Girl Scout Troop 1807 will be selling Girl Scout Cookies during the March Pancake Breakfast!





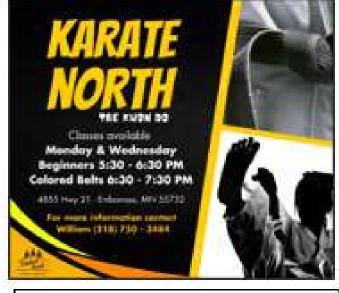


## Indoor Walking at the Timber Hall

Free and open to all!

Must have indoor shoes.

Mon & Wed 5pm - 7:30pm







We would like to thank all our amazing volunteers for the efforts put in to make this Association a success!

Watch for a card in the mail during April with a special Thank You gift.



EMBARRASS REGION FAIR ASSOCIATION

# Meet the Board





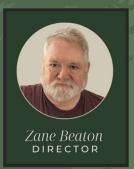












FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BECOMING A BOARD MEMBER EMAIL INFO@EMBARRASSRFA.ORG



# \*\*\* OBITUARIES \*\*\*

#### Rodney L. Scherle, 64

Rodney Lynn Scherle, 64, passed on to his heavenly home on Feb. 19, 2024. A memorial service was held on Feb. 24 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Aurora with Pastor Zachary Klumpp officiating. Private family burial was at Greenwood Cemetery in Virginia. His brother Ron would especially like to thank Scott Toratti and his staff at ESI Heritage Trail for the time, care and kindness they showed to Rodney.

Rodney was born to his parents, Emil and Evelyn Puffe Scherle, on Nov. 5, 1959, in Virginia. Rodney's childhood was spent in Embarrass, where he enjoyed playing baseball, football and hockey with his brothers and neighborhood friends. In his adult years, he especially liked spending time with his brother Ron, who spent a lot of time with him, taking him to hockey games and cruising around.

Rodney worked at Erie Mining Company for a short time before mental illness disabled him, and stripped him of his identity. He faced his mental illness with faith, courage, and humor. Despite battling the demons of his illness, he had a strong faith in Jesus Christ.

He is survived by his sister, Linda (Bill) Saari; brothers, Roger Scherle, and Ronald (Wendy) Scherle; niece, Miranda (Dan) Vogtman; nephew, Preston Saari; stepniece, Stacey (Richard) Hicks; stepnephew, Anthony Petric; great niece, Sydney; stepnephews, Matthew, Jackson and Tucker; stepnegreat-nieces, Anna and Brooklyn; and many cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; and sisters, Sandra and Debra.

#### Arlyn Rae Raati, 84

Arlyn Rae Raati, 84, of Babbitt, entered into heaven on Friday, January 26, 2024 at the Mayo Clinic Methodist Hospital in Rochester with her family by her side. Arlyn Rae Raati was a beloved mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Arlyn was born to Marcus and Ethel (Kujala) Arola in Virginia on June 21, 1939. She grew up on a dairy farm in Angora. She graduated from Alango High School in 1957, where she met and soon after married her high school sweetheart Lawrence L. Raati. They moved to their forever home in Babbitt where they raised their three children and resided for 67 years. Arlyn was a business owner and artist who loved gardening, traveling, fishing, and picking seashells at the beach.

She was preceded in death by her husband Lawrence Raati, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles. She is survived by her loving children: Roxanne (Bill) Wright, Dean Raati (Joan), and Tammy (Brian Ernst), her grandchildren: Jessie (Scott) Surla, Aaron Wright, Jared Wright (Carissa), Satoya Evans, Joshua Kari (Tonya), and Justin Kari, her great grandchildren: Elijah, Gaberhal, Giada, Sadie, Daveah, Austyn, and Kolton, her brother Roger (Kathy) Arola, nieces and nephews.

Arrangements made by Ranfranz and Vine Funeral Home. A family gathering will be held this summer in honor of Arlyn.



# **ARROWHEAD BOOKMOBILE**

Hwy 21 and Hwy 135

# February 14

The Bookmobile offers print books, cookbooks, large print books, DVDs, audiobooks and video games. For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, contact the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768, 218-741-3840, see us on Facebook or check our web site at www.alslib.info.

# Offices in Aurora, Babbitt & Ely



Check www.zupnorth.com for listings
Our agents offer 90+ years of industry experience and are
available by appointment, 24 hours a day, seven days a week!
Contact any of our hardworking agents!
Andrea Zupancich, Broker, GRI, CRS, SRS, RENE, CRB
Norma Jean Jofs, Assoc Broker,
Sara Powell, Kim Borgeson GRI, Beth Rykken,
Harry Drabik, Misty Merhar, Nikki Stangland,
Joe Rasmussen, Sheri Israel GRI, Jody Bauman,
Jodi Nyman AHD, Chessican Olson,
Lisa Poppenhagen, or Kay Collier. Here to serve YOU!

## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 5088 Hwy 21, PO Box 76, Embarrass 218-984-2037

hopelutheranembarrass@gmail.com

Pastor Christina Forsythe

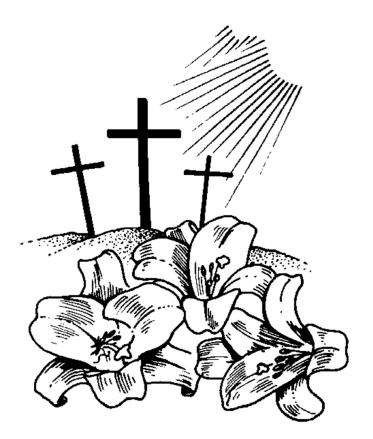
#### Office hours

Saturday 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Services begin at 10:30 a.m.

# PIKE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.apostoliclutheran.org

6997 Oberg Rd (on Hwy 169) Services at 10:30 a.m. Communion – First Sundays



# **EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**

5606 E Taylor Rd, Embarrass 218-984-3402

www.efreechurch.com E-mail: marlinb@efreechurch.com

#### Sunday

Family Bible Classes, 9 a.m. Family Worship, 10 a.m.

#### **Wednesday**

Women's Bible Study – 9:00 a.m. Kids on the Rock – 4:00 p.m. ENGAGE Youth Ministry – 6:30 p.m.

#### **Meetings:**

Ministries Meetings – Sunday, March 10, 11:30 a.m.

Men's Breakfast -February 24, 8:00 a.m.

Missions Pie and Coffee – Sunday, March 24, 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday Communion Service – Friday, March 29, 7:00 p.m. Message: "Christ's Thorn: A Crown for the Lamb"

Easter Breakfast – Sunday, March 31, 8:30 a.m.

Easter Worship - Sunday, March 31, 10:00 a.m.

#### **Sermons:**

March 3: "Adam's Thorn: A Consequence of Sin"

March 10: "The Soil with Thorns: A Barrier to Life"

March 17: "Israel's Thorns: Ungodly Nations"

March 24: "Paul's Thorn: A Tormenting Gift"

March 31: Lawrence Klingsheim

| 2024                                   |  | Jan. 23<br>16/23                       | Jan. 24<br>20/29                         | Jan. 25<br>27/33                         | Jan. 26<br>29/32                        | Jan. 27<br>28/34                        |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|
|  |  | sn .30"<br>pc .02"                     |  | sn .10"<br>pc .02"                       | trace pc                                |   |
| Jan. 28<br>25/30                       | Jan. 29<br>26/39                         | Jan. 30<br>29/36                       | Jan. 31<br>29/36                         | Feb. 1<br>25/49                          | Feb. 2<br>22/37                         | Feb. 3<br>12/38                         |
| Feb. 4<br>11/33                        | Feb. 5<br>20/43                          | Feb. 6<br>18/47                        | Feb. 7<br>27/42                          | Feb. 8<br>31/44<br>pc .05"               | Feb. 9<br>32/42<br>pc .30"              | Feb. 10<br>13/32<br>snow 1"<br>pc .05"  |
| Feb. 11<br>16/24<br>sn .20"<br>pc .01" | Feb. 12<br>21/27<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 13<br>17/26<br>sn .80"<br>pc .01" | Feb. 14<br>13/26<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 15<br>18/33<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 16<br>3/20<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 17<br>0/11<br>trace sn<br>trace pc |
| Feb. 18<br>10/30                       | Feb. 19<br>-3/28<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 20<br>-3/36                       | Feb. 21<br>16/47                         | Feb. 22<br>20/38                         |   |   |

| 2023                                     |   |  | Feb. 1<br>-26/5                        | Feb. 2<br>-26/10<br>sn .40"<br>pc .02"   | Feb. 3<br>-35/-2                       | Feb. 4<br>-36/-2                        |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Feb. 5 -2/22 trace sn trace pc           | Feb. 6<br>-10/16<br>trace sn<br>trace pc  | Feb. 7<br>11/35<br>sn .40"<br>pc .04"  | Feb. 8<br>13/32                        | Feb. 9<br>10/45                          | Feb. 10<br>-5/34                       | Feb. 11<br>-10/27                       |
| Feb. 12<br>20/49                         | Feb. 13<br>20/42                          | Feb. 14<br>20/42                       | Feb. 15<br>25/41<br>sn .50"<br>pc .70" | Feb. 16<br>-8/25<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 17<br>-20/13                      | Feb. 18<br>-20/24                       |
| Feb. 19<br>18/36<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 20<br>-10/29<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 21<br>-1/20<br>snow 5"<br>pc .28" | Feb. 22<br>-26/9                       | Feb. 23<br>-25/11                        | Feb. 24<br>-29/3<br>sn .50"<br>pc .04" | Feb. 25<br>-29/11<br>sn .50"<br>pc .04" |
| Feb. 26<br>-15/22                        | Feb. 27<br>-10/26<br>trace sn<br>trace pc | Feb. 28<br>13/29<br>sn .40"<br>pc .11" |  |  |  |   |