

Flying Finn
7503 Levander Rd
Embarrass, MN 55732

January 2026
Issue #2026-01

Happy
New Year



January 2026 Townhall Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3
4	5	96 Ladies Coffee 	7 Emb Board Meeting Levy Prep	8	9 Garden Club Christmas Party	10
11	12 Board Meeting Levy Prep	13 Ladies Coffee 	14 Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting	15	16	17 Hall Rental
18	19 SISU Heritage Meeting 6:30pm	20 Ladies Coffee 	21 Board Meeting Levy Prep	22	23	24
25	26 MSHA	27 Ladies Coffee 	28 Sewing Club 9am-4pm	29	30	31

Flying Finn Subscription Renewal and/or Gift Subscription - \$22/Year

Initial Subscription

Renewal Subscription

Gift Subscription

Name/Address of Person to Receive the Newsletter

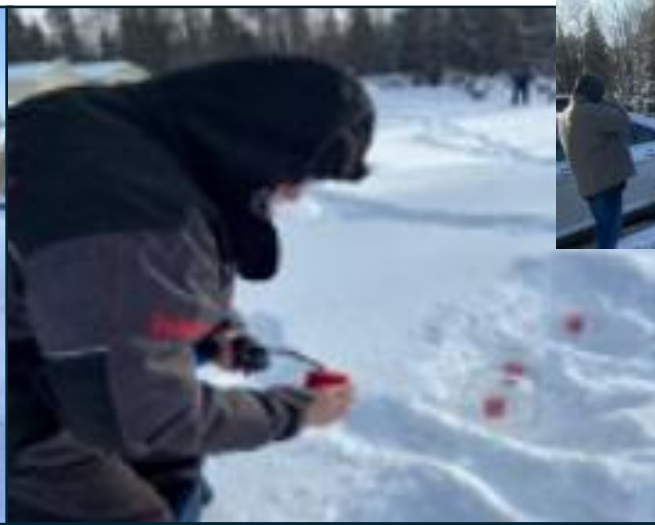
Check this box if
You would like to be
Notified when the
Subscription expires.

Name of Gift Giver _____

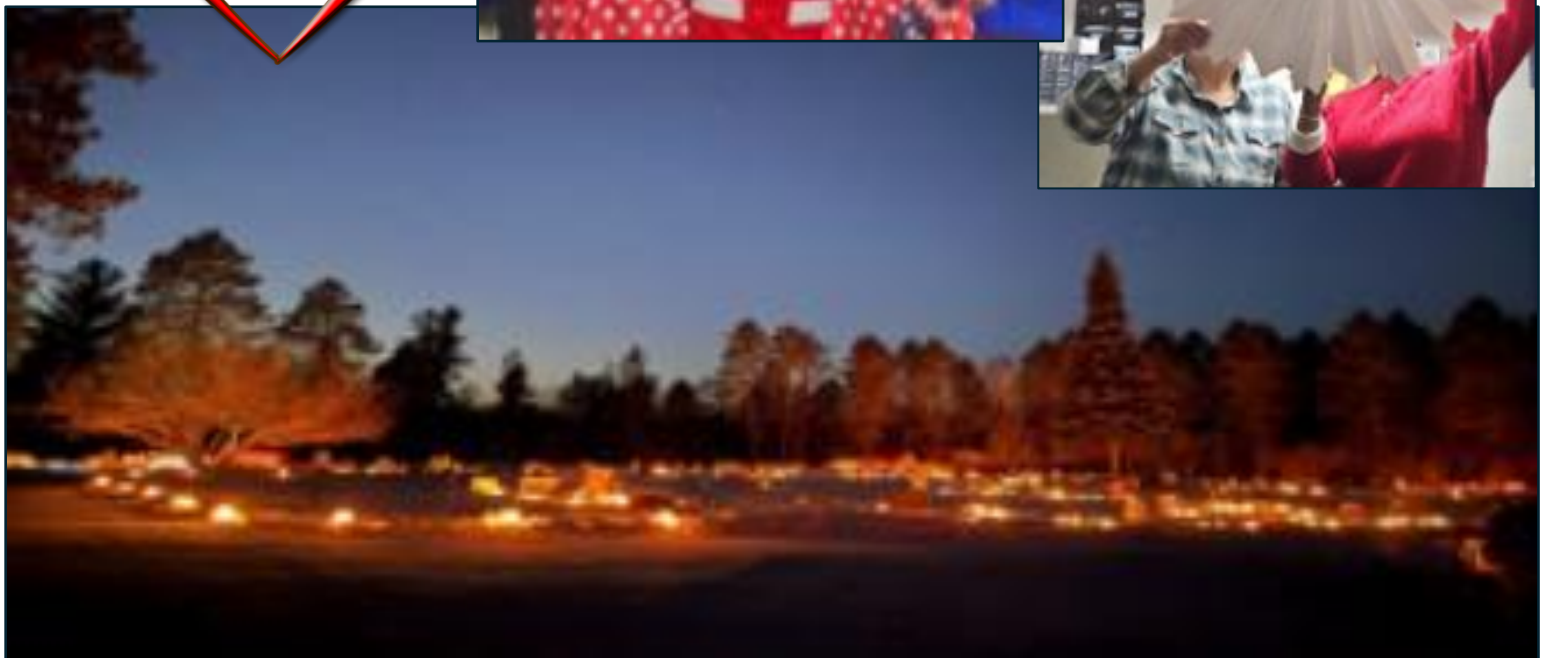
Debit cards or credit cards are accepted. If paying by check, please make check payable to Embarrass Township and mail to 7503 Levander Rd, Embarrass, MN 55732



A huge
Thank YOU
to all those who helped with the
Ice Candles!



**Thank
You!**



CHILI
COOK-OFF

WHO DOESN'T LOVE
CHILI & COOKIES?
COME ONE, COME ALL!

&

Bake Sale



**SATURDAY
JANUARY 17TH
12:00-4:00PM
PIKE TOWN HALL
6862 HWY 68
EMBARRASS, MN**



FREE WILL OFFERING

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S
NEW FURNACE FUND**



LIVE GENEROUSLY



**Town of Embarrass
Board Meeting
December 17, 2025
PENDING BOARD APPROVAL**

Present: Jack LaMar, Shireen Lee, Eric Garman, Mary Novak and Jennifer Boese

Visitors: Gene Wright, Adam Sperling

Meeting called to order by LaMar at 6:03 p.m.

*Motion Garman/Lee to approve the November minutes.
Carried 3-0.*

Treasurers Report by Mary Novak. The disbursement reports will not match up with the bank statement, the reason being is because there are checks that have not been cashed. Novak suggested that a disclaimer be printed on the checks when ordered next to hopefully avoid this issue. November report larger expenses were Nelimark, payroll and PERA, IRS and partial payment to St. Louis County for plowing. *Motion LaMar/ Garman to accept the treasurers report. Carried 3-0.*

The use of fireworks during hall rental use was discussed. To be added to the hall rental agreement that fireworks are not allowed on the property.

Maintenance Report by Lee. Report on file. 846 + candles were made for Ice Candle Celebration. Rink is ready for use.

Road Report. Brushing quote received was discussed. *Motion Lee/Garman to approve the brushing quote received. Carried 3-0.* Turn around on Byke Road was researched by Garman. Garman met with St. Louis County Public Works and gives report to the other supervisors. Couple options were discussed. The township is not in a financial state to fund the turn around. More discussion will be held on this topic.

Discussion on Green Burials. A resolution should be drafted if this is something that the township wants to move forward. More information will be researched.

Paid Leave starting January 1st. Information was given to the supervisors. Discussion was had. The Township Board is required to make a decision on the percentage that the township must also pay each employee. Small employees are at a lower rate than larger employees. *Motion Lee to pay 50 /50 to the paid leave requirements.*

Clerk was contacted by a member of Hope Lutheran and a Chili Cook Off planned for January 17th was discussed. The township was asked to be used as a sanctuary food license which was requested by the fair association. Supervisors discuss and with this not being timely and it is somewhat unclear of what exactly is needed or wanted. There is nothing that the township can do to help with food license.

Levy Preparation meetings will be held on Wednesday, January 7th at 6 p.m., Monday, January 12th 6 p.m. and if needed January 21st at 6 p.m. Meetings will be held for preparation on

the 2027 levy. Reorganizational and Regular meeting will be held January 14th at 6 p.m.

Clerk speaks on LBAE training which requires at least one more supervisor. Lee is only supervisor certified at this time. LaMar agrees to take the training by February 1st.

*Motion Lee/Garman to accept claims and correspondence.
Carried 3-0.*

Lee comments on how spectacular the Ice Candle Celebration was this year. Complimenting the employees on another great job they do and still continue to do their job.

Audit was completed. Motion Lee/Garman to approve the completed audit finding all accurate and in order. Carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 by LaMar.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Boese

**Waasa Township Regular Board Meeting
Waasa Town Hall
Wednesday, November 5, 2025**

Board Members Present: Mike Johnson, Eric Pulkinen, Allan Schnacky, Kim Daugherty and Sandra Gibson

Visitors: Winnie Koivisto

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair, Mike Johnson and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes Approval: *Mike moved to approve the October 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes as read with Eric supporting. Carried (3-0).*

Treasurer's Report: There were no receipts for October, only the adjustment from EVFC of \$4,020.00 (now corrected). Disbursements from General Fund totaled \$1,463.59 and \$600.00 from Cemetery Fund for mowing. *Mike approved the Treasurer's report, approve payment of the bills listed below plus payroll, PERA and to renew all 3 CDs at Northern State Bank for 9 months at a rate of 3.6% (at this time).* Signing for the (3) Northern State Bank CDs will be Mike Johnson, Eric Pulkinen, Allan Schnacky, Sandra Gibson and Kimberly Daugherty. Steve Sipola has resigned as Waasa Supervisor as of 10-09-24. *Support came from Eric. Carried (3-0).*

Lake Country Power	\$ 87.04
Automatic Payment—Made on 11/3/25	
Lossing Building Center	29.99
Lock Kit	
MATIT	371.00
Worker's Comp	
Menards—Virginia	26.32
Furnace Filters, Misc. Supplies	
Pulkinen, Eric	22.40
Mileage Reimb.	
St. Louis County Auditor	2,682.13
Snowplowing—(1 st Half) 2025-26	

Address Visitors: A resident stated there were pot holes on Tienala Road.

Road Report: Eric reported that several roads need grading, including Beckman, So. Skarp, Tienala and Norby. He will order be done soon. SLC has smoothed out an area on Koskela Road where there was a culvert issues.

Cemetery: Most cemetery decorations have been removed by the October 31st date. Any flowers/decorations left on graves is subject to disposal by the township. Thank you to those that have cleared their loved one's graves. The fall prep is nearly done.

Allan has done a good job of smoothing out the ruts in the lower cemetery road. He will also fix a door lock on the town hall.

The Sexton has marked a grave for a footstone coming soon and has recently installed another footstone.

New Business: Mike took the online test and is again certified for the 2026 LBAE. All board supervisors are now certified.

A new pressure switch was needed for the furnace and it was still under warranty with OJ's. We are waiting for an estimate

for a transfer pump on the furnace. This will be tabled until the December 3rd meeting.

We are waiting to hear a confirmed date which a SLC Deputy can attend one of our township meetings. in the area.

Discussed covering the driveway behind the hall to insulate against freezing the water pipes. It was decided to wait on closing the driveway until closer to spring.

The Gibson family is planning to use the hall for a Christmas Party in December.

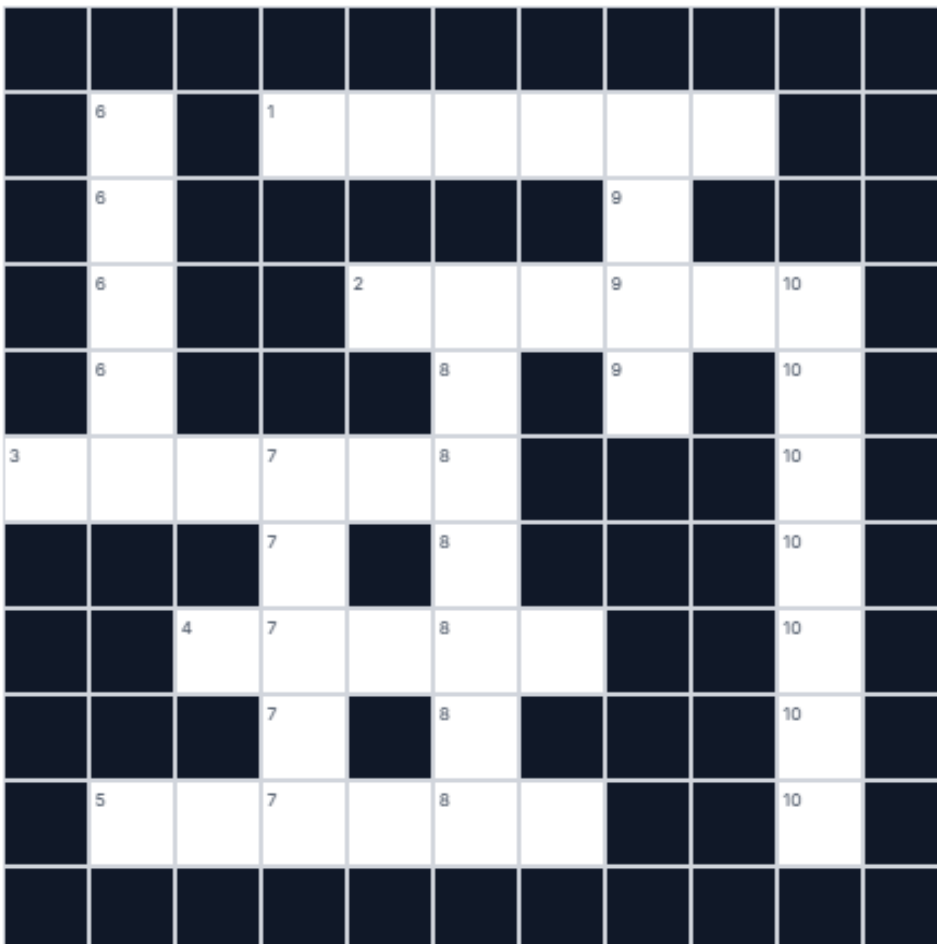
Eric passed on a friendly reminder from the Embarrass Fire Department: Be sure to check your fire extinguishers, smoke alarms and chimneys to be sure they are in good working order.

Correspondence: Mail was read and filed.

Adjournment: *Mike moved to adjourn with support from Eric at 7:45 p.m. Carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Gibson, Waasa Town Clerk
Mike Johnson, Waasa Board Chair



Across

1. Dairy product from milk
2. Orange root vegetable
3. Small sweet baked treat
4. Red or green fruit
5. Citrus fruit

Down

6. Asian grain staple
7. Mixed greens dish
8. Red fruit used as vegetable
9. Steeped beverage
10. Common poultry

**SISU Heritage Inc.
Monthly Meeting
December 15, 2025**

Present: Dan Alto, Bruce Sweney, Marlin Bjornrud, Jon Salo, Mickey White, Winnie Kovisto, Linda Koskela

Guests: Jeff Sterle, Paul Knuti

1. November minutes were presented, reviewed and accepted with a motion by Dan A., second Bruce S., MC.
2. November's financial report was presented in detail by Winnie K., then moved to accept by Jon S., second Mickey W., MC.
3. Membership is 152 – 33 lifetime
4. Jeff Sterle, public accountant of Jeff Sterle & Co. presented the 2024-23 Audit. The evidence obtained for the audit is sufficient and shows the cash flow is comparable to the year before.
5. **Jon S. informed the board FINNFEST 2026 will move from July in Duluth to Minneapolis in September.** Sharing a table remains with the Virginia Kaleva.
6. An update on the completion of the project at the Seitaniemi House Barn by the Underwood Construction Co. was of great value and workmanship. Paul K. announced a new grant of \$176,000 was accepted & approved by the MN Historical Society to finish exterior work on the House Barn.
7. The LCP electric pole at the Hanka Homestead will remain to accommodate any future use of electricity by SISU Heritage. Bruce S. stated he is waiting to hear from a supervisor on the cost and placement of signage on County Rd 21.
8. Hope Lutheran Church requested SISU Heritage & Artisans to participate in providing a bake sale for their **January 17, 2026 Winter Festival.**

SISU Heritage, Inc's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 22, 2026. Board members: Marlin B., John K., Jon S., & Mickey W. are up for re-election.

Submitted by Secretary, Linda Koskela

The next meeting is on the third Monday, January 19th at 6:30pm at the Embarrass Town Hall.

POSTAL NEWS



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

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¼ Page = \$10

½ Page = \$20

Full Page = \$40

To place an ad in the Flying Finn Monthly Newsletter, write to:

The Flying Finn, 7503 Levander Rd Embarrass MN 55732

embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net

or contact the Embarrass Town Clerk at 984-2084

The Flying Finn welcomes any and all announcements regarding community events or groups. All items submitted must be approved by the Town of Embarrass governing board. Neither the Town of Embarrass nor the Flying Finn necessarily endorse the viewpoints or ideology of these groups or their events. The Town of Embarrass reserves the right to publish or not publish

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

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- Grading
- Bobcat Work
- Custom Landscape

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danehmanlandscaping@gmail.com

Obituaries

Evelyn B. Esala, 90

Evelyn Bernice Esala, 90, of Embarrass, died on Dec. 11, 2025, at Diamond Willow Assisted Living in Mt. Iron. Funeral services were held on Dec. 20 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Virginia. Pastor Zachary T. Klumpp officiated. Interment followed in the Waasa Township Cemetery. A special thank you to the East Range Hospice Team, Diamond Willow staff, and all of Evelyn's caregivers. The family appreciated the care and concern shown to their mother.

Evelyn was born on July 4, 1935, the daughter of Thomas and Sadie Niemi Koskela, in Waasa Township. Evelyn married Norman Nicholas Esala on Sept. 26, 1953, in Sandy Township. Evelyn was a longtime resident of Embarrass and worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Embarrass and Babbitt. She was a lifelong member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Gloria Dei Women and the Caring Quilters. Evelyn loved her family and leaves a remarkable legacy of faith and family.

Evelyn is survived by her children, Corinne Jordan of Mt. Iron, Todd (Mary) Esala of Babbitt, Christine Lindquist of Alexandria, Ted (Gail) Esala of Tower, Carin (Dean Miller) Scholl of Embarrass, Connie (Michael) Scholl of Kelliher and Cheryl (Mike) Cady of Rosemount; sister and best friend, Linda Koskela of Embarrass; grandchildren, Patrick (Jackie) Jordan, Ross Jordan, Brett (Kate) Jordan, Anna (Garrett) Niska, Kelly (Tyrone) Schmidt, Erik (Marie) Esala, Rebecca (Paul) Johnson, Tina (Robert) Bosma, Karl (Sam) Lindquist, Jenni (John) Paulsen, Mindi (Brian) Ratzloff, Andrew (Lianne) Scholl, Adam (Chris Rush) Scholl, Ashley (Holly) Scholl, Sadie (Dave) Urbas, Signe Scholl, Alex Scholl, Tania (Jamie) Rice and Erica (Casey) Myers; 30 great-grandchildren and one due in March; and numerous in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; brother, Melvin Koskela; sons-in-law, Brad Jordan and Daniel Lindquist; and grandson, Brian Jordan.

Peggy Ann Koivisto, 70

Peggy Ann Hollenbeck Koivisto, 70, passed away peacefully on Dec. 4, 2025, in the loving presence of her daughter Tracy at Carefree Living in Babbitt. A special thanks to the loving, compassionate and caring staff at Carefree Living. In lieu of a flowers, please consider a donation to the ALS Foundation.

Peggy was raised in Embarrass and graduated from Babbitt High School, then completed a degree in Cosmetology in Brainerd. Peggy loved music, travel, art, flowers and films. She was an adventurous soul and a successful saleswoman in her long-term retail career. She lived and worked in several

beautiful places across the USA, including Eugene, Oregon; Sonoma and Oakland, California; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Denver, Colorado; and finally in Ely, where she lived with her daughter Tracy in her final years as she courageously battled ALS. Peggy loved to spend time with her family and visited her daughter Tarik and her two grandsons often in the South of France.

Peggy is survived by her daughters, Tracy Lee Koivisto of Ely and Tarik Lynn Koivisto (husband Mathieu Rolland) of Fuveau, France; grandsons, Jules Rolland-Koivisto of Amsterdam, Netherlands, and Rémy Rolland-Koivisto of Fuveau, France; sister, Diane Hollenbeck Gihl (husband Robert Gihl) of Lino Lakes; and brother, Robin Hollenbeck (wife Suzy) of Dallas, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her father, Dick Hollenbeck; mother, Viola Hollenbeck; and sister, Teresa Hollenbeck Faust.

Harold J. Langowski Jr., 73

Harold Joseph Langowski Jr., 73, of Pike Township, died on Nov. 24, 2025, at home with his family. A memorial service was held at Pike Town Hall on Dec. 13. The family would like to thank East Range Hospice, Dr. Keith Peterson and staff for their loving care.

Harold was born on Jan. 24, 1952, in Grafton, N.D., the son of Harold Sr. and Margaret Misialek Langowski. He graduated from Mt. Iron High School and in 1970 married Susan Louise Mickelson. After living in Mt. Iron, they moved to Pike in 1972 and built their home.

Harold was a member of Operating Engineers Local 49 for over 50 years. He retired from the Pike-Sandy-Britt Fire Department where he served for over 20 years, including as assistant chief. He served on the Pike Township Board for over 42 years and was the sextant at the Pike Cemeteries. He enjoyed gardening, deer hunting and fishing.

Harold is survived by his wife, Susan; son, Harold (Lora) Langowski of Britt; daughter, Amber (Steve) LaMourea of Duluth; granddaughters, Grace and Elizabeth; mother, Margaret; siblings, Carl Langowski, Tim (Debbie) Langowski, Jim (Charlene) Langowski, Mary (Bill) Stodola, LinDa (Robert) Grams, Martha (Larry) Godwin and Carrie Jo (Ronan) Dillard; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harold Langowski Sr.; in-laws, Richard and Gladys Mickelson; and brother, David Langowski.



5088 Highway 21 • P.O. Box 76 • Embarrass, MN • 55732
(218)984-2037 • [hopelutheranembarrass@gmail.com](mailto:hoperlutheranembarrass@gmail.com)

Facebook: Hope Lutheran/Babbitt Evangelical

Pastor Christina Forsythe

Worship: Sundays at 10:30AM

Christmas Eve Service 4pm

Pike Apostolic Lutheran Church

6997 Oberg Rd (on Hwy 169)
www.apostoliclutheran.org



Services at 10:30am

Communion – First Sundays

Evangelical Free Church

5606 E Taylor Rd - Embarrass, MN 55732 - 218-984-3402
www.efreechurch.com - marlinb@efreechurch.com

Sunday

Family Bible classes 9am
Family Worship Service 10am

Monday

Men's Bible Study 6:30pm

Wednesday

Women's Bible Study 9am
Kids on the Book 4pm
6:30pm

Thurs

Conversation 9am-11am

Saturday

Jan 24 Men's Breakfast 8am
Jan 31 Women's craft & movie day 2pm-4pm

Sunday

Jan 4 Installation of New Associate Pastor, Colin Rieke, during service, a welcome potluck fellowship meal To follow, approximately 11:30am
Jan 11 Potluck Meal 11:30am & Annual Church Meeting

Babbitt Public Library



Monday - Thursday
9am-5pm

Friday
10am - 6pm

Arrowhead Bookmobile

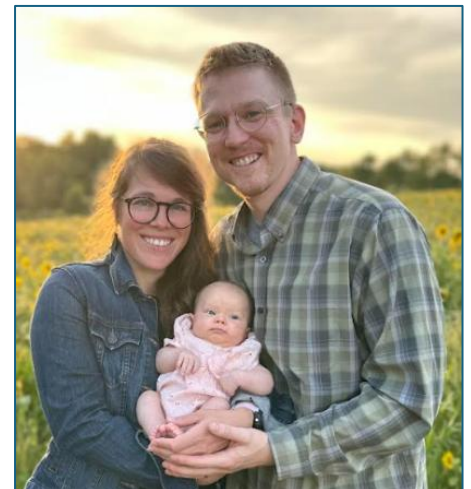
The Bookmobile offers print books, Cookbooks, large print books, DVDs, audiobooks and video games. For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A- Book services, contact the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768, 218 741-3840, see us on Facebook or check our web site at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

Join us in welcoming Pastor Rieke and his family

Colin and Rachelle Rieke have moved to Embarrass to fill the role of Associate Pastor at the Evangelical Free Church. Colin will partner with Pastor Bjornrud, especially focusing on ministry to young families and young adults. He will do some preaching and teaching ministry, as well as be available for counseling.

Colin will be officially installed as the Associate Pastor during the worship service on Sunday, January 4. The service begins at 10:00a.m. and will be followed by a welcome Potluck meal. All are welcome to come out and meet the Riekes.

Potluck on January 4th at 11:30am
Evangelical Free Church, Embarrass



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Heather's Home Goods

Embarrass, Minnesota



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Bowl Cozies, Rice Packs, Baby Items, & More.

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heathershomegoods@outlook.com

See you at the Embarrass Region Fair!

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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

From the Editor

We at the FLYING FINN strive to represent Embarrass and the surrounding areas. Please contact me, to submit articles, advertisements, community notices, letters to the editor, photos, artwork, etc or if you have concerns or suggestions for the newsletter. Along with your submission, please include the size you want placed in the newsletter. You can contact me via email at this address:

flyingfinneditor@gmail.com

Include your name, phone number and email address. Photos or other materials will be returned, if necessary, please be sure to let me know. The Town of Embarrass reserves the right to publish or not publish any letter to the editor or other submitted materials. I *must* receive all submissions for the newsletter no later than the 23rd of each month.

Terri
Flying Finn Editor

Alterations & Creations

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Name: _____

Date: _____

An Apple a Day

Word Search

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

- Applejack
- Baked
- Brown Betty
- Butter
- Cake
- Candied
- Caramelized
- Chips
- Cider
- Cobbler
- Crisp
- Danish
- Dried
- Dumpling
- Eve's Pudding
- Fritter
- Juice
- Pie
- Sauce
- Soda
- Strudel
- Tarte Tatin
- Turnover

I	T	G	V	U	F	L	J	F	L	L	M	R	B	S	Y	U	Q	V
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M	B	L	O	O	K	A	K	J	E	S	Z	K	Y	R	B	G	X	A

