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ELECTION 2018

## Bois Forte ordered to redo primary

### Ruling cites irregularities in handling of absentee ballots

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

REGIONAL- Bois Forte is being ordered to hold a new primary election, after a ruling from the Minnesota Chippewa

Tribes overturned the results of the April 3 election due to irregularities in the handling of absentee ballots.

The date for the new primary election is yet to be set. The general election

was supposed to be held on June 12, but may now be delayed. A new date for the primary election was not immediately available from tribal officials.

One candidate from each of the three posi-

tions on the ballot, Kristal Strong, Brandon Benner, and Edward D. Chavers, had filed an appeal with the MCT. The Bois Forte Band is a member of the MCT, and must follow election ordinances and

procedures set forth for all member tribes.

The election appeals all centered around mishandling of absentee ballots, and the MCT's investigation confirmed problems, including that

the election board failed to respond in a timely manner for requests for absentee ballots and sent out absentee ballots too late in the election cycle. In

See...VOTE pg. 8

ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD

## Facing a new priority

### Tom Rukavina not seeking re-election as he turns full attention to health battle

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

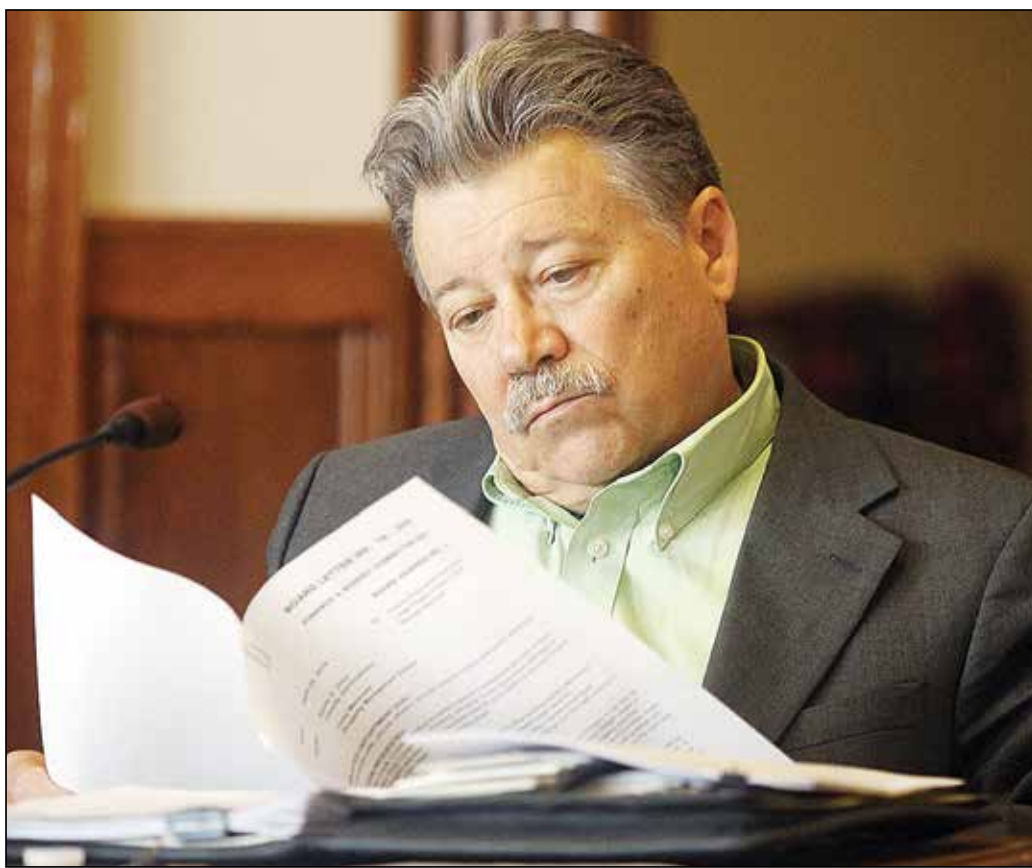
REGIONAL — St. Louis County Commissioner and longtime DFL legislator Tom Rukavina says he won't be seeking re-election this fall as expected.

Instead, Rukavina will be turning his attention to a newly-diagnosed illness that may require extensive treatment to overcome.

Rukavina was reluctant to talk about the issue Tuesday morning prior to the St. Louis County Board meeting in Ely. "I have some health issues and that's all I need to say," he said.

When asked if he would finish out his term he responded, "Oh yeah. I might have a lot of doctoring to do down the road, so I'm not going to run again."

He said his constituents have always been his top priority. "If I can't give them 150 percent, I'm not going



St. Louis County Commissioner Tom Rukavina studies agenda documents during a County Board meeting Tuesday morning in Ely. photo by K. Vandervort

to run. That's not fair to my constituents."

Rukavina, who will turn 68 in August, has stepped away from the electoral arena before, only to return to a career that has suited him well. An unusual combination of pugnacity, charm, and wit have been Rukavina's calling cards and they have made him a popular politician, both in his

home district as well as elsewhere in the state. Rukavina regularly won with more than 75 percent of the vote during his 26 years in the Legislature, representing the eastern end of the Mesabi Iron Range.

Former Virginia Mayor Steve Peterson, who grew up with Rukavina on Virginia's north side, called him a fighter from his earliest days. "I have

a special place in my heart for Tom," he said.

"When he believed in a cause he would fight for it. You don't see that much anymore. We're going to miss his political leadership."

Rukavina, who graduated from the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a

See...TOM pg. 8

GHEEN

## Shermer named Logger of the Year

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

GHEEN — Cliff Shermer says he's never been shy about incorporating good ideas into his family logging operation here. "There are a lot of great loggers out there, but I've been fortunate to hire the best people and I've also learned by watching others," said Shermer, 68. "I see the smart techniques others use, pick their brains a little and try to incorporate their best practices into what we do."



Cliff Shermer

His approach has not only earned Shermer plenty of respect within the logging industry — it's now earned Shermer Logging the title of "Logger of the Year" from the Minnesota Sustainable Forestry Initiative's implementation committee.

Jason Evans, chair of the  
See...AWARD pg. 8

CITY OF ELY

## Sap spigot could be turned off

### Tree Board offers ordinance to eliminate maple tree tapping

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY — The City Council here is likely to move toward stopping the flow of sap from city-owned silver maple trees. Recommendations from the Ely Tree Board at a public hearing Tuesday night, along with over-zealous tapping this spring by two Morse Township

**More coverage**  
Why is the city of Ely cutting down so many trees? Page 9

families who refer to themselves as the "Blue Bag Crew," are likely enough incentive for city officials to pass an ordinance outlawing the time-honored tradition.

Two Tree Board members

After an extended winter, sap is finally flowing this week out of silver maple trees in the city of Ely.

photo by K. Vandervort

and a city resident were the only people who spoke at the public hearing. Written testimony from the Tree Board, and another city

See...SAP pg. 9



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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Prime Time Trio in Babbitt on Friday, April 27; last concert of season

BABBITT- The Ely Area Concert Series announces its last concert of the 2017-18 season with "Prime Time Trio" on Friday, April 27 at 7 p.m. at the Northeast Range High School Auditorium in Babbitt. Please note change from regular concert venue due to the Ely Prom.

"Prime Time Trio" is a high-energy group that plans pops and standards, featuring piano, vocals, bass, and drums. The concert will include many familiar tunes including sing-a-longs and is perfect for all ages.

## Vermilion Dream Quilters meet May 3

TOWER- Vermilion Dream Quilters will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 3 in the social hall at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower.

Borders frame our quilts and our May program will continue April's discussion on border options. We will look at curved and scalloped borders presented by Vickie Lange and applique border layout presented by Karen Lamppa. Our hostesses this month are Pam Carter, Kathy Sacchetti, DeDe Doi and JoAnn Anderson.

Vermilion Dream Quilters is a guild with members from throughout the Iron Range and Arrowhead Region and is open to anyone interested in quilting and creative sewing. Members encourage and instruct each other and share tips. Guests and visitors are welcome. For more information, please contact Corrine Hill in Tower at 218-753-4600.

## Finnish Americans and Friends meet May 1

HIBBING- Finnish Americans and Friends will meet on Tuesday, May 1 at 2 p.m. The meeting will feature Helena Packola, a well known musician and teacher, who will present a film, "Women's Contribution to Finland's Independence," with music, narrative and slides at Grace Lutheran Church, 4010 9th Ave. in Hibbing.

Everyone is invited to this delightful program which was shown at the 2017 Finnfest in Minneapolis where Finland's one hundred years of independence was celebrated. Coffee and treats brought by attendees will follow the program.

## Ojibwe Arts Workshops at Minnesota Discovery Center on May 3

CHISHOLM- Join us for two different free Ojibwe Arts Workshops on Thursday, May 3 starting at 5 p.m. We will be offering a hand-drumming workshop which will expose visitors to the musical traditions of Ojibwe drumming, shakers and vocal patterns. Artist and instructor Sharon Day will offer this workshop titled "Good Vibrations." This workshop will be first come, first served for up to 30 people.

We will also offer a Native American beading class led by artist and instructor Leanne Johnson. Students will gain a greater awareness of Native American art through beadwork. In this class, you will be making a daisy chain necklace. This workshop requires reservations and can accommodate up to 20 people. Please call 218-254-7959 to make your reservation.

## LEARN TO RUN

# Running program kicks off in Ely

Be ready to race in the Ely Marathon, half marathon, or 5K this fall



Three runners cross the finish line for the half marathon last year. file photo

ELY- Come train with one of the largest and most successful running and walking programs in the world. USA Fit is kicking off its official 2018 training program in Ely on Saturday, May 12 at 8 a.m. This 18-week session is open to anyone training for the Ely Marathon, Boundary Waters Bank Half Marathon, the Northern Lights 5K Glow Run, or anyone just wanting to get fit.

A kick-off and information session will be held at Heavy Metal Sports located at 27 E Chapman St. on Wednesday, May 9 at 6 p.m. Registration is \$120 for marathon and half marathon training and \$100 for the 5K training program. Walking programs are available for the half marathon and 5K training. USA Fit Ely members will also receive \$20 off registration for the Ely Marathon and Boundary Waters Bank Half Marathon. To register online, visit [www.usafitely.com](http://www.usafitely.com), or you can register onsite during training through May 19.

The head coach for the program will be Jayne Dusich, who coaches cross-country and track at the Ely

High School.

As part of the USA Fit Ely training program, members will meet Saturday mornings at the Trezona Trail Trailhead for coach-led pace group runs fully supported with water and sports drinks. Running and race walking-related seminars are also held on Saturday mornings covering hydration, injury prevention, running form, stretching and other topics to help members through the training process.

"We are excited to bring USA Fit's proven training program to Ely as people gear up for the Ely Marathon, Boundary Waters Bank Half Marathon and the Northern Lights 5K Glow Run in September," said Chris Chandler, USA Fit Ely co-organizer. "Proper training is essential for avoiding injury and safely completing long-distance races. This is a tremendous program for runners and walkers of all abilities and a great way to meet new friends."

Chandler, also from the Ely area, has trained with the USA Fit program, and began completing half marathons, marathons, and then ultramarathons of up to 100 miles.

"Before you think I am some super-human athlete, you should know I am simply an average, mid-to-back-of-the-pack runner. I liked to say I got my money's worth out of a race by being out there a really... long... time," she writes on the USA Fit Ely website. "The point is, everyone can accomplish their goal, whether it's finishing a 5K or a full marathon. All it takes is desire, drive and dedication."

Chandler said her running success all began with USA Fit. "The program works, and it really did change my life. I not only finished my first two marathons using this training, I found my sport and made lifelong friends. In fact, I met my husband in the training program and we've been running together ever since."

"Whether you're a runner or walker, beginner or advanced, we can help you achieve your race goal in a non-intimidating, fun and friendly environment," said Chandler.

For more on USA Fit Ely, visit [www.usafitely.com](http://www.usafitely.com).

## Two stranded after Sun Country cancels flight

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA  
Staff Writer

REGIONAL- After a vacation in Mazatlán, Mexico, Kala Palo of Mt. Iron and Alice Gruska of Virginia found themselves stranded. The two had purchased round-trip tickets for the trip, but when it was time to come home the plane never arrived. Even worse, no one told them that another plane wouldn't be coming. The two found out from the news that they would have to find their own way home, a process that took five more days.

Palo and Gruska were scheduled to leave Mexico on Saturday, April 14.



Kala Palo and Alice Gruska, on the beach in Mexico. submitted photo

They checked their flight status, aware of the snowstorm in Minneapolis. The flight was listed as "on-time," until it was time to leave, when the status changed to "cancelled." The two patiently waited for their flight to be rescheduled. "That's how it usually works if a flight gets cancelled, they just send you information for your new flight." So they tried to enjoy their time while they were waiting, but checking anxiously for a flight around the clock

doesn't make it easy to enjoy yourself.

When Monday rolled around a friend sent them a news article, "Sun Country abandons passengers in Mexico." And that's how they found out that their flight would not be rescheduled. They didn't hear from Sun Country, or from Priceline where they purchased their tickets, but from the news. All of a sudden they realized they needed to find a new flight home. It wasn't easy to do. "All the flights had multiple stops, were double the price of the original round-trip ticket and were filling up fast because of all the other people stuck there," Palo said. Finally they secured tickets, w at \$650 each, back to Minneapolis on

Thursday, April 19. They still haven't heard anything from Sun Country but are waiting for their original ticket to be reimbursed and plan to ask the airline to reimburse for their expenses and lost wages.

"We were lucky because we stayed at my friend's condo; we didn't have to pay for an expensive hotel and my car was parked at a friend's house as well, so we didn't have to pay an extra hundred for parking at the airport." Palo was also lucky that her "extended vacation" didn't affect her job. Palo said that her manager at the Vermilion Club was very understanding and even offered to help with expenses. Palo said that Gruska, who works at Boomtown, was also met with many well-wishes from her employers and coworkers.

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CITY OF TOWER

# Council approves new Internet provider

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— The city council here has approved a proposal by Brainerd-based Consolidated Telecommunications Co. to extend high-speed fiber optic Internet service to city hall, the fire hall, and the Hoodoo Point Campground.

The cost of implementing the plan is estimated at \$26,000, but the company is offering to invest \$16,000 of that itself, leaving a remainder of \$9,992 for the city to pick up.

The funding was not in the city's 2018 budget, but City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith suggested that a portion of the one-time cost could come from several parts of the city budget, including fire and ambulance, the general fund and the campground account.

The proposal would provide a monthly savings

## Hires new assistant maintenance supervisor

on city telecommunications by eliminating several phone lines, and switching to Internet phone service. According to a proposal provided by the company, the change in systems would save the city about \$166 per month, while providing Internet service of 100 megs both up and down at city hall and 50 megs at the campground and fire hall.

The company's proposal would extend the usability of fiber optic lines installed by the Northeast Service Cooperative a few years. Frontier Communications was supposed to use the fiber as a backbone to extend improved service to business and residential customers in the area but has been slow to do so.

Keith said the need for higher Internet capacity is continuously increasing

and that city work is being slowed by the current, low-capacity connection. She noted that the city will be switching to a new accounting software program, which is Internet-based, which will likely perform better with a higher speed connection.

Lauren Johnson, business accounts representative for CTC said the company is open to exploring other opportunities to expand its service offerings in the Tower area. The company established a partnership with the Northeast Service Cooperative about a year and a half ago and is looking to make use of the fiber optic cable the cooperative has installed to enhance Internet and other services in the region, including for businesses in the area.

In other business, the

council:

- Hired Thomas Gorsma as the city's new assistant maintenance director. Gorsma will replace Dave Bjorgo, who was recently promoted to maintenance supervisor effective with the retirement of longtime maintenance supervisor Randy Johnson.

- Approved setting the city payroll date as the seventh of the month.

- Tabled a request from Randy Semo to operate a food truck concession at the Hoodoo Point Campground. Councilors had some questions about whether alcohol would be served and wanted input from the campground managers on the issue.

- Requested sealed bids from area propane providers for the first meeting in June.

TRAIL PLANNING

# Latest Mesabi Trail plan aired at Kugler meeting

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA  
Timberjay staff writer

KUGLER TWP- Officials from the Mesabi Trail presented their plans for further extending the trail through Embarrass on its eventual path to Tower. They spoke to a small group of interested residents at the Kugler Town board meeting on Tuesday.

The proposed trail route will begin at the south side of the intersection of Sauna Rd. and Hwy. 21 and head east on Hwy. 21 in Embarrass, before turning north along a twisty and turning route to Hwy. 135. The entire section will include about five miles.

A resident of Benson Rd. raised issues with the trail going in front of her house, citing proximity to her residence and issues of safety and privacy. She suggested that the trail could run through the back of her property instead, which would give her more privacy. However, the suggested path might contain more wetlands than the original route, so the final location will still need to be determined. Bob Manzoline, the Director of St. Louis County Rail Authority, said that although anything could happen, in the 20 years the trail has existed they have never had

See TRAIL...pg. 5

DEVELOPMENT CONTROVERSY

# Neighbors threaten lawsuit over proposed RV park

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— An attorney for neighbors opposed to a proposed recreational vehicle park near Hoodoo Point is threatening litigation if the city allows the proposal to move forward. Eric Honkanen, of Virginia, told members of the city's planning and zoning commission last week that he has questions about procedures and the merits of the proposed 20-unit facility, proposed by developer Dave Rose. Several residents of nearby Mill Point attended the meeting in hopes of persuading the city to

reject the proposal.

Honkanen cited significant environmental changes, including large scale excavation that would be required, neighbor opposition to the project, wastewater capacity, and questions about the financial viability of the proposal.

"I don't like to threaten litigation, but I think we have enough evidence to support an injunction," he said. "This kind of compels litigation."

Honkanen delivered his comments along with a five-page letter outlining concerns about the project and arguing that an environmental assessment

worksheet, or EAW, completed by Rose's engineer, is inadequate and should be rejected by planning and zoning officials.

State agencies, including the Pollution Control Agency and the DNR, have weighed in as well on the EAW, raising questions about the extent of wetlands on the site and the potential for damage to aquatic vegetation along the river's edge. The MPCA notes that Rose runs the risk of incurring environmental liability if his development exposes any old waste at the site. A portion of the proposed RV park was within the footprint of a former city dump that operated

in the 1960s and 70s. While the area has been largely cleaned up, MPCA officials say some residual contamination could still be exposed at the site as a result of Rose's activities. If so, they indicated that Rose would incur potential liability for any future cleanup requirements.

Rose's engineer, Michael Nelson, of Minnesota Engineering and Construction Services, provided responses to many of the issues raised, but whether his responses satisfy all the questions remains to be seen.

The city must draft its own responses to the comments it received, both from state

agencies as well as residents of Mill Point, who largely oppose the development. Planning and zoning officials defended themselves against suggestions that they have failed to ask appropriate questions of their own about the project. "This has been a series of meetings," said commission member Kevin Fitton. "If people were present at those meetings, they would see we've been asking many of the same questions. We are not just rubber stamping this by any means."

Commission member

See RV PARK...pg. 5

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# OPINION

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## Editorial

### Dayton's tax cut plan

#### GOP-led Legislature should get on board proposal to save middle class deductions

Millions of average Minnesotans are facing a tax increase this year as a result of federal tax changes approved in December and the Legislature seems unwilling to heed Gov. Mark Dayton's proposal to fix the problem.

Here's the problem: Federal tax changes approved by Congress and President Trump doled out huge tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy. Indeed, the tax cut for corporations alone comprised 92 percent of the total tax savings in the plan. The Congress and the President paid for it, in part, by exploding the federal deficit, but also by reducing or eliminating a long list of tax deductions that typically benefit the middle class. While the federal tax bill also trimmed tax rates for middle and lower income Americans, the savings for most Americans are pretty minimal, amounting to a few hundred dollars a year.

Those modest reductions will disappear in many cases once the impact of some of the other tax changes become apparent next year when Minnesotans prepare their 2018 tax returns.

Here are some of the tax deductions that Minnesotans stand to lose without legislative passage of the governor's proposal:

► Expenses paid for work— Employees are currently allowed to deduct certain expenses related to their job, which are not reimbursed by their employer. About 111,000 Minnesotans benefit from this deduction, saving an average of \$419 annually.

► Reducing home ownership costs – Gov. Dayton's tax proposal would protect deductions Minnesotans count on to keep the costs of homeownership more affordable. It would protect a property tax deduction that currently benefits roughly 40,000 Minnesotans, saving

an average \$502 a year. It would also preserve a deduction for major casualty losses, such as a house fire, that saves families that faced tragedy an average of \$16,400.

► Tuition payment deductions— About 27,000 Minnesotans used to benefit from deducting a portion of their tuition payments for college or career training but will lose that deduction as a result of the federal tax law. The governor's plan would extend the deduction, saving students an average of \$96 per year.

► Mortgage insurance deduction— It's not a huge item, but for 70,000 homeowners in the state, it represents an average savings of \$94 a year.

One might think that a plan to cut taxes would be easy to pass in the Republican-led state Legislature. But these aren't the kind of tax cuts favored by Republicans. The tax savings from the governor's proposal will go overwhelmingly to the middle class, not the wealthy taxpayers and corporations favored by GOP lawmakers.

And Republicans are, no doubt, hesitant to acknowledge the downsides of the federal tax changes their party's national leadership passed late last year. The legislation was clearly designed with the 2018 midterm elections in mind. The tax rate changes meant most Americans are seeing a little bit more in their paychecks this year and they won't see the impact of the lost tax deductions until they prepare their 2018 tax return sometime in early 2019. That's when many Americans will realize they've been had. Legislators should put Minnesotans first, by fixing the problem as the governor proposes. Minnesotans don't need unpleasant surprises when the next tax season rolls around.



## Letters from Readers

### The progandists' war on facts

Propaganda originates from propagate, a 16th century term meaning to spread the faith, as in religion. In the 20th Century, beginning with WWI manipulation of public thought became the aim of governments seeking to influence subjects to their agenda. Clever propaganda devices have been created to persuade the masses with selective facts to mislead, obfuscate and distort reality.

Political progandists appeal to emotion, not reason or intelligence to achieve their ends. Trump's folksy appeal conveys "I'm one of you," a common touch becomes a badge of membership and "us versus

them" suggests we're in this together. Trump's success offers status appeal, sold to those identifying with wealth and power. I'm really rich, I'm very smart, and I'm a winner lures a loyal following.

The bandwagon technique calls for "getting on board," join the crowd, don't get left behind serves a sense of belonging. Testimonial tactics promote Trump as the epitome of an American success story. A builder, dealmaker and reality-show star offers a bombardment of unabashed self-aggrandizing testimonials.

Cardstacking tricks choose only the facts that support their case and refute opposition. Distort reality by lionizing your team and degrade opponents as

unworthy. Glittering generalities are made up of loose talk that sounds good, but lacks substance. Trump's personal attacks on critics are vicious smears to deflect from real issues as are his incessant babble of empty slogans.

A war on facts by the religious conservatives (evolution), corporate anti-science (climate change) and by Trump mania (political lies) poisons truth in the mindscape, as pesticides are toxic to unwanted life forms in the landscape. To coin a new word, "facticide" refers to dangerous attacks on factual reality by charges of fake news, spewing outright lies and smearing the rule of law.

**Harold Honkola Tower**

### COMMENTARY

## National parks need our support

As retired superintendent and nearby resident of Voyageurs National Park, I'm happy to lend my voice to Minnesota's celebration of National Park Week, April 21 – 29. It's worth taking time to focus on the six national treasures our state has to offer-- and that nearly one million people will enjoy this year.

From Voyageurs, to Grand Portage, to the Mississippi and Pipestone our state is blessed with exceptional national park sites which are seeing record numbers of visitors - and for good reason. They offer pristine landscapes, opportunities to hike, fish, camp and recreate. And we certainly aren't alone for record visitation. In 2017, the National Park Service received nearly 331 million visits, falling just short of 2016's record-breaking year.



**KATE LIDFORS MILLER**

Unfortunately, our National Park System has maintenance needs totaling \$11.6 billion nationwide, largely due to aging infrastructure and unreliable funding. The estimated price tag to address repairs within park sites in Minnesota comes to \$17.8 million.

These repairs include eroding trails, neglected historic buildings, deteriorating monuments, outdated campgrounds, and faulty water and electrical systems - all things which can make park sites inaccessible and unsafe. Beyond that, studies have shown that when we don't invest in our national parks it negatively impacts local economies that depend on park visitation.

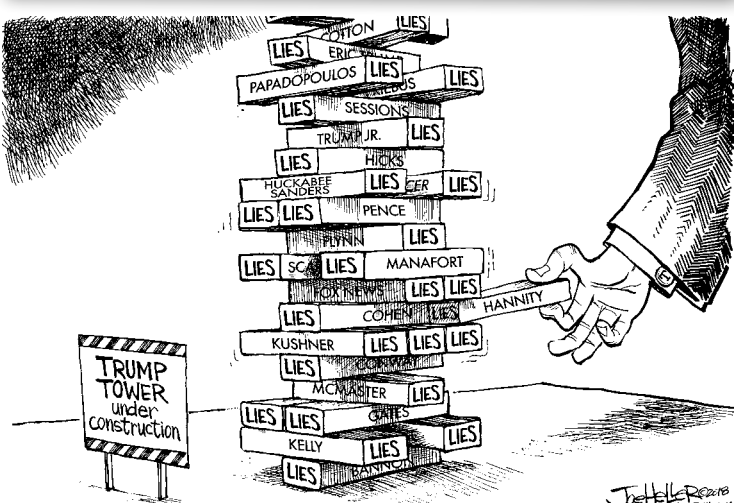
Voyageurs National Park in northern Minnesota, a uniquely water-based national park, is in need of \$14.8 million in main-

tenance, mostly from crumbling buildings across the park. The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, stretching 72 miles from Ramsey County to Hastings, needs \$682,355 in repairs.

Fortunately, there are bipartisan bills in Congress that would provide dedicated yearly funding to repair and rehabilitate our national parks. The National Park Service Legacy Act (H.R. 2584) has 35 Republicans and 35 Democrats signed on in the House—a level of bipartisanship almost unheard of in Washington these days. A Senate companion bill has been introduced, too. Congressman Eric Paulsen (R-MN-3) and Sen. Klobuchar (D-MN) are cosponsors on this legislation. A similar proposal, the National Park Restoration Act, was recently introduced with the focus of addressing maintenance needs in our parks.

This support and recognition of our national treasures

See **PARKS...**page 5



## Range DFL needs sound leadership to repitch its big tent

Back in 2002, the late Sen. Paul Wellstone recruited Tofte outfitter and environmental activist Bill Hansen to run for the Legislature in the old 6A District and secured him the early endorsement of the United Steelworkers.



**MARSHALL HELMBERGER**

I mention this small piece of historical trivia to highlight the ways that wise political leaders keep their political parties growing and united by focusing their supporters' eyes on the big picture. Paul Wellstone was a smart guy and he recognized Hansen's concern for environmental protection as a fundamental component of the DFL's governing philosophy of caring. You can't care for

workers, for the elderly, and for the poor, without also caring for the natural world.

Wellstone also recognized that the demographics of the region were changing, and that the DFL needed to make room for those who were moving here for reasons far different from the ones that drew earlier generations. Many of these new residents were progressive by nature and had the potential to help strengthen the DFL base in the region. Indeed, for years, many of them were actively

involved in the party, donating money, organizing at the grassroots, and manning the phones at election time. These are the folks who helped animate Bill Hansen's campaigns and, more recently, Leah Phifer's.

The DFL's big tent was able to survive past disputes between its labor and environmental wings because it had leaders who knew how to listen to, and respect, both sides. Both Paul Wellstone and Jim Oberstar had that ability.

The copper-nickel debate

has proven so destructive in part because we don't have their kind of political leadership these days in northeastern Minnesota, and because too many of our current leaders have allowed the political rhetoric to grow so toxic. They appear willing to break up the DFL's governing coalition in the vain hope that the Iron Range can return to its glory days if we can just open a few more mines.

If only it were that simple. Here's the reality: an economist

See **DFL...**pg. 5

## Letters from Readers

### The wearing away of our nation, and our society

I read with sadness the story about the removal of the 10 commandments from the St. Louis County Court House. It's the loss of another layer of the values that made this country; this society. Someone may ask: "What's the difference, we still have our laws; society still continues?"

Have you ever watched a tree die from lack of water? It does what it has to do to survive.

It closes its leaves, dries up the bark, goes dormant and then dies. The same thing happens in society when we take away the dominant authority. Whether you believe in God or not, the element of the undisputable authority of God has been a stabilizing factor in our country since its formation. If you read the Declaration of Independence, you will find a respect for that authority throughout its design. Was this a bad thing? History has shown it was the foundation of values we built our society on. Current history will show, that with the loss of that authority

and respect of it, our society has begun to crumble. It has been said; "when anything goes... everything goes."

In the short time we have to live, we are offered the opportunity to make it a better society or not. Personal choice. Better society comes from acts of selflessness that respect society's authority and its individuals. It appears to this man, that, that respect is being lost. Does the need to respect an ultimate authority still exist? I believe so.

We live in an era of information availability we could not have imagined even 20

years ago. So, have we become enlightened? Not to the extent that it has unified us as a nation or society. It appears the opposite is true. We have been so over informed with inaccurate half truths we can't trust anything. Many of my acquaintances live in doubt, fear, and skepticism. I have found that those, of any age, who embrace the higher authority and filter out the rubbish of information are the still engaged, stable and hopeful, and have faith in our future.

So, as we continue to ignore these folks with single-minded agendas, and don't speak up for a

proven truth as to what makes our country and society a birthplace for freedom, love, and hope, we become part of the wearing away. Ultimately, we each have to decide to what authority we will pledge our faith. In ourselves? In mankind? In government? Or God? History has always repeated itself. Go ahead and jump on the "web" and follow the history of Rome. If you study it, you will be able to predict the future of this society.

**Lee (Bud) Van Deusen  
Eagles Nest**

### DFL...Continued from page 4

would need a magnifying glass to detect the economic impact of bringing copper-nickel mining to our region, and that's assuming that all goes according to the wildest fantasies of copper-nickel supporters, which it won't.

Consider the numbers: In St. Louis and Lake counties, residents earned a total of approximately \$5.8 billion in 2016. That's according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

Let's assume that PolyMet eventually employs 350 workers, who all make the average mining salary of \$77,000 a year. That's \$27 million in added personal income, a region-wide increase of 0.49 percent. Heck, let's go pie-in-the-sky and throw in the Twin Metals project, and their best-case 650 jobs, and you add another \$50 million in personal income. Add the two together and you reach \$77 million. Let's throw in another 500 spin-off jobs (figure average salary of \$50,000), and you hit a grand total of \$102 million from a so-called copper-nickel "boom."

In a \$5.8 billion regional economy, \$102 million amounts to 1.7 percent in income growth. It's not nothing, but it's a far cry from a game-changer for the

region. Personal income in St. Louis and Lake counties grew by \$390 million from 2013-2016 even with the loss of jobs in the taconite industry. That pie-in-the-sky \$102 million in personal income from copper-nickel mining, in other words, would be equal to about 13 months growth in income from other sectors of the region's economy. Over the 15 years our area has spent fighting about copper-nickel mining, the region's economy has experienced income growth equal to nearly a dozen copper-nickel "booms." And we're supposed to believe that one more is going to finally turn the tide for the region's economy? It won't happen.

Keep in mind, this doesn't include the economic dislocations that mining always brings. There would be significant economic costs, including lost jobs, closed businesses, and reduced personal income in other sectors as a result of copper-nickel mining. Several studies suggest the economic balance sheet could be a wash, at best.

I recognize that this is more about culture than economics, and about the inevitable friction that every region experiences due to demographic change that

isn't necessarily in sync with the priorities of prior generations.

We hear all the time from area politicians that mining is the way of life in this region. That may have once been a defensible argument. It's not anymore. Even if you exclude Duluth, mining and related jobs make up barely five percent of the workforce in our region. Don't the other 95 percent of us count?

The cultural divide may have been manageable in the past because the new way of thinking was still in the minority. But the times have changed. David Dill beat Bill Hansen in the 2002 primary, despite Wellstone's support for Hansen. But Hansen would easily have won that race today because the electorate is no longer the same. Indeed, in the primary against Rob Ecklund in 2015, Hansen won handily within the boundaries of the old District 6A. Recent polls show an overwhelming majority of DFLers are increasingly skeptical of copper-nickel mining. And so are many Republicans, according to Stewart Mills III, who recently published a column on the topic.

The DFL could have negotiated this demographic shift with the right kind of leadership.

Instead, the party appears to be breaking up over what is a relatively minor economic issue from a regional perspective because area politicians have opted to portray concern for the environment and the promotion of an alternative vision of economic development as an existential threat to the region and its way of life.

What is even more astonishing, is that this breakup is taking place over an issue on which residents of the area actually have very little say. All the political support in the world won't bring copper-nickel mining to northeastern Minnesota. Investors, mostly foreign, will be the ones who decide that question, and it will be based purely on economic considerations that look increasingly sketchy these days. Copper-nickel mining could simply be another in a long line of Iron Range development proposals that raised hopes before going bust.

The DFL, in other words, could very well be destroying itself over absolutely nothing.

A visionary leader, like Paul Wellstone, would have avoided such a debacle, by keeping DFLers focused on the big issues, such as the fundamental lack of

economic fairness baked into the American economy writ large—an issue that affects everyone in northeastern Minnesota.

If our current political leaders won't focus on repairing the damage, the DFL governing coalition likely won't survive—and that will have wide-ranging repercussions for the region. The Iron Range has enjoyed outsized political influence for years in Minnesota because it was closely-aligned with the DFL, and because its residents turned out to vote in high numbers in DFL primaries, and often made the difference for the party in statewide general elections.

The day the Iron Range starts voting like the Red River Valley or the Brainerd Lakes region is the day that its vaunted political clout goes up in smoke. That's the day when Iron Range politicians lose influence in the Legislature and the economic woes on the Iron Range lose their potency as a political issue in St. Paul. To risk all that over a likely meaningless fight over copper-nickel mining is madness. It's time that DFL leaders work to fix the damage. It's time they stop living in the past.

### PARKS...Continued from page 4

bodes well for national parks as Congress crafts a national infrastructure plan to improve transportation, power, and telecommunications networks across the country. The roads, buildings and utility systems within national parks need to be part of the discussion and we urge Congress not to delay this discussion.

The other huge benefit to

addressing crumbling infrastructure in our national parks is job creation and support. A report commissioned by The Pew Charitable Trusts last year shows that fixing our national parks could create and support over 110,000 jobs nationwide. A majority of those jobs would be in non-metro areas, something that would help rural areas of our state that often struggle through

winter when tourism is down. Here in Minnesota that investment would support hundreds of new jobs in planning, road building, construction and carpentry, among other positions.

There's a reason national parks are popular. They are places that tell our unique American story. They teach our children the value of protecting our land and respecting our

natural areas. They honor the men and women who fought and died to help make this country what it is today. And they provide a place of solace to the wounded veteran, the adventurous hiker, the one who seeks the road less traveled.

That's why we owe it to ourselves and to those who come after us to preserve and protect our national parks. Let's

encourage our elected leaders in Minnesota to stand with us to get the job done.

*Kate Lidfors Miller is a native Minnesotan and retired superintendent of Voyageurs National Park who lives on Rainy Lake, just outside the park boundary.*

### RV PARK...Continued from page 3

Steve Abrahamson said the process could still take many months. First, the city has to respond to comments, then make any needed modifications in the EAW before publishing a final version. Then another comment period will be required.

Once approved, the commission would still need to review a conditional use permit and hold at least one public hearing on the permit before the project could receive the final go-ahead.

"This isn't shovel ready," said Fitton. "It's going to take time."

City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith said the city had the right to request an additional 30 days to draft responses and suggested that the city should take the extra time.

The commission

appointed members Abrahamson and Morgan Carlon to review the comments and draft responses for the city in time for the next commission meeting.

In other zoning action, the commission tabled a request by commission chair Steve Altenburg to loosen some setback requirements in the city's residential districts, to provide more usable space for property owners and to provide consistency among the various residential districts. Altenburg also suggested that the current ordinance is unclear about whether the setback is from the road edge or the property boundary. Abrahamson, a longtime real estate broker with experience in zoning issues, clarified that the setback is from the edge of the property boundary.

Altenburg said the current setbacks are 30 feet from the front and back, which he called "ridiculously huge." Abrahamson said he didn't see the 30 feet as a problem in the front, although he said he might be open to reducing the setback in the rear, which would mostly affect garages.

But Altenburg called it "crazy" to force property owners to set back the front of their houses 30 feet. "That's my opinion," he said.

Abrahamson noted that changing the setbacks now would significantly impact the visual aesthetic of city streets, since houses have almost all been built at the 30-foot setback and that altering it now would change the character of city neighborhoods. "Zoning is about keeping consistency

in the neighborhood," he said. "Changing it would give you this hodge-podge development."

Abrahamson added that allowing new homes

to be built closer would also allow the newer homeowners to see into the front windows of neighbors still at the 30-foot setback.

"Eventually they'll

all end up closer if that's where people want to put them," said Altenburg.

### TRAIL...Continued from page 3

any police reports or complaints, with the exception of people using the trail to steal aluminum from the Virginia landfill.

The project could

begin as early as this fall and Mesabi Trail planners hope to have this portion of the trail completed by 2019. This section of the trail is still in the prelim-

inary stages. If you have any questions or comments call Bob Manzoline at 218-780-7895.

**READ** the Timberjay!



## WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY

Saturday, May 5, 2018

The Ember Threat!  
The Home Ignition Zone!

Learn proven ways to make your home  
safer in a wildfire!

Ask your "burning" questions of trained experts, Jeffrey Jackson, Firewise Specialist at the DNR, and Gary Rantala, formerly the Science Guy at GR Greenhouse.

We'll learn basic concepts and design a demonstration planting around the building that will provide Ely landscapers with Firesafe Ideas at home for years to come.

Where: Ely Rec Center, 1035 Main Street  
When: Saturday, May 5 from 10 am to 12 pm Lunch  
Details: Dress to be outdoors and inside.

Lunch and future greenhouse purchases are provided through a grant from State Farm.

www.WildfirePrepDay.org  
#WildfirePrepDay




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**EVFCU hosts May food drive and a Mexican dinner on May 1**

REGIONAL- The Embarrass-Vermillion Federal Credit Union offices in Tower, Embarrass and Aurora are hosting food shelf drives now through the end of May. Food collected at local offices will be donated to their local food shelf.

In addition, a Family Mexican Dinner is being held on Tuesday, May 1 from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Aurora Community Center. Cost is \$8 per person, and the menu includes a taco bar, tamales, refried beans, rice, dessert and beverage. There will also be door prizes and raffles. This dinner will benefit food shelves that serve the Aurora, Biwabik, Embarrass, Hoyt Lakes and Palo areas.

**St. Paul's Lutheran will have guest pastor, Greg Anderson, on April 29**

SOUDAN- St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Soudan will host Greg Anderson as a guest pastor this Sunday. Anderson is retired from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Worship will be at 8:30 a.m. with coffee an' after. All are welcome.

**Grief support group in Tower first Thursday of the month**

TOWER- Experiencing the death of a loved one can be a very difficult experience. Learning about the grief process and having support from others can help a great deal. Please consider reserving your spot to participate in this monthly grief support group in Tower. The group is open to anyone in our area who has experienced the death of a loved one.

The Monthly Grief Education and Support Group meets from 2 – 4 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 304 Spruce St. The next meeting is on Thursday, May 3. There is no cost for this group

The group is led by Catherine Burt, East Range Hospice Family Grief Support staff. Please call to register, 1-877-851-2213 or 218-749-7975. The group is being sponsored by Essentia Health St. Mary's East Range Hospice.

**United Steelworks Local 1938 announces scholarship winners**

REGIONAL- The following graduating seniors will each receive a \$750 scholarship to further their education. All applicants must be the sons, daughters, or legal wards of active members of Local 1938. Winners were selected using a point system based on a combination of academics, extra- and co-curricular activities, and non-school-based activities such as employment or community service.

Scholarship recipients in our area include Melissa Nelmark, daughter of James and Diane Nelmark, of Embarrass. James is a millwright at Minntac. Melissa plans to attend Vermilion Community College.

**Defensive Driving refresher course to be held May 10 and June 12**

SOUDAN- A Defensive Driving four-hour refresher course will be held Thursday, May 10 and Tuesday, June 12 at the Soudan Fire Hall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The four-hour refresher course is offered for drivers 55 years of age and older who have previously completed an 8-hour beginner's course and who need to re-certify to continue receiving a discount on their car insurance. A certificate of completion will be given to participants to continue the 10-percent car insurance discount. Check your certificate or check with your car insurance agent to learn when you need to recertify.

Dana Waldron is the instructor for the class offered under AARP. The class fee is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Payment is payable to the instructor on the day of class. You must pre-register so plans can be made accordingly for class space and materials. Please call or text Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If there is no answer, please leave a message.

BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

**Voters to decide on hired clerk/treasurer position**

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA  
Staff Writer

BREITUNG TWP- Breitung residents, at next years annual meeting, will decide whether or not to move from electing a clerk and treasurer to having a combined clerk/treasurer as a hired position. Current clerk Polly McDonald has indicated she will retire at the end of her term in two years and treasurer Jorgine Gornick intends on running for one more term, which, if elected, will give her three more years in office. The demands on both the clerk and treasurer have become more technical, requiring more training and knowledge, and the township board is worried that qualified candidates may not be interested in running for office.

The town decided to keep the rules for the in-town deer hunt, with a bag limit of five and a maximum of ten archery permits and 20 muzzleloader permits.

The town board is considering the purchase of a sewer line camera. They will either purchase their own camera for approximately

\$13,000 or will purchase a small camera head to attach to Tower's sewer line camera, with the cost to be shared for approximately \$3,000 each. Dale Swanson, head of Breitung maintenance, will check with Tower's maintenance department before deciding which purchase to recommend to the board.

The McKinley Park restrooms will get a professional cleaning by Servicemaster on April 30. Both restrooms will have additional lights installed. The board collectively expressed that they were very happy with how the renovation project turned out so far. There was some discussion about possibly raising campground rates next year.

The Breitung Police Department sold their Charger for \$8,000 to the Virginia Police Department. There will be extra enforcement out for seat belts from May 21 – June 3 for the National Seat Belt Enforcement Mobilization.

Board member Greg Dostert said he is waiting for a quote on fencing and netting for the baseball field. The baseball field flag has been installed. Dostert stated

he would like to hire a grantwriter to seek funds for the gazebo project. There was discussion on how the park could be rearranged to include the gazebo, shrink the rink, and possibly add a baseball field.

Fire Chief Steve Burgess gave a progress report on plans to update job descriptions and the department logo, replacing fire truck 3, create a retirement plaque for those who have volunteered for over 20 years, and adding a lieutenant position.

Burgess asked the board to consider adding fees for some services. The township board approved a \$500 auto-extraction fee and will consider adding a fee for false alarm calls after Burgess brings them more information and relevant state laws.

The township board and Burgess discussed plans to move the fire department into the maintenance garage over the course of the next year. Burgess will come back to the board with a proposed scope of work, to be done in multiple phases.

TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY



Tower-Soudan Elementary School celebrated "Pride Night" on Monday with balloon-tying with Chimpy, crafts, and a visit by the Minnesota Zoomobile. Students got up-close looks at several critters, including an opossum, and also got the chance to pet a Solomon Island Skink. Next year's Kindergarten students and their families had a chance to tour the school. photos by S. Ukkola



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Many thanks to everyone who helped with my fundraiser. It really made a difference!  
Geraldine Hanks

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MEMORIAL DAY

Readers needed for Memorial Day service

TOWER- Plans are being finalized for the Tower-Soudan area-wide annual Memorial Day Tribute to be held on Monday, May 28 at the Tower Civic Center from 10 a.m. to noon. This tribute will honor the military service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform, their families at home, and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

The Bois Forte Honor Guard will provide the Flag Ceremony, 21 Gun Salute, and Taps. The names of local veterans killed in action and deceased veterans will be read.

The Tower-Soudan Area Singers will practice for the event on Tuesday, May 15 and Tuesday, May 22 at 6 p.m. at the Soudan Baptist Church. New members are welcome. Please contact Rolf Anderson at 218-753-3262 to join.

The program will conclude with a traditional Memorial Day

wreath placed on a symbolic Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in a ceremony to be held outside the Tower Civic Center.

Refreshments, provided by the Tower-Soudan Civic Club, will be served before and following the tribute. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this heartwarming event.

The American Legion Women's Auxiliary Unit 220, of Mt. Iron, will be selling fundraiser poppies and will present the wreath in the ceremony.

Current members of the United States military and local veterans are encouraged to participate in the tribute. Six additional volunteers are needed to help read the names of our veterans. Please call Barb Peyla at 218-753-6228 if you are willing to participate. The deadline to call is May 21.

Additionally, a new coordinator is needed to lead this committee



next year. Most of the workers and volunteers are already in place. If you are interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please call LuAnn Zaudtke at 218-235-7434.

Estate Planning class on May 16 and June 13

TOWER- Learn "Why Estate Planning Takes More than Just Filling out a Document Online" on Wednesday, May 16 at the Tower-Soudan School Library at 4 p.m. or Wednesday, June 13 in the Tower Depot Coach Car at 4 p.m. An attorney will lead you through key factors to drafting and personalizing wills and trusts, preparing probate documents, creating documents for long-term health care, drafting a durable power of attorney, and preparing health care directives. You must pre-register so we can plan accordingly for class space and materials. Please call or

text Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744, if no answer leave a message. We will gladly relocate if you require handicap accessibility; please just ask.

"Passing the Family Cabin On" held May 30 and June 20

TOWER- If your goal is to pass on the family cabin to the next generation, planning ahead is crucial. Together we can determine how the cabin will best fit into the family's future. A cabin trust is just one estate planning tool that can be utilized to help maintain and pass on the family hideaway. Learn about the specific trust pro-

visions that could provide future instruction to your family on important issues. Learn the process of taking the next step of developing an estate plan that protects both your family and your private hideaway on Wednesday, May 30, at the Tower-Soudan School Library at 4 p.m. or Wednesday, June 20 in the Tower Depot Coach Car at 4 p.m. You must pre-register so we can plan accordingly for class space and materials. Please call or text Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If there is no answer, please leave a message. We will gladly relocate if you need handicap accessibility; please just ask.

Baby Shower for Life - Fill the Bassinet at St. Martin's

TOWER- The St. Martin's Catholic Church Quilt Ministry has once again partnered with the Women's Care Center in Duluth. We have been busy making quilts for them, but they have more needs. During the month of May we are sponsoring a Baby Shower for Life. All items and money donated will be given to the Women's Care Center. Specific items

needed are travel size lotions, hand sanitizers and chap sticks as gifts for our mothers; infant hygiene products such as lotion, sunscreen and shampoo; outfits of any size, summer/fall 9 to 12 months are the most needed; infant/toddler toys; infant carriers; hooded towels and washcloths; Boppy pillows and covers; Bumbo seats; infant play mats; crib sheets; and lots of dia-

pers. Donations may be placed in the bassinet located at the front entrance of the church, or dropped off at the rectory.

Questions may be directed to Maryann at 218-753-4310. The Women's Care Center is a non-profit pregnancy center in the heart of downtown Duluth.

AEOA Senior Dining Menu

TOWER- Vermilion Country School and AEOA sponsor a senior dining site at the charter school in Tower. All meals include salad bar, fruit, choice of beverage and dessert.

Reservations are appreciated the day before, or morning of, but walk-ins are always welcome. Take-outs available. Seniors age 60 and older who have registered for the program and their partners qualify for special pricing of \$4 per meal, but all ages are welcome at the regular rate of \$5.75. There are no income guidelines.

Meals are served from 12:30 - 1 p.m. on days when the charter school is open. Call the school at 218-753-1246 ext. 1003 for reservations, or call AEOA at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 7323 for the one-time registration process.

Week of April 30

- Monday- Chicken Noodle Soup, Cheesy Breadsticks, Marinara
- Tuesday- BBQ Riblet Sandwich, Corn
- Wednesday- Taco Salad, Corn Muffin
- Thursday- Chunky Chicken Gravy over Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Green Beans
- Friday- Pigs in a Blanket, Baked Beans

Week of April 30

Monday

TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, at 9 a.m.

Embarrass Al-Anon Family Group- Hope Lutheran Church, 5088 Hwy. 21, 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is May 15.

Greenwood Fire Dept. Meetings on the first (drill) and third (business meeting) Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Tower AA- Open Basics- 7 p.m. at St. James Presbyterian Church. Questions, call 753-2332.

Thursday

Vermilion Country School Board- Next meeting is Thursday, May 24 at 4:45 p.m. Meetings posted online at [vermilioncountry.org](http://vermilioncountry.org).

AA Meeting- Lake Vermilion 12x12 (Open). 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, use the rear side door entrance.

Transfer station

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Expanded hours year-round  
**Monday** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
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**Saturday** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
**Sunday** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Hwy. 77 Canister

Summer Hours start April 15  
**Tuesday** 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
**Thursday** 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
**Saturday** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
**Sunday** 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Recycling canisters available daily at the Greenwood Town Hall. For info: 1-800-450-9278

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION



Dear Hearts,

Spring is here, Birds are calling, and Skunks are crawling, wagging their tails for love.

Spring is here, Whales are churning, Worms are squirming, wagging their tails for love!

The way things have been going, the last couple of weeks, I was sure this year's spring song would be, "When It's Springtime in Alaska-It's Forty Below!"

But I am almost positive...that this is SPRING!

The proof positive is that the early crocuses have poked their wee noses up about two inches in the front garden.

Hilda noticed them first and WAS dancing with mad abandon, which I took for a drug overdose.

I was just about to dial the final fateful number '1' when she bounced into the kitchen, grabbed me by my chignon and dragged me to the garden.

"Look! Look! Crocus! Crocus!!! It's spring."

And it is...we made it through another winter. There are people,

people we know, who don't look upon this as a great or even impressive occasion.

It is, it is, it is! These people are the cowards who as soon as a maple leaf gets a little less green, tie grandma to the back bumper and head south.

We asked a friend who swears by Hollywood Beach as the perfect winter rendezvous.

"It is a lovely place," she said, "to enjoy the sunset."

"The dog beach is a great place to go with your pet." I need a dog to be happy at Hollywood Beach?

"A farmers market where you can get to know local farmers and cook with their produce!"

Hilda and I have the same strong belief that once we leave the old homestead- we leave all domestic chores behind.

Cook? COOK???

Regardless if you pat the burger and flip it on the grill at home- it tastes the same as the one from Mac and Don's.

And I am always sure that the kid behind the counter who asks, "Ya, want fries wit dat?" is working his way through college. So not only am I saving time on cleanup and cooking I am helping finance a potential astrophysicist on his way through college.

A hamburger is a hamburger whether it is wrought at home or by some teenager in a take-out!

It turns out after the snow had melted that what we thought was a large snowdrift was actually a good size pile of GGG-God's Gift to Gardeners...black dirt. Hilda and I joined hands and danced about the mound in mad abandonment- what a way to start spring!

I have been trying to watch the old waistline! I read in some magazine that you should keep a food journal of what you eat and when.

My memory is slipping a bit so when I reviewed the first week's effort, I had a little problem.

I will claim to the end of time that the problem is NOT with my handwriting. I won prizes in grade school for my flawless penmanship!

I wonder what I

meant when I wrote, "...4 piece of Canada...a Salem sandwich...2hbeags and a mountain."

The last could refer to a mountain of vanilla ice cream, hashed potatoes or whipped cream.

'A handful of jelly beans,' however, was legible...several times!

I did search the recipes of a well-known weigh loss organization for low-cal adult beverages. They suggest- white wine (about 120 calories, a 4 oz. pour) and to make it go even further, order a spritzer-iced wine plus seltzer!

Champagne has about 80 calories and you can have two if you drink from those fancy flutes! Not only will you look super fancy, but a flute of Champagne is on the small side (usually around 4 oz.), so the calorie count is extra tiny.

Well ta ta until next time and get weeding!

Ms. Vera Milion

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, May 16, June 6, 27

Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club	11:00-11:30 a.m.
Greenwood Town Hall	12:00-12:30 p.m.
Soudan Fire Hall	1:45-3:00 p.m.
Tower Civic Center	3:15-4:15 p.m.
Embarrass, Four Corners	5:15-6:00 p.m.

For further information call the Arrowhead Library System at 218-741-3840 or [www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us](http://www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us)



the TIMBERJAY

The Tower-Soudan Timberjay and Cook-Orr Timberjay are published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is [editor@timberjay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Visit our website at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

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Publisher	Marshall Helmberger
General Manager	Jodi Summit
Staff Writers	Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola Keith Vandervort M. M. White
Ely Editor	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Office Manager	Jay Greeney
Graphics/Ad Sales/Staff Writer	
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Official Newspaper:

City of Orr, Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, Lake Vermilion Resort Association, Lake Vermilion Area Chamber of Commerce, Ely Chamber of Commerce, Orr Chamber of Commerce, Laurentian Chamber.

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Moving? Questions about your subscription? Call the Tower office at (218) 753-2950.

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**Libraries**

**Ely library**  
Hours: Monday — Friday,  
10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturdays — 8 a.m. to noon  
Closed on Sundays  
Phone: 365-5140

**Babbitt library**  
Monday Noon-6 pm  
Tuesday Noon-6 pm  
Wednesday Noon-6 pm  
Thursday Noon-6 pm  
Friday Noon-5 pm  
Phone: 827-3345

**Support groups**

**AA - Alcoholics Anonymous**  
**AA - 7 p.m. Mondays,** First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St.  
**WOMEN'S AA - Noon Mondays,** Ledgerock Community Church, Ely - use 15th Street entrance  
**BABBITT AA - 7 p.m. Tuesdays,** Woodland Presbyterian Church.  
**AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m.** at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend.  
**BABBITT AL-ANON - Thursdays, 7 p.m.,** at Woodland Presbyterian Church.  
**CO-DEPENDENTS' 12-step support group,** noon Fridays, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Ely.  
**ELY FOOD SHELF -** third Wednesday each month. 15 W. Conan St..  
**ADULT BASIC EDUCATION**  
**GED - Study materials and pre-test available.** Ely Community Center Thursday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tower by appointment.

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**'Press Start' brings video games alive**

**Annual Ely Elementary musical presented May 4**

ELY - The Washington Elementary fourth- and fifth-grade cast members have been rehearsing their lines, songs and dance steps since mid-February in preparation for their musical called "Press Start" about life inside a 1990s video game. The production will be presented to the public on Friday, May 4 at Washington Auditorium under the direction of Crystal Poppler and Michael Rouse. "Press Start transports us inside the bright, pixelated world of video games," Rouse said. "When the famous characters we know and love run out of lives, they decide to put on a musical fundraiser that will help them raise gold rings and play on." Through hilarious and heartfelt musical numbers, the audience will see the heroes, villains and sidekicks like they've never seen them before. "But when things go terribly awry, it's the quiet sidekick Little Mushroom who must find the hero within to help save the day," he said. The cast includes heroes: Young Adventurer, Alison Poppler; Marco the Plumber, John Schiltz; Speedy the Hedgehog, Molly Lindsay; Mega Kid, Milo McClelland; Karate Guy, Silas Solum; John Elway, Jack Rintala; and Great Gorilla, Henry Zgonc. Villains include: Spikey Turtle, Sylvia



The fourth and fifth grade cast of "Press Start" has been rehearsing since mid-February. Many cast members tried on their costumes for the first time earlier this week. photos by K. Vandervort

Shock; Mad Scientist, Evelyn Cavalier; Evil Robot, Rena Johnston; Slimy Alien, Madelyn Moen; Generic Ghost, Elsa Ellerbroek, and Zombie, Olin Weise. Several Sidekicks include: Little Mushroom, Senja Kess; Lorenzo the Brother, Noah Anderson, Helpful Dinosaur, Isabelle Chick.; Fairy Guide, Evelie Cooley-Cramer; Paws the Fox, Zoe Mackenzie; and K9, - Tatum Gubrud. Other cast members include: Princess Pomegranate, Maggie Fetterer; Pac Anne, Peyton Erzar-Tyndall; Square Builder Eve, Shealie Bartel; Angry Birdy, Bria Marshall; and Giuseppe, Hunter Halbakken.



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AROUND TOWN

**Tuesday Group schedule**

ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule (subject to change) is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at Grand Ely Lodge.  
**May 1** - Daryl Lamppa and Dale Horihan - Lamppa Manufacturing  
**May 8** - Sherry Abts - Common Loon Research  
**May 15** - Daniel Bliss/Professor/Author - "Economic Development and Governance in Small Town America"

**Ely Free Clinic open Mondays**

ELY - The Ely Community Health Center is open every Monday evening from 5:30-7 p.m. in the lower level of the Frandsen Bank building on 1st Ave. in downtown Ely. For more information, call 218-365-5678.

**Breathing Out**  
by Cecilia Rolando © 2018

with sudden solar renewal begins again  
sun transformation

**100+ Ely Women Who Care supports nonprofits**

ELY - The next 100+ Ely Women Who Care event is scheduled for Sunday, May 6, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Senior Center. This is the third gathering of the group that supports Ely-area non-profit organizations. At their second event, last November, 130 Ely women from all walks of life joined together and voted to contribute over \$7,800 to Ely Community Resource, one of Ely's many non-profits directly serving our community. For more details and to register, go to 100ElyWomenWhoCare.org. All participants are required to register before each gathering. Hard copies of the registration form can be found around town. Can't attend the event? No problem! Sign up, send your donation check, and you'll be included in the grand total. To donate: 100+ Ely Women Who Care, P.O. Box 216, Ely, MN 55731.

**Marketing series set for next month in Ely**

ELY - A marketing series for entrepreneurs will be held here next month. It is designed for entrepreneurs who want to make the most of their marketing budget and attract more customers. Participants will leave the three-session program with new skills and confidence to complete an annual marketing plan.  
► Three Sessions: Wednesdays, May 9, May 16, May 23, 8:30 a.m. - noon;  
► Location: Grand Ely Lodge;  
► Included: Materials and tools to guide in developing marketing plan and goals;  
► Breakfast buffet and beverages provided free of charge.  
**Session #1:** Digital Marketing for 2018 and Beyond, Presenter: Anna Anderson, Art Unlimited. We've analyzed the trends from 2017 and see the winds of change for the internet. This presentation will cover how to adapt your digital marketing for the next giant leap of search.  
**Session #2:** Strategic Marketing, Presenter: Bekkah Anderson, Art Unlimited. Do you know if you are hitting your marketing goals? Are you doing what it takes to meet those goals? What does it look like to set your course and detail the action steps to make it happen? Tangible success happens when your dreams are set to paper. Be prepared to dive into building a strong future.  
**Session #3:** Use Your Marketing to Hire, Presenter: Bekkah Anderson, Art Unlimited. The number one struggle of small business owners is hiring. This presentation covers how to craft your public facing personality not only for marketing, but attracting qualified candidates to join your team. Looking good from the outside should feel good to your employees on the inside. There is no cost to attend the series. Underwriting from funding provided by the Blandin Foundation and the Department of Iron Range Resources in partnership with the city of Ely, Incredible Ely and the Entrepreneur Fund. Register: http://bit.ly/ElyMarketingSeries2018 or email Julie George: julieg@entrepreneurfund.org  
\*Space is limited to 25 people per session and the business must be within the Ely School District Boundaries to be eligible to attend.



OUR COMMUNITY

# Ely Young Life hosts spring auction



Ely Young Life members will head to Puerto Rico this summer to help with hurricane relief. Shown left to right: top row, Bobbi Jo Hasz, Tyler Walter, Dylan Kienitz, Jasiah Wigdahl, Mike Keller; middle row, Cameron Kienitz, Elijah Olson, Austin Kallberg, Caleb Janeksela, Emmett Faltesek, Evelyn Bercher, Lauren Porthan, Holly Dirks; bottom row, Ethan Hasz, Isabelle Kelley, Adrianna Bishop, Brianna Alverson, Lily Sauls, Grace Tweit, Ana Bercher, Sarah Isbell, Kris Bercher. Not pictured: Laura Pasmick, Meghan Lord, Gretchen Lord. submitted photo

## As many as 20 local youth will help with hurricane relief in Puerto Rico this summer

ELY - Young Life is celebrating its 20th anniversary in Ely this year with the "Sweet Spring Auction" on Thursday, May 3. The event begins at 6 p.m. at Amici's Events Center.

Participants can browse the Silent Auction and the Gourmet Dessert table, while enjoying appetizers by Insula. The live auction begins at 7 p.m. Later on, cakes

donated by Zup's and Northland Market will be served with the chance to bid on both new and old items with hometown auctioneer Shawn Bina.

Every year this auction grows, thanks to generous donors and bidders. Available items include everything from excursions to delectable dining opportunities, to items like cabin staining or cleaning by Derek

Brekke.

There are multiple chances for guided fishing trips, baseball games with the Twins or the St. Paul Saints, spa treatments, and golfing at the Ely course or the Legends. This year there's the addition of some unique new experiences: A walleye fry for eight with Tom Wetzel and Larry Mischke, an Italian dinner by Stan

and Joyce Passananti, a Botox treatment donated by Dr. Crystal Chopp, and a pontoon cocktail cruise on Eagles Nest Lake 2 with Kurt and Barb Soderberg.

Today, more than ever, Ely's kids need a safe place to figure out who they are and what life is all about. Young Life invites kids to experience God, but regardless of their response, Young

Life accepts them as they are and helps them find meaning in a world that can feel harsh and non-accepting at times.

Young Life is inclusive. They work with middle school (Wyldlife) and high school (Young Life) kids, providing them with weekly clubs, small groups, camping, and the opportunity to serve on mission trips at home and abroad.

Over half of the kids in the Ely School District have participated in one way or another in Young Life. This year, 20 of those kids, along with five adult leaders, will head to Puerto Rico to help locals rebuild their communities after the hurricane, hand out food and water, and lead a week of vacation Bible school for the local children.

### VERMILION COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Tony Pecha honored for Lifetime Achievement

ELY - Tony Pecha was honored last week by Vermilion Community College as the recipient of the 2018 award for his outstanding accomplishments and exceptional commitment to the business field.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was announced at the VCC Foundation's annual scholarship awards banquet on April 19 at the Grand Ely Lodge.

In 2004, the VCC Foundation Board of Directors established the Lifetime Achievement Award to annually honor a graduate of Ely Junior College or VCC who has made a significant local, regional, statewide or national contribution. According to VCC Foundation Executive Director Patti Zupancich, "The award demonstrates the important role Vermilion plays in the academic, career, and civic development of our graduates."

Tony grew up in Tower and received his Associate in Arts degree from Vermilion State Junior College in 1971. While at Vermilion, Tony was a two-year starter



VCC Foundation Executive Director Patti Zupancich with the Foundation's 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Tony Pecha. submitted photo

for the Ironmen basketball team earning All-State Team and All-State Tournament Team honors. He attended St. John's University in Collegeville earning a Bachelor of Science degree in

Chemistry with minors in Math and Secondary Education.

Tony had a banking career that spanned forty years. He led Boundary Waters Bank in Ely as its President for almost twelve

years, retiring in 2016. Tony also served as Vice President of American Bank North in Cook, President of State Bank of Tower, and Manager of the Babbitt Steel Workers Credit Union.

Tony is a committed volunteer serving for nine years on the Board of Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. He currently serves as a Board member of Ely's Boundary Waters Care Center, a Trustee at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower, and a Board member of the Eagles Nest Township Lakes Association.

Past Lifetime Achievement Award recipients are Simon Bourgin (2004), Jim Klobuchar (2005), Milt Stenlund (2006), Larry Klun (2007), Lee Anderson and Pat Groom (2008), Chip Elkins (2009), Dr. Luke Lukas (2010), John Artisensi (2011), Everett Laitala (2012), Theresa Popesh and Dr. Stefan Kapsch (2013), L. Patrick Markovich (2014), Emily Wahlberg (2015), Annette Horvat (2016), and Barbara Soderberg (2017).

### Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of

## THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

April 26, 1918

### Loyalty meeting draws 800

It was estimated that 800 people attended the Loyalty Meeting at the Washington Auditorium Monday evening and listened to one of the most patriotic addresses ever delivered in this city.

Warren E. Greene, county attorney of this county, made an address on loyalty and patriotism that electrified the audience.

Mr. Greene spoke plainly and to the point. He made it plain that any residents not satisfied with this country were at perfect liberty any time they saw fit. He also made it plain that some would be asked to move providing their own sympathies for our enemies became much stronger. His talk dripped throughout with salient points that sunk deep into the hearts of his listeners and the applause that was tendered him was spontaneous and freely given.

Miss Mary Stilwell, with the state food administration department, made one of her able pleas for food conservation. Miss Stilwell is an interesting speaker and her talks are always listened to with attention.

R.F. McIntosh, who was scheduled to speak on the agricultural possibilities as embodied in war gardens, failed to appear but his topic was most ably handled by Mr. Hostetter of the county agricultural department and Mr. Larson. Both of these men are doing valiant services in the county and it was a pleasure to hear them.

President Brozich of the Commercial Club acted as chairman of the meeting. The Ely City Band furnished music and the High School Boys Glee Club rendered several vocal numbers. The evening was enjoyed by the large attendance.

NORTHWOODS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

One month left to enter NWFA Photo Contest

COOK- Last year a student, Kristen Cook, won an honorable mention for her photo, Fire and Ice, and then won the big prize, "The People's Choice Award." So enter "Your Best Shot" in the fundraiser photo contest at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook. If you have a photo you love, chances are others will love it too, so share and you may win a prize by giving.

The contest has drawn a wide array of entries from kids, adults, professionals and amateurs. Enter a favorite photo or get out there and take one... or take a dozen. Enter the contest and have your photo displayed at the NWFA Gallery for the month of June as part of a community celebration of the arts. Gallery visitors view the photo contest exhibit and vote for their favorite photo for "The People's Choice Award." Photos must be either 5x7 or 8x10 and must be submitted in person or by mail to NWFA Gallery, PO Box 44, 210 S River Street, Cook, MN 55723. Entries will be accepted until May 26.

Winners of the fundraising contest will be announced at the awards ceremony on June 29, at the NWFA Gallery. The ceremony is a great time to gather, talk and have fun. Everyone in the community is invited. The funds raised will be used for educational programs, concerts, classes and

other activities sponsored by NWFA.

Prizes will be awarded in three categories: adult, student and people's choice. A student is anyone 18 or younger who is attending school, including young people who are home-schooled. The adult winner will take home \$75 and have the opportunity to exhibit or sell up to three photographs for free for one month. The student winner will take home \$25 and have the opportunity to exhibit or sell up to three photographs for free for one month. The People's Choice winner will take home \$50 and have the opportunity to have the winning photo framed. The winners will be selected on an anonymous basis by a panel of non-participating judges based on originality, artistic value and technical merit.

For the adult category, there is a \$10 entry fee for each submission. Students may submit up to three entries free of charge. Otherwise, there is no limit on the number of entries that may be submitted, so enter as many as you like. Participants will be provided, upon submission, a white mat and sleeve for each photo to assure uniformity of the display and photo judging.

Contest rules and entry forms are available at NWFA Gallery, by email at info@nwfamn.org, or by calling Alberta Whitenack at 218-666-2153. Northwoods Friends of the Arts is a community-based



2017 People's Choice Award, "Fire and Ice" by student Kristen Cook.

nonprofit 501(c)(3) arts organization, intent on inspiring, nurturing and celebrating the arts for all ages. Visit our gallery and website, nwfamn.org and "like" us on Facebook and Instagram.

Stroke awareness program on May 5

COOK- A community stroke and concussion awareness program will be held on Saturday, May 5 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Cook Community Center, 510 E Johnson Rd. Food and drinks will be provided. The program is hosted by the Cook Hospital and the University of Minnesota Neuroscience Program. The program will be led by University of Minnesota Physicians Dr. Andy Grande, Dr. Bharathi Jagadessan, and Dr. Chris Streib. There will be a medical helicopter, fire trucks and ambulances to tour. May is National Stroke Month, so this is the perfect time to learn more about these important medical topics.

Art Unlimited voted into 100 Best Companies to Work for in Minnesota

ANGORA- Minnesota Business Magazine recognizes first-class companies that hold their corporate offices in the state of Minnesota through employee-only questionnaires. The 100 best places to work in Minnesota are determined by organizations that have high priorities in work environment, benefits and overall employee satisfaction. This is the second year Art Unlimited has been recognized for this achievement.

Art Unlimited's CEO, Anna Anderson, states, "Art Unlimited's core values are family, vision, empower and excel. Creating a safe environment where team members feel empowered to learn and utilize creativity pushes Art Unlimited to constantly improve and deliver professional marketing results."



Tate Olson gets golf scholarship at University of Jamestown

Tate Olson signs his scholarship offer and Letter of Intent to play golf for the University of Jamestown in North Dakota next fall. Seated next to him is his golf coach, Will Kleppe. submitted photo

CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



There is a hint of spring in the air. The sun has appeared for several days, giving us balmy days; however the lake is still covered with four feet of ice. Opening of fishing is May 12 and it is questionable if the lake will be open. The hummingbirds are moving slowly in their flight migration pattern. They are now in northern Missouri and Illinois. Last year the hummers arrived on May 13. They have a lot of territory to cover if they

are to arrive as usual.

The calendar tells us it is spring, which is a time for rebirth. Here are some spring facts. The first day of spring is called the vernal equinox. The term vernal is Latin for "spring" and equinox is Latin for "equal night." The fall and spring equinoxes are the only two times during the year when the sun rises due east and sets due west.

On the first day of spring, a person at the North Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, beginning six months of uninterrupted daylight. A person at the South Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, signaling the start of six months of darkness.

Spring almost always arrives on March 20 or 21, but sometimes on the 19th. The reason the equi-

noxes and solstices don't always come on the same day is that Earth doesn't circle the sun in exactly 365 days.

If Pope Gregory XIII had not established the Gregorian calendar, which most of the world now observes, in 1582, then every 128 years the vernal equinox would have come a full calendar day earlier, eventually putting Easter in midwinter.

The term "spring fever" refers to both psychological and physiological symptoms associated with the arrival of spring, including restlessness, daydreaming, and increased sexual appetite. While the exact cause is unclear, scientists believe that increased light, more exercise, and more bare skin influence hormone levels.

Children actually

grow faster in spring than any other time of the year.

The first spring flowers are typically lilacs, irises, lilies, tulips, daffodils, and dandelions. It is not a flower, but this Dame always looks forward to the pussy willows for the first hint of spring.

Enjoy our spring flowers.

Paul and Kitty Hamblin spent the weekend at the lake checking out the cabin after the long hard winter. A gathering was held at Trail's End to welcome Paul and Kitty "back home" It is great to have the seasonal folks return.

The Crane Lake Saturday Evening Dinners were entertained by starting the evening at The Orr Muni and then moving to Pattens Café for a chicken and ribs dinner. During the meal two musicians played songs of the 50s and 60s, playing guitars and singing. It was an enjoyable evening for the group.

The following is a message sent by Sue Adams Dahl. Sue lives in Duluth in the summer and Texas in the winter. It

is interesting to hear from Sue and her current life.

"Hi everyone, this is Sue, previously from Crane Lake. I lived there for about 20 years and in the surrounding area before that. I now live in Duluth. I am married to a captain on Lake Superior, Peter Dahl. I do bookings for his Happy Hooker Charters. A lot of fun. Good thing I had experience in bookings as I owned and operated Voyageurs Landing Resort in Crane Lake. We just got back from wintering in Texas for the winter. Fishing is great there.

On our way back last week we took a detour to Branson, Missouri, because the weather was so bad here in Minnesota. While there we took in a couple of shows. Of course, an Elvis show was a must for Sue. What a treat.

We are back now and brought the warm weather with us. Hopefully to stay.

Have a great summer and do come fishing with the Happy Hooker Charters in Duluth, Sue and Peter Dahl."

Danny's Sportsmen Bar and Café has been sold and is open with the new management. Stop in and meet the new owner, Clint Diefenthaler. You may remember Clint from his days as owner of the Orr General Store. Clint's daughter, Niki and her husband complete the staff. Danny and Geri are going to enjoy retirement. Geri is helping out for a short time to help the new owners.

Are you a lover of limericks? A limerick is a kind of humorous, frequently bawdy, verse of five lines, in which the first, second and fifth lines rhyme with each other, and the third and fourth lines, which are shorter, form a rhymed couplet. An example:

There once was a man from Nantucket Who kept all of his funds in a bucket

His daughter named Nan

Ran away with a man And as far as the bucket, Nantucket.

It has been rumored that two members of our community have challenged each other to write timely limericks. The Dames will try to obtain more information about this contest.

Let us hear from you! Send news by e-mail to info@thelakecountry.com, by fax 218-757-3533, or by phone to Sandy at 218-757-3233 and it will be added.

Until next week, the Dames are singing off.

Cook's Country Connection

1953 Vermilion Drive Cook MN 55723

May, September & October

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10-4

June, July & August

Thursday 10-6, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10-4

Come see what's happening at the farm!

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Fall/Winter Hours Sun: 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon-Sat: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Effective October 1

COOK'S FRIENDS OF THE PARKS

# Don't miss Wings and Things on Saturday at the VFW in Cook



**Be prepared for some sticky fingers as you taste all the amazing varieties of wings at this year's Wings and Things fundraiser at the VFW in Cook on Saturday, April 27 from 12 noon - 7 p.m. Funds raised will support new projects at the Doug Johnson Recreation Area.** file photo

COOK- Wings and Things is here. 2018 Wings and Things will be celebrated on Saturday, April 28 at the Cook VFW. It may be a busy spring day with a lot going on but make sure you find the time to stop in at the VFW to win great prizes and to eat delicious wings. It is an event you won't want to miss.

The day will start out with Bingo from 12 noon - 3 p.m. Orders for wings will start at noon and run until 7 p.m. Wing flavors are: Honey Garlic, Bourbon, Sweet Chili, Teriyaki, Buffalo Hot and Buffalo Mild. You may also order "wings to go" by calling the VFW at 218-666-0500. Tickets for all prizes will be sold throughout the day. For some drawings, your ticket will need to be presented for your prize and for others you will be contacted. However, we appreciate all prizes being picked up Saturday night or Sunday morning. So come for the whole day or part of it. We have basket drawings, raffle

drawings, 52 card drawings, poster board drawings and the Main Raffle drawing. We have some great prizes: baskets, coolers of beef, a kids package, golf passes, casino stays, a four-room tent and Giant Jenga package, a floating island, gift certificates, an adult beverage rack, a rack of wine, and so much more. New this year will be a limited number of Wings and Things t-shirts.

Do you feel the excitement? Have you purchased your main raffle ticket yet? They are available in the following businesses: Zup's, Country Store, North Star Credit Union, the VFW, Dream Weavers and from Friends of the Parks board members. Prizes are: 1st Prize - \$500 in cash, 2nd Prize - \$200 gift card from Zup's, and 3rd Prize - \$100 gift card from the Country Store/Vermilion Motel. Who wouldn't want to win cash, or gift cards? You can't win if you don't buy one so make sure you

take the time to purchase one and wait for your name to be drawn at 8 p.m. on April 28!

Wings and Things is sponsored by Cook's Friends of the Parks, a group of volunteer members that spearheads fundraisers for the benefit of all of our parks. In addition to being a fundraiser, it provides for community camaraderie and entertainment. Some of the projects Friends of the Parks has supported are: a covered sandbox, scoreboards, pet duty scoop bag stations, toy digger shovels, ballfield signs, refinishing of picnic tables, fence safety rails, the Community/Youth Center Building project, a storage garage, and additions to the playground. Future endeavors include the revitalizing of other park areas. The support and help of local businesses, organizations and citizens is key to the success of each event and very much appreciated by the members. Together we can make things happen!

## National Day of Prayer event on May 3 in Cook

COOK- At noon on Thursday, May 3, citizens will gather by the flagpole at Cook's City Hall to pray, asking the Creator of the Universe, God Almighty, the second Person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ of Nazareth, and his Holy Spirit for guidance and blessing of our city, our region, our county, our state, and our country and all of its leaders. The Apostle Paul admonished Timothy to pray for everyone in authority over us, that we may live in peace. Church leaders from local Cook churches will be in attendance to lead the prayers and create a safe space for everyone to share a sentence prayer of their own as we share our concerns.

## Cook Senior Citizens meet May 2

COOK- Cook Senior Citizens will meet on Wednesday, May 2 at 1 p.m. in the Homestead Apartments Community Room. Patti Norrgard will give a presentation on the History of Aprons. She will bring some of her apron collection, showing the unique styles and materials from 1900 on and the stories behind them. Everyone is welcome, so please bring a friend. Refreshments will be served by Diane Cin and Kathy Sarazine. For more information, please call 612-868-3040.

## Readers and Rappers meet May 8

COOK- Readers and Rappers, a Cook area book club, meets the second Tuesday of every month during the year, except for July. This month's meeting is on Tuesday, May 8 at the Homestead Apartments Community Room at 1 p.m. Discussion of the month's current book selection lasts approximately one hour with social time following. "Liberating Paris" by Linda Bloodworth Thomason is May's book selection.

The moderator for May is Liz Storm and hostess is JoAnn Anderson. June's book will be "The Long, Shining Waters" by Danielle Sosin, a Minnesota author. All are welcome.

## Bookmobile schedule

Visit your library on wheels, the Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile.

**Thursday, May 3, 24; June 14; July 5, 26**

**Nett Lake** - Community Center 9:30-10:15 a.m.

**Crane Lake** - Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon

**Orr** - Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.

**Kabetogama** - Town Hall 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.

For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, write or call the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768 218-741-3840, or check our website at [www.alslib.info](http://www.alslib.info).



## GRIZZLY UPDATES

# Native American History Week

Hello Grizzlies Families!

There are many factors that make North Woods a great place to go to school. Our small school setting offers a family-type atmosphere that kids feel welcome in. Our staff is extremely welcoming, flexible when they need to be, and truly value the student above all else. Our facility is modern and safe, easy to navigate, and conducive to learning.

One of the most unique factors about North Woods is that you'd be hard pressed to find a little school with more student diversity. Our students come from all walks of life and from many cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The ability for young people to see viewpoints from different perspectives is an important part of education, and is an integral part of the student experience at North Woods.

This week, North Woods celebrated Native American Heritage Week. Nijj Nation, our Native American student friendship club initiated, promoted and hosted this event, and I sincerely hope that we can grow on it each year. A big thanks to our Nijj Nation kids and staff for making this possible.

Each day has one

of the Native American Teachings assigned to it, along with an event or theme.

Our week began on Thursday, April 19, with the theme Debwewin, Ojibwe for "Truth." Students were encouraged to wear the color red to represent the many Native American women who have been reported missing. This problem is an epidemic that has hit very close to home for many Native families in northern Minnesota. This issue has begun to receive national and international attention with similar issues facing Canadian First-Nation people.

On Friday, our theme was Zaagidiwin, Ojibwe for "Love." Students played Native American games in the gym at lunch time. (Note: We wanted to have a Pow-Wow, but a communication mistake on my end led to scheduling issues.



**JOHN VUKMANICH**



**Above: Chief Sitting Bull's Great-Grandson Ernie LaPointe**

**Below: Artist Jonathan Thunder**



We will hope to have one later this year!

Monday, April 23, was focused on Minwaa-dendamowin, or "Respect." Students and staff were encouraged to wear moccasins.

Tuesday's theme was Miigwe'aadiziwin, or "Generosity." Jonathan Thunder, local artist and animator, visited Mrs. Betterley's art class. Born in Red Lake, Jonathan currently resides in Duluth and is very active locally as an artist, animator, and painter. It

was also "Hat Day," and students donated a dollar for the privilege to wear a hat at school for the day. Proceeds will be donated to a local charity.

Our week culminated on Wednesday with our theme of Nibwaakawin, or "Wisdom." We were extremely fortunate to have former Lakota Chief Sitting Bull's Great-Grandson Ernie LaPointe at North Woods to present historical and cultural information and stories to our 9-12 grade students. Ernie is a nationally-known author, orator, and elder.

As the school year comes to a close, we look forward to Maple Sugar Camp with our elementary sister-school at Nett Lake. Our elementary students share several field-trip opportunities including Maple Sugar Camp, Wild Rice Day, the Capitol Visit in St. Paul, and a trip to the Heritage Center at Fortune Bay.

As principal at North Woods, I look forward to more opportunities for our kids to experience Native American history, art, culture, traditions, and language. Miigwetch!

Have a great weekend!

**Your Principal,  
John Vukmanich**



## the TIMBERJAY

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**AWARD...**Continued from page 1

implementation committee, presented the award to Shermer at a ceremony held at Fortune Bay Resort on April 17. Shermer and his wife Mary have run the family logging business for 28 years. Their operation employs nine full-time and four part-time workers, and Cliff was quick to give the credit to his employees. "The crew makes me look pretty good," he said, noting that he was surprised when he learned he'd been selected

for the award. "There were a lot of good loggers nominated," he said.

"You won't find a more widely respected person in Minnesota's forests than Cliff Shermer," said Evans. "Cliff and his excellent staff set the standard for safety and innovation, while always completing their logging jobs in an aesthetically pleasing and sustainable manner."

Shermer is not only a committed logger, he's an

advocate for the industry, currently serving on the board of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association.

Shermer, who has worked in logging since returning to the region after ten years of military service, said it's been a time of rapid change within the industry, and one of those changes is a hefty decline in the number of loggers working in the woods. Declining markets have played a role, but so

has increasing mechanization. "That's been a huge change," said Shermer.

Those logging operations that have survived have had to manage their operations closely and pay attention to the increasingly volatile wood markets. "It keeps you on your toes, that's for sure," said Shermer. The loss of the Ainsworth OSB plant ten years ago was a major test for loggers in the region, but Shermer was able to adjust, taking advantage

of new markets, such as biomass, to maintain profitability.

At the same time, the industry has seen a greater focus on best practices to reduce the environmental effects of logging operations. Shermer, a former member of the Minnesota Logger Education Program Board, said his operation has always tried to operate with respect for the environment, but he acknowledges that the greater awareness and the

focus on training loggers on best practices, has made a difference. "It's changed how most loggers log," he said.

While it's not uncommon for industries to resist any new regulation, Shermer said it's really a question of incorporating the changes for the first time. "It's a change in mentality more than anything," he said. "Once your crew understands it, that just becomes how you operate."

**TOM...**Continued from page 1

degree in political science in the early 1970s, worked his way up the political ladder, initially serving on the Pike Town Board and the Virginia School Board before winning a seat in the Legislature in the mid-1980s.

During his time in St. Paul, Rukavina was the

Legislature's most reliable generator of notable quotes, most in staunch defense of his beloved Range. "You'd all be speaking German right now if it wasn't for the Iron Range," Rukavina once told his fellow lawmakers, in reference to the region's role in producing the steel

that fueled the American military response in World War II. He later fought an effort to lower the blood alcohol limit for driving a vehicle from 0.1 percent to 0.08, arguing that it might prevent Iron Rangers from getting to work in the morning. "We wake up at .08," he famously quipped

to the amusement of his fellow legislators.

Rukavina rarely spoke publicly without a little self-deprecating humor, most of it centered on his five-foot-three-inch stature. He once famously used a stepladder on the House floor to deliver remarks on a bill.

In 2010, Rukavina mounted a highly credible, and nearly successful, run for governor, delivering an electrifying speech to DFL state delegates before bowing out at the last minute and endorsing Margaret Anderson-Kelliher, who went on to become the nominee.

Rukavina has long reveled in political battle and regularly picks fights with politicians of various stripes. More than once,

those fights got him in trouble with some in the Twin Cities media, who routinely tsked-tsked his more intemperate comments. Such admonitions, however, only cemented his support at home.

While often most notable for his colorful personality, Rukavina has pursued political objectives as well. A populist by nature, Rukavina backed tax and spending policies that benefitted seniors, workers, and veterans during his time in the Legislature. He was probably best-known in St. Paul for his advocacy for education, particularly for expanding higher education opportunities on the Iron Range. He served as chair of the House Higher Education committee in

his later years at the capital and he was recognized for his efforts in 2014, when the new Iron Range Engineering School was named in his honor.

After retiring from the Legislature in 2012, Rukavina served two years as an aide to Congressman Rick Nolan before winning election to the county board in 2014. More recently, Rukavina has pushed a proposal to divide St. Louis County, arguing that too many county tax dollars are spent on jobs in Duluth as opposed to the Iron Range.

For Peterson, it's just another vintage Rukavina issue. "He's always fighting for the Range. That's what he's done his whole life."

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**VOTE...**Continued from page 1

some cases, the board also failed to send out absentee ballots.

Candidate Karlene Chosa, who had outpolled candidate Brandon Benner by two votes to come in second to incumbent David Morrison Sr. in the Secretary/Treasurer contest noted this appeal will mean additional costs for the

tribe, which has to put on a new primary election, as well as all the candidates, who will need to continue their campaigns.

Chosa has filed an appeal of the decision to nullify the primary election results, specifically relating to the secretary/treasurer position. She notes that she hand-delivered 29 absentee request forms to the board on March 19 and 20, and these were the absentee ballots being questioned, but that she didn't feel these votes would have changed the final tally.

In the findings of facts cited in the appeal decision, Election Contest Judge Christopher Anderson noted that 84 absentee ballots were sent by express/overnight mail on March 28 or March 29 and that three absentee ballots were sent by express/overnight mail on March 30 after absentee ballots originally mailed were returned by the post office. He also found that 13 of the 87 absentee ballots mentioned were validly and timely returned by mail, while 64 of the 87 people never voted. Ten of those who received absentee ballots voted in person on election day.

The appeals by the three candidates included specific claims concerning 18 individual voters. The election contest judge also found that 29 requests for absentee ballots were received on March 19 and 20, but that these absentee ballots were not mailed out until March 28. The Bois Forte Election Board said the delay was caused by some requests not containing sufficient information or issues with the voter registration list from the last election. In addition, he found that some requests had been mishandled or mislaid.

The opinion stated that "the appearance of untimely responses and the narrow vote margins call into question the primary election results." It also states that absentee voting procedures

are complicated, and there is always a low correlation with requests for absentee ballots and a tallied vote.

"The process to vote absentee is complicated and requires multiple steps, which by its nature will hinder a vote being ultimately cast."

The findings of fact noted that Bois Forte had not followed two specific sections of election law.

"The Board clearly did not comply with the Ordinance requirement that the General Reservation Election Board give immediate attention to all absentee ballot requests and process the requests to permit voters reasonable time to execute and return their absentee ballots within the time allowed by the Ordinance."

**Original primary results discarded**

In the single reservation-wide contest, incumbent treasurer David Morrison was the top vote-getter overall, with 186 votes, in a three-way race against Karlene Chosa, with 134, and Brandon Benner with 132.

Sidra Starkovich tallied 44 votes and Peter F. Boney had 34 votes to advance for the Vermilion seat. Other candidate totals were Kristal Strong 23, Gary W. Adams 9, George J. Strong 12, Corey Strong 27, Earl Villebrun 9, and Muriel Deegan 15.

Shane Drift was the top vote-getter for the Nett Lake seat with 61 votes and Mildred R. Holmes had 54 to advance to the general. Other candidate totals were Charles Wagner 48, Edward Villebrun 33, Crystal Villebrun 5, Eddie Chavers 38, Robbie E. Goggeye 32. This is the seat currently held by Brandon Benner, who opted to run for treasurer.

There were 452 ballots cast, and of these 94 were absentee ballots for Nett Lake and 36 were absentee ballots for Vermilion.

**13th Annual Sweet Spring Auction**

**Thursday, May 3, Amici's**  
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- Cabin Staining/Cleaning-Derek Brekke
- Gourmet Girls Lunch/Brunch-Natasha Brekke
- Massage-Jessie Brooks
- Dinner for 4-Deb Campbell & Deb Zupancich
- Jewelry-Candace V Designs
- Kevlar Canoe Rental-Canoe Country Outfitters
- Art Class-Dafne Caruso
- Botox Treatment-Dr. Crystal Chopp
- City on the Hill Christian Music Festival
- Tax Services-D & D Accounting
- DQ Blizzards/Smoothies-DQ Grill and Chill
- Dorothy Molter Package
- Fitness Membership-Ely Bloomenson Fitness Center
- Tri-Core Pillow-Ely Chiropractic
- Private Fire Truck Ride-Ely Fire Department
- Succulent or Mixed Garden-Ely Flower and Seed
- Round of Golf for Two-Ely Golf Club
- Grill/Steak Package-Ely Northland Market
- Delmonico Steak Dinner for Two-Ely Steakhouse
- Pet Package-Ely Veterinary Clinic
- Sunglasses-Ely Vision
- One Night Stay & Golf at the Wilderness-Fortune Bay
- 6-Yard Dumpster-G-Men
- Perennial Gardening Basket-Susan Gotwals
- Outerwear-Hand Done T-Shirts
- Chimney Sweep-Hearthside Corner
- Wood Fired Pizza Dinner-Andy & Paula Hill
- Cabi Gift Card-Ann Hunter
- Wine & Gift Cards-Insula
- Milwaukee Drill Set-J & L Hardware
- Avex Travel Mug & Mission Belt-JD Mills
- Hair Color and Cut-Jenn's Shear Attitude
- Backpack Activities for Kids-Joe's Marine
- Dog-Sitting-Sarah Kahle
- Northern Lights Prints-Kris Kidd
- Day Pack & Water Bottle Holder-Kondos Outdoors
- Wine & Gift Cards-Lakeshore Liquors
- Family Game Night Package-Legacy Toys
- 10-Yard Load of Sandy Loam-Leustek's Construction
- Private Painting Lessons-Sarah Levar
- 10 Yards of Class 5 Gravel-Low Impact Excavating
- Family Admission Packet-Minnesota State Fair
- Muskie Fishing on Lake Vermilion-Brian Moran
- Bear Print & Admission-North America Bear Center
- Glass of Wine for 6 Visits-Northern Grounds
- Handmade Soaps-Brenda Olson
- Guided Fishing Trip-Orcutt Guide Service
- Italian Dinner-Stan & Joyce Passananti
- Guided Bass Fishing Trip-Stan Passananti
- Massage Packages-The Pebble Spa
- Pike's Peak Bike Tour-Dylan Scott
- Conduit 9.5 Kayak-Piragis Northwoods
- Hunting Knives-Bill Rauch
- Candle Basket-Doreen Rauch
- Knife Sharpening-Razor's Edge
- Rock Country Masonry-Chimney Tuck & Repair
- Outfitting Package-Rock Ridge
- Glass of 19 Micro-Brews-Rockwood
- Appetizers-Rockwood
- Pedicure & Manicure, Hair & Foil-Roots Salon
- Dog Treat Basket-Ruoho, Ella
- All American Steak Dinner for 10-Bill & Martha Scott
- One Medium Pizza/Month for a Year-Sir G's
- Pontoon Cocktail Cruise-Barb & Kurt Soderberg
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CITY OF ELY

# Why is the city of Ely cutting down so many trees?

ELY - There has been a lot of understandable sadness and anger about the latest round of boulevard tree removals, particularly on the third block of Chapman. Here's the skinny from the Tree Board:

We advised the city of Ely to prune all of the trees on that street and cut one this winter, based on the report we had received from independent tree health assessors and our own observation of the crowns last summer.

When the city got in to the canopy of the trees to prune, they found so many hollow and cracked limbs that there wouldn't have been much more than trunk left, so we made the mutual decision to cut and replace this year. So, yes, the

observation that many have made that the stumps looked healthy is, for the most part, accurate (there was some rot in some of the trunks, though not at ground level).

The current city pruner is a great guy who is really doing his best to keep the trees up and healthy for as long as he can; we trust his judgment. A tree board member was there on the day the trees were cut to take some pictures of the affected limbs so we could learn more about what's going on up there as well. We hate to see that empty boulevard as much as everyone else and we will replant.

Some of you are also, again understandably, calling for the planting of large trees to replace

the older. The Board has been getting the largest trees that we can from Bailey's Nursery. They are considerably bigger than the ones we planted a couple years ago. We have planted some even larger balled and burlapped trees in the park, by the playground and the bandshell, and hope to get a few more this summer to replace the trees close to Sheridan.

However, it's not practical to plant those more mature trees on the boulevard for a few reasons.

First, those trees are very expensive; we can buy several younger trees for the price of one of those larger trees--important not only because lots of Ely still needs trees, but because we know

that we will lose some trees every year to disease, vandalism, lack of water, and other causes we can't predict.

Second, the root balls on those larger trees are caged and wouldn't fit on most of our boulevards.

Third, young trees, when watered regularly, gain diameter and height quickly. We suspect that they'll ultimately adapt and grow more quickly than the larger trees.

Still, yes, it will be a while before we have those beautiful shady archways of trees again, but the good news is that Ely's urban forest is regenerating and growing again. If trees had been replaced and planted gradually and steadily over the past twenty

or thirty years, this wouldn't feel like such a loss.

With the Tree Board in place, we're hopeful that the Ely of the future will have a diverse forest of trees of different ages, so that no one will have to experience the sudden loss of an entire block of trees again.

The best way we can help the trees now is to get out and water and mulch our young trees. You'll be amazed at how quickly they grow when they're given some TLC. Come to our Arbor Day event, 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 28, to help us with that at Whiteside Park.

*Friends of the Trees of Ely  
Posted on Facebook  
April 21, 2018*

## SAP...Continued from page 1

resident were put in the record. Mayor Chuck Novak indicated that council members would debate the issue at their May 1 regular meeting and "come up with a resolution."

The sticky sap situation came to light in early March this year after dozens of blue plastic bags and tapping equipment practically showed up overnight on city-owned maple trees all over town. With Ely still in the grasp of winter, the out-of-town tappers clearly jumped the gun on the traditional "first-come, first-served" approach, used for decades in the city, and staked their claim to the sap.

In an email to the city, long-time tree tapper Tony Colarich wrote, "We never had any controversy or issues with anyone else collecting sap in the city of Ely. Everything changed this year when a group of non-residents decided to put large blue sap-collecting bags on 90-percent of the available maple trees one month before the sap started to run. The event ruined my desire to make maple syrup this year. Making maple syrup is supposed to be fun."

In an April 6 letter to

the editor in the *Timberjay*, Morse Township resident Natasha Brekke and the "Blue Bag Crew" introduced themselves.

"We are two young Ely families. Each winter we look forward to the upcoming maple syrup season, a four-generation tradition for both of our families. The tradition began with grandparents from both families who inspired a love of this sweet treat. Due to aging themselves and family moving away they were no longer able to continue, so they passed on their equipment and experience.

"For the last several years we have enjoyed tapping in the area with our families. As our families have grown to seven children between us, all under the age of seven, the challenges have grown to include them as we collect sap on roads that have become inaccessible. Wanting to include our children in this family tradition, we began exploring more accessible trees. This led us to the trees in town last year. We were fortunate enough to speak with a gentleman who had been tapping the Ely silver maples for years. He was very welcoming and was

glad to see there were young families participating in maple syruping."

This week, the Tree Board presented recommendations to the council. "The Tree Board does not believe the tappers are doing so with malicious intent," said Tree Board member Dixon Shelstad. "Most tappers are apparently doing this as a hobby. This tradition has taken place for many years on city streets and (in) parks. We recognize and respect the history of tree tapping, but recommend that the practice should be significantly reduced and eventually eliminated."

The health of all city-owned trees is at the top of the list for the Ely Tree Board. "Our hope is to educate the public about this issue," said Tree Board member Mary Groening. "This is not a reaction to the early-tapping activity observed this year."

Many of Ely's older silver maple trees are showing evidence of dieback, according to the Tree Board. The likely cause is numerous street tree stresses, that may include tapping. "Ely trees are not declining from tree

tapping alone," Shelstad stressed. "Some trees have been tapped for years and are still living. Trees won't fall over from tapping. There are many contributing factors. Tapping is only one factor, but it is one that can be more easily controlled or eliminated."

He went on to say that tapping sugar maple trees in a sugar bush is an acceptable practice, while tapping urban trees is not recommended. "This practice is prohibited in all cities with a forest department that we contacted. The goal for urban trees is to increase the value they provide by bringing them

to maturity, then extending life past maturity. This requires managing in ways that maximize stored energy, regardless of their poor growing environment."

Groening said the Tree Board is interested in extending the lives of older trees and protecting younger trees from tapping.

The Tree Board recommended the following ordinance for the City Council to consider: "No person without written permission of the city administrator shall plant, remove, break, bore into or take any action that

will injure or destroy any tree or shrub, the base of which is located in the street right-of-way or on other city land."

City resident Mary Louise Icenhour, who grew up in Ely and recently moved back to her hometown, said she was shocked by the amount of maple tree tapping in the city this year. "This is not from my childhood," she said. "I can see some tapping, but it seems to me that we are almost raping these trees. I am happy that you are looking into this and examining the pros and cons."

## Work day planned at Vermilion Lake Township Cemetery April 28

VERMILION LAKE TWP - A Community Work Day at the Vermilion Lake Township Cemetery, 6499 Wahlsten Road, will be held on Saturday, April 28 beginning at 1 p.m. Area residents are asked to come help straighten headstones and raise grave markers. Many hands will make quick work of the project. The township has only a

few tools. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own shovels, etc. If you have any questions, please call Town Clerk Steve Peterson Jr. at 780-7717, or one of the township supervisors: Sarah Schmidt 750-2524, Phil Anderson 749-3462, or Bob Pratt 753-6709.



54.5 cents per mile is now the reimbursement rate for AEOA volunteer drivers.

Volunteers in the Orr, Tower, Nett Lake and Embarrass areas are needed to drive persons to medical appointments and to work. Must have a valid driver's license, a dependable vehicle, insurance, a clean driving record and pass a background check.

Contact Martin Lepak 218-410-9755 martin.lepak@aEOA.org

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GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

# Greenwood seats new board member

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

**GREENWOODTWP** - It took three tries but the Greenwood Town Board finally completed its annual reorganization. The board had tabled most of the annual appointments made until the new board member, Byron Beihoffer, could be officially seated. At a special meeting on April 18, Chairman Mike Ralston thanked outgoing Supervisor and former Chair John Bassing for his service to the township. Ralston also noted that he had mistakenly scheduled this meeting one day early, and that technically, Beihoffer couldn't be seated until the following day. He noted

that Bassing had agreed to submit his resignation so that Beihoffer could be seated a day early and township business could commence. The board accepted Bassing's resignation, declared the seat vacant, and then accepted the nomination of Beihoffer to serve in the open seat for a single day. Beihoffer was sworn in and the meeting continued. The reorganization was completed quickly, appointing: Larry Tahija to the Tower Area Ambulance Commission, Lodging Tax Board, and Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board; Mike Ralston as Road Supervisor; Carmen Deluca as Weed Inspector, 911-Signage, and Grounds

and Maintenance Supervisor; and Byron Beihoffer to the Lake Vermilion Trail Working Group. The board noted there was no longer a need to have an employee supervisor since the only employees were now fire department members. The board also approved continuing the policy of allowing up to \$1,000 in spending authority for the clerk, fire chief, and supervisor in charge of maintenance/grounds. The board recognized over 30 donations made to the fire department in memory of long-time summer resident Darryl Horsmann, as well a donation made by the Greenwood Quilters. Mike Indihar said the fire depart-

ment would like to use the nearly \$4,000 in donations in memory of Horsmann to upgrade the department's rescue sled. The new models, he said, allow the EMR to be inside the sled with the patient. The board also heard a letter from Horsmann's daughter, Jennifer Criqui, who spoke about their family's (the Kurtz family) long connection to the lake, which will be continued with the newest generation. Chairman Ralston gave the first reading of an amendment to the fire department operating guidelines to address the issues raised in the negligent hiring situation in the fire department. The new guidelines require that two fire department

members respond in the first piece of equipment to leave the hall, except in cases when responding to automatic mutual aid calls in Tower or Breitung, and specifies that any responders must report to the officer in charge of the scene. Ralston noted there may be some additional text changes needed before final approval of the changes. In response to comments made by John Bassing, Sue Drobac, and Mark Drobac as part of public input, that were critical of the accuracy of the reporting of Anthony Sikora in *The Tower News*, and of his behavior at a recent meeting. Sikora said he would like to clarify his role "so everybody

understands." "I only represent myself here," he said, "I do not work for *The Tower News*. I do not receive any pay for what I do. I do it because I want to do it. The only difference between what I do for the *Tower News* and what a letter to the editor would be is because of my longevity, they give me the courtesy of sticking my name at the beginning of what I write instead of at the end. I just wanted to make that clear." Sikora reports on the Tower City Council, Tower Planning and Zoning, Tower Economic Development Authority, as well as Greenwood Township in *The Tower News*.

ISD 696

# Ely School District booster club policy here to stay

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

**ELY** - The Ely School Board continued a discussion this week about concerns over a new booster club guideline policy approved earlier this month. The policy creates a foundation for interactions between the district and outside organizations that support district programs such as athletics. Examples of this support could include donating funds to pay additional coaches, organizing team events, raising money for team equipment or additional trips, supporting capital upgrades to district facilities and the organization and coordination of fundraising projects. School Board member Tom Omerza reiterated his concerns with the policy. "When the School Board approves lower-tier coaches, we do so as they are volunteers and not employees. Yet we are routing their pay through the school (payroll system). If they are not an employee, why are we

doing that?" he asked. "They are getting a net amount of pay versus what they have been used to in past years, and that was hard for the basketball program this year," he said. Junior high coaches, assistant coaches and officials are still getting paid the same amount, but as much as 25-percent of their pay is withheld now for payroll taxes, Medicare and Social Security contributions. "I look at what parents are required to pay in activities fees, and as a school we provide the gymnasium and heat and lights, but the rest is funded by the (booster) club," Omerza said, "including the coach, uniforms, balls, referees." The school booster club policy has been in place across the state for as long as five years, and is just now being strongly recommended by the Minnesota School Board Association. School Board member Rochelle Sjoberg, who was not at the meeting earlier this month when the policy was approved, recently attended school

board treasurer training and explained the rationale behind the booster club policy. "We have a policy that was recommended by the MSBA," she said. "We didn't add anything just for the sake of doing it, we are following the requirements, as a district, that we have to." Sjoberg explained that besides the payroll and accounting procedures put in place by the booster club policy, the process of employment, including safety procedures like background checks, and worker's compensation are enforced. "It is not just the salaries," she said. She said the booster club policy, while new for the Ely School District, has been in place in Minnesota for several years. "It is now being heavily enforced," Sjoberg said. "When we wrote the policy, we looked at 10 or 12 policies from school districts around the area and used some language almost verbatim. Every district is required to have this policy. The adjustment period is going

to be the biggest hurdle." Abrahamson added, "Years ago, booster clubs would take care of junior high elementary coaches. Based on what fundraising they did, they would just write them a check and everybody would look the other way. We don't have that ability anymore." Omerza pressed his concerns that lower-tier or volunteer coaches, now that they are being viewed as employees of the school district, should be treated like employees. "It would be nice to function better as a coach including having access to the practice facilities and equipment," he said. "Right now we are not being treated like we can help the program. We need the head coach or assistant head coach to be there. It would be nice to be treated like employees rather than volunteers." Athletic Director Tom Coombe added that the Ely school athletic program is unique in that non-varsity athletics programs are in place but not funded by the district. "We have junior

varsity basketball. We charge a participation fee. But the district does not put any resources or support into the program," he said. "For many years, these programs were supported by the (booster) clubs and the club just wrote a check to the coach. It is convoluted the way our programs are handled. In some ways they

are school programs, and in some ways they are not." Coombe called for all school athletic programs to be school-funded. "We would hire a varsity, junior varsity and C-squad coach, and they would all be on the payroll. Budget-wise, that is not where this school district has been," he said.

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## SOFTBALL

# Wolves crush Warriors in season debut

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

DEER RIVER – It may have been the season opener for members of the Wolves’ softball squad, but their bats were in mid-season form as they crushed the Warriors 21-3.

Ely wasted no time getting on the board, scoring two runs in

## Mattson notches ten KOs, allowing just three hits

the top of the first. Sophomore starting pitcher Erika Mattson shut down the Warriors to give the Wolves a 2-0 opening inning lead.

Ely added four more runs while Mattson pitched another scoreless inning to put the visitors up 6-0.

Ely went on to add 14 runs over the next two innings, while holding Deer River to just three, ending the game in the fourth inning due to the 15-run four-inning rule.

“I thought it was a great start to our season and we really hit the ball well,” said Ely Head Coach

Tom McDonald. “Erika pitched well and out of 12 outs she struck out ten so we didn’t have to play a whole lot of defense behind her.”

Mattson gave up just three hits, while issuing four walks.

Junior Lida Dodge had a big day offensively, notching four hits and as many RBIs.

Eighth-grader Charly Flom and ninth-grader Sydni Richards each had three hits while Flom added four RBIs. Senior Shayla Zaverl led the team with five RBIs as she hit a double and triple in the game.

The Wolves host Carlton on Friday and travel to South Ridge on Monday, both with 4:30 p.m. starts.



Left: Ely pitcher Trevor Mattson winds up while other players look on.

Below: Ouch! A North Woods player appears to face plant during a slide into third base.

photos by J. Greeney

## BASEBALL

# Ely routs Grizzlies in opener

Young North Woods squad struggles with fielding and pitching in 20-5 loss

by JAY GREENEY  
Sports writer

ELY—On the football field or the basketball court, North Woods has proven to be Ely’s nemesis this year. But baseball remains king at the end of the road, and the Timberwolves showed it in their season opener, as they pounded the Grizzlies 20-5.

It was a late start to the season for both teams as winter refused to give way for most of April, but the Wolves showed they were ready to hit the diamond. They took control early,

scoring their first run in the opening frame before erupting for seven runs in the second.

The Grizzlies had put runners on first and second to open the game and with two outs had the stage set to put runs on the board. But the Wolves’ defense ended the threat as they cut down a North Woods runner seeking to advance to third on a bobbled pitch.

A combination of walks and timely hits provided the big second inning for Ely, and it sent Grizzlies starting pitcher Tate Olson to the showers. Isaiah Squires came on



in relief, which seemed to stem the damage. The Grizzlies finally tossed out an Ely baserunner at home and quickly followed up with a third out to end the pain.

Ely starting pitcher

junior Trevor Mattson continued to throw strikes in the second, recording three quick outs to hold the Grizzlies scoreless. But the Grizzlies jumped on Mattson on their second look and put together a

four-run third inning to get back in the game. A couple Ely errors kept the North Woods rally alive.

But Ely put an end to the Grizzlies hopes

See **BASEBALL...** pg. 2B

## SOFTBALL

# 14 stolen bases as Grizzlies top Chisholm

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP—The Grizzlies girls ran wild on Tuesday as they racked up 14 stolen bases in an impressive 5-2 win over Chisholm. Junior Claire Beaudry led the onslaught with four steals on the afternoon.

The Grizzlies’ offense went to work right away, as Regan Ratai doubled

in a run in the first inning. They added three more in the second inning, as Lauren Arvila, Hanna Sandberg, and Olivia Niska all tallied RBIs in the frame. Sandberg, a junior, had a good day at the plate, going 2-4.

Junior pitcher Alanna Rutchasky took the win. She gave up just two runs on three hits over seven innings, while striking out seven and issuing no walks.

Freshman pitcher Courtney Anderson took the loss for the Bluestreaks, allowing five runs on six hits, while striking out eight.

The Grizzlies were set to host Nashauk-Keewatin on Thursday. They’ll travel to Mt. Iron on Friday to take on the Rangers. They’ll face Ely next Thursday in a doubleheader on the road.

## Beaudry’s five RBIs spark big win over CC

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

GRAND MARAIS—North Woods catcher Claire Beaudry had a huge day at the plate this past Friday, as she drove in five runs on three hits to help lead

the Grizzlies to a 16-6 victory over Cook County. Beaudry, a junior, rapped a triple and a home run in a huge fifth inning during which the Grizzlies put ten runs on the board. Beaudry also drove in two runs in the first inning off a double.

Junior outfielder Kate Stone, who had three hits on the afternoon, added a home run of her own in the big fifth inning. Kayla Bodri, Lauren Arvila, and Hanna Sandberg also contributed to the inning with RBIs of their own.



Pitcher Alanna Rutchasky scoops up a grounder during Tuesday’s game with Chisholm. photo by C. Stone

# Sports week

## Baseball

Monday, April 30

Ely at South Ridge  
4:30 p.m. (B team to follow)  
North Woods at MI-B  
4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 2

Ely at L-BF  
5:30 p.m. (A only)

Thursday, May 3

Ely at MI-B  
4:30 p.m. (A only)

Friday, May 4

Ely hosts Greenway  
4:30 p.m. (B team to follow)  
North Woods at Chisholm  
4:30 p.m.

## Softball

Friday, April 27

Ely at South Ridge  
4:30 p.m. (B team to follow)  
North Woods at MI-B  
4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 1

Ely at Mesabi East  
4:30 p.m. (B team to follow)  
North Woods hosts Silver Bay, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 3

Ely hosts North Woods  
3/4:30 p.m. doubleheader

## Golf

Wednesday, May 2

North Woods at Wilderness Invite, 10 a.m.

## TRACK

# Ely boys take second in Two Harbors meet

by JAY GREENEY  
Sports writer

TWO HARBORS—The Ely boys track team showed polish in their season debut on Tuesday, taking second at the Two Harbors Invitational. The girls team struggled, finishing eighth in the 12 team event.

The boys had big performances from numerous members to go with a couple of first-place finishers. James Schwingamer won the 3,200 with a time of 10:09:20, almost a minute ahead of the second-place finisher. Eli Conaway took first in the 110 hurdles by just 0.54 seconds. Eric Omerza stepped up to win the triple jump by almost a foot with a jump of 36-07.00. Finally, Jasiah Wigdahl took first in the

See **TRACK...** pg. 2B

GROWING YOUR OWN

# Beekeeping gains a foothold in North Country

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

REGIONAL- Let's add bee-watching to our list of summertime nature pursuits.

Jack LaMar, owner of Early Frost Farms in Embarrass and amateur beekeeper, gave a basic how-to-get-started talk at Earth Fest in Mt. Iron last Saturday. LaMar has been teaching introductory beekeeping classes for several years.

While you might think the best part of beekeeping is collecting your own honey, another bonus, LaMar said, was just sitting outside and watching the bees as they move in and out of their hives.

"It's like sitting on the end of a runway," he said. "They have distinctive patterns of flight."

Sometimes he likes to figure out where they are gathering pollen. A couple of years ago, in mid-April, he noticed his bees coming back to the hive covered with bright yellow pollen. Since no flowers were blooming yet, he backtracked to where the bees were coming from, and discovered they were harvesting pollen off of pussy-willows.

"The honey tastes different every year," he said. Last year's honey had a spicy overtone, and he's not sure why.

Lamar and his wife started beekeeping about five years



**Left: Jack and Ericka LaMar with some of their bees in Embarrass.**  
submitted photos

five gallons of honey from a hive each year.

Locally-produced honey also has health benefits.

The costs of getting started are high, about \$500 for the hives and equipment needed, but once the initial investment is made, ongoing costs are just purchasing new bees if they don't successfully overwinter.

Keeping bees alive over the winter in the northern climate is tricky, LaMar said. He averages about a 50-percent success rate, but some years has lost all his bees.

LaMar estimates it takes about 30 hours a year to tend to his hives. Beekeepers have to

keep a close eye out for pests, such as bee mites, and treat hives if needed. Mites are tiny parasites that attach to the bees, but also serve as vectors for other bacteria and viruses.

"All bee colonies have mites," he said. Beekeepers need to track the density of a mite infestation, and then treat with either a fumigant or other integrated pest management system.

LaMar said when he and his wife got into beekeeping, they didn't know that Ericka was allergic to bees. After experiencing increasing reactions to stings, Ericka now just handles the honey processing end of the business. Besides selling raw honey, they make cosmetics using their own beeswax, which they sell at area venues.

## BASEBALL...Continued from page 1B



**Left: North Woods reliever Isaiah Squires winds up during Tuesday's game in Ely.**  
photo by J. Greeney

in the bottom of the frame as they batted around to put 11 runs on the board and put the game out of reach. Senior Cody Davis came in to pitch in relief of Mattson in the fifth. North Woods scored a run early in the inning but a couple good defensive plays by the Wolves ended the inning and the game, which was called on the ten-run rule, with Ely up by 15 runs.

"Too many errors and too many walks," said North Woods Head Coach Jeff Smerud. "Ely's a good team.

They're well-coached and you can't give up that many errors and walks to a team like that."

The Grizzlies will have some work to do, noted Smerud, including on fielding and "situational awareness." Smerud noted that his squad is a young one, with two starting ninth graders and a tenth-grader who never played the game before this year. "We're not where we want to be, but it's a learning curve. We'll get there, but it will take time."

The Wolves had a good day behind the plate, with 13 hits, including four by junior Tyler Housey and three from sophomore Luke Olson. Senior Thomas Montana led the team

with three RBIs.

Mattson pitched four solid innings to open the season with the win. Ely committed two errors on defense.

The Grizzlies looked better on offense than in the field. Squires went 2-3, with a double and an RBI, while Jake Hyppa and Matt Schultz both had two hits. Andrew Zika added two RBIs.

The Grizzlies were set to host South Ridge on Friday, with a 4:30 p.m. start. Ely was set to host Deer River on Thursday. They'll travel to South Ridge on Monday. Additional makeup games may be added to the schedule as time and weather allows.

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## TRACK...Continued from page 4

disc with a throw of 121-01, almost ten feet beyond the second place finisher.

The girls were led by Ryne Prigge who took their only first place in a close 3,200 race with a time of 12:41:00.

- Top ten girl results**  
800 Meter Run  
7. Emma Terwilliger 2:49:24  
3200 Meter Run  
1. Ryne Prigge 12:41:00  
300 Meter Hurdles  
10. McKenna Coughlin 60:66  
4 x 100 Meter Relay  
6. Ely 60.00  
4 x 200 Meter Relay

5. Ely 2:06:93  
4 x 400 Meter Relay  
8. Ely 5:11:0  
4 x 800 Meter Relay  
5. Ely 11:14:89  
High Jump  
7. Brooke Pasmick 4-00.00  
Shot Put  
7. Ande Visser 26-02.00  
Discus Throw  
6. Ande Visser 80-02  
7. Maarja Faltsek 73-11  
8. Hannah Jankovec 71-01

- Top ten boy results**  
100 Meter Dash  
2. Isaac Gawboy 12.40  
8. Nate Nettifee 12.64  
200 Meter Dash

3. Nate Nettifee 24.93  
8. Eric Omerza 26.07  
1600 Meter Run  
6. Emmett Faltsek 5:03:50  
7. Ethan Hasz 5:06:40  
3200 Meter Run  
1. James Schwinghamer 10:09:20  
110 Meter Hurdles  
1. Eli Conaway 17.06  
3. Henry Dirks 18.03  
300 Meter Hurdles  
2. Isaac Gawboy 44.36  
4 x 100 Meter Relay  
2. Ely 47.06  
10. Ely 'B' 57.61  
4 x 200 Meter Relay  
7. Ely 1:51.71  
4 x 400 Meter Relay

4. Ely 4:10:53  
4 x 800 Meter Relay  
3. Ely 9:23:72  
Long Jump  
3. Henry Dirks 17-01.50  
Triple Jump  
1. Eric Omerza 36-07.00  
Shot Put  
2. Jasiah Wigdahl 39-06.00  
5. Eli Conaway 35-01.00  
Discus Throw  
1. Jasiah Wigdahl 121-01  
9. Ethan Hasz 95-11

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8TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL RACE

# Michelle Lee stumps for votes in Ely

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – Following a 35-year career as a television newscast personality in Duluth, Michelle Lee has come out from behind the news desk and is running for the 8th Congressional District seat of Minnesota. She is looking to replace DFLer Rick Nolan, who is not seeking re-election.

Lee campaigned in Ely this week and spoke to the Tuesday Group gathering at the Grand Ely Lodge prior to a fundraising event here.

“Not many people know my other story away from the business of television news and journalism,” she said. “I am a wife and mom. My husband I just celebrated 37 years of blissful marriage. He can’t be here today because he’s home in Moose Lake taking care of our dog.”

Lee said she used to be a factory worker and a nurses’ aide before entering the Brown School of Broadcasting. “I started my career as a cub reporter in Grand Rapids at a very small station. Part of my job was cleaning the toilets,” she said. “That was better than climbing the radio tower to change the light bulbs.”

She started her television news career in 1983 at the height of the boom and bust economy in northern Minnesota. “Since that time I have seen Duluth come back and grow and thrive,”



Michelle Lee

she said.

Getting into politics was a strange progression for Lee. “Although we cover the news and how it impacts our communities, specially what was going on in St. Paul and Washington, D.C., I would never offer up my opinion on any of those things.”

She said everything changed on the night that Donald Trump was elected President of the United States. “When I was told that Trump was going to be president, it was like getting kicked in the gut,” she said.

Fifty-five days later she left her career, and a few weeks after that she jumped on a bus with a lot of other women from Duluth and headed to the Women’s March on Washington. “It was the first time I took a public stand on anything and it sure did feel

## Former TV news anchor running for Nolan’s seat

good,” Lee said.

“Since that time, I have watched mean-spirited rules and regulations coming out of Washington, by being tweeted or being broadcast on the nightly news, that are doing nothing more than, in my opinion, to build walls around the working poor, shrink the middle class and make the wealthy richer.”

She related personal stories about being poor. Lee grew up in a family of seven children in an alcoholic family. “I had six brothers. I was that little girl who walked to school with holes in my shoes. I worked in the cafeteria in 7th grade to earn that free lunch,” she said. “I ate my fair share of government cheese.”

When she was in her late teens she said she saw her brother killed in an “alcohol-fueled family argument.” A teacher told her there was a better life out there. “If not for her, I wouldn’t be up here asking you to support me as your next congresswoman,” she said.

She mentioned her Republican opponent, Pete Stauber. “His greatest hope is to turn Minnesota into a red state,” she said. “What red state does he want? Is it one of the southern states that has the lowest rate of education for students, or the other (red) state that doesn’t take care of its people with healthcare?” she asked. “Look at

the Minnesota Republican platform and how those goals might impact you and your family.”

After calling for all people to get together and talk with each other to solve the nation’s problems such as the health-care crisis, too much money in politics, and rebuilding the values of the nation, she noted that broadband and the small business economy is key in a thriving Ely community.

### Mining, of course

“We need to talk about the one issue here that everyone is concerned with, of course, and that is the issue of mining,” Lee said.

She learned a long time ago about the three legs of the northern Minnesota economy, timber, tourism and taconite. “That’s what keeps the (economic) machine going here in northern Minnesota,” she said.

“I support iron ore mining and the taconite industry,” Lee said, “but I cannot support the current proposal to develop copper-nickel mining here in a water-rich environment. There may be some in the room who feel just as strongly that copper-nickel mining can be done properly without damage to our communities and water supply.”

She admitted that the decision will not be up to her. “The

state will make that decision. Whatever side the decision falls on, it will end up in the courts, and it could take months or even years to resolve before we see copper-nickel mining happen,” she said.

She was asked if she would support the Twin Metals Minnesota project if state and federal permitting and financial assurance requirements were met. “I want to see proof that copper-nickel mining has been done in a water-rich environment where it has not impacted the environment or the people who live close by, whether it is in a foreign country, here in Minnesota, in Colorado or Montana or the Flambeau Mine. I want to see real-world proof before I can sign off on it.”

When asked why she doesn’t support the mine permitting process, she said she wants to make sure everyone has a voice in the process. “We need to bring everyone to the table so we can talk about the issues. We have to use current science, unlike the PolyMet project. There is a lot at stake. We are talking about one of the most pristine areas in the world. We have to get it right.”

She agreed that copper-nickel is a strategic resource. “Water is also our strategic resource,” she asserted.

## Obituaries And Death Notices



### George R. Walker

George Robert Walker, 84, passed away on Thursday, April 19, 2018. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 27 at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Gilbert with Fr. Frank Perkovich celebrating. A visitation will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, April 26 at Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava Funeral Home in Gilbert and will continue one hour prior to Mass at the church. Military honors will be accorded by the Gilbert VFW. Inurnment will be at a later date.

George was born on March 26, 1934, to Hazelle (Dooley) and Ralph Walker, at home, on the family farm in Clearwater. He was the oldest of their five children. His family moved around but settled in Duluth, where

he attended Duluth East High School. After graduating from East in 1953, he worked at Inter-Lakes Steamship on the ore boats. He was then hired by Northwestern Bell but was drafted into the Army on May 20, 1956. He served two years in the U.S. Army and was formally discharged from the reserves in 1962.

After his two-year Army stint, he returned to work for Northwestern Bell in Duluth. He met and married the love of his life, Nina, in Virginia in 1959. They had four beautiful daughters, and he always said he would “Never trade them for anything!” In 1978 his job with the telephone company brought him to Gilbert, where he and Nina lived for 39 years. He retired from Northwestern Bell in 1986 but stayed busy as a realtor until Nina’s retirement in 2000.

George enjoyed hunting, walleye fishing, Lake Vermilion, golf, and watching sports, especially hockey. He coached and refereed hockey in Duluth and was instrumental in starting the Spirit of Duluth Hockey Tournament. He was a UMD Hockey supporter for 40 years and was very happy to see his

favorite team take first place in the NCAA Frozen Four. He belonged to the Telephone Pioneers and regularly attended the Pioneer Retiree events. After his retirement, he and Nina spent winters in Winter Haven, Fla., enjoying the weather, playing golf, and socializing with many friends. He always said, “I’m so lucky to have such a wonderful family,” and was always ready with a smile, a hug, and a “smooch.”

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Nina (Kennedy) Walker; daughters, Cathy Bianchet, Colleen (Jerry) Wallis, Wendy (Michael) Wells and Jill (Timothy) Lekatz; grandchildren, Sarah Bianchet, Joe Bianchet, Megan (Tim) Zubich, Mara Wallis, Paige Wallis, Kylie (Jacob) Krugen, Matthew (Christine) Lekatz and Andrew Lekatz; great-grandsons, his “little buddy” Avery Zubich and two-week-old Rayden Krugen; siblings, Dean (Jean) Walker, Duane (JoAnn) Walker and Iona (Kenneth) Erickson; sisters-in-law, Linda Walker and Patricia Briggs; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents,

Hazelle (Dooley) and Ralph Walker; brother, Thomas Walker; son-in-law, Michael Bianchet; and other extended family and friends.

### Garry D. Ragle

Garry Dale “Rags” Ragle, 66, of Makinen, died on Friday, April 20, 2018, at his home. A private interment will be held at a later date. In honor of Garry, please do an unexpected and unsolicited act of kindness for some unfortunate soul.

He is survived by his mother, Grace of Aurora; sisters, Cecilia (Bob) Croteau of Biwabik and Christy Mesojedec (Pete Bradach) of Embarrass; stepson, Steven Cvek of Stillwater; nephew, Michael Lusk of Lakeland; niece, Celene (Eric) Butler; grandniece, Alanna and grandnephews, Brent, Dylan and Beau, all of Hoyt Lakes.

### Julieta R. Kramer

Julieta Reyes Bucaco Kramer, of Babbitt, passed away on Friday, April 20, 2018, at her residence with her family by her side. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, April 24 at St. Pius X Church with Fr. Bill Skarich officiating. Burial was at the Waasa Cemetery. Arrangements were with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived her husband, John C. Kramer of Babbitt; children, John Kramer (Elizabeth Rudd) of Esko, Jason (Amy) Kramer of Blaine and Jessica (Jason) Odella of Hoyt Lakes; grandchildren, Zach, Johnna, Dylan, Gianna, Niklas, Grace and Elsie; and great-grandson, Beau.

### Jean M. Larson

Jean M. “Dolly” Grant Larson, 82, passed away on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at the Boundary Waters Care

Center (BWCC) in Ely. Her family would like to thank the staff at BWCC and Hospice for her comfortable care the past 13 months. A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 28 at Kerntz Funeral Home in Ely.

She is survived by her husband, Clary Larson; children, Gary (Margie), Robert (Barbara), Diane and Mary Kay; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brother, Robert Grant; numerous nieces and nephews; and cherished friends, Helen Huovinen and Janice Harris.



## Pizzas, Pasta & More!

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Winter Hours • Open 4 PM to 9 PM Daily  
**WE DELIVER!**

## Choralaires' Spring Concerts



**Friday, May 4 • 7 p.m.**  
Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
901 4th St. South, Virginia

**Sunday, May 6 • 2 p.m.**  
Historic Eveleth City Auditorium  
Newly opened and remodeled  
423 Jackson St. (next to Fire Hall), Eveleth

**Enjoy Selections Including:**  
Lullaby, We Shall Behold Him, Rhythm of Life,  
Georgia on My Mind, Baba Yetu

**Additional Music Stylings From:**  
*Small Groups, Duets, Solos*

*No Charge • A free-will offering will be taken to support local churches, community projects and music needs*

## Super Crossword

### Answers

G	A	S	P	U	M	P		F	L	A	P		T	W	O	S		C	R	Y								
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## TOWER BINGO

### Monday, May 7

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, May 7 at the Tower Civic Center from 11:45 a.m. – 3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m. Senior Bingo is organized by the Friends of the Vermilion Country Charter School. In case of inclement weather or school cancellation, bingo may be cancelled. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

**Upcoming dates for 2018:**  
Monday, June 4  
Monday, July 9 (second Monday)



# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## SCHOOL TRUST

### Land purchase first step toward solution to state lands in BWCAW

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— A national non-profit has taken the first step in a multi-year process to extract the state of Minnesota's school trust lands from the federally-protected Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The Virginia-based Conservation Fund recently completed the purchase of 8,000 acres of high-value timber land in St. Louis County from a single landholder, which fund officials declined to identify.

The deal was part of a multi-party agreement reached in 2012 that will eventually secure more than 40,000 acres of timber land for the state's school trust to replace those currently locked up in the BWCAW.

Under the agreement, the Conservation Fund is using its own resources to acquire the private land outside the wilderness. The state of Minnesota will exchange, in phases, an equal value of its school trust lands within the wilderness for the private lands acquired by the Fund. Finally, the Fund will sell the lands it acquires within the Boundary Waters to the U.S. Forest Service as funds are made available from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and other public or private sources.

Over time, the Conservation Fund expects to transfer ownership over more than 40,000 acres of private timber land in northeastern Minnesota to the state's school trust in replacement of the roughly 83,000 acres of school trust lands located within the BWCAW. The remaining 43,000 acres will eventually be transferred through a direct land exchange between the state of Minnesota and the Forest Service.

The state school trust lands were effectively marooned by the 1978 Boundary Waters Wilderness Act, which created the 1.1 million-acre wilderness area. While the vast majority of the wilderness property is federally-owned, the state has long had scattered holdings within the area, most of it school trust land that the state's constitution requires to produce revenue for the school trust. The trust currently provides about \$35 per student to the state's school districts, or about 0.3 percent of total funding that the state provides to schools.

Funding for the first phase of lands to be purchased by the U.S. Forest Service will come primarily from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, with \$4 million recently appropriated by the U.S. Congress for the project in the 2018 omnibus spending bill. Additional funding will be provided from Walmart's and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Acres for America program.

Aaron Vande Linde, director of the Minnesota School Trust Lands, called the latest purchase "an historic milestone," made possible by a broad partnership of state and federal agencies, non-profits and private industry. "On behalf of Minnesota K-12 public education students, I want to especially thank the Minnesota congressional delegation and Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission for their continued support of this project."

This solution not only safeguards Minnesota's prized Boundary Waters, but it also consolidates working forestlands outside the BWCAW, ensuring the forest products industry a sustainable wood basket and associated jobs.

"The Conservation Fund is a valuable partner helping the Forest Service implement the hybrid model of combined land exchange and purchase in the BWCAW," said Connie Cummings, Superior Forest Supervisor.

**Right:** With snow fading, the brown summer coat of this snowshoe hare is becoming visible beneath the remaining coat of white. This is a season of change for snowshoe hares, and it can be important that the change happens in sync with the snow conditions.

file photo

**Below right:** Pictures of two different snowshoe hares, both taken on April 5, near Cook, show the variability in color change within the hare population.

photos by  
Julie Grahn



## ADAPTATIONS

# For snowshoe hares, it's time for a change

It's that season of change for our native bunnies, otherwise known as snowshoe hares.

With the snow (finally) fading away, the snowshoe hares are quickly shedding their winter coat of white as well.

While these common hares have a number of adaptations that allow them to survive, their seasonal change of color is probably the most noticeable, and it's one that can pose problems for a species that is a highly desirable meal for just about every predator in the forest. In a year like this, with lingering snow cover, switching to summer brown too early can leave a snowshoe hare more of a target. But that problem goes double for years when the snow leaves in March, leaving a hare still in winter white feeling truly exposed. It's the same thing in November if the snow comes later than usual.

A lot of wildlife undergo various seasonal changes and, as with the snowshoe hare, these changes are frequently related to day length, or photo-period. As day length changes, it affects hormones within the hare that alter its production of melanin, which is the same chemical that affects skin color in humans. As days lengthen, the hare produces more melanin, which turns its coat brown. As the days shorten in the fall, melanin production drops off and the coat turns white.

This could pose challenges for snowshoe hares if climate change significantly alters the amount of snow cover throughout its range. Indeed, recent studies suggest that snowshoe hare populations on the southern edge of their range may be declining

fairly significantly. That probably won't happen here, at least for a few more years. Hare populations remain pretty robust in our area these days, as their tracks in the snow attested around our house this winter.

While these hares can be tough to spot in their winter white, their distinctive tracks are easy to find. This species got its name from its unusually large back feet, which act like snowshoes, allowing these hares to stay on top of all but the most-powdery snow.

This ability not only allows them to more effectively escape predators, it also provides them new feeding opportunities as the snowpack increases, giving them higher and higher access to the bark of branches, twigs, and woody stems that they feed on over the winter.

With the snow now disappearing, the hares are already turning their attention to the breeding season. Snowshoe hares

don't raise their young underground, like old world rabbits. Instead, they create nests in small depressions, usually in thick brush. And unlike rabbits, which are born naked and only partially developed, young hares are born fully-furred, with eyes open. Give them an hour or two,

and they're ready to scamper off through the woods.

Identifying a snowshoe hare in our region is usually pretty easy, winter or summer. This is the only species of hare or rabbit normally found here in the north woods. Cottontail rabbits, which are found in southern and central Minnesota (my mother has them in her yard in Grand Rapids), remain all but unknown in our region, although that's probably changing.

The snowshoe is the smallest member of the genus *Lepus*, which includes other hare species, like jackrabbits. While most hares are generally solitary (except during breeding season), snowshoe hares do occasionally gather in large groups. I once encountered such a group near Pfeiffer Lake, back in 1979 when our region experienced



MARSHALL  
HELMBERGER

See CHANGE...pg. 5B

## Outdoors briefly

### Late ice-out may hamper lake access

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—The thick lake ice that still remains on most Minnesota lakes could make it difficult for DNR crews to have the 1,500 public water accesses it manages ready in time for the May 12 fishing opener.

"I want Minnesotans to know that we are doing everything we can to get ready for the fishing opener," said DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr, "but mostly what we need are warmer temperatures and sunshine."

As of Wednesday, April 25, only a handful of lakes in the state were free of ice, with just over two weeks until the fishing opener. While weather in the region has finally turned to more spring-like conditions, thick ice remains on lakes in northeastern Minnesota.

"Winter weather is always a challenge to Minnesota's public water access sites," said Nancy Stewart, water recreation program consultant for the DNR. "Because of the late ice-out this year, DNR crews will have a shorter window than usual to get boat ramps and docks ready for the May 12 fishing opener, but we will have as many of them ready as possible."

Every year, repairs are needed at hundreds of sites, because freezing temperatures and ice cause concrete to crack and buckle on the ramps. In some years, crews can get a head start on that work, even before ice-out, but this year the snow has prevented them from assessing damage, and the ramps can't be re-leveled until the ground thaws.

In the meantime, crews are busy rehabbing docks by, for example, changing bumpers and wheels as needed so that they'll be ready to pop in when the time comes.

"Even if every last dock isn't in by the opener, there will be places to fish and boat," said Stewart.

Helpful resources on the DNR's Public Water Access website ([www.mndnr.gov/wateraccess](http://www.mndnr.gov/wateraccess)) include:

➤ A map showing where ice-out has occurred.

➤ Phone numbers for DNR area offices for updates.

## Outdoors briefly

### May 4 deadline to apply for this fall's bear hunt

REGIONAL—Hunters are reminded that applications for bear hunting licenses are being accepted now through Friday, May 4, wherever Minnesota hunting and fishing licenses are sold, online at [mndnr.gov/buylicense](http://mndnr.gov/buylicense), and by telephone at 888-665-4236.

A total of 3,350 licenses are available in 13 permit areas. Bear licenses cost \$44 for residents and \$230 for nonresidents, and there is a \$5 application fee. The season is open from Saturday, Sept. 1, through Sunday, Oct. 14.

Notification to lottery winners will be made by Friday, June 1. Lottery winners will receive a postcard in the mail alerting them of their selection for a permit.

**Starwatch**

**Venus and Jupiter will dominate the sky in May**

by DEANNE MORRISON  
University of Minnesota

All during May, Venus and Jupiter dominate the early evening from opposite sides of the sky.

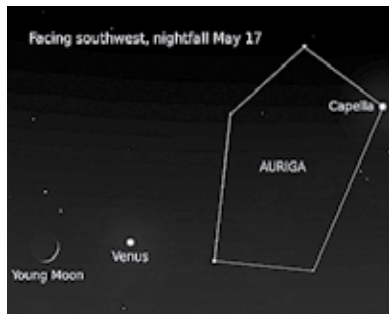
Earth laps Jupiter in the orbital race on the night of the 8th-9th, an event called opposition because it puts Jupiter opposite the sun in the sky. At that time, Jupiter rises around sunset and stays up all night. On the 10th, our two planets make their closest approach—about 409 million miles—before Earth leaves the giant planet behind.

The closest approach comes slightly later than opposition because during that short interval, Earth moves a little farther from the sun while Jupiter moves a little closer to it. Jupiter is brightest when it's nearest, but it could be hard to see much difference. Because its orbit is so far beyond Earth's, its distance from us doesn't vary by much.

If you have a good pair of binoculars and can stabilize them, you may see up to four bright dots on either side of Jupiter. These are Jupiter's largest moons—the Galilean moons, discovered by Galileo in January 1610. He deduced that they orbited Jupiter, a finding that dealt a blow to the old idea that everything in the heavens revolved around Earth. Look for Jupiter's high-wattage orb in the east after nightfall

and in the west an hour or two before sunrise.

Jupiter may be up all night, but Venus makes the most of its limited time



above the horizon. Our sister planet comes out in the west shortly after sunset and brightens as it sinks toward the horizon. Try looking for Venus 60 or 90 minutes after sunset to catch it when it's bright but not yet too low. On the 17th a young crescent moon joins Venus. Shining to the upper right of the pair that evening is multicolored Capella, the brightest star in Auriga, the charioteer.

If you want to compare Venus and Jupiter as they face each other across the sky, try the second week of May, when both planets will be fairly high and the moon won't interfere.

The morning of the 29th, the moon sets just a few hours short of fullness. But that follows a night when it crosses the sky between Jupiter and Saturn, with Mars taking up the rear. A morning planet, Mars is best seen about 90 minutes before sunrise, when it will be low in the south-southeast. Watch for Mars to brighten as its late-July opposition draws nearer.

**LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST**

from NOAA weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<b>54 26</b>	<b>55 30</b>	<b>68 44</b>	<b>73 46</b>	<b>71 44</b>

Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
04/16	25	19	0.42	8.2"	04/16	22	17	0.40	8.0"	04/16	24	18	0.17	5.0"	04/16	32	19	0.39	7.0"	04/16	25	17	0.50	9.0"
04/17	30	19	0.00		04/17	28	15	0.00		04/17	29	18	0.00		04/17	48	19	0.00		04/17	30	15	0.00	
04/18	47	23	0.00		04/18	48	14	0.00		04/18	43	20	0.00		04/18	48	27	0.00		04/18	47	20	0.00	
04/19	49	18	0.00		04/19	44	21	0.00		04/19	43	18	0.00		04/19	54	18	0.00		04/19	48	14	0.00	
04/20	55	18	0.00		04/20	52	10	0.00		04/20	54	18	0.00		04/20	57	19	0.00		04/20	54	17	0.00	
04/21	58	24	0.00		04/21	56	14	0.00		04/21	57	22	0.00		04/21	61	25	0.00		04/21	58	17	0.00	
04/22	61	27	0.00		04/22	58	18	0.00		04/22	61	27	0.00		04/22	63	32	0.00		04/22	61	22	0.00	
Totals			2.40	79"	Totals			2.81	78.9"	Totals			2.77	82.2"	Totals			NA	NA	Totals			2.72	72.2"

**CHANGE...**Continued from page 4B



a huge spike in the hare population. While driving leisurely on a forest road near the lake, a snowshoe hare hopped out onto the road right

**Left:** The distinctive tracks of the snowshoe hare are easy to identify in the snow.

file photo

in front of me. I stopped and as I did, a second hare hopped out of the woods, and then a third and a fourth, and pretty soon I had more than a dozen hares surrounding my car. Some of them starting standing up on their hind legs like they were trying to look inside the car. I know, it sounds like some cheap

horror flick or an acid trip, but it really happened. I must have sat there for 20 minutes wondering if I'd entered the Twilight Zone before they eventually grew bored with me and disappeared back into the woods.

It was interesting to be sure, and it left me wondering what other strange things those snowshoe hares just might be up to way out in the woods. Animals, after all, never cease to surprise us.

**Royal Wedding Party!**

*Save the date*

**Vermilion Park Inn • Soudan**

- Friday, May 18-4 PM (check-in)
- Saturday, May 19
- 6 AM-Wedding TV-Watch
- PJ's, Hats/Fascinators, Tea & Crumpets
- 9 AM-Brunch-followed by free day
- 6 PM-Sumptuous Dinner with Wine (Lute & Vocal Entertainment)
- 9 PM Royal Wedding Champagne Toast!

• 2 Nights, Crumpets, Dinner, Etc  
\$135 person (\$10 more for room w/private bath)  
• Sumptuous Dinner ONLY-\$45 per person

**Reservations / Info call Scarlet**  
218.753.2333

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**BOATS, TRAILERS & GEAR STOP INVASIVE SPECIES**

**2018 BOAT DECONTAMINATION STATION LOCATIONS/TIMES**

- Ely Area: Van Vac Road Public Landing: Daily, 8 AM-6 PM
- Sandy Point Public Landing: Fri-Sun, 8 AM-6 PM
- Lake Vermilion Tower: Y-Store: Thurs-Sun, 8 AM-6PM
- Lake Vermilion Cook: Country Store: Thurs-Sun, 8 AM-6 PM
- Gilbert/Eveleth Area: Lake Ore-Be-Gone: Fri-Sun, 10 AM-6 PM



[www.CleanDrainDry.org](http://www.CleanDrainDry.org)

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Morcom Township**

Important information regarding your property assessments. This may affect your 2019 property taxes.

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Morcom Township will meet on **May 1, 2018 from 10 -11 am at the Bear River Community Center, formerly the Bear River School.**

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. This board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the county board of appeal and equalization.

Sasha Lehto, Morcom Township Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, April 20 & 27, 2018*

**LOCAL BOARD OF APPEAL and EQUALIZATION for EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP**

St. Louis County, Minnesota will meet at the **Eagles Nest Town Hall on Saturday, May 5, 2018, from 10 a.m. - 11 noon.**

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the town has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and also to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after conferring with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your local board of appeal and equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to your county board of appeal and equalization.

Deb Siverhus, Clerk, Eagles Nest Township

*Published in the Timberjay, April 20 & 27, 2018*

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING For the Proposed Location of the Mesabi Trail from County Highway 21 (Lamppa's Corner) to County Road 26 (Wahlsten Road)**

The St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority and Kugler and Embarrass Townships encourage the public to attend informational meetings regarding the finalized route from County Highway 21 to County Road 26 along or near the former DM&IR Railroad Grade.

Information will be provided during the **Wednesday, May 9 Embarrass Township Meeting at 6:00 pm.**

Embarrass Town Hall: 7503 Levander Rd, Embarrass, MN 55732

The purpose of these meetings is to receive final comments from the public about the proposed project. Several renditions and prior public comments have been considered. Maps and other information will be available at the meeting. Comments received, either written or verbally, will be recorded and considered when making future project decisions.

The Regional Rail Authority also requests input from anyone on the identification of historical and cultural properties in this vicinity. Additional information can be obtained from and comments mailed to the St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority or Benchmark Engineering, Inc.

St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority: Bob Manzoline, Director, 111 Station 44 Rd, Eveleth, MN 55734

Benchmark Engineering: Jeremy Schwarze, jeremys@bm-eng.com 218-735-8914, 8878 Main Street, PO Box 261, Mountain Iron, MN 55768

*Published in the Timberjay April 13 & April 27, 2018*

**EMPLOYMENT**

**OUTLET MANAGEMENT WANTED Full-Time Seasonal Retail Position**

Seeking experienced Person with outgoing personality to manage and merchandise the Outlet Store and work in the Piragis Outlet Store in Ely. **Please contact Elli Piragis at 218-365-6745 or elli@piragis.com.** 5/11

**Nett Lake School Teachers Wanted**

The Nett Lake School is seeking applications for (2) elementary teachers for the 2018-19 SY. Applicants must submit a letter of interest, resume, copy of their valid MN teaching license or eligible for a variance and three letters of reference. Applicants may apply online at [www.nettlakeschool.org](http://www.nettlakeschool.org). The district will begin reviewing applications on Friday, April 20.

Submit to: James J. Varichak, Superintendent, Nett Lake School, 13090 Westley Drive, Nett Lake, MN 55772. ttn

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CITY OF ORR DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER**

Job Description: The City of Orr is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of Deputy Clerk/Treasurer. This position is full time with benefits. Please feel free to contact City Hall at 218-757-3288 for more information or questions.

Primary Duties: utility billing, payroll, accounts payable/receivable, prepare monthly financial statements, occasional meeting minutes, assist with annual budgets and audit, manage filing system, and assist in monthly council packet preparation. Applicants must possess strong analytical, organizational, math and computer skills (Microsoft Excel and Word); ability to work with the public; excellent oral and written communication skills; and the ability to work independently and efficiently. Must pass drug test, background and credit checks.

Application packets are available at Orr City Hall, 4429 Hwy 53, Orr, MN or by e-mail at [orrmn@centurytel.net](mailto:orrmn@centurytel.net). Return completed application to Orr City Hall, 4429 Hwy 53 or mail to City of Orr, PO Box 237, Orr, MN 55771. Applications are due Thursday, May 10, 2018, by 2:00 p.m.

*Published in the Timberjay, April 27 & May 4, 2018*

**Lake Vermilion Houseboats**



Now hiring for various positions! Dock/Yard Service and Houseboat Cleaning. Call us at 218-753-3548.

**Nett Lake School Indian Home-School Liaison/Director**

The Nett Lake School is seeking applications for an Indian Home-School Liaison/Director. This is a 35 hr./wk for 42 weeks position. A complete job description and application can be found at [www.nettlakeschool.org](http://www.nettlakeschool.org) or you may stop by the Nett Lake School. Salary will be based on qualifications and experience.

The district will begin reviewing applications on April 20, 2018. This position will remain open until filled. ttn

**FIELD TOWNSHIP CEMETERY/ ROAD REVIEW/ MEETING**

The Field Township Board will meet at the Field Township Cemetery on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 6 p.m. to conduct an inspection. A road review will follow with the regular board meeting to convene afterwards at the Field Town Hall.

Pat Chapman Township Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, April 27, 2018*

**Utility Worker I Temporary Apply by 5/4/18**



[www.stlouiscountymn.gov/jobs](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/jobs) or call 218-726-2422

*Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 4/27*

**CHILDCARE CENTER Classroom Teacher**

**Job Overview**  
The Little Eagles Childcare Center in Tower is hiring a Lead Teacher to provide quality, engaging and safe care for the children in the Tower/Soudan area. The Lead Teacher will teach and supervise the children alongside a team of like minded caregivers to promote the development of their social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth.

**Minimum Requirements:**  
 > Hold an AA degree in Early Childhood Education from an accredited college  
 > 1040 hours experience as a teacher, aide or student intern  
 > Experience working with young children and families  
 > Possess current First Aid/CPR certificate or must be able to obtain  
 > Ability to pass a background study  
 > Able to lift 50 pounds and occasionally more; and able to kneel, bend, stoop, and sit on floor to attend to children's needs

**Responsibilities**  
 > In partnership with the Director, design and follow a full schedule of activities and discover suitable teaching material  
 > Provide basic care and caregiving activities  
 > Use a wide range of teaching methods to enhance the child's abilities  
 > Evaluate children's performance to make sure they are on the right learning track  
 > Communicate with parents and update them on the progress of their children  
 > Observe children's interactions objectively  
 > Identify behavioral problems and determine the right course of action  
 > Collaborate with other colleagues  
 > Adhere with teaching standards and safety regulations

**Preferred Candidates also must have the following qualities:**  
 > Proven experience as a child care provider or assistant  
 > Excellent knowledge of child development and up-to-date education methods  
 > Methodical and creative  
 > Patience, flexibility and love for children  
 > Strong communication and time management skills  
 > Leadership and organizational skills

**Pay Scale: \$15+/Hour (DOQ), .75 to full-time hours per week**  
 Submit resume and qualifications to [Marshall@timberjay.com](mailto:Marshall@timberjay.com), or call 218-753-2950 for more information.

**Vermilion Country School Special Education Paraprofessional**

\$14.00 per hour, benefit package (prorated at 20+ hours/week), approximately 180 days/school year plus a few training days, approximately 8:30 am to 3:15 pm, except with additional duties

Full job description online at [www.vermilioncountry.org/employment](http://www.vermilioncountry.org/employment)

The Vermilion Country School (VCS), is a grades 7-12 public charter school in Tower. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: interact with staff, students, parent/guardians, and the community; facilitate academic and personal goal-setting; assist students with skill development in reading and math; monitor student progress; manage the physical needs of students as needed; chaperone field explorations; records maintenance and due process paperwork; proctor assessments and diagnostic tests; supervise students during lunch and out in the community; address behavior issues in accordance with school policy; maintain strict confidentiality; assist office staff and director as needed.

Minimum qualifications: Experience working with children, and a commitment to their learning; Excellent math, reading, and organizing skills; Excellent computer and office machine skills; Mature, friendly, and responsible; Commitment to the school's mission and vision; Positive references; A minimum of 60 semester credits or the amount required to complete two full years of fulltime enrollment as determined by the institution of higher education attended; or an AA, AS, or AAS (or higher) degree; or a passing score on an assessment from the state-approved list (The ParaPro test has been approved for state-wide use. The cut score is 460.) Additional desired qualifications (please see website).

**Position will remain open until filled. Please e-mail resume, cover letter, transcripts of college work and/or ParaPro score, and three letters of recommendation to:**  
 Vermilion Country School,  
 P.O. Box 629, Tower, MN 55790  
[kfitton@vermilioncountry.org](mailto:kfitton@vermilioncountry.org)  
[www.vermilioncountry.org](http://www.vermilioncountry.org)  
*VCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer*

**Get Results!**



**Advertise in the Timberjay!**

**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

8			5			9		
	2					1		4
		3		8			7	
	1		6	9				7
		4		7			5	
5					2	8		
6			9				1	
	8			6		3		
		5			8			2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**Classifieds & Legals online every week at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com)**



# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

Considerations of personal privacy, time and resources prevent the newspaper from investigating ads placed in the classified section. If you respond to an ad, we urge you to use the same care and prudence that you would use when conducting business in any other situation.

## AUTOMOTIVE

**NAPA PARTS CENTER, INC.**  
45 E. Chapman Street  
ELY  
365-3132

**Langevin Auto & Truck Repair**  
Full Service Auto Repair & Garage  
Hours: 8 AM-5 PM M-F  
2 Miles South of Tower  
218-749-0751

## HAIR CARE

VERMILION SHEAR IMAGE- Men's & Women's hairstyling. 314 Main St., Tower, 218-753-2928. Open Tuesday-Friday, 9am - 5pm. tfn

DREAMWEAVER SALON & DAY SPA- Open Monday-Friday 8:30 - 6:30. 218-666-5594. tfn

## HOSPICE

VIRGIE HEGG HOSPICE PARTNERS can provide help for patients and their families in ways such as: comfort care, massages, last wishes and more. For more information, contact Program Director Becca Bundy at 218-780-5423 or vhhpdirector@gmail.com. This ad is paid for by Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners.

## LICENSE BUREAU

COOK AREA LICENSE BUREAU- 221 S. Hwy 53, Cook. Open M-F 9-5, FastTrack Title Service-MVR-DNR-Limited DL, Dry Cleaning Drop off/Pick up, CDL/Motorcycle/Drivers Manuals. Now accepting Visa/MC/Discover. Questions call 218-666-6199. tfn

## REAL ESTATE

Search ALL MLS listings at www.pfremmerrealty.com. tfn

2BR FURNISHED HOUSE for sale in Soudan. Call Greg or Joan Dostert at 218-753-3047 for a showing. 5/4v

## FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT IN TOWER- Furnished, 2BR, 2BA, quality throughout, heated attached garage. \$850/mo. Call 218-750-6566 tfn

APARTMENT FOR RENT IN TOWER- 2 BR, newly-remodeled. Upstairs apartment on Main St. No smoking, no pets. Inquire at Good Ol' Days, 218-753-6097. 4/27

## STORAGE

RED ROCK STORAGE- Boats, Cars, Household Items. Ideal Location. Many sizes. Also Mobile Storage Containers delivered to your location. www.redrock-storage.com. Call 218-753-2375. tfn

## BUILDING SERVICES

**EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC**  
"Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home"  
Superior Quality  
• Plank Paneling  
• Trim  
• One-Of-A-Kind Moldings  
• Industrial Lumber  
218-744-1788  
8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

## HELP WANTED

SALESPERSON WANTED- No previous auto sales required. We will train the right person. Must be outgoing, highly-motivated, and self-disciplined. Clean driving record required. Call David Sabart at Waschke Family Chevrolet of Cook at 218-666-5901. tfn

HOUSEKEEPER- Pike Bay Lodge, Lake Vermilion, Tower is looking for a year-round part-time housekeeper/cabin cleaner. Call 218-753-2430. tfn

DOCK/YARD PERSON- Pike Bay Lodge on Lake Vermilion, Tower, is looking for full-time summer help. Yard work/dock service/maintenance. Call 218-753-2430. tfn

INTERESTED IN WORKING in a unique environment (on an island) with other engaging staff members? And learning about the hospitality industry? Join the 2018 crew at Ludlow's Island Resort. Wages start at \$12/hour and experience is not necessary. Contact Kelly at kelly@ludlowsresort.com. 4/27

SUMMER HOUSEKEEPING HELP NEEDED- at Oveson's Hotel, 4675 Hwy 53 Orr. 218-757-3613. Please call or stop by for an application. There will be an interview required. 6/15

A vibrant, growing congregation in Tower is seeking applicants for a PART-TIME OFFICE MANAGER position. The job entails a variety of office and secretarial duties. Experience and knowledge working in Word and with data bases is preferred. To apply send cover letter and resume to PO Box 466 Tower, MN 55790 or with questions you may call 218-753-2378. 4/27

## WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: Will pay cash for junk cars and pickups. Will pick up. Also, we collect used oil. Call 218-757-3255 or 218-780-2579. tfn

SELIGA CANOES WANTED: We'll buy old Seligas in Good Shape. Turn your classic canoe into cash. Call Steve at 365-6745. tfn

## EVENTS

OPENING DAY! Cook's Country Connection will be open for the season on Friday, May 4 from 10am to 4pm. Check out our website, Facebook page or call 780-8611 for more details. 1953 Vermillion Dr., Cook. www.CooksCountryConnection.com. 4/27

## RUMMAGE SALES

Ely Citywide Rummage and Crazy Day Saturday, May 19 from 8am-4pm. \$5 registration fee. Receive signage, map location and advertising. Stop in at the Chamber of Commerce at 1600 E Sheridan Street to register. 5/4

**Sell It Here**

**Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.**  
Line classifieds cost 30¢/word, \$6.00 minimum. Classified ads can be run a second time at half price (private parties only). We now accept payment by Visa, Mastercard and Discover. Call your ad in to 218-753-2950. Display (boxed) classifieds are billed by the "inch"- please call for prices and information on discounts. Call Today - 218-753-2950 or 218-365-3114

## MARINE

**SHAMROCK MARINE**  
Centrally Located On Lake Vermilion  
Covered Wet & Dry Boat Storage  
Lease or Purchase Options  
Marina • Mechanic on Duty  
Convenience Store  
24-Hour Fuel • Live Bait  
4551 Bradley Road, Tower • 753-5457  
www.shamrocklanding.com

**MERCURY OUTBOARDS**  
Frank's Marine  
Sales & Service, Orr, Mn 55771  
Mercury Outboards, MerCruiser, Crestliner, Lund, Spartan Trailers, Ercoc Pontoons.  
Call 218-757-3150

**MOCCASIN POINT MARINE**  
4655 Moccasin Point Rd  
Lake Vermilion  
218-753-3319  
Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales  
Mechanic on Duty  
moccasinpointmarine.com

**YAMAHA**

**MARINE**  
**TIMBUKTU MARINA**  
ON LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2131  
7401 Oak Narrows Rd • Cook MN  
Cabin rentals  
Year round boat storage and dockage  
Boat and pontoon rental  
Convenience store  
Gas, bait & liquor  
timbuktumarina.com  
**TIMBUKTU MARINE**  
LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2276  
2475 Vermilion Dr • Cook MN  
Ranger Premier  
Boats WEERES  
Boats MERCURY  
SUZUKI YAMAHA  
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories  
timbuktumarine.com

**Gruben's MARINA & YILLAGE**  
The Heart of Lake Vermilion  
• Boat launch, rental, store & repair  
• Cabins for a great, fun vacation  
See us at: www.grubens.com  
Call us at: 218.753.5000  
4296 Arrowhead Point Rd, Tower MN 55790

**Handberg's MARINA**  
CRANE LAKE, MN  
A FULL SERVICE MARINA  
Boat & Motor Sales, Service, Rental  
YAMAHA Evinrude  
CRESTLINER  
ALUMAWELD  
Gift Shop:  
Ice Cream Cones • Clothing  
Gifts • Boat Accessories  
Gas • Bait • Wifi  
Inside/Outside Storage  
Marina Slips • Daily RV Sites  
218.993.2214  
www.handbergs.com  
7123 Handberg Rd, Crane Lake, MN

## SUPPORT GROUPS

MS SUPPORT GROUP- meets the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Municipal Building, senior room. Open to all. For information contact Mary at 218-827-8327.

ORR AA and AL-ANON meet Tuesdays, AA at 8 p.m. and AL-ANON at 7 p.m. Holy Cross Catholic Church, Orr.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS- Meetings every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia.

MEETING in Ely! "New Ideas" WOMEN IN RECOVERY: 12 Steps. For women seeking help and hope to recover from any addiction: drugs, alcohol, food, gambling etc. Every Thursday noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Come join us! Q: 218-235-3581.

ELY CO-DEPENDENTS MEETING- Fridays at noon-St. Anthony's Church Classroom 3-Use west side entrance. For more information go to coda.org on the web.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP- Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon Family Group is a community-based mutual support program for the friends and families of alcoholics. It is confidential and open to anyone affected by someone else's drinking. Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass hosts an Al-Anon group on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. 218-984-2037.

AA OPEN MEETING- Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Woodland Presbyterian Church, Acacia Blvd. and Central Drive in Babbitt.

BABBITT AL-ANON- meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Babbitt Assembly of God Church.

VIRGINIA AA WOMEN'S MEETING- Ladies by the Lake. Tuesdays at 12 noon. Peace United Methodist Church, 303 S 9th Ave, please use side door and parking.

HIV/AIDS? For confidential compassionate local support call the Rural AIDS Action Network, toll-free 1-888-647-RAAN(7226).

Call 753-2950 to subscribe to the Timberjay!

## Answers on page 3B

- ACROSS**  
1 Fuel dispenser  
8 Beat, as wings  
12 Pairs  
16 Boohoo  
19 Waldorf — (hotel)  
20 Instantly  
22 Stan of comics  
23 Start of a riddle  
25 Eggs in a lab  
26 Lock insert  
27 AAA request  
28 — Aviv  
29 Entryways  
31 Riddle, part 2  
39 Said aloud  
41 Zebra's kin  
42 Very gloomy  
43 "Electric" fish  
44 One of the 12 apostles  
45 Post-Q string  
46 Alternative to Zolof or Paxil  
48 Riddle, part 3  
55 Olive of comics  
56 2004-10 nickname on the Houston Rockets  
57 Actor Mineo  
58 Biting comedy  
59 Boozeed up  
61 Slangy assents  
65 Arcade coin  
66 Not firm  
69 Riddle, part 4  
72 Allows to  
73 Less diluted  
75 Opening for a letter-shaped bolt  
76 Like part of the heart  
78 "The Simpsons" voice actor  
80 Disk in a 1990s fad game  
82 "Milk" Oscar winner Sean  
83 OR figure  
86 Riddle, part 5  
92 Crystal-lined stones  
93 Scepter  
94 Mobster's code of silence  
95 Fair-minded  
99 Take — (sample the drink)  
100 The "E" of PEI: Abbr.  
101 Having as a foundation  
102 End of the riddle  
106 Persona non — (outcast)  
107 Quadrennial games org.  
108 Brain wave test, in brief  
109 Chest bone  
112 Address for a knight  
113 Riddle's answer  
121 Koko or Kong  
122 Most itty-bitty  
123 Decorated pilots  
124 Get married  
125 Hedge shrubs  
126 Lofty works  
127 Least sloppy

## Super Crossword

- DOWN**  
1 Rubberneck  
2 Court great  
3 "Don't move"  
4 Lobster trap  
5 Geller with a psychic act  
6 Prefix with represent  
7 Gave a gentle touch  
8 Whizzed by  
9 Ignited  
10 Some spitzes  
11 Actor Finch  
12 Lao- —  
13 "Says —?"  
14 Gut-punch sound  
15 Exaggerated  
16 Dress  
17 Let slip  
18 Leavenings  
21 Quickly, musically  
24 Santa's laugh sounds  
30 Swallowed  
32 Utter agony  
33 Noble Brit  
34 Said nothing  
35 "Cómo —?" (Juan's greeting)  
36 Univ. lecturer  
37 Minnelli of "Arthur"  
38 Garner  
39 As many as  
40 "So — say"  
45 School break  
46 Volcano that destroyed St. Pierre  
47 Small talk  
49 Knows the answer  
50 Be really flattering  
51 Ringlike isle  
52 Tandem, e.g.  
53 Pitcher  
54 Hankers  
59 Far from lax  
60 650, in old Rome  
62 Gardner of old films  
63 Table protector  
64 Not as iffy  
66 Fix, as a dog or cat  
67 Liqueur akin to Sambuca  
68 Herr's wife  
70 Pueblo dwellers  
71 Vocalize loudly  
74 Actress Diana  
77 Absence of vigor  
79 "Save me —"  
81 Avant- — (totally new)  
83 Cajun dish  
84 Painter Dix  
85 Bluish green  
87 "Baloney!," to Brits  
88 Falco or Adams  
89 Patches  
90 Costs for cheap apartments  
91 Jail unit  
95 Many-pieced puzzle  
96 Still green  
97 Roped in  
98 Trike rider  
100 Cut in glass  
101 Enthusiast  
103 Run-down  
104 Lead-in to economic or political  
105 Lead-in to colonial  
110 Glazes, e.g.  
111 Unequaled  
114 "— haw!"  
115 "Gross!"  
116 Little — (tykes)  
117 British verb ending  
118 Be in the running (for)  
119 Noted time  
120 Actor Faxon

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
19							20				21						22				
23							24										25				
26						27			28					29	30						
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39	40							41			42				43						
44							45			46					47						
48						49			50						51	52	53	54			
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		59						60		61		62	63	64		65					
66	67	68			69				70					71		72					
73				74		75						76			77						
78					79				80		81		82				83	84	85		
86						87	88	89			90					91					
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102					103					104			105								
106									107				108						109	110	111
112						113	114	115	116			117				118	119	120			
121						122										123					
124						125										126					

## Weekly SUDOKU

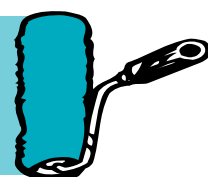
Answer

8	4	7	5	2	6	9	3	1
9	2	6	7	3	1	5	8	4
1	5	3	4	8	9	2	7	6
3	1	8	6	9	5	4	2	7
2	6	4	8	7	3	1	5	9
5	7	9	1	4	2	8	6	3
6	3	2	9	5	4	7	1	8
4	8	1	2	6	7	3	9	5
7	9	5	3	1	8	6	4	2

The Timberjay classified ads reach readers of all three editions every week.  
Call 753-2950 to place yours now!



# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



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 Sheldon Sandberg, Owner  
 Cell: 218-780-7153

License #BC385748

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 COOK, MN  
 (218) 666-3173

- General Contractor
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- Remodeling
- Garages
- Boathouses
- Property Maintenance
- Island Work
- Skidsteer Work

2020 Burtress Rd. Cook, MN 55723  
 Sheldon Sandberg, Owner  
 Cell: 218-780-7153

License #BC385748

**C&H FLOORING SPECIALISTS**  
 CAMERON KOSKI LLC

Installation of Hardwood, Laminate and Tile, (will do island work)

- Fully Insured
- References Available
- Over 23 years of experience

**218.780.3444**  
 cameronkoski@gmail.com

FREE ESTIMATES

**BREWING DEMONSTRATION**

APRIL 28 • 10 AM

IN-STORE BREWING DEMONSTRATION by "Brewmaster Bob"

FROM CABINS TO CASTLES  
**cbcc**  
 COOK BUILDING CENTER

Phone/Fax: 218.666.5344  
 Hours: Mon. Fri: 7-5, Sat: 8-12  
 eric@cookbuildingcenter.com

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 Fax (218)365-6164  
**Angie Mikulich**  
 Office Manager/Closing Specialist

**VIRGINIA OFFICE**  
 612 13 St S • Virginia MN 55792  
 Phone (218)741-1515  
 Fax (218)742-9383  
**Jodee Micheletti**  
 Owner/Closing Specialist

**COOK OFFICE**  
 P.O. Box 539 • Cook MN 55723  
 Phone (218)666-3174  
 Fax (218)742-9392  
**Sharon Maronick**  
 Office Manager/Closing Specialist

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 302 Main St., Tower, MN  
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**Carl Anderson**

**Anderson Barging, Inc.**

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2408 Hwy. 169, PO Box 608, Ely, MN 55731  
 canudigit@frontiernet.net MPCA License 1826

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 69VI-PR-18-50**

In Re: ESTATE OF Raymond Nielo Nikkola aka Raymond Nielo Nikkola aka Raymond N Nikkoli aka Raymond N Nikkola Decedent

AMENDED NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on May 16, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court in Virginia, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated January 8, 2016, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Doris J. Helgerson, whose address is 4376 Lane 49, Aurora, MN 55705, Bobby Jo Mineheine, whose address is 5334 Lane 55, Aurora, MN 55705, Dean Mineheine, whose address is 5334 Lane 55, Aurora, MN 55705 as Personal Representatives of the Estate in an UNSUPERVISED administration.

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated April 18, 2018

BY THE COURT  
 ROBERT C. FRIDAY  
 Judge of District Court  
 AMY TURNQUIST/Stephanie Higgins, as Deputy Court Administrator

Attorney for the Petitioner  
 Angela E. Sipila  
 108 S. Fifth Ave., Suite #1  
 Virginia, MN 55792  
 Attorney License No: 024501X  
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