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CITY OF ELY

Tree tapping likely to be terminated

City Council seeks ordinance banning spring tradition

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**
Ely Editor

ELY – The City Council unanimously agreed to direct the Clerk-Treasurer and City Attorney to draft an ordinance effectively terminating tree tapping for maple sap on city-owned maple trees.

Council member Albert Forsman made the motion Tuesday night that was supported by council member Paul Kess.

The action is the result of a public hearing last month where the council heard only a few people speak on the matter. The loudest voice at the hearing was the Ely Tree Board recommending to put a stop to the spring-time tradition of collecting maple sap from the city’s numerous, yet aging, silver maple trees.

“With an ordinance, it will give us the definition that these are our trees to (determine) what can or cannot be done

with them,” Forsman said. “This is an important part of our tree ordinance.”

Kess said he wasn’t sure an ordinance was needed, but he would support such a law. “We don’t have ordinances to protect other city property. It may be too much. I’ll support an ordinance, but if there is an easier, faster way, I’ll support that, too,” he said. “I appreciate the efforts of the Tree

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ELECTION 2018

McDonald to seek county board seat

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Paul McDonald is widely known across the region as a teacher and a basketball coach. He’d soon like to be known as a county commissioner.

McDonald, an Iron Range native and long-time Ely resident, announced Tuesday that he will be a candidate for St. Louis County Board, representing the Fourth District.



Paul McDonald

He would be replacing current County Commissioner Tom Rukavina, who isn’t seeking re-election due to health reasons.

McDonald, who grew up in Chisholm in a family devoted to high school sports, has been athletic director at Vermilion Community College for the last 28 years, in addition to his coaching and teaching. During that time, McDonald has represented his faculty union in St. Paul and has

See...BOARD pg. 8

Lislegard to seek 6B House seat

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— It appears the Iron Range DFL faces another primary contest, this one in House District 6B.

Aurora Mayor Dave Lislegard, who describes himself as an advocate for mining, healthy rural communities and “the Iron Range way of life,” announced he’ll seek the party’s nomination for the seat being vacated by Rep. Jason Metsa, of Virginia.



David Lislegard

DFLers endorsed Pike Township resident Shaun Hainey for the seat at their Sixth District convention on March 17, so Lislegard, 45, will be contesting that endorsement in the August primary.

“I am a pro-labor, pro-business, pro-jobs DFLer,” Lislegard said in announcing his candidacy. “I have lived the difficult roller-coaster economy of the Range that has resulted in

See... HOUSE pg. 8

BOIS FORTE HERITAGE MUSEUM

Tiny beads, lifetime lessons



Beading class part of effort to preserve cultural heritage

by **JODI SUMMIT**
Tower-Soudan Editor

VERMILION RESERVATION- What better place to learn the art of beading than at the Bois Forte Heritage Museum. The museum is currently hosting a seven-week beading class (sorry, all spots are filled).

Not only are there amazing examples of historical beadwork on display in the museum, but the

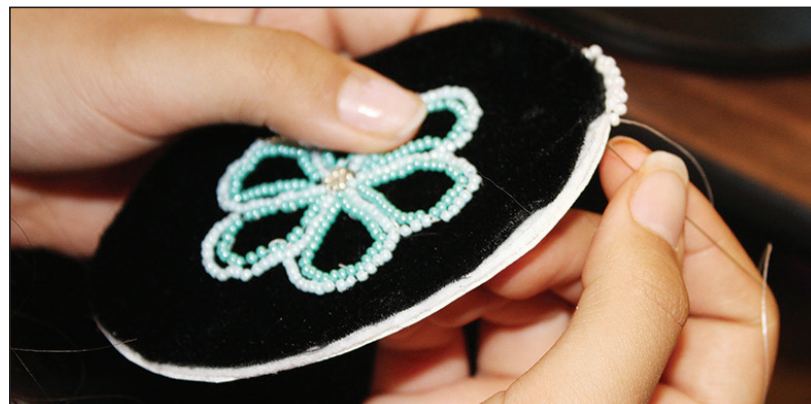
museum shop is now stocking one of the widest selections of beading supplies north of Duluth. The new focus on Native American crafts is thanks in part to a grant from the First Nations Development Institute.

Heritage Center Visitor Services Manager Martha Anderson said this grant not only is funding two sets of classes, one on beading

See...BEADS pg. 10



Anissa Pete and Mahlia Schuster, top, concentrate on their beading projects. Part of a set of regalia, above, made by Annie Hackey in 1919 for her son, Jerry, is on display at the Bois Forte Heritage Museum. At left, a class participant works on barrette edging. photos by J. Summit



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Minnesota Master Naturalist Volunteer Training to be held at International Wolf Center in June

ELY- Do you enjoy learning about the natural world? If so, consider becoming a Minnesota Master Naturalist volunteer. The International Wolf Center in Ely is hosting a Minnesota Master Naturalist Volunteer Training beginning Monday, June 11.

Master Naturalist volunteers complete a 40-hour hands-on course with expert instructors and fellow learners – studying natural history, environmental interpretation, and conservation stewardship. Final certification comes with the completion of 40 hours of volunteer service. The program offers three courses that correspond to Minnesota’s three major ecosystems – entitled ‘Big Woods, Big Rivers,’ ‘Prairies and Potholes,’ and ‘North Woods, Great Lakes.’

This course will cover the natural and cultural history of the “North Woods, Great Lakes” region. We will provide an in-depth overview of the boreal forest ecosystem and participants will observe and learn about the variety of plant and animal communities of the region. Through the course, participants will develop their ability to observe nature and will learn tools to improve these skills.

The classes will be held Monday - Friday, June 11 to June 15 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday, June 16 from 8 a.m. – noon with instructor Bill Tefft. You may contact him by email at efnbill@gmail.com.

For more information and on-line registration, go to minnesotamasternaturalist.org/courses/register/?courseId=730. For registration assistance, call Julie Larson at 320-589-1711 Ext. 2120, 1-888-241-4532, or e-mail info@minnesotamasternaturalist.org. Minnesota Master Naturalist is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Extension.

Cook Lions Fish Fry set for Friday, May 11 at the Cook VFW

COOK- The Cook Lions are hosting a Friday Fish Fry at the Cook VFW on Friday, May 11 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., or until the fish runs out! Cost for the meal is \$10 or \$5 for ages 10 and under. The side dishes include coleslaw, beans, rolls and dessert. It’s a fundraiser with Lions doing the cooking.

The Lions Club is an international membership organization dedicated to serving communities. All monies collected are donated to community projects and events. Lions meet every other Tuesday at 6 p.m. (May 15 and 29) at the VFW building. Please join us in making a difference in our community!

Learn to identify invasive plant species

ELY- Invasive Species Technician, Jeffery Flory from the 1854 Treaty Authority will be providing information on species of interest and training on how citizens can help detect and mark invasive species using either a computer or a smart phone at the Ely Field Naturalists meeting on Wednesday, May 9 from 7 - 8:15 p.m. at Vermilion Community College in Classroom CL104. Flory will discuss leadership efforts occurring in southern St. Louis County by the Duluth Collaborative Species Management Area Group and the Stewardship Network.

“Invasive species such as buckthorn was planted in yards and has been spreading into natural areas including the Superior National Forest. It is tough for the US Forest Service or other agencies locate known and new species and species expansion. We could really use your help,” he said.

VISITING ARTIST/MUSICIAN/POET

Artist, poet, musician Lyla June in Tower and Ely, May 10, 12 and 13

REGIONAL- Lyla June Johnston, inspiring musician, eco-philosopher, protector of indigenous culture, and internationally recognized poet will be visiting Tower and Ely, May 10 -13.

Traveling all over the world, Lyla June shares her sacred messages of human dignity and belonging for all people. Lyla June grew up in Taos, New Mexico, and graduated with honors from Stanford University with a degree in environmental anthropology. Lyla June is from the Native American Nation known as Dine’ (Navajo) and Tsétséshéshé (Cheyenne) and resides in Diné Tah, the Navajo ancestral homeland, now part of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Arizona.

She will be speaking and performing at the Vermilion Social Center, 1610 Farm Rd., on the Vermilion Reservation near Tower,



on Thursday, May 10 at 5 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Lyla June’s Ely visit will include Harmony and Healing: an evening of conversation, spoken-word and music, on Saturday, May 12 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Ely Folk School, 209

E. Sheridan Street. There will be a potluck at 5 p.m. before the event.

Lyla June will also visit St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 715 S. Central Ave. in Ely, at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 13 for a Blessing for the Mother: a blessing for moms, elders, and Mother Earth. All of these events are free and open to the public. A free will donation at Ely Folk School will go to Lyla June and to the Ely Birch Bark Canoe Project.

Lyla June’s visit is part of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church’s Bridging the Gap Series and KBFT Bois Forte Tribal Community Radio Events. We are grateful to our sponsors: Ely Folk School, Wintergreen, Story Portage, Piragis; and our grant funders: the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and Lake County Power’s Operation Round Up®.

Fun with Acrylic Paint at NWFA on June 16



COOK- There will be a fun instructional day-long workshop for acrylic painting techniques during the Eighth Annual Spring Art Expo (June 8 - 29), on Saturday, June 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Artist Kris Musto will teach the class at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook at 210 S River St.,

between Gustafson Ford and Dream Weaver Salon.

Do you want to paint and are not sure where to begin? Kris will talk about color theory, mixing colors, acrylic media, color palette layout, brush choice, composition, mark making and smart cleanup. Each student will leave the workshop with a small painting on canvas and ideas for painting more. The workshop is open to all abilities and experience.

Kris says she uses paint, drawing, sculpture, installation, photography, handmade books, collage, fiber, fabric, printmaking, text and anything else within reach to make artwork about what she’s thinking and feeling. It’s a tricky thing to translate feelings into visual images. She has taught workshops around the country on bookbinding, altered books, soft sculpture, intuitive drawing and developing a portfolio. She holds a BFA from the Minneapolis College of Art and

Design and has worked in MCAD Admissions since 1999. When she’s sitting still, Kris lives by the lake.

Pre-registration is required and the cost to NWFA members is \$30, \$45 for non-members (annual memberships are \$15). This fee does not include the \$15 (generous) supply fee which is payable to Kris Musto at the time of the class on June 16.

You may register for “Fun With Acrylic Paint” by contacting NWFA, a 501(c)3 organization, by email at nwfamn.org@gmail.com or by calling Alberta at 218-666-2153. See the website for more information at www.nwfamn.org. You may register at NWFA Gallery as well on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Look for other events planned for the Spring Art Expo.

Ely illustrator’s new book aims to get kids hooked on fishing

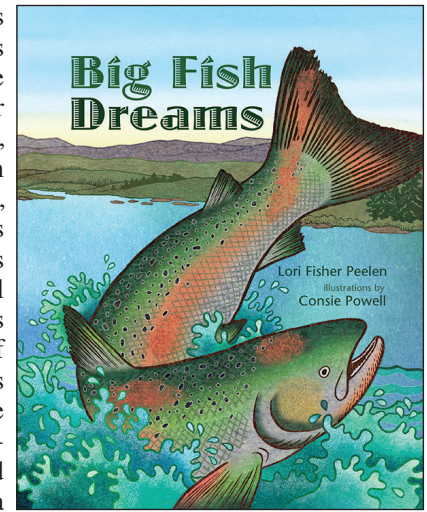
ELY- Do you want to help kids fall in love with the outdoors? Follow the tale of a boy, a family fishing trip, and a beautiful salmon traveling persistently toward her spawning place. Will she make it? Will the boy catch the fish of his dreams? Big Fish Dreams, written

by Lori Peelen and illustrated by Consie Powell, masterfully intertwines the story of the boy and the salmon while teaching children about ecosystems, watersheds, and the part salmon play in the health of both. A non-fiction section provides more detail about salmon and follows a raindrop’s path through a healthy watershed.

Author Lori Peelen lives in California, where she spends her time tending her walnut orchard, vegetable garden, a flock of hens, honeybees, two elderly horses, four stray cats, and two unruly dogs. Illustrator Consie Powell is an artist and writer who loves to snoop in nature’s lovely untidy places, has a soft spot for predators, and

sometimes finds a story that links the two. She creates books for young readers, binds her own sketch journals, and helps others learn the joys of taking visual and written notes to keep track of how life dances around us. She is an award-winning author and illustrator of a dozen books and enjoys paddling her wooden canoe near her home on the edge of the Boundary Waters. See more of Consie’s artwork and books at www.consiepowell.com.

Big Fish Dreams, published by Raven Books, is available now. Order by calling 1-218-365-3375, emailing orders@ravenwords.com, or ordering online at www.ravenwords.com.



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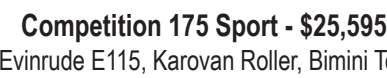
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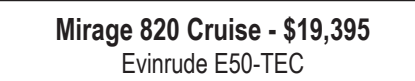
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

New ORR Center thrift store finds its niche

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

ORR— Since the closing of the Orr General Store several years ago, the community here has had few local options to shop for household items, clothing, or toys. But that's changed since the opening of the new secondhand shop at the ORR Center, located in the former Orr School.

The store officially opened in January and has been seeing increasing traffic during the days the center is open. "Business has picked up," said ORR Center director Wendy Purdy. "People are figuring out we're here."

store offers a convenient way to shop for a wide range of things, from dishes, and pots and pans, to gardening supplies, books, DVDs, CDs and even old video tapes for folks still living in the 1970s. You'll find lots of children's clothing, shoes, purses, glassware, and more.

"It's all donated," said Purdy, noting that "everything has to be gently used."

Purdy said she doesn't have the workforce available to weed out the junk, so they don't accept donations unless it's quality stuff. "We're a little picky, but that means everything is nice. It's a little higher quality. And we've had tons of donations." That includes a big shipment

of lightly-used children's clothing donated by a shop in the Twin Cities that was going out of business. "So we have a really nice selection of kids' clothing," said Purdy.

For the ORR Center, the store provides a source of revenue for their current operations and the further development of their ambitious goals. Purdy and her crew of dedicated volunteers were able to get the store up and running for little or no cost, since the work was done by volunteers and the center staff made use of old shelving from the former school to display their merchandise.

The store is located in the

See STORE...pg. 5



The new secondhand store at the ORR Center has a wide range of household items, clothes, books, gardening supplies, and more. photo courtesy W. Purdy

TOWER-BREITUNG WASTEWATER

Emergency discharge from sewer ponds

Wastewater board okays MPCA study for system expansion

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER-SOUDAN— The Tower-Breitung Wastewater Board will need to make an early release of some of its treatment pond water to prevent a potential overflow of the facility's dikes.

Wastewater system manager Matt Tichel told members of the board at their regular meeting on April 25 that he gotten the okay from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the release, which normally is not allowed while ice cover remains on the receiving river or lake. Recent warmer weather has opened up some open water along shore, however, which allowed Tichel to discharge water this week without violating discharge standards.

Tichel noted that the ice had formed last fall in early November, just prior to his last scheduled release in 2017. That forced him to hold

off on the fall discharge. He noted that deep frost this winter prompted many residents to run their water for the past several months, further stressing pond capacity. With lingering ice still remaining on Lake Vermilion, which is the ultimate receiving water for the ponds, Tichel said he couldn't safely wait any longer.

Winter conditions prompted the TBWB to conduct a similar emergency discharge in 2014.

Tichel noted that the older water in the pond system has been retained for considerable time and will likely test pretty well, which should reduce the environmental impact of this year's early release.

In other action, the wastewater board gave the go-ahead to move forward with an effluent study to be conducted by the MPCA. The study, which will cost the financially-strapped wastewater board \$1,550, is an initial step towards a possible expansion of the TBWB's

wastewater capacity.

Tichel noted that an expansion will require a new permit and he said the study will determine what kind of effluent limits are likely to be applied to that permit. He said the new permit could include a mercury and sulfate limit, but is most likely to include a cap on phosphorus discharge. "That's the big one," said Tichel, who noted that some form of additional mechanical treatment could be necessary in order to meet some of the new standards. He said the study is critical in designing any expansion of the system.

"If you want to move forward, that's the first thing that has to get done," Tichel told the board.

"Then why don't we do it," said board chair Chuck Tekautz. Board member Greg Dostert agreed. "We can't finish the race until we start it," he said.

Tichel estimated the study will take about three months to complete.

THE LEGISLATURE

Legislators vote to nullify wild rice sulfate standard

If signed into law, faces likely lawsuit

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The fate of Minnesota's long-standing wild rice standard for sulfate discharges has taken another step closer to potential litigation. Both the Minnesota House and Senate have now approved legislation that would nullify the existing standard of 10 milligrams per liter and prohibit the state's Pollution Control Agency from implementing a new equation-based standard that had been in the rulemaking process.

MPCA Commissioner John Linc Stine announced late last week that his agency was withdrawing its proposed new standard and that his staff would

work with the Legislature on a path forward. An administrative law judge had earlier disallowed the proposed new standard, citing a laundry list of problems with it.

Representatives of the mining industry and some municipal wastewater treatment operators, particularly on the Iron Range, have strongly opposed enforcement of the existing wild rice standard for years, and have fought the adoption of the new equation-based standard as well, mostly over the cost of compliance.

But state-funded research has bolstered the claim that wild rice is sensitive to sulfate

See SULFATE...pg. 5

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Editorial

EPA wood stove regs

The 2020 wood furnace standards make sense. Let them take effect as planned.

Efforts to undo the environmental and public health protections of the Obama administration’s Environmental Protection Agency could harm more than the air we breathe. They could undercut the remarkable achievement of Tower-based Lamma Manufacturing, which has produced the world’s cleanest-burning wood furnace.

The company, which was the first to meet the EPA’s 2020 emissions standard, is in the process of an expansion that could eventually turn the company into a major player, and employer, in this multi-million dollar industry. It’s a good news story of how a small, family-owned business accepted a tough new regulation as a challenge, and not only met the challenge, but made it look easy.

The 2020 emissions standard, adopted by the EPA under the Obama years, was, like most regulations, intended to push industry players to improve their product in ways where the market generally falls short. In the case of wood furnaces, too many of them emit far more soot, carbon monoxide, and fine particulates than they should. In communities where such furnaces are widely used, they have fouled the air to the detriment of public health.

This was an example of how the market fails when it comes to regulation of what is known as “the commons,” by which we mean resources, like air and water, that we all share. A typical user of a wood furnace might be tempted to purchase the cheaper (and dirtier) model because it saves them money personally, while they can pass on the costs (in higher emissions) to the commons, in this case the local atmosphere. While wood furnaces represent a relatively small percentage of the heating appliances used by U.S. homeowners, they contribute as much as 30 percent of the fine particulates in the air in many communities.

Most wood furnace manufacturers in the U.S. were perfectly content with that arrangement and made little effort over the years to clean up their act. Lamma Manufacturing, which has been committed to the development of clean wood-burning devices for decades, has been a remarkable exception

and they have proven that wood-burning can be both remarkably clean and highly efficient.

The EPA, under President Obama, took steps to finally require wood furnace manufacturers to reduce their emissions, first with new standards that took effect last year and, finally, with a much stricter standard that takes effect in 2020.

Lamma Manufacturing’s Vapor-Fire wood furnace is the first to meet the 2020 standard. And it didn’t just meet the test—it beat the new standard by 40 percent.

Even so, lobbyists for the big wood furnace manufacturers are at work in Washington, D.C., asking for a three-year delay in implementation of the 2020 standard. They claim that the new standard is so difficult to meet that it will take them more time to make the necessary improvements to their product line.

They are right that the new standard is tough, which is why it will make a big difference for air quality in communities where wood-burning is common. Yet these companies have known for decades that they would need to improve their products, and they did little or nothing. And now, with a deadline looming that could shut down their operations, they’re asking for the right to continue to sell their inferior products at the expense of air quality and human health.

The EPA should say no. We’ve seen this routine too many times before. First, the industry pushes for delay in implementation of a new standard. Then, rather than using the ensuing years to meet the standard, they use the time to lobby for its eventual elimination.

The 2020 wood furnace standard is an example of smart regulation that makes a real difference by challenging an industry to clean up its act. And as Lamma Manufacturing has demonstrated, it’s an achievable standard for a company that’s committed to protection of the environment.

The standard encourages the production of better wood furnaces, and rewards those companies that have made the investments to bolster their competitive edge. Isn’t that what American free enterprise is supposed to be all about?



Letters from Readers

No guns allowed at president’s speech?

What? No guns allowed? This Friday, Trump and Pence are scheduled to speak at the NRA/Republican convention in Dallas.

Here’s a point worth pondering: Trump, Pence and the NRA/Republican organization constantly push laws to have everyone carrying guns everywhere, including in schools, courtrooms, legislatures (Minnesota Legislature included) and all public venues, in order to make these places more “safe” for the public. But when the two chicken hawks crank up the crowd at the “Convention” on Friday, there will be no guns allowed in the arena. Why? Hey, come on boys, please try and set a good example. Remember, the rest of us are repeatedly told: “A good guy with a gun is....”

Friends, this is just another example of the NRA/Emperors standing there without any clothes on. All the while gathering plenty of money from the members.

Lee Peterson
Greenwood Township

Disloyalty an issue in previous West Wings

On our way to Costa Rice this winter we were at my sister’s in Kansas City and saw the advertisement for the book “Fire and Fury” on TV. We went shopping for the book with no luck, sold out!! So we put our name on a list. When we came home, my sister had the new book, by Michael Wolff. Wolff refers to himself as “a fly on the wall”, and why he was allowed the access to write. The West Wing of the White House is where the Jarvankas, Bannon (now ousted), Hope Hicks, Priebus, and General Kelly’s offices are located. Plus the most influential and powerful is the President’s Oval Office. Bannon calls Flynn “A---up,” Flynn, Mattis

and Kelly are retired generals. The President has surrounded himself with them but he won’t listen to their comments or ideas. Our “Commander in Chief” is so far away from being military that the structure therein is foreign to him. General Kelly was brought into the West Wing as chief-of-staff. He ran right into a buzz-saw when he imposed restrictions on access to Trump, using “The chain of command”, didn’t work! The Jarvankas said, no, no, no!! We are family. This book is a real look into what’s happening today inside the West Wing. Now I’m reading “Decision Points” by George W. Bush. He had to shake up things in the West Wing because of personnel conflict, leaks to the press and unloyalty. What would happen to us ordinary folks who go to work and don’t listen to what our boss tells us is our task for the day, or in the days coming? There’s the door for you!!

Skip Dickinson
Britt

Tribal candidate Drift offers ideas

Boozho! My name is Shane Drift and I am running for District I Representative. My mother is Marcia Drift (deceased), my father is Gary “Squeak” Strong. I serve with our Ambulance Service, going on seven years. I serve with our Fire Department, over twenty-five years. I also volunteer my time and shovel for our elders during the winter. I also help drum and sing for the various community pow-wows and ceremonies. I do not get paid for this. It would be my honor to serve you as the new Bois Forte District I Representative. Now let’s get to the issues.

I do support funding for team sports because various band member kids and teenagers play sports. We also have band member kids and teenagers who do not play sports. We need to sit down with our kids and teenagers to see what their interests

are. Maybe they’re interested in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, photography, painting or film-making. Some elders would like to see the Elders Committee brought back. The Elders Committee was part of the Tribal Council meetings. I would be in favor of bringing back the Elders Committee and making the Elders Committee part of the Tribal Council meetings again. We need to help all our elders, regardless of who they are, or what side they support, because it’s the right thing to do.

In past elections band members who lived in the Twin Cities could go and vote at the urban office in Minneapolis. Now the reason that our tribe does not have a voting place at the Duluth and Minneapolis urban offices on Election Day is because there is not money in the budget. If I am elected I will push for monies to be set aside so that our band members can vote at the Duluth and Minneapolis urban offices for the 2020 tribal elections. We also need to look at setting up a place to vote in Bemidji for our band members who live there and the surrounding area.

I cannot advocate enough for our reservation to look at starting new businesses off of the reservation. I know our tribe lost millions of dollars with Power Rain, Tim Horton’s and the Y Express Lube.

What if Bois Forte bought: A furniture store and put it in Duluth or the Twin Cities? Fortune Bay Resort Casino could also buy their furniture from there. A gas station and put it by Walmart in Mt. Iron? A pharmacy and put it in Orr, Duluth or the Twin Cities? Please keep in mind that once Bois Forte buys from a non-reservation business, the money does not come back. I sincerely believe that Bois Forte has the potential to be successful like the other reservations.

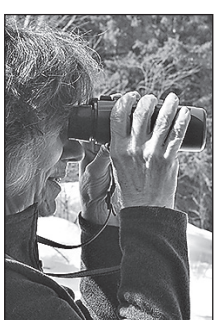
Before we start any new business, I would like to put

See LETTER...page 5

Why am I painting at a time like this?

“Why Am I Painting My Living Room?”

This little phrase comes from a song by Lou and Peter Berryman. I first heard it in the 80’s on one of my favorite radio stations, KAXE out of Grand Rapids, 91.7 FM Northern Community Radio. I was an avid listener because, back then, I was living and raising my family



KATHLEEN MCQUILLAN

“off the grid”, part of a roving migration of young people across the country, in search of “cheap land” in out-of-the-way places. We were the beginnings of a new generation of homesteaders, part of what’s been called the “Back-to-the-Land” Movement. Our small battery-powered radio was

my connection to the outside world.

Back then, I didn’t realize that I was also a member of the “Baby Boom” generation. We were the offspring of World War II GI’s who’d been drafted in droves and sent to Europe to fight the Nazis, or to the South Pacific to defeat Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor. While they were overseas, the women left behind who were destined to become their wives, waited anxiously, and then welcomed them home with open arms.

For historical reference, the war ended in 1945. Modern birth control methods would not become available until the 1960s. Stop and imagine for a minute. 1945? Abstinence? Ya, sure!

Fast forward a few more years. There we are! Lots of us! Come the mid-60’s, now we’re young adults, free to roam, ready to make homes of our own!

We repatriated aging farms or picked a piece of raw property and built our own little shack in the woods. We learned how to survive on little or nothing

by reading books by farmers, philosophers and new age frontier carvers; from a seasoned gardener, or another greenhorn living down the road who had arrived here not too long before us — kindred spirits pursuing a dream — the freedom to live our own way. Exploring and experimenting were the name of the game. Being resourceful, living by trial and error, working hard, getting strong, and of course having fun, creating a

See PAINTING...pg. 5

COMMUNITY BOOSTERISM

Ely's Underground Optimists mark one year of positivity

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The unofficial cheerleader for economic development in Ely, a grassroots organization called Underground Optimists, marked one year in existence last month and updated a recent Tuesday Group gathering on their efforts to create a more positive attitude in the community.

The third installment of their semi-annual Underground Optimist magazine will be published early this month. According to founder Kara Polyner, the mission of the Ely-centric publication is to emphasize the unique people, arts and activities this community has to offer. “The Underground Optimist Magazine will show current and future residents that Ely is a vibrant growing town with a bright future, while encouraging a positive sense of community and offering ways for citizens to get involved and share their own passions,” she said.

Polyner admitted to the Tuesday Group audience that she considers the group to be their “test subjects” because of the enthusiastic response and support received for the



Kara Polyner

Underground Optimist movement.

She provided an update of Underground Optimist activities over the last year and a vision for where the effort is headed in the next year. She was joined at Tuesday Group by Gregg Cramer and Rachel Rae Colber.

With the third issue of Underground Optimist, a new digital version of the publication will be going live. “You can share it with your family and friends and view it on screen,” Polyner said. “This was recommended to us by many Millennials because they are always on social media and want to share it.” Polyner noted that in the digital version of the magazine, the advertising will be live, so viewers can point and click directly to the business-

es’ websites.

Economic development in the area will be a major focus of the upcoming issue. “We will have a new, updated list of all the businesses in Ely,” she said. “We found that we are the only ones who have that list. We created it from our own brain-storming. We are more than happy to share it with anyone. It belongs to everyone. I feel that we have a pulse on what is happening and up and coming in Ely, and are contributing to economic growth in Ely.”

The elements of the business list includes new businesses, those that may have changed hands or ownership, expanded at their current location, or have moved from out of town into a downtown Ely location.

“I think it took a lot of people by surprise how many businesses expanded since 2016,” Cramer said. “Very few entities around town, it seems, were aware of a lot of these expansions.”

Polyner asked for help in keeping the list up to date. “If you are not on this list, let us know.”

Underground Optimists were featured on Minnesota Public Radio last summer during the Ely Day event in Whiteside Park. Aaron Brown, who posts

a blog called Minnesota Brown, in Hibbing, has also featured the Ely optimistic movement. “That was another good validation for us,” Polyner said.

“We are not just cheerleading for the Ely business community,” she added. “We are definitely cheerleading for the artist community and the entrepreneur community. We support all things positive for the Ely community.”

The Underground Optimists also joined in on the fun of the Snow Carvers Symposium at the Ely Winter Festival. “We had the upside down turtle, the ultra optimist. The title was, ‘I’m Flying.’”

Underground Optimists are also big supporters of the Arts in Ely movement. “This is for those artists who don’t know how to sell, where to sell, start a business, and other things related to that,” Colber said. “We have an artist community of at least 200 people in the Ely area and they are a really big part of our economic development.”

Colber is working on a grant to develop an online artist directory for Ely.

Underground Optimists have also taken over the Ely Almanac online events calendar

listing effort. “We hope it can become the all-encompassing events calendar of everything going on in Ely,” Polyner said.

Future plans for the Underground Optimists include an Underground Development roundtable discussion. “Stakeholders hopefully will get together and talk and share every point of view about all things Ely,” she said. “Let’s try to get everybody on the same page about varying subjects.”

A Dead of Winter event, tentatively planned for the middle of January, or the “middle of winter” is designed for locals to celebrate their resilience to the winter season. “We want cold and at a time when nothing else is going on in town,” she said. “I can see having this on Shagawa Lake, and we could have all sorts of events like broomball, art shanty village, an ice bar, ice bowling, a Zombie Crawl. We could have dog teams pulling canoes. We want to show that we survive and thrive up here in the winter.”

Look for the latest Underground Optimist magazine in early May.

For more information, email them at undergroundoptimist@gmail.com, or visit their Facebook page.

LETTER...Continued from page 4

the new business ideas before the band members to look at, ask questions, give input, and give final approval. I sincerely think that if this would have been done in the past, we could have avoided wasting millions of dollars. We could really use

the money right now.

Band members have wondered why we don’t get casino payments like the other reservations. When I ran for Tribal Council back in 2006, I stated that I was for giving casino payments to our band members.

When I ran for council in 2016, I stated again that I was for giving casino payments to our band members.

**Shane Drift
Nett Lake**

PAINTING...Continued from page 4

new lifestyle, and believing we were changing the world in the process. Oh, youth!

Fast forward forty years.... I spent a recent Saturday, April 21, at the 10th Annual Earth Fest in Mt. Iron. Yes, some of my core values persist, even though I now have electricity and running water, search the internet and type on a computer. Organic gardening and putting up my own food for the year are still ritual necessities. Browsing

the displays of a vast array of alternative energy systems, and seeing them marketed to the mainstream, are a part of that long-ago dream still coming true. Gathering together once a year with hundreds of other folk, viewing or doing the same things that I cherish so much, helps to rekindle my flame for living more simply “so others may simply live”.

But back to that song, and those lyrics.... The Berrymans

are known for their clever and humorous twist on life. In 1988, when this song was copyrighted, the world was engaged in the last throes of the infamous “Cold War”, a decades-long period of the nuclear “duking” match between the United States and Russia, then known as the Soviet Union. Both empires had built the most ridiculous systems of mutual mass destruction in human history, able to destroy the planet multiple times over

Briefly

One injured in Hwy. 1 car crash

PFEIFFER LAKE- Jeff Alan Zaitz, 33, of Hibbing, was airlifted to St. Luke’s in Duluth after a midday, one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 1 between Tower and Cook on Saturday, April 28. Zaitz was

traveling east when his vehicle crossed the center line and left the roadway. His car, a 2002 Saturn SL2, hit a tree before coming to a stop. The roadway was dry at the time of the accident. The Tower Ambulance, Greenwood Fire and Rescue, and St. Louis County responded to the scene.

SULFATE...Continued from page 3

levels in water, and that research could pose a hurdle to the Legislature’s desire to scrap the bill. Paula Maccabee, attorney for Duluth-based Water Legacy, said any move by the Legislature to scrap the wild rice standard without a scientifically valid proposal to replace it would likely be rejected by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. If not, Maccabee says her group would almost certainly take the issue to federal court. She said under the Clean Water Act, states can’t arbitrarily weaken pollution standards that have been proven to be scientifically justified and have been previously

approved by the EPA.

The issue has been a thorny one for more than a decade. While the wild rice standard dates back to the 1970s, it was rarely enforced until tribal governments and environmentalists began pushing the MPCA to act. As the agency slowly began the process of enforcing the longstanding rule, the MPCA faced political pushback from the mining industry and Iron Range legislators who argued that enforcement could make taconite producers uncompetitive in the global market.

Iron Range legislators backed the latest push to nullify the wild rice

standard. Senators Tom Bakk, of Cook, and David Tomasonni, of Chisholm, were among a handful of DFLers who voted this week in favor of the Senate’s version of the repeal, which passed 38-28. Representatives Rob Ecklund, of I-Falls,

and Jason Metsa, of Virginia, voted for the House bill earlier in April.

A spokesman for Mark Dayton said the governor is still reviewing the legislation.

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Julia Roberts Owen Wilson Jacob Tremblay

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7 PM Movie “Wonder”

Tickets can be purchased in advance from any board member for \$20 each. There will be door prizes and the opportunity to renew your individual or family membership to VHHP.

VHHP raises money and accepts donations that go to help local hospice patients and their families with comfort care needs such as massages, last wishes, gas cards, etc.

For tickets: Becca @ 780-5423 or Shawna @ 666-5096

STORE...Continued from page 3

approximately 3,000 square feet of the old school that is currently heated. The center’s board had hoped to have the entire school heated by now, using a wood-fired boiler system, but the school district hadn’t completely winterized the building when they closed it in 2010, which burst many of the copper pipes that used to distribute hot water to the school’s radiators. “That’s been a bit of a struggle,” said Purdy. But the center is making progress on repairs and she hopes to have the wood heating system operational by next winter.

running, Purdy is already planning improvements and additions, including accepting consignment items from local artists and crafters. Eventually, she’d like to have a gallery specifically featuring local artists. Area artists or crafters interested in displaying their work can contact Purdy at 780-5300.

For now, the store is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., although Purdy is hoping to add Fridays during the summer if she can find volunteers to man the additional hours.

With the store up and

Morning Yoga begins on Thursday

TOWER- Nancy Larson's morning yoga class will start up on Thursday, May 10 at 8:30 a.m. at the Tower Civic Center. It will be offered every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a.m. from May through October. New students welcome.

St. Martin's Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 19

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower is hosting its 9th annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 19 from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. For all the early bird shoppers, the doors will open at 8 a.m. for the small charge of \$5. We have something for everyone: rummage sale items, bake sale, and a light lunch. There will also be a 50/50 cash drawing - tickets are \$1. Winner will be drawn at 12:45 p.m. Proceeds from this sale will go towards the purchase of new cabinets in the social hall kitchen. St. Martin's is handicap-accessible.

Ely VA Clinic will hold Open House for Veterans on Wednesday, May 16

ELY- Meet the clinic staff and connect with VA Leadership in Minneapolis via video teleconferencing on Wednesday, May 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ely VA Clinic, 720 Miners Drive East.

Volunteers needed for Depot Museum and clean up events on May 9, 23

TOWER- Starting Memorial Day weekend, the Depot will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and will stay open until 6 p.m. during the Friday Farmers Market. The historical society is seeking volunteers to staff the Depot. Volunteers will greet visitors, provide tourist information, answer the phone, and handle sales. Volunteers usually work in pairs and will be trained prior to their first shift. It's a great volunteer opportunity for community members able to commit to some four-hour shifts throughout the summer. Please leave a message at 218-753-5021 if you would like more information.

There could also be several paid positions at approximately 20 hours per week. Work study funds are available to students age 16 and older enrolled in at least six college credits this spring semester. Contact your college financial aid office to see if you are eligible. AEOA sponsors the Senior Community Service Employment Program for people over 55 who are not currently employed. Contact Carissa at the Virginia Workforce Center at 218-750-1290 to see if you qualify.

The Historical Society will be "spiffing up" the depot museum, gift shop, and trains on Wednesday, May 9 and Wednesday, May 23. Any and all volunteer help is appreciated. Contact Linda at 218-750-0193 or email tshssecretary@gmail.com for times and other details.

Tower Soudan Civic Club Spring Banquet, May 16

TOWER- The Tower Soudan Civic Club will meet on Wednesday, May 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the Vermilion Club for the Spring Banquet.

Everyone will be ordering off the menu and there will be a short meeting following the dinner. If you would like to attend, please let Linda Haugen know by Friday, May 11 by calling 612-916-1918. Organizers for this special event are Linda Kronholm and Linda Haugen.

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 eight-hour beginner's course.

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; please call or text Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If there is no answer, please leave a message.

FOURTH OF JULY

Now is the time to donate for this year's parade!

The Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion Events Board needs your help



REGIONAL- The Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion Events Board, which raises funds for the Fourth of July celebration in Tower-Soudan, is now seeking donations. Checks can be made out to T-S Fourth of July and mailed to P.O. Box 461, Tower, MN, 55790.

Donations cans are also set out at area businesses in Tower and Soudan.

The Fourth of July celebration costs as much as \$15,000 per year to put on, and this does not include the cost of fireworks, which are donated by the Tower Fire Department Relief Association.

Parade participants needed

Registrations are also being taken for floats, bands, and other parade entries. Please call or text Julie Johnson at 218-750-7242 or email the events board at tseventsboard@gmail.com.

Raffles, spaghetti and silent auction Fourth of July fundraiser set for Saturday, May 19

GREENWOOD TWP- Enjoy a spaghetti dinner with raffles and silent auction on Saturday, May 19 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Greenwood Town Hall to raise funds for the Tower Fourth of July. Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion Events Board members and other helpers will serve a spaghetti dinner.

There will be bucket raffles and silent auction items to bid on. Prizes have been donated by committee members, local vendors and businesses. The drawings for prizes and silent auction bids will close at 4:30 p.m. There are prizes for all ages.

It will be a fun afternoon to visit and carry-outs will be available. The cost of the dinner is \$10 or \$5 for children under 12. Please help make the Fourth of July even better than before.



Youth in Action students delivered backpacks and pillows for St. Louis County staff to give to children in out-of-home placements. From left: Taryn Burnett, Dave Schunk, Brianna Aaser, Jamie Olson, Ruthy Morgan, Mylea Laulunen, Kevin Feldt, Maija Maki, Sadie Theel, Angela Zavodnik, Bryan Johnson and Michelle Brown. submitted photo

NE Range Youth in Action donates backpacks

REGIONAL- Youth in Action members from Northeast Range have donated 40 backpacks full of supplies to area children who are being placed into foster care. Students collected backpacks and donations of personal care items, clothing, art supplies and toys. Each backpack also included a new pillow. Youth in Action is a service organization involving students from schools throughout the Iron Range and now also in the Duluth area. Its mission is to promote youth leadership and bring positive change to northern Minnesota. To learn more about Youth in Action, visit irya.org or call 218-749-7120.

UMD Students present their research projects

DULUTH- More than sixty undergraduate students at University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD) presented a poster for the spring 2018 Undergraduate Research and Artistic Showcase on Friday, April 13, sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP).

Among the presenters was Chase Poppenhagen, from Embarrass, who is majoring in Geological Science and Environmental Science.

"Poppenhagen presented a poster display," said Marc Seigar, Associate Dean in the Swenson College of Science and Engineering.

"The UROP Showcase is an invaluable opportunity for students to conduct research and to practice presenting their work to an outside audience."

UROP provides financial support for research, scholarly, or creative projects that are completed with a faculty member. The showcase is an opportunity for these students to present their achievements to the public. Each poster presentation highlights the student's involvement in the program.

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D.A.R.E.



Leading the parade!

Tower-Soudan Elementary fifth- and sixth-graders participated in this year's Minnesota Twins DARE Day. This was the first time the Tower-Soudan D.A.R.E. classes attended, and the students had the honor of leading the Twins Mascot around the field before the start of the game on Sunday, April 29. The trip was organized by Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund, who teaches the D.A.R.E program, as well as a high school level drug education class at the Vermilion Country School. The trip was funded by donations to the local D.A.R.E. program. submitted photos

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 2018

Calls: 81
 Assist other agencies: 5
 Traffic stops: 15
 Arrests: 1
 Citations/Formal charges: 5
 Warnings: 13
 Monthly mileage: 2,038 (Tahoe 1,362, Explorer 676).

Additional shifts

During the month of February the Breitung Police Department did not work any additional shifts.

Training

During the month of February no training was attended.



March Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund

charges/Arrests: 5
 Speed Cited (ROR); DAR, No Insurance, 5th deg. Possession, test refusal (Jailed)

Call categories: 5 agency assists; 15 traffic stops; 2 medical; 4 ditch; 9 check business; 7 community engagement; 1 theft; 1 check hazard; 1 check residence; 1 property; 2 open door; 1 out with; 1 drug; 1 check welfare; 1 property damage; 1 permit to purchase issued; 1 harassment; 2 vehicle information; 8 meetings; 1 call back; 1 attempt to locate; 1 assist invalid; 4 animal complaints; 4 public assists; 3 suspicious activity; 2 alarm; 1 trouble unknown.

Squad cars

A new printer holder was installed in the Explorer.

Current end of the month mileage for the Gold 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 64,980. Current end of the month mileage for the Black 2017 Ford Explorer is 9,114.

Seat belts

The 2018 National Seat Belt Enforcement

Mobilization is May 21 - June 3, 2018.

In 2016, the use of seat belts in passenger vehicles saved an estimated 14,668 lives of occupants ages 5 and older. The Click It or Ticket campaign focuses on safety education, strong laws, and law enforcement officers saving lives.

Call summary

Citations/Formal



VCS Cleanup Crew

Vermilion Country School students spent the morning doing roadside cleanup along Hwy. 169 on Wednesday.

Community Work Day at Vermilion Lake Cemetery

THANK YOU

Thank you to the guys and gals who volunteered at the Community Work Day. Your generous donation of time and equipment made the event a success.

Vermilion Lake Town Board

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

St. Louis County Solid Waste Facility Area site hours

Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Summer Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: noon-6pm	Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm
County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Summer Hours Tues: 1-6pm Thurs: 8am-1pm Sat: 8am-5pm Sun: noon-6pm	Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm
Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th
 For solid waste and recycling information go to www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department
 1-800-450-9278
 Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday

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 May 7

Monday-Country Sausage Gravy in a Bread Bowl, Hash Browns

Tuesday- Chicken Sandwich, Baked Beans
 Wednesday- Cabbage Roll Casserole, Dinner Roll

Thursday- Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Dinner Roll, Vegetable

Friday- Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread Stick

Week of May 14

Monday- Chicken Alfredo with a Twist, Bread Stick, Vegetable

Tuesday- Cheese Enchiladas

Wednesday- Turkey Sub, Fruit Salad

Thursday- Sloppy Joe, Baked Beans

Friday- Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Dinner Roll

Week of May 7

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.

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on May 8

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 vermillioncountry.org.

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

Read It Here



the TIMBERJAY

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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.

VERMILION COMMUNITY COLLEGE
VCC graduation set for May 8

ELY - The Vermilion Community College class of 2018 will hold graduation ceremonies on Tuesday, May 8, beginning at 7 p.m.

Doors of the VCC Gymnasium will open at 6 p.m. for guest seating, slideshow presentation and entertainment by Joey Kenig.

Candidates for graduation for the class of 2018 include: Associate of Applied Science - 50; Associate of Arts - 27; Associate of Science - 50; Certificate - 42; and one Diploma. There are 98 Honors Graduates.

The keynote address will be presented by Anna

(Keenan) Wiebelhaus, who graduated from VCC in 2015 with an Associate of Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology (High Academic Honors).

During her time at Vermilion, Anna was heavily involved in the Wildlife Club and immediately following graduation she began her first federal job with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Biological Science Technician for the Hiawatha National Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

In the fall of 2015 Anna continued her education at University of

Wisconsin-Stevens Point. With the experiences and classes Anna completed at Vermilion, she was able to graduate from UWSP in just a year and a half with a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Ecology and Research Management and a Minor in Biology.

Anna continued in her Biological Science Technician position through the summer after her graduation. On Jan. 5, 2018, Anna married Josh Wiebelhaus, a VCC graduate who is currently a Hot Shot crew member on the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee. They reside in Tennessee where Anna

has been conducting mid-winter eagle surveys and flying squirrel surveys.

This spring Anna was offered her old position back on the Hiawatha National Forest as a biological science technician, only this time at a higher grade level as a GS- 6.

"A lot has changed since graduation from Vermilion, but at the same time, it hasn't," she said. "We still have adventures together in the wild places of the country, feeling comfortable in the backwoods more than ever. I am continually grateful to my husband Josh, without whom, none of this would have been possible. He

began attendance at VCC a year before me and at the time, I did not think I could ever go back to school. But after visiting him in Ely a number of times, and witnessing how amazing his courses were and the undeniable charm that is Ely, I decided to give it a try. I'm so thankful that I did. All of this would not be possible without the passion and dedication that VCC faculty and staff have demonstrated continually to their students. I want to thank you sincerely for all that you have taught me. VCC truly changed my life in ways that are still affecting us today."

VCC Foundation awards \$96,350 in scholarships

ELY - The Vermilion Community College Foundation held their annual Scholarship Awards Banquet last week at the Grand Ely Lodge honoring scholarship recipients and donors. One hundred eighty people attended the event to celebrate the generosity of the Foundation's donors and to recognize the achievements of the scholarship recipients.

The emcee for the evening was former

Foundation Board Secretary Jodi Martin. Following dinner, Bill Maki, President of the five-college Northeast Higher Education District, congratulated the students and their parents, recognized the faculty and staff for their support and mentorship, thanked the Foundation Board for their dedication and commitment to Vermilion students, and recognized the donors for their generosity which makes higher education

more affordable and accessible to all students.

He also gave special thanks to St. Louis County Commissioner Tom Rukavina who was in attendance. Commissioner Rukavina worked diligently with the County Board to make possible the St. Louis County Mineral Royalties Scholarships Program. Each two-year college in St. Louis County (Hibbing, Lake Superior, Mesabi Range, and Vermilion) received

\$37,500 for scholarships for students graduating from high schools located in St. Louis County and attending one of the four colleges listed above.

Thus far in 2018, the VCC Foundation has coordinated the award of 114 scholarships valued at \$96,350 to 81 students. An additional \$33,000 in scholarships will be awarded over the next few months.

Provost Shawn Bina closed the event by recognizing the schol-

arship recipients for their accomplishments and noting the honor it is for the donors and Vermilion faculty and staff to support their educational goals.

For more information about the scholarship program, or to learn how to establish or donate to a Vermilion scholarship, contact Patti Zupancich, Foundation Executive Director at 218-235-2166 or by e-mail at Patricia.Zupancich@vcc.edu.



2018 VCC Foundation Scholarship Recipients

- Academic Persistence Award, Tyree Johnson
American Legion Drum & Bugle Corps Scholarship, Brandon Martin
Anne Rozman Scholarship, Troy Bissonette
Barbara and Bill Rom Scholarship, Austin Ruff
Bert Hoyer Memorial NRT Internship Scholarship, Christina Wright
Bert Hoyer Memorial NRT Transfer Scholarship, Thomas Knaack
Bob and Lil Cary Memorial Scholarship, Isabel Goss
Charles D. Novak Scholarship, Elizabeth Rios
Christy Skraba Scholarship, Chase Eilrich
Darlene McDonald Memorial Scholarship, Daniel Frederique, Anthony Miranda
Edward and Esther Nelson Scholarship, Clayton Gallus, Vanessa Gerzin, Corey Hamilton
Ely Branch, AAUW Scholarship, Lauren Royer
Ely Rotary Club William Mills Memorial Scholarship, Connor Knettel
Erik Ness Memorial Scholarship, Christina Wright
Everett Laitala Memorial Scholarship, Sarah Berge, Brenden Williams
Father Mihelcic Memorial Scholarship, Alysha Hanson
Friends of Boundary Waters Wilderness Scholarship, Emily Checco
Gary A. Zaverl Memorial Scholarship, Travis Loewen
George Covich Memorial Scholarship, Sean Giles, Travis Loewen
Harold and Nita Martin Scholarship, Elizabeth Rios
Herb Moline Biology Scholarship, Benjamin Van Kirk
IDEA Drilling Scholarship, Melissa Nelmark
James Christensen SPLERT Academy Scholarship, Troy Bissonette, Anthony Kastens
Jason Henry Memorial Scholarship, Keith Collins, Christina Wright
John E. and Lorraine Zupancich Memorial Scholarship, Sean Giles
Joseph and L. Patrick Markovich Scholarship, Joshua Ballejo, Emily Beldo, Troy Bissonette, Sarah Cronk, Derrick Dye, Lynette Engler, Kaitlyn Funk, Andrew Gaub, Aren Green, Rebekah Harrington, Zachary John, Anthony Kastens, Carter Lamers, Dalton Langer, Miranda Peterson, Jacob Rankila, Lauren Royer, Jamie Vanasse, Jacob Wittmer
Joseph and Theresa Popesh Memorial Scholarship, Tayler Banks, Vanessa Gerzin
Kiwanis Club of Ely Scholarship, Tayler Banks
Lake Country Power Les Beach Memorial Scholarship, Alan Schroeter
Listening Point Foundation Scholarship, Christina Wright
Living the Dream Scholarship, Sean Giles
Mark M. Welter World Citizen Award, Alyssa Valdez-Peck, Anthony Wright
Mary Hutar Memorial Scholarship, Travis Loewen
Michael S. and Janice Smith Scholarship, Abigail Nordstrom
Natural Resources Education Group Scholarship, Emily Checco, Isabel Goss
New Student Achievement Scholarship, Ashley Golly, Carter Hall, Audrey Lortscher
Northshore Mining/Cliffs Natural Resources Scholarship, Chase Eilrich
Roger and Mary Jane Stubbins Scholarship, Paige Falt
Sam Swanson Memorial Scholarship, Brandon Martin
SOTA (Students Older Than Average) Scholarship, Andrea Balsimo
St. Louis County Mineral Royalties Scholarship, Jill Belland, Chase Eilrich, Korynn Fisher, Brandon Hanson, Kimberly Kraushaar, Ashley Lindgren, Brandon Martin, Tyler Moravitz, Melissa Nelmark, Andrew Rouse, Betty Runquist, Tyler Walter
Steger Environmental Science Award, Christina Wright
Supporters of Vermilion Water Program Scholarship, Justin Remien
Twin City Iron Rangers Association Scholarship, Travis Loewen, Brandon Martin, Melissa Nelmark
Twin Metals Scholarship, Erica Dennie, Justin Remien
VCC Advisory Board Scholarship, Dustin Daniels, Shane Faver
VCC Faculty Scholarship, Courtney Brittingham, Corey Hamilton, Connor Lange, Christina Wright
VCC Foundation Scholarship, Caleb Banta, Hunter Churness, Lekieath Nunn, Eric Omdahl, Serena Soine, Savannah Wright
Vermilion Veterans Scholarship, Rebekah Harrington, Carter Lamers
VFW Post 2717 Scholarship, Troy Bissonette
Wayne Ruud Memorial Law Enforcement Scholarship, Lauren Royer
Women in the Woods Scholarship, Melissa Nelmark



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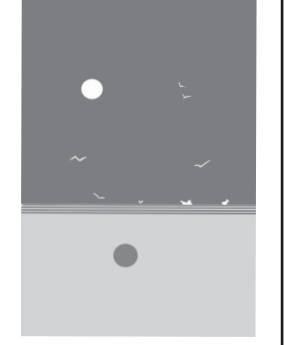
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Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018



a bird reunion all forms and flight abounding bird watchers' delight

Tuesday Group schedule

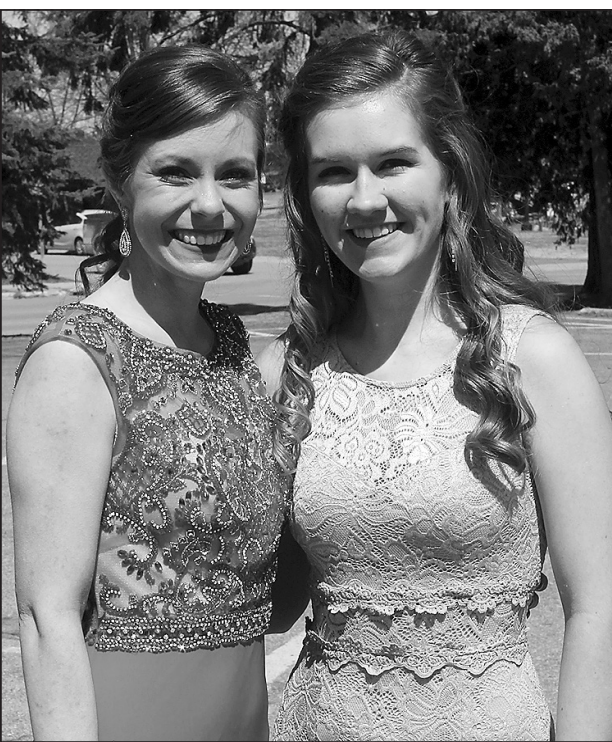
ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule (subject to change) is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at Grand Ely Lodge.

May 8 - Sherry Abts - Common Loon Research
May 15 - Daniel Bliss/Professor/Author - "Economic Development and Governance in Small Town America"

ELY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL PROM 2018



Ely Memorial High School juniors and seniors held their 2018 Spring Prom celebration Saturday. They gathered for a group shot, above, on the high school steps. Emma Larson and Lydia Magnusson, below left, are all smiles as they pose for a portrait. Kalley Fischer, below right, had another idea for a portrait. photos by K. Vandervort



Higher Education Briefs

Ely student participates in UMD research project

DULUTH - Danielle Blanchfield, of Ely, a junior majoring in Biology and Studio Art, was one of more than 60 undergraduate students at University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD) who presented a poster for the spring 2018 Undergraduate Research and Artistic Showcase.

The event, held April 13, was sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP).

“Blanchfield presented a poster display entitled, ‘Vertebrate Limb Homology in Ceramics,’” said Marc Seigar, Associate Dean in the Swenson College of Science and Engineering. “The UROP Showcase is an invaluable opportunity for students to conduct research and to practice presenting their work to an outside audience.”

UROP provides financial support for research, scholarly, or creative projects that are completed with a faculty member. The showcase is an opportunity for these students to present their achievements to the public. Each poster presentation highlights the student’s involvement in the program.

Ely students graduate from Mankato

MANKATO - Minnesota State University, Mankato will award 2,335 degrees at the end of the spring 2018 semester, with 2,277 students participating in three graduation ceremonies on Saturday, May 5.

Two Ely students will be participating:
 -April Levar, BSE, General Engineering, Summa Cum Laude
 -Kimberly Renner Bielawski, BS, Nursing, Magna Cum Laude

To be awarded at the undergraduate level are 84 bachelor of arts degrees, one bachelor of applied science, 34 bachelor of fine arts degrees, 1,669 bachelor of science degrees, 25 bachelor of science in general engineering degrees, 15 bachelor of science in civil engineering degrees, 10 bachelor of science in computer engineering degrees, 19 bachelor of science in electrical engineering degrees, 22 bachelor of science in mechanical engineering degree, 34 bachelor of science in social work degrees and 21 associate of arts degrees.

Undergraduate students receiving recognition will include 140 students graduating summa cum laude (3.8 grade point average and higher), 313 students graduating magna cum laude (grade point averages of 3.5 to 3.79) and 280 students graduating cum laude (grade point averages of 3.3 to 3.49).

GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Citizens group forms Town of Morse blog
 Town officials respond by developing their own website

by KEITH VANDERVORT
 Ely Editor

MORSE TWP – With an eye toward improving communication of issues and events that impact the Town of Morse, a grassroots effort by a group of township residents was launched this spring in the form of a web blog.

According to facilitator Anne Uehling, since the annual meeting in March, citizen volunteers have been attending and reporting on meetings and writing about events in the township.

“The hope is to create awareness of our local government where democracy begins and to encourage Town of Morse citizens to take an interest in and support their township government,” Uehling said. “The site, because of its interactive feature, will allow citizens, including Town Board members, to communicate their views on issues and engage in dialogue. There is no political agenda or intent.”

Uehling said she is seeking volunteers to attend meetings. The meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. “The commitment is to observe and report on one meeting a year,” she said.

The action by township residents to develop a watchdog website was in response to inaction by township officials, according to Uehling, to requests for more information on the decisions and action by township officials.

“We asked over and over for the township to develop a website, and we kept getting the run-around,” Uehling said. “They said it was too

expensive and no one had the time.”

The action by the citizens group apparently lit a fire under township officials. Suddenly, the township has time and money to develop their own website, as the minutes from the April 16 board meeting reflect.

According to an account posted by township resident Terry Cooper, “The board approved the purchase from GovOffice of a Morse Township website. Clerk (Nick) Wognum will be paid hourly to develop the website and get it up and running in the next six weeks. Cost is \$995/year for a three-year contract. Website will be used to post all township information and provide a forum for Morse Township citizens to interact with the board.”

Town of Morse Board Meeting, 4-16-2018

Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Supervisor (Bob) Berrini. Present were: Len Cersine, Terry Soderberg, Clerk Nick Wognum and Treasurer Mary Ann Lekatz. Also present in audience was Terry Cooper.

- Minutes approved from March meeting.
- Terry Soderberg nominated as chair, vote taken and approved. Bob Berrini approved as vice-chair.
- Approved claim for payment of Caterpillar Skidsteer 259D for \$62,300.
- Money market accounts were approved to be moved based on Treasurer Lekatz’s recommendations.
- No new information from DNR Patti Thielen about the Burntside Islands issue and Wolf

Lake.
 ➤ No update on Blandin Broadband. However Frontier wants to talk to the board about possible broadband from Frontier.

➤ A meeting with Mary Anderson held April 30 at 2 p.m. (or May 1).

➤ Mark Weber from St. Louis County has received the information needed to move forward on the township purchase of the 60 acres for recreation.

➤ Primary is Aug. 14. Voting machines are in for repair and maintenance.

➤ Approved \$600 for Ely golf course.

➤ Cersine reported that Township roads will be in tough shape this spring.

➤ Pay for election judges was discussed. Currently at \$13/hour and wanted to raise to \$15. More information needed about pay of election judges by surrounding governments.

➤ Raised pay of heavy equipment operators by \$2/hour or nine percent

➤ Raised pay of grass mowing from \$33 to \$40 or 20 percent

➤ Next meeting 5 p.m. on Tuesday May 8.

➤ Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Submitted by Terry Cooper
 For more information on the citizens connection blog for More Township, go to <https://townofmorsecitizensconnection.wordpress.com>.

Read more citizens connection Town of Morse monthly meeting minutes in future issues of the Timberjay.

Subscribe to the Timberjay 218-753-2950



**St. Louis County
 Area Solid Waste Facility
 Site hours**

<p>Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N, between Ely and Babbitt Summer Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am–3pm Tue: 9:30am–3pm Wed: noon–6pm</p>	<p>Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N. Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am–4pm Tue, Wed: 10am–4pm Sat: 8am–noon</p>
<p>Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd. Hours Thu: 10am–5pm Sat: 12:30–4:30pm</p>	<p>Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 169 Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am–5pm</p>
<p>Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5341 Regional Landfill Rd Hours Tues and Sat: 8am–1pm</p>	<p>Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd (east of Virginia) Hours Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm Sat: 8am–3:30pm</p>

Summer hours effective April 15 through September 30th
 For recycling information go to www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department
 1-800-450-9278
 Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday



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.

Cook Public Library offers Computer Help Tuesdays

COOK- The Cook Public Library welcomes anyone with computer or internet questions to stop by on Tuesdays, 1 – 5 p.m. for individual help. The library has five public computers, five laptops and on-site Wi-Fi to help with your questions. Got a question about your own device? Bring it in and we will help.

Cook Public Library celebrates Moose May-nia all month long

COOK- The Cook Public Library invites you to celebrate all things moose during Moose May-nia. The library is home to the famous Mr. Moose who hangs in the children's area. There are many ways to enjoy Moose May-nia.

Moose Trivia will take place throughout the month of May. Each day a new question will be posted in the library. Stop by for Moose Snack Wednesdays and try moose muffins, moose cookies, moose "droppings" and more. Give us a Moose Note and tell us what you like about Cook Public Library, "the library with the moose." Explore Moose Books by checking out the books from our special display. Take a Moose Selfie with Mr. Moose and post on your favorite social media.

North Woods Baccalaureate Service set for Sunday, May 6 at First Baptist

COOK- On Sunday, May 6 at 4 p.m. First Baptist Church of Cook will host the Baccalaureate Service, with the other area churches contributing and participating. This religious service will honor the North Woods Class of 2018 and feature music, student and parent reflections, and a message to graduates. All are invited to a dinner following the service in the church fellowship hall. We hope to see you there.

The Making of Root Beer Lady – The Musical, May 11 at Cook Library

COOK- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Barbara Cary Hall's, The Making of Root Beer Lady – The Musical, a free program being offered for ages 10 – adult at the Cook Public Library on Friday, May 11 at 5 p.m.

Barbara Cary Hall explains her journey of creating the vision of a musical, the process involved and how it came to pass. Through slides, video and live music, you'll experience the creative process and take a look at the life of Dorothy Molter, Ely's own local legend.

Many people's first introduction to the story of Dorothy Molter was through Bob Cary's book, Root Beer Lady. This past summer, Dorothy's story reached new audiences through Barb's original musical production based on the book. The Dorothy Molter Museum has been active in assisting Barb through her endeavor and is pleased that there will be another vehicle with which to move Dorothy's story toward new audiences.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

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.

FRIENDS OF THE PARKS



Wings!

photos by B. Smith



Clockwise from top: Nick Wood and Bob Hanson were the wing fryers at the Wings 'n' Things fundraiser last Saturday; Alex Burckhardt enjoying his wings; some of the kitchen crew volunteers who make Wings 'n' Things happen; Jennifer Brunner and her girls Michaela and Bailey enjoyed playing a game of bingo; and Lois Trygg tries one of her wings while taking a break from her game of bingo.



CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



Capricious Minnesota is living up to its name. This week we have had warm weather in the 60s and we have had rain mixed with snow. What we need is a good hard rain to clean things up and help open the lakes. The "Old Timers" told this Dame the grass would not start to turn green until we have had a thunderstorm. So come on rain. The "Old Timers" were full of many sayings that somehow proved to be true, like "The suckers will be running when the poplar leaves are the size of a mouse's ear." It may prove difficult to measure a mouse's ear.

Everyone is anx-

iously awaiting ice out on the lakes. The warm weather is making us all yearn to see open water on our beautiful lake. If one squints both eyes and looks across the lake when the sun is shining, one could swear they see the Vermilion River pushing its way towards the Gorge. Well, that's the story, and we're sticking to it! The edges of the ice are not quite meeting the shore any longer, and actual water can be observed in spots. The birds seem happier as the temps seem to be warming, and the deer are actually smiling that they can see grass and know the tasty green stuff will be on its way before long. The hummingbirds are making progress and are now in central Iowa. One hardy bird has been spotted in the southernmost tip of Minnesota. This must be the scout or someone's pet bird that never leaves.

One of the Dames has returned from a week-long visit to the 80-degree temps of Texas and a celebration with her girl-children in honor of the eldest gal's BIG birthday. The "birthday girl" also had her college roommate, Pam Jaycox, from Plymouth, present to join in the festivities. Lots of shopping, wine tasting, and relaxing by the pool were activities all enjoyed, which

also included paroxysms of laughter. The Old Dame was amazed to hear about the new "fad" lighting up Twitter, Instagram, and blogs. Have you heard about it? It features (of all things) EYEBROWS! I don't mean simply reaching for a tweezers and plucking them. Apparently several weird trends have been launched when it comes to the arches above our eyes. From braiding, tin foil eyebrows, squiggles, McDonald-type arches that extend halfway to the hairline, to one solid brow extending across the bridge of the nose, and brows that look like birds' feathers! The Old Dame commented that some people have WAAAYY too much time on their hands! However, she did contribute that she was aware that ancient Egyptians would shave their eyebrows to mourn the loss of their cats, which were worshipped and considered family members. Perhaps we haven't advanced as much as we think we have from those early practices.

Now that the snow is mostly gone, has anyone noticed how disgusting the yards look? There are twigs, pine needles, pine cones, dead leaves, and pop cans and water bottles (where did THEY come from?) all over! Makes one want to grab a rake and clean it all away. First, though,

better check to see if you remember where you put the rakes last fall—and we should probably wait until the ground is ready for grooming.

Aren't we all anxious to get on with spring?

The Voyageur Country ATV Club held a monster trail ride and lunch this weekend. It is amazing to see the growth of the Voyageur Country ATV Club which was started in April 2015. At the last count the membership was over 800 and counting. This is a sport which appears to be enjoyed by people of all ages and brings them out to nature. The club has done a lot to improve trails and is working on putting a bridge over the Vermilion River. The bridge site is where the old railroad trestle was. It will be a multipurpose bridge with a 15-ton limit so emergency vehicles and trail groomers can use it. The bridge will be 10 feet over the average elevation of the river so it won't harm navigation. There are even plans for two scenic overlooks built into the bridge. With the completion of the bridge, the Cabin Road to Kabustasa Trail will be joined; this will result in a 500-mile trail.

What is the consensus on whether the Fishing Opener will really occur? A lot of bets are being made. It's great to have our businesses opening and our summer folks returning. We are all awaiting ice out and fishing on water.

Let us hear from you! Send news by e-mail to info@thelakecountry.com, by fax to 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.

Area St. Louis County Solid Waste and Recycling Facility site hours

Ash River Trail Canister Site 11391 Ash River Trail Summer Hours Wed: 1pm–4pm Sat: 2:30pm–5:30pm	Kabetogama Lake Canister Site 10150 Gamma Rd Summer Hours Mon. & Wed: 9am–noon Sat: 10:30am–1:30pm	Sturgeon Canister Site 8380 Hwy 73 Hours Sun: 10am–4pm
Orr Canister Site 4038 Hwy 53 Summer Hours Tue: 9am–1pm, Thu: 2pm–7pm Sat: 8am–noon, Sun: 10am–2pm	Portage Canister Site 6992 Crane Lake Rd. Summer Hours Mon & Tue: 2pm–6pm Thu: 10am–1pm, Sun: 3pm–6pm	County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77 Summer Hours Tue: 1–6pm, Thu: 8am–1pm Sat: 8am–5pm, Sun: noon–6pm
Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am–6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am–3:30pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm Sat: 8am–3:30pm	St. Louis County Environmental Services Department 1-800-450-9278 Office hours 8-4:30 Mon. thru Fri. stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle
Household Hazardous Waste Facilities 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am–1pm	3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am–1pm	

Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th

Cook Optical
Quality Eye Care for less Stop in & Compare

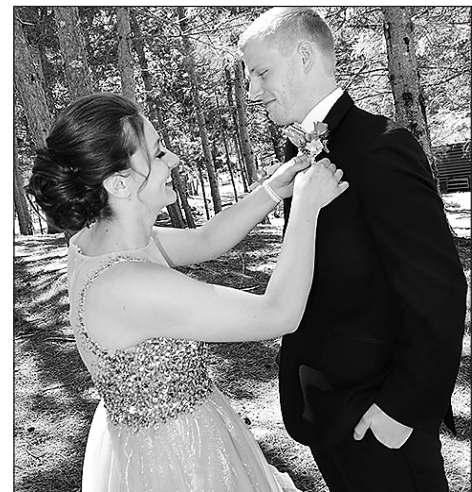
HOURLS: 9-4:30 Mon.-Fri.
Jeryl D. Johnson, ABOC Certified
23 E. Vermilion Dr., Cook

EYE EXAMS • 666-2879
Call for Appointment with Dr. Jensen, Optometrist

201 Hwy 53 SE Cook, MN
666-0205

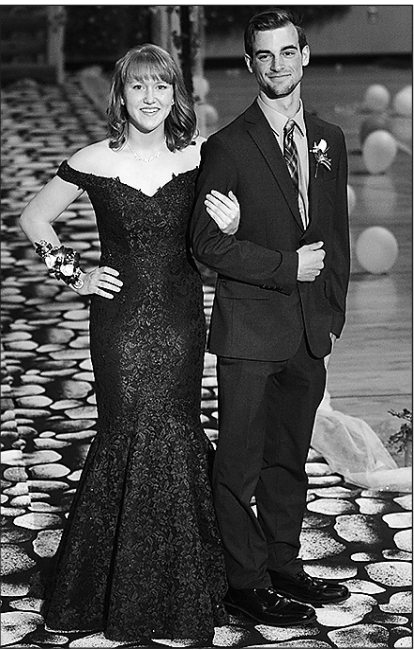
Summer Hours
Sun: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Mon-Sat: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
(Effective May 6)

NORTH WOODS HIGH SCHOOL



Prom 2018

photos by C. Stone



Clockwise from top left: Junior class treasurer Regan Ratai with date junior Jake Hyppa; Alanna Rutchasky, Tanner Lokken, Brendan Parson, Patia Hayes, Tim Pierce and Makenzie Sokoloski at dinner at The Wilderness; Junior class secretary Alanna Rutchasky with date senior Tanner Lokken; Dinner at the Wilderness: Ian Sherman, Tate Olson, Kia Tower, Blake Scofield, Olivia Niska, Lauren Arvila; Posing outdoors: (standing) Regan Ratai, Jake Hyppa, Kate Stone, Bobby Larson, Bria Chiabotti, Chase Kleppe, Hanna Sandberg, Carter Cook, Alanna Rutchasky, Tanner Lokken, Nicole Olson, Stephan Johansen, Isaiah Squires, (seated) Deklan Hoff, Claire Beaudry, Kia Tower, Tate Olson, Maddy Serna; Junior class president Claire Beaudry with her escort Deklan Hoff; Junior class vice president Parker Jones escorting Makenna Villebrun.



GRIZZLY UPDATES

Professional learning communities

Hello Grizzlies Families!

North Woods School, along with the other schools in I.S.D. w2142 (Northeast Range, Tower/Soudan Elementary, South Ridge, and Cherry) utilizes a non-traditional school schedule on Wednesdays. As you may be aware, our school day on Wednesday ends at 2 p.m. rather than the usual 3:15 p.m. The purpose of this early-release is to allow teachers to meet in PLCs to discuss student learning and analyze data. "PLC" stands for Professional Learning Community. In layman's terms, a PLC is a small group of teachers who meet together in similar content areas or grade levels. Increased accountability measures for schools are a "mixed bag" that has come with pros and cons. One of the positives that has come out of this movement is a huge increase in the expertise that schools have acquired in reading data. We look at multiple assessments in order to pinpoint where students are lagging skills, and then adjust and adapt accordingly. While not a perfect model, data-analysis is certainly another tool in our toolbox, and PLCs spend a portion of their time looking at where to put our resources to best



JOHN VUKMANICH

benefit the learning of our kids.

Not all of our teachers are teaching an academic subject with measurable achievement data. Art, music, physical education/health and vocational classes still play a large role in defining a student's school experience. It could be argued that students learn just as much relevant information in these classes as they do in academic classes, depending on their future endeavors. Hard work, dedication, fitness, teamwork, focus, self-discipline, and perspective are all components of student learning in our non-academic areas, not to mention the specific skills they need to be successful in these classes. As a result, one of our PLCs has a different mission from the others. The four academic PLCs are High School Math/Science, High

School Language Arts/Social Studies, Upper Elementary, and Lower Elementary. Our fifth PLC is our Specialist PLC, made up of music, visual arts, physical education, foreign language, vocational, and our Dean of Students. Their focus is the climate of our building. Building climate can be made up of many factors. Our Specialist PLC focuses mostly on our 7 Mindsets character education program, and its components. The 7 Mindsets are Everything Is Possible, Live to Give, Attitude of Gratitude, Passion First, 100% Accountable (a student favorite), the Time is Now, and We Are Connected.

A recent project of the Specialist PLC is producing several short videos based on the 7 Mindsets and other positive behaviors. The videos include being accountable, following the rules, having integrity, cleaning up after each other, apologizing, and helping each other. Videos are being shared with students as a part of our mission to promote good character and citizenship, because it's just as important as being a good student!

The Specialist PLC has also made videos encouraging students to do their best on the State MCA tests, which are

currently wrapping up at North Woods. If you are interested in seeing the videos, feel free to send an email to your child's teachers or myself, and we will be happy to share!

As always, have a great weekend, and Go Grizzlies!

Your Principal,
John Vukmanich

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ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

School Board authorizes bidding for two roof projects

by MELISSA ROACH
Staff Writer

REGIONAL — The St. Louis County School Board has given the go-ahead to seek bids on two roofing projects, at Northeast Range and Tower-Soudan.

In April, board members heard Aaron Kriens' analysis of the roof rework at the two schools. He said the roof over the Northeast Range gymnasium is "shrinking...the rubber is shrinking and pulling the walls in a little bit and pulling the wood off." Additionally, he said new insulation was needed as thermal imaging showed wet insulation, which will now require a structural

analysis. Kriens said he doesn't foresee any major issues with the project, at least at this point.

With the bidding process in motion, the plans call for work to begin on June 1 with completion by the end of August.

In other facilities action, the board received an update on the Northeast Range boiler project and approved a short punch list of change orders for the project, including sheet rock, taping, and painting for \$1,472, an additional \$1,308 for grommets, as well as additional work needed to fix squeaking ductwork for \$1,312.

In other business,

Superintendent Reggie Engebretson reported her attendance at events around the district, as well as workshop and conference attendance. She noted a meeting with School Resource Officer Matt Kruegar, Lt. Nate Skelton of St. Louis County, Sheriff's Office, Dr. Glyn of Essentia, and the CEO of Range Mental Health Center, Janis Allen, who talked about concerns of students making threats at school. The meeting was also geared around crisis intervention preparedness at school and mobilizing a crisis team from RMHC.

In other action, the board:

► Recalled Joan

Kjorsvig-Beans from ULA and placed her on special assignment as Dean of Students effective Aug. 28, 2018.

► Hired support staff, including Kelly Lopac, Ashley Fink, Lisa Kultala, William Rothmeier, and transportation assistant Robert Farr.

► Adopted a resolution to terminate the employment of bus driver Brandon Cavanaugh for just cause.

► Accepted the retirement of Patrick Baumann and resignations of Jessica Roy, Dylan Olson, Larissa Harris, David Wiita, Shannon Mattila, Richard Roy, Isaac Haugen, and Alleyce Somerville.

► Adopted a resolu-

tion proposing placement of Title I teachers Mary Nemeč Wood, Kathleen Meier, Amy Nelson, and Mary Larson on unrequested leave of absence.

► Approved a resolution terminating probationary teachers.

► Approved a last chance agreement for Jay Parenteau, who has been unsuccessful in passing his boiler operators license exams, which are a requirement of his employment with the district. District administration had proposed termination for Parenteau, but his union and the district agreed to a last chance agreement, that will give Parenteau until next year to pass his exams, or face termination.

► Approved the purchase of three vehicles, including a 2018 Dodge Grand Caravan from Mike Motors in Ely, and two 2018 Ford Transits for \$31,202 each, from Ford of Hibbing.

► Approved moving forward with a timber sale application with the DNR for the Cotton School forest.

► Adopted a resolution establishing Tamminen Family School Forest near the Cherry School. The donation of 12.2 acres is to be placed in the Minnesota DNR School Forest Program for educational purposes.

► Approved an extension of agreement with Teachers on Call.

BOARD...Continued from page 1

held several other important leadership positions, including four years as a board member of the Minnesota High School League and as a current member of the National Junior College Athletic Association's Region 13 Executive Committee.

McDonald believes that his leadership experience and extensive work with young people would serve him well as a county commissioner.

"My entire professional life has been spent assisting and helping people," he said. "As an

educator and community/union activist, I have learned the importance of involvement, persistence and commitment to get things accomplished."

McDonald said he prefers to focus on problem solving, with a leadership style geared toward listen-

ing and providing better outcomes for everyone. "I want to apply my experience and commitment so that all citizens of St. Louis County, from babies to senior citizens, have a good quality of life," he said.

McDonald said he was fortunate to grow up in a stable family with supportive parents, but recognizes that many young people in the region aren't so lucky. "St. Louis County spends 15 to 20

million dollars each year on out of home placement for kids," he said. "For over 30 years in my profession, I have guided young people from many different backgrounds to success and helped them become productive citizens."

McDonald said he supports the county's mission and wants to create an environment where communities have the tools to succeed, including with sound infrastructure.

"With half of the roads in the county located in the Fourth District, it is imperative to have quality roads to travel and transport goods on."

McDonald said serving on the county board would be a continuation of his life's work of helping people. "People look to elected officials to help with concerns. I will advocate for fairness and equity for the district in all aspects of county issues."



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HOUSE...Continued from page 1

loss of jobs, population, security for workers and their families, and opportunities for our young people," he added. "We can do better. And I believe I can make a positive difference for the people of the Iron Range at the State Capitol," he added. Lislegard's roots on the Iron Range go back four generations, and he began work at the former LTV Mine before its permanent shutdown in 2001. He hails from Embarrass and was a graduate from the Babbitt-Embarrass High School. Lislegard is a grad-

uate of the University of Minnesota-Duluth, with a degree in political science and communications.

While in college, Lislegard worked as a member of Laborers Local 1097 to support his family. He has worked for 14 years in business relations at Lakehead Constructors with offices on the Range and in Superior, Wis. Lislegard served 14 years as an Aurora city councilor before being elected mayor in 2017. He is president of the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools and sits on the executive boards of the

Laurentian Chamber of Commerce and Jobs for Minnesotans.

Lislegard said the dignity of work and regular paychecks are vital to the stability of families and communities and he said mining, logging, and multiple use recreation are key to that on the Iron Range. "PolyMet has met or exceeded all permitting rules and regulations. It's way past time to get the mine producing and workers cashing paychecks," Lislegard said.

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CITY OF ELY ARBOR DAY 2018

Ely celebrates Arbor Day with a tree-mulching party

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The Ely Tree Board here held a mulching day Saturday as part of their Arbor Day celebration.

“Forty of us mulched nearly every young tree recently planted in the city’s boulevards,” said Mary Groeninger.

Ely was recently named a 2017 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. Ely achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program’s four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community firsthand,” said Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Additionally, recognition brings residents together and creates a sense of community pride, whether it’s through volunteer engagement or public education.”

Trees provide multiple benefits to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits, Groeninger said.

Those who participated in the mulching day events included Ely families, forestry students from Vermilion Community College, and many volunteers. She noted that many people helped make the day a success.

“Thanks to James Devine for pre-loading his trailer with mulch and Dixon Shelstad for gathering equipment and pulling the city of Ely’s trailer, and to First Presbyterian Church of Ely for donating the church hall for our luncheon celebration,” she said.

Julie Hanson Hignell arranged for the food and organized the debut of the city’s new Adopt a Neighborhood Tree Program. Forty new trees planted in 2017 are up for adoption. Watering containers will be given out to families and individ-

Ely Tree Board member Mary Groeninger talks about tree-mulching techniques Saturday in Whiteside Park.
photo by K. Vandervort

uals who commit to watering a tree (or three) on the city boulevards.

“Maggie Fetterer read the Arbor Day Proclamation out loud to us,” she said. Many other community folks helped mulch and distribute informational door hangers and the city of Ely provided the grinding of the mulch made from the recently-cut silver maples.”

More information on the program is available at arborday.org.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org.

For those considering adopting (watering) one of the city’s boulevard trees, please contact, Hignell at 218-365-5254 or email the Ely Tree Board at treesofely@gmail.com.



ELY...Continued from page 1

Board in helping with this issue.”

The Tree Board presented recommendations to the council at the April 24 hearing. “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 our 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 Groeninger. “This is not a reaction to the early-tapping activity observed this year.”

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.”

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski recommended that the City Council be the ultimate authority on what happens to city-owned trees. “We would bring recommendations to the Tree Board and they would then make recommendations to the council,” he said. “Remember, we created the Tree Board by ordinance.”

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 at the public hearing. “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 forestry 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.”

Council members will review and discuss the proposed tree-tapping ordinance at their next meeting.

Other business

In other business, the council took the following action:

- Allowed the Farmers Market to establish a dog-holding area in Whiteside Park for the Tuesday night event;
- Renewed the con-

tract with Heavy Metal Sports to a two-year rental agreement at Semer’s Park;

➤ Ok’d the City Cleanup Days at Whiteside Park on May 18-19 for city residents only;

➤ Authorized the installation of more security cameras at the recycling center to allow for more rigorous enforcement of the center’s rules;

➤ Tabled the awarding of the bid for a new pavilion at Semer’s Park because of the unexpectedly high cost of \$167,000;

➤ Authorized the design work proposal for the Hidden Valley mountain bike trail system at a cost of \$13,200, with almost \$8,000 in donations already received;

➤ Approved the purchase of eight plant containers to use along Sheridan Street at a cost of \$4,000;

➤ Recommended to the Ely Economic Development Authority to establish a Broadband Enterprise Fund.

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CITY OF COOK

Council OKs airport master plan

by MELISSA ROACH
Staff Writer

COOK- The Cook City Council approved a new 20-year master plan for the airport, at their meeting on April 26. The plan, developed with help from SEH Engineer Kaci Nowicki, along with the FAA and MnDOT, is a twenty-year master plan forecast for the airport in regard to future needs, expansion, and development. The master plan is required for funding from the FAA.

Nowicki explained potential future projects for airport expansion, as well as a summary of recommendations by addressing the existing need for additional hangers. She also pointed out plans for an additional apron expansion. She noted the airport is looking at an expected increase in use by small single-engine planes. She said that a snowmobile trail is on the airport property, which is out of compliance. "If the opportunity to reroute the trail were to arise, the FAA would like you to do that," said Nowicki.

The council approved to accept the master plan. On a related note, Benita Crow (also of SEH) discussed the airport parking lot and access road project plan. "The pavement is looking really good where it has been maintained, now we are down to the last part." The estimated price tag for the project is about \$200,000. Ninety-percent of the project is to be funded by the FAA, the remaining ten-percent of the tab for the project is split by the city and MNDOT. The council voted to move ahead with the project, approving to authorize advertising

acceptance of bids for the project, contingent on county participation.

Construction on the River Street Bridge Project will begin in July. Administrator Theresa Martinson briefed the council on the updates for the project, with work expected to begin July 8. The bridge will be closed and there will be a detour route over to Hwy. 24. Martinson said she was told "July will be noisy." The project is expected to be completed in early November.

Councilor Storm provided updates to the council regarding the Lake Vermilion Bike Trail. She asked the council to think of a place in Cook where a trail head could be located, keeping in mind there will need to be ample parking for trail users. Storm suggested the community center or another area, possibly where there would be a plan to develop a canoe river access area. Councilor Jody Bixby expressed concern in having the trail cross the railroad tracks.

Library Director Crystal Phillips updated the council on the Library Board's annual report. The board recommended the library be open on Saturdays during the summer. Martinson asked the council to only approve having the library open for the first and third Saturday for June, July and August with hours for 9 a.m.-noon. The council approved having the library open alternate Saturdays in the summer.

The council heard from Cook resident Julie Grahn regarding bird-watching at the waste water sewage ponds. Grahn is an avid birdwatcher with the MN Ornithologist Union

and works in conjunction with the Audubon Society. She has been observing birds at the city property, and would like to be able to make it known as an official bird-watching area. "It's an amazing area to watch birds. There are a lot of birds that come here." She added, "Bird watching has become a really big thing, and it could be a good thing for the City of Cook." Grahn wanted to know if there are any liability issues, and if the city would be supportive of allowing birdwatchers at the ponds.

"There is no parking area there, and there is no driving around the ponds. That should not happen," Councilor Elizabeth Storm said. The council expressed apprehension about inviting or advertising people to the waste water ponds specifically out of concern of liabilities and possible environmental impact. Although the council didn't make a motion, or express support of bird watching at the waste water ponds, they did offer support for the bird-watching community.

Other action:

► Approved Timber Days plan to move the fireworks to the Cook Community Center/Doug Johnson Recreation Area.

► Heard Shona McCue director of Cook Care Center Activities. McCue would like to have the Mayor Johnston and council members do a 'State of the City' at the Cook Care Center.

► Approved updated airport job descriptions and recommendations.

► Approved Ambulance Dept. revised Code of Conduct and organizational structure.

BEADS...Continued from page 1

and the second on moccasin-making (set for this summer), but also funded the startup costs of the beading and native craft supplies section of the museum store.

Downstairs in the museum classroom, it was definitely a busy afternoon overseen by teacher Ruth Porter. Porter, a special education teacher at North Woods School, is a skilled beader, but said this was her first time being paid to teach beading. Porter learned her own beading skills from Nett Lake artist Loretta Knutson, who used to have a shop in Orr, and still sells her wares at area sales and pow wows.

"I started beading when I was young," she said. "Now there are very few Bois Forte beaders left, especially young ones." Porter sells her beadwork and beaded regalia, often made to order. Projects take weeks to complete. She said she usually only tackles larger projects in the summer, when she has more time, and during the school year focuses on smaller projects like earrings.

"Beading has to be taught or it will die out," she said.

"Bois Forte traditionally crafted their regalia with porcupine quills," said Anderson. "Glass beads were introduced by traders to tribes in the 1800s." The museum has beautiful examples of both types of work on display. Mary Anderson,

who was assisting Porter, said that beading is a skill that really needs to be taught in person. "It is really hard to learn this online," she said.

Porter had started the students out with a rather difficult project—a beaded barrette. The classes are being held every other Saturday, which gives the students time to work on their projects in between. While most started with a classic flower pattern, everyone added their own personal touch with colors and detail work. Students learned patience, as they worked with steady hands and eagle eyes.

The beading class showed that this craft can be a very social activity. Teenage girls giggled and told stories as they worked on their projects. Even when the beaded flower was completed, they still needed to work on the beaded edging, which required skilled needlework.

Porter said that in future weeks the class will be working on peyote chains, earrings, and possibly some loomwork.

"Once they master this first project," she said. "They will be able to do any flat beaded project."

While most in the class were doing traditional patterns, Kerie Porter was working on a Jurassic Park themed piece for her son. Beading, while traditional, can often reflect modern designs. Ruth Porter, while mostly completing tradi-

tional regalia, showed a picture of a "Hello Kitty" design she had done for her daughter.

The first-time beaders seemed at ease threading the tiny beads onto the needle and then attaching them, using tiny stitches, to the velvet background. Each had selected their own colors from the dozens and dozens available, and each was finishing up their own unique design.

The goal of the grant program, to facilitate the steady intergenerational transfer of traditional artistic knowledge in their communities, was clearly center stage. The afternoon was also a nice respite from the barrage of technology that is the life of teenagers in 2018.

Anderson said the Heritage Center will be sponsoring the second class, on moccasin-making, this summer. The Heritage Center is also looking at options for offering an open crafting time on Saturdays, and hopes the 15 who are participating in the beading class will continue to hone their skills, and then work on passing them along to others.

The Heritage Center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission to the museum is by fee, but visitors are welcome in the gift shop. The museum is closed on holidays. The museum's phone is 218-753-6017.

ISD 696

Music Theater class presents 'Wizard of Oz'



Ely Middle School students participating in the Music Theater class this semester will present "The Wizard of Oz" on Friday, May 11 and Sunday, May 13 in Washington Auditorium. submitted photo

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY -The Ely Memorial Middle School Musical Theater class will be presenting "Wizard of Oz" on Friday, May 11 at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, May 13 at 2 p.m.

Dorothy Gale, a young girl living on a Kansas farm with her Aunt Em and Uncle Henry, dreams of escaping her mundane life ("Over The Rainbow"). The family's mean neighbor, Miss Gulch, threatens to impound Dorothy's

cherished dog, Toto, so Dorothy and Toto run away.

They meet up with kindly Professor Marvel, who subtly convinces Dorothy to return home. Suddenly a cyclone hits, and Dorothy and Toto, seeking shelter in the house, are transported to the Land of Oz.

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BASKETBALL HONOR

Goggleye recognized for new state record

North Woods point guard broke longstanding record for single game steals, with 18

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Junior basketball standout Cade Goggleye was recognized recently for setting a new all-time state record for basketball steals in a single game. Goggleye set the record as a sophomore back on Dec. 14, 2016, when he tallied 18 steals against Nashwauk-

Keewatin. Documenting state records takes time, which accounted for the delay in confirming Goggleye's achievement, which head coach Will Kleppe announced during the recent North Woods basketball team banquet.

Goggleye's steal total topped the previous record of 17 steals, which had stood since

1967. According to Kleppe, the mark puts Goggleye in sixth place nationally for steals in a single high school basketball game.

As the Grizzlies starting point guard, Goggleye has been one of the keys to the recent success of the North Woods basketball program. Goggleye scored his 1,000th point early on this past season and set Grizzlies

team records this year for single season scoring, single game scoring, total three-pointers, and assists in a single season. He also had the highest free-throw percentage on the team this season and led the team in steals.

Right: Cade Goggleye with his state record plaque, presented last week.

photos by J. Summit



Left: Ely's Nils Deremee slides into second base during last Thursday's game against Deer River.

Below: Ely shortstop Gage Merhar snags a line drive.

photos by J. Greeney

BASEBALL

Anderson notches 14 KOs for NER

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

LITTLEFORK— Zack Anderson dominated from the mound as he fanned 14 to lead Northeast Range to a 9-3 win over Littlefork-Big Falls on Monday. A good all-around game gave the Nighthawks their second win of the season.

Northeast Range jumped out early and never trailed as the Vikings strug-

See NER...pg. 2B

BASEBALL

Ely takes two of three in week's action

Errors and stranded runners combine for season's first loss, against South Ridge

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

CULVER— Costly errors and stranded baserunners proved trouble for Ely as they suffered their first loss of the season on Monday. The Wolves fell 7-4 to South Ridge to drop to 3-1 on the season.

Ely jumped to a 3-0 lead on three hits in the top of the second inning, but the Panthers rallied for three runs of their own in the bottom half of the frame. A lead-off South Ridge home run followed by two costly errors put the Panthers back in the game.

The Wolves took a one-run lead in the fourth on a Tyler Housey single but left the bases loaded to end the inning. The Panthers took advantage of another Ely throwing error to add a run and tie the score 4-4 to end the fourth.

South Ridge took the lead in the fifth, scoring three runs on two hits and another critical Ely error. The Wolves threatened in the sixth but left the bases loaded without scoring. They had two runners on base in the seventh inning, but couldn't find a way to score.

See BASEBALL...pg. 2B



Grizzlies dominate Rangers in home game

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELDTWP— North Woods junior Jake Hyppa looked impressive on the mound in what turned out to be the Grizzlies' home opener, as he helped lead his team to a 12-1 win over Mt. Iron-Buhl.

The game had originally been scheduled to be played in Mt. Iron, but the location

was changed at the last minute, giving the North Woods field its shakedown cruise of the season. Hyppa threw five strong innings, giving up just three hits while striking out seven. Sophomore Nathan Crain came on in relief in the sixth, notching a strike out in the frame.

Senior Matthew Schultz came up big behind the plate, with a triple, a home run, and

three RBIs on the afternoon. Freshman Zach Cheney went three-for-four, with a double, a homer, and two RBIs.

Crain went two-for-three, while senior Austin Chauklin tallied two RBIs. Andrew Zika also added an RBI.

"It was a definite improvement defensively," said North Woods Head Coach Jeff Smerud, who noted that his team had strug-

gled with errors in their season opener with Ely. "This time we shored up on that," said Smerud. "We had only two errors."

After a relatively quiet start to the season, the Grizzlies hit high gear next week with five games scheduled, including some make-ups from earlier in the season.

SOFTBALL

Ely falls to Mesabi East

AURORA— Solid Mesabi East pitching shut down Ely's offense on Tuesday, dropping the Wolves' early season record to 1-2.

Jenna Merhar had a strong performance at the plate, notching three hits. Erika Mattson was on the mound for Ely, and lost her second game of the season.

The Wolves traveled to South Ridge on Monday for just their second game of the season. The

Panthers took advantage of Ely errors and won 13-9.

South Ridge scored six runs in both the second and third innings, mostly unearned, to take a big lead. Ely battled but could not overcome the early lead.

"We hit the ball really well against a very good pitcher," said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. "But we gave up unearned runs

See WOLVES...pg. 2B

Tough week for Grizzlies

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP— The Grizzlies struggled against Silver Bay on Tuesday, as the Mariners blanked North Woods 10-0 in a six-inning game. Junior Alanna Rutchasky took the loss for the Grizzlies, giving up four hits and nine walks, while fanning four. Meanwhile, junior Kate Stone had two hits

In action last Thursday at

home, the Grizzlies fell 7-6 to Nashwauk-Keewatin. Hanna Sandberg picked up three hits, and Rutchasky and Stone picked up two hits apiece, but it wasn't enough against the Spartans.

Rutchasky took the loss, giving up nine hits and a walk, while striking out six.

The narrow defeat came on the heels of a 17-7 five-inning loss at Littlefork. "We

See GRIZZLIES...pg. 2B

Sports week

Baseball

Friday, May 4

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

Saturday, May 5

Ely hosts Cook County 10 a.m.

Monday, May 7

Northeast Range at Mesabi East, 4:30 p.m.
Ely at Silver Bay 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 8

Ely at Northeast Range 4:30 p.m. (B team to follow)
North Woods at L-BF 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 10

Ely hosts Greenway 4:30 p.m. (B team to follow)
Northeast Range hosts Chisholm (at Soudan) 4:30 p.m.

Softball

Saturday, May 5

Ely hosts Cook County 10 a.m.

Monday, May 7

Ely at I-Falls 4:30 p.m.
North Woods hosts MI-B 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 8

Ely hosts Cherry 4:30 p.m.
North Woods hosts Deer River, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 10

Ely hosts Eveleth-Gil. 4:30 p.m.
North Woods at Cherry 4:30 p.m.

BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

Town board OKs match for tourism grant

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA
Timberjay staff writer

BREITUNG TWP— The Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion Events Board received a cultural and tourism grant for \$13,000 from the IRRRB. The grant requires a match of equal funds for improvements at community tourism-related sites. The Breitung Township board will be fulfilling its part of the match for the events board with work such as landscaping and sidewalk repairs at township parks, and with new netting, fencing, and a flagpole at the baseball field. The township board, with

Tomsich abstaining since he is also on the events board, approved helping the events board with the matching portion of the grant, and also approved helping with the cash flow funding for the events board's spending under the grant.

The events board is planning on using the grant for things such as new Tower-Soudan area business maps, fliers, internet ads, a banner coming into Tower from the south, and possibly a remote radio event. The grant will help the events board give more exposure to local businesses with the opening of the new campground at the state park.

The Breitung Township board has extended a conditional

offer of hire to Jason Sanderson of Grand Rapids for the full-time police officer position, pending passing the medical evaluation.

The township board approved an estimate from Iron Oaks Fencing for work on the baseball field including installing hinged panels to protect dugout openings, installing panels on the dugout windows, and installing netting for a total of \$3,673.

Clean-up day will be May 21 and 23. Residents can call the township to pick up items such as appliances or brush for removal. No household garbage is allowed.

The next township meeting will be Tuesday, May 22 at 1 p.m.

TOURISM

Study finds \$18 million in economic impact from VNP

I-FALLS— A new National Park Service report shows that the 237,249 visitors to Voyageurs National Park last year spent over \$18 million in communities near the park. That spending supported 273 jobs in the local area. "The environment of northern Minnesota is integral to our economy in so many ways. Assuring we have places like Voyageurs National Park to provide a way to escape to and connect with our environment is vital to our economy as well," said Superintendent Bob

DeGross. The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Park Service Environmental Quality control economist. The report shows \$18.2 billion of direct spending by 331 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. To download the report, visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>.

BASEBALL...Continued from page 1B



Senior Dylan Kienitz winds for a pitch last week against Deer River. Kienitz struck out six and allowed just two hits in four innings.

photo by J. Greeney

For the game, Ely left eight runners in scoring position and 11 total base runners stranded for the game.

"This was a tough loss but not the worst thing to happen," said Ely Head Coach Frank Ivancich. "Three throwing errors really cost us tonight and our inability to come up with a big hit was the difference."

The Wolves will have plenty of opportunities to get back on track.

"We just didn't have a very good mental approach at the plate tonight," added Ivancich. "We need to get tougher mentally to avoid another game like this."

Trevor Mattson took the loss for the Wolves as he went 4-2/3 innings giving up seven runs on six hits while striking out four and walking two.

In action last Thursday, Ely's offense made the difference as the team easily outpaced Deer River, 13-6.

The Wolves wasted little

time putting runs on the board as they scored two in the second and added four more in the third giving them a 6-0 lead.

Deer River got on the board scoring two runs in the fourth but Ely countered with five of their own, leaving the score 11-2.

The Warriors then jumped on a new Ely pitcher and scored four to cut the lead to five runs.

The Wolves then added a run in the fifth and sixth innings to end the scoring, giving Ely the seven-run win.

Dylan Kienitz threw four innings, allowing just two hits and striking out six. Dalton Schreffler pitched two innings of scoreless relief striking out four, halting any Deer River late game opportunities.

Trevor Mattson led the Wolves with two hits and three RBIs. Gage Merhar and Dalton Schreffler added two hits apiece while Ely had 12 hits for the game.

Ely hosted Chisholm on

Wednesday, April 25, in their second game of the season. A fast start by the Wolves gave them a 11-4 victory.

Ely scored five runs in the opening frame and added another in the second to carry a 6-0 lead into the fourth. After holding the Wolves scoreless, the Blue Streaks put three runs on the board to cut the lead in half.

The Wolves put another run across the plate in the fifth followed by two more runs in the sixth and seventh innings. Chisholm added one in the bottom of the seventh to end the game's scoring.

Ely, now 3-1, has a busy week as they host Greenway on Friday. They host Cook County on Saturday before hitting the road Monday at Silver Bay. They travel to Babbitt on Tuesday to take on Northeast Range. All varsity games start at 4:30 p.m. except the Saturday game with Cook County which gets underway at 10 a.m.

NER...Continued from page 1B

gled in their first game of the season.

"We played our best all-around game so far," said Northeast Range

HeadCoach Joe Scherer. "We ran the bases well and had rock solid infield play."

Anderson went six

innings, giving up just one walk in addition to his strikeouts. Quintin Pecha pitched the seventh and faced just three batters to

end the game.

Brett Rosendahl had a big day at the plate going 4 for 5 with a double and two RBIs. RJ Bielejeski went

3 for 4 with two doubles and added two RBIs.

The Nighthawks, 2-1, will have some time off before they play at Mesabi

East on Monday. They'll host Ely on Tuesday. First pitch is at 4:30 p.m.

WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

against a team like South Ridge and found out we can't give them runs."

Erika Mattson was the Wolves' starting pitcher and pitched well as she

struck out eight and walked five while giving up 14 hits. Only six South Ridge runs were earned.

Ely had 14 hits of their own, led by Mattson

and Merhar with three hits apiece. Shayla Zaverl added two hits and a game-high three RBIs. McCartney Kaercher hit her first career home run,

a two-run shot in the fifth inning.

Ely ramps up a busy part of their season as they will be at North Woods on Thursday for a

double header with the first varsity game starting at 3 p.m. Saturday they host Cook County with varsity scheduled to start at 10 a.m. Monday they road trip to

International Falls and will host Cherry on Tuesday with both of these varsity games starting at 4:30 p.m.

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GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

had lots of errors on our part," said Sandberg. "Our bats just couldn't keep up."

Claire Beaudry had two hits, including a double, for the Grizzlies.

Sandberg and Stone also tallied two hits apiece.

From the mound, Rutchasky struggled at times, issuing seven walks and four hits, while striking out two in four and a half innings. Taylor Vagle came on in relief, allowing three hits and fanning three.

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TOURISM

First group of tourism ambassadors is certified

Additional trainings by Iron Range Tourism Bureau being offered soon

EVELETH- The Mesabi Iron Range Tourism Ambassador Program certified its first group of ambassadors on April 19 at the Mesabi Station in Eveleth.

The program, offered by the Iron Range Tourism Bureau through the Tourism Ambassador Institute, certifies individuals to help enhance the visitor experience in retail and restaurant businesses, lodging, government, community service, hospitals and other settings. There are currently 28 Certified Tourism Ambassador programs in 17 states, including the Mesabi Iron Range program, which covers the area between Hibbing and Hoyt Lakes, as well as Embarrass.

Kelly Klander, General Manager of Grandma's Virginia Grill, was in the inaugural CTA class. "I felt the CTA class taught me a lot about the Iron Range I didn't know even after living here the majority of my life," Klander said. "I always knew how important tourism is to our area, but now I understand better why we need to obtain more of it. Tourism helps keep all of our jobs successful on the Iron Range; without it we don't survive here."

Through locally customized curriculum, the CTA program focuses on the experience given to visitors, whether they are leisure travelers, business travelers or event attendees. It is the only program that gives an official des-



ignation to individuals who care about their destination and want everyone who visits to talk positively about their experience.

"It's exciting to work with and be around people who care about our area and want visitors to have a great experience when they're here," said Beth Pierce, executive director of the Iron Range Tourism Bureau, CTA and CTA program facilitator. "My hope is that we can build this program to the point that a visitor can go virtually anywhere on the Mesabi Iron Range and feel welcomed and informed about what's happening in the region and all the things there are to see and do."

To become certified, individuals must read a packet of material provided by the Iron Range Tourism Bureau and attend a four-hour training that covers area attractions, the importance of tourism as an industry, and ways to provide excellent customer service, as well as information about the Tourism Ambassador Institute.

Once certified, CTAs are required to maintain their certification by learning as much as they can about the region as they attend events, visit attractions and participate in CTA networking opportu-

nities. "If enough businesses and individuals participate, this area can become known for its customer service, which will differentiate us from other destinations, and in turn increase travel to our region," Pierce said.

Newly designated CTAs are Melissa Alto, Gloria Anderson-Hegg, Jill Aubin, Sam Augustin, Krystal Brodeen, Ken Corbett, Bridgette Duffy, Giles Friedlieb, Melanie Hedin, Andrea Honkola, Tony Jeffries, John Kempainen, Kelly Klander, Jim Makowsky, Chris Martin, Mary McReynolds, Kelle Nenadich, Mary Peterson, James Pointer, Melissa Schwarze, Jane Serrano, Barb Starken, Anne Varda and Christopher Welter.

CTA classes will be offered on May 15 in Hibbing, and May 21 and June 12 in Eveleth, with registration deadlines of May 1, 7 and 25 respectively. There is a \$25 fee to become certified. Businesses and individuals interested in the program can contact Pierce at 218-749-8161 or beth@ironrange.org. The Mesabi Iron Range Ambassador Program was made possible by an Iron Range Resources Workforce Development Grant.

Strides for Stroke Walk on May 19

DULUTH- Join the Minnesota Stroke Association (MSA) and hundreds of walkers to raise funds and awareness in the fight against stroke during the 17th annual Strides for Stroke Walk on Saturday, May 19 at Duluth Lake Walk (next to Canal Park Lodge.) Two other walks will be taking place simultaneously in New Brighton and St. Cloud. Registration opens at 9 a.m., a pre-walk program will be at 9:45 a.m., and the walk starts at 10 a.m.

In June 2012, Carl S. Antus of Alango Township (then 59 years old), suffered a massive ischemic

stroke. The stroke left Carl's left side paralyzed, created blind spots in both eyes, altered his voice, affected his swallow, produced intense pain sensations throughout his body, changed his personality, triggered seizures, and caused severe cognitive impairments. He spent 75 days in the hospital that summer and in September he was released to his daughter, Carly Antus Wilk's, full-time, 24/7 care.

Carl and Carly decided to organize a Strides for Stroke team, The B.F.D.'s, in memory of three of Carl's friends (also stroke victims)

and also in honor of their amazing caregivers, Bonnie, Terry, and Lisa.

Register to join The B.F.D.'s walking team and/or make a donation at strokemn.org/fundraising/campaign/index.html/90. Duluth Walk Information is available at strokemn.org/fundraising/teams/index.html/1.

To create a team, join our team "The B.F.D.'s", or for more information, please contact the Minnesota Stroke Association at 763-553-0088 or go to strokemn.org. Walk for someone you love!

Ruby's Pantry food distribution on Thursday, May 10 in Cook

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution will be Thursday, May 10, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m. at the old school; \$20 cash donation at the door. Volunteers are asked to please arrive at 3 p.m. Please bring your own containers. Ruby's Pantry is now offering online registration at rubyspantry.com starting Friday, May 11, for the May distribution. \$21 donation at sign-up. Sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango. For more information, contact Amy Viita at 218-666-2220.

Iron Range Engineering recognized as a world leader in engineering by MIT

VIRGINIA- Iron Range Engineering was recently recognized as one of the top 10 emerging world leaders in engineering education by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). IRE was named fifth after Singapore University of Technology and Design, Olin College, University College London, and Pontifical University of Chile.

IRE is a unique collaboration between Mesabi Range College, Itasca Community College, and Minnesota State University - Mankato and consistently produces high career placement rates in the community. IRE has received funding from IRRRB and support from industry partners like Hibbing Taconite and Minnesota Power, contributing to the program's success. IRE opened in 2009 and offers the final two years of a four-year degree.

Camp Invention begins July 30 at Mesabi Range Community College

VIRGINIA- Camp Invention, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment camp program, is coming to Iron Range Engineering the week of July 30 - Aug. 3 at the Mesabi Range Campus in Virginia.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF), in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges, children in grades K-6 to find their "inner inventor" by learning the process of innovation. Using hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning; builds resourcefulness and problem-solving skills; and encourages entrepreneurship — in a fun and engaging environment.

All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by certified educators who reside and teach in the community. For additional information, visit campinvention.org. Cost for the week-long program is \$170. Camp Invention is being offered the following week at Hibbing Community College.

Through hands-on programming, Camp Invention encourages children entering Kindergarten through sixth grade to explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics curriculum inspired by some of the world's greatest inventors.

Obituaries And Death Notices



Marian L. Zaudtke

Marian Louise Zaudtke, 82, of Tower, died on Friday, April 6, 2018, in Lee Memorial Hospital in Fort Myers, Fla. A Memorial Service will be held at 12 noon on Friday, May 11 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan. A gathering time for family and friends will begin at 11 a.m. at the church. Family services are provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

Marian was born on May 27, 1935, in Soudan, the daughter of Matt and Jenny (Johnson) Avikainen. She was a 1953 graduate of Tower-Soudan High School and received her LPN training at the Gillette Hospital. Marian married Marvin Zaudtke on Sept. 4, 1965, in White Bear Lake, and was employed as an LPN. In 1970, she moved to Tower with her husband and they purchased and operated the Arrowhead Garage in Tower; she also worked as an LPN in the

Pineview Rest Home in Soudan. In 1979, Marian and Marvin purchased the Pineview Rest Home and renamed it Parkside Homes; they operated this business until 2004. Since that time, Marian had enjoyed retirement, her home on Birch Point, and her Florida winter home in Fort Myers Beach.

Marian was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan, Peace Lutheran Church in Fort Myers Beach, the Tower Women's Civic Improvement Club, Bayside Estates Socialites Club in Fort Myers Beach, and was a former church council member at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Marian loved to fish, go boating on Lake Vermilion, was an avid Vikings fan, and played bocce ball. She cherished spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Marian is survived by her children, Steve (Lelu) Zaudtke of Tower, Becky Zaudtke of Sun City, Ariz., and Sara Zaudtke of Tower; grandchildren, Jessica (Judd Sampson) Lehman, Rachel (Mike) Gordon, Matt (Rachel) Zaudtke and Sarah (John) Mayo; great-grandchildren, Chloe Lehman, Quinn Sampson, Hazel Gordon, Oscar Gordon and Nora Zaudtke; sister, Ann LeClaire of Flower Mound, Texas; nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

She was preceded

in death by her parents; husband, Marvin; and brothers, Russell, Donald and Edmond Avikainen.

Marjorie B. Morrison

Marjorie Boness Morrison, 79, of Orr, passed away on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at Essentia Health in Virginia. Visitation was on Sunday, April 29 and continued until the service on Monday, April 30 at the ENP Community Center in Nett Lake. Arrangements were with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her life partner, Donald Vroman of Grand Rapids; daughter, Faith Morrison of Nett Lake; grandchildren, Melissa Strub, Keith

Roy and Shawna Boney; great-grandchildren, John Kingbard, David Conner, Vanessa Conner, Elliot Boney, Keira Boney, Alexis Gustafson and Evie; sister, Norene Boness; and special niece, Phillis Boshey.

Lorna J. Banks

Lorna Jean Fosgate Banks, 65, of Virginia, formerly of Cook, died on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth. She had been diagnosed with advanced ALS in September 2017. A memorial service was held on Thursday, May 3 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook. Condolences can be left on the Affordable Cremation website.

She is survived by her daughter, Bobbi Banks and Shannon Halverson of Cook; son, Joshua and Denise Childress Banks of Norfolk, Neb.; two grandsons; one granddaughter; one great-granddaughter; and many beloved family and good friends.

Katherine A. Klabe

Katherine A. "Kay" Golobich Klabe, 100, of Ely, died peacefully on Tuesday, March 27, 2018, at her home. A Funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 4 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the Mass. Inurnment will be in the Ely Cemetery. Funeral arrangements

have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home in Ely.

She is survived by her brother, Tony (Angie) Golobich of Ely; nieces and nephews, Robbie Golobich, Gerry (Mary Lynn) Golobich, Russ (Sue) Golobich, Nancy Hemstreet, Cindy (Dr. Scott) Strote and Vernon (Cheryle) Sager; great-niece and great-nephews, Jennifer (fiancé Chris), Steven (Jill), Travis and Brent, all of Minnesota, as well as several great-nieces and great-nephews in other states.

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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)
- Monday, August 6
- Monday, Sept. 10 (second Monday)



Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

THE SEASONS

Warm-up boosts prospects for timely ice-out

Most area lakes now expected to be ice-free, or close to it, for May 12 fishing opener

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— What a difference a week can make. Temperatures in the 60s and overnight lows well above the freezing mark in recent days have sent signs of winter packing and raised hopes that the ice just might be off area lakes by the May 12 fishing opener.

In fact, smaller lakes were already clearing of ice as of late this week, and it was looking like Lake Vermilion's Pike Bay

could be wide open ahead of the weekend.

Pike Bay traditionally clears of ice a week to ten days ahead of the main portion of the lake, but with milder-than-average conditions forecast for the next week, there's growing optimism in the area that ice won't spoil another opener.

"It will be close, but I think there will be open water for the fishing opener," said TJ Kladivo, at Shamrock Marina on Lake Vermilion. "There will be fishable water, that's for sure," he said.

Right: Ice was beginning to pull away from shore on Shagawa Lake in Ely on Wednesday.

photo by K. Vandervort

Even if lingering ice remains on parts of Big Bay, Vermilion will almost certainly still offer thousands of acres of open water for anglers to try their luck. And other smaller lakes in the area, which typically open earlier than a large lake like Vermilion or Burntside, should be fully clear of ice by May 12.



ADAPTATIONS

Black sheep of the bird world

Cormorants may be unpopular, but they're good at what they do

For a bird with a reputation as an aggressive predator, the double-crested cormorant spends a lot of time just sitting around. These gregarious birds have been arriving in significant numbers again this year, and the persistent ice cover on most area lakes has given them more reason than ever just to hang out.

While anglers in our area often see cormorants as unwelcome competition (and they certainly can be), I can't help but have a bit of grudging respect for birds that are so well adapted to their watery niche. The cormorants are actually a large family of mostly sea-going birds that are famed for their ability to dive deep in search of fish. They are remarkably successful at what they do, and that's part of the reason that they can pose challenges for smaller-scale fisheries, like Lake Vermilion.

The double-crested cormorant is the only species regularly found on inland waters in North America, and it's the only variety you're likely to find in our region. They're easily recognized by their large size, black feathers, and orange patch of bare skin around the bill and face. Their double crest, when raised, gives them a somewhat comical appearance when viewed straight on—like some old guy with bushy eyebrows run amok.

The cormorant derives its name from a combination of two Latin words, *corvus* and *marinus*, which essentially translates as "raven of the sea." While seemingly apt, due mostly to size and color, the cormorant is a specialized hunter, not a

generalist like a raven. When it comes to fishing, the cormorant is remarkably adept. They're spectacular swimmers and can easily dive to the bottom of any lake in our region. Underwater, they propel themselves mostly with their large webbed feet, while their wings do most of the steering. Their hooked beaks allow them to firmly grasp their prey, which in our region appears to be comprised mostly of perch, although any small fish will do in most cases.

Anyone who has observed cormorants in action has no doubt noticed that these birds ride very low in the water, with sometimes just their head and snake-like neck protruding above the surface. Cormorants have very little of the oil that normally coats the feathers of other birds, which means their feathers get wet, significantly reducing their buoyancy. This actually helps

the cormorant dive deeper, but it means they spend a lot amount of time sitting in exposed locations, sometimes with their wings spread, to dry their feathers more quickly. They're gregarious by nature, which means they like to do this in large groups.

Like a lot of bird species that rely on the aquatic food chain, the double-crested cormorant has been rebounding in recent decades. Years of persecution by humans and the effects of DDT-use had decimated their numbers by the 1960s. Since then, their numbers have rebounded significantly in some areas, particularly in the Great Lakes region.

Double-crested cormorants were huddled near the mouth of the Pike River this week as they waited for the ice to disappear on Lake Vermilion.

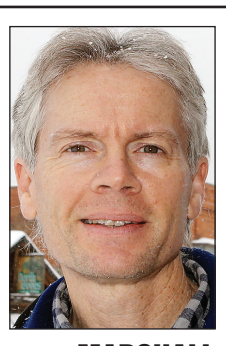
photo by M. Helmberger

That rebound can be viewed differently depending on your perspective. For people who remember when cormorant populations were extremely low, the species' rebound can look like an out-of-control population growth. Yet it may be, instead, that their current numbers simply reflect prior levels of population before human disturbance and chemical impacts.

In either case, the widespread dislike of cormorants has put tremendous pressure on federal wildlife managers to allow for population controls on the species. For a few years, those controls had allowed federal officials to shoot cormorants on Lake Vermilion and on other large lakes in Minnesota and to oil their eggs to suffocate the developing chicks. But a lawsuit challenging the decision succeeded in having the federal control order overturned, which has put at least a temporary halt on the cormorant control efforts in the U.S., including here in Minnesota.

Controlling cormorants is made easier by the facts that they nest colonially and that they spend so much of the day just sitting around.

Cormorants are pretty flexible when it comes to nesting locations. They'll use trees when available, but will also build their nests, mostly of sticks and other vegetation, on the ground. They prefer isolated islands, like Potato Island on Lake Vermilion, where they are generally protected from animal predators.



MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Outdoors briefly

DNR deer plan comment period ends May 9

REGIONAL— If you're interested in commenting on the DNR's new deer management plan, you'd better act soon.

The agency will be accepting comments through this coming Wednesday, May 9.

The new draft plan sets a new statewide harvest target, increases citizen participation in deer management and outlines ways to keep the population and habitat healthy.

The public can comment on the proposed plan on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/deerplan. A questionnaire asks people to indicate their level of satisfaction with the purpose, mission, vision and goals of the plan and provides opportunity for people to give additional feedback on whether the plan reflects the conversation and public input over the last few years.

For those who haven't been able to attend a public comment meeting, the DNR is encouraging the public to contact their local wildlife manager for additional information or to address any questions they may have about the deer plan. A list of area wildlife offices is available online at mndnr.gov/areas/wildlife.

Information about the deer plan, scheduled open houses, background information, and a link to submit online comments are on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/deerplan.

Be cautious on late season ice

REGIONAL— There may still be ice on many area lakes, but that doesn't mean it's safe to venture out. During the past week, conservation officers throughout the state report deteriorating ice conditions and instances of people and equipment falling through.

"Just because you can access a lake doesn't mean it's safe to do so," said Rodmen Smith, director of the DNR Enforcement Division. "Ice this time of year is dangerously deceptive and can change markedly in a matter of minutes — and within just a few feet."

So far during the 2017-2018 ice season, there have been six ice-related fatalities in Minnesota. All involved people breaking through while riding a recreational vehicle, and the most recent occurred April 23 in St. Louis County.

Adults also should be vigilant about keeping children away from ice and open water unless they're accompanied by a responsible adult.

FISHERIES

Pike River hatchery now up and running



DNR fisheries staff report a strong run of walleye on the Pike River, which is typical in late start years.

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

PIKE RIVER — Operations got underway this week at the DNR walleye hatchery here, and the walleye spawning run appeared to be in full swing based on the results of the first net lift on Wednesday. It was the second latest start on record for operations here, beginning just two days earlier than the May 4 start in 2013. And like that late year, the walleye were ready and raring to go from the start this week, which should help the DNR hatchery crew finish up their work in relatively short order. Hatchery manager Jeff Eibler predicts the egg-taking could be completed within a week or so. “Traditionally, a late start usually means an early end,” said Eibler.

This year’s quota of 650 quarts of eggs is down somewhat from the long-term average of 800-850 quarts, said Eibler. But the quota is based on the needs prescribed by the lake management plans in the region served by the hatchery. He

also noted that the DNR has reduced the number of fry it puts back into Lake Vermilion after research demonstrated that too much stocking can actually weaken walleye year classes. Fisheries managers are also aware that Vermilion currently has a very healthy population of breeding age walleye, which means natural reproduction should suffice for most of the lake’s needs.

Sucker sale

Meanwhile, the annual white sucker run is also underway, although sucker numbers weren’t available as of this week’s press-time. The Vermilion Lake Association conducts an annual sale of suckers and you can check on dates when suckers will be available at www.vermilionsuckersale.com. Check the website after 4 p.m. each day to find out if suckers will be available the following day and how many pounds will be available.

If you don’t have access to the web, you can contact Tom Forconi at 218-428-7096.

Looking good!

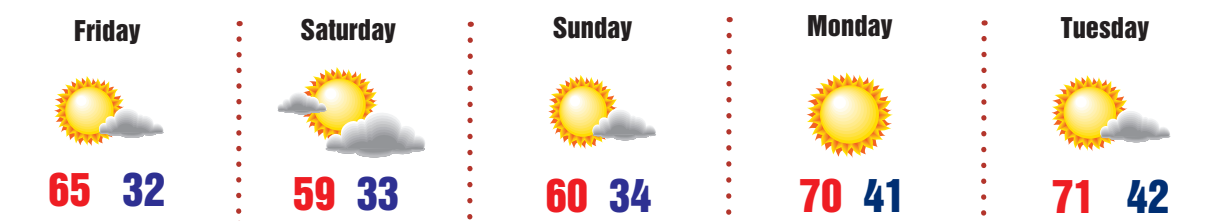


These whitetail deer in the farm country near Cook were looking downright fat last weekend, a contrast to the condition of deer in other parts of the region.

photo by M. HelMBERGER

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather



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.
04/23	62	29	0.00		04/23	61	19	0.00		04/23	62	27	0.00		04/23	66	37	0.00		04/23	63	30	0.00	
04/24	69	30	0.00		04/24	66	27	0.00		04/24	65	31	0.00		04/24	48	27	0.00		04/24	67	28	0.00	
04/25	53	21	0.00		04/25	52	23	0.00		04/25	49	22	0.00		04/25	61	19	0.00		04/25	52	18	0.00	
04/26	61	24	0.00		04/26	55	15	0.00		04/26	60	22	0.00		04/26	55	30	0.00		04/26	59	26	0.00	
04/27	55	28	0.00		04/27	52	33	0.00		04/27	52	30	0.00		04/27	39	30	0.00		04/27	39	19	0.00	
04/28	41	23	0.20		04/28	38	32	0.17	1.0"	04/28	38	24	0.20		04/28	54	21	0.29		04/28	53	21	0.00	
04/29	55	26	0.00		04/29	59	16	0.00		04/29	52	24	0.00		04/29	66	30	0.06		04/29	61	39	0.00	
Totals			2.60	79"	Totals			2.98	79.9"	Totals			2.77	82.2"	Totals			NA	NA	Totals			2.72	72.2"

AEOA
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Inc.

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

Ely's 8th Annual Citywide Rummage & CRAZY DAY SALE!

Saturday, May 19 8 AM - 4 PM

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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

PUBLIC NOTICES

VERMILION LAKE TOWNSHIP
Important Information Regarding
Property Assessments
This may affect your 2019 property taxes.

The Board of Appeal and Equalization
for Vermilion Lake Township
will meet on Thursday, May 17, 2018
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. at Vermilion Lake
Town Hall, 6703 Wahlisten Rd.

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

If you believe the value or classification of
your property is incorrect, please contact
your Assessor's Office* to discuss your con-
cerns. If you disagree with the valuation
or classification after discussing it with the
assessor, you may appear before the local
Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Board
will review your assessments and may make
corrections as needed.
Generally, you must appear before the local
board before appealing to the County Board
of Appeal and Equalization.

* Assessor's Office, 218-749-7147, Northland
Office Center - Suite 2R, 307 1st Street
South, Virginia, Minnesota 55792.

Stephen C. Peterson, Jr., Town Clerk
Vermilion Lake Township

Published in the Timberjay, May 4 & 11, 2018

EMPLOYMENT

Lake Vermilion Houseboats



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Nett Lake School
Indian Home-School Liaison/Director

The Nett Lake School is seeking appli-
cations 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 or you may stop
by the Nett Lake School. Salary will be
based on qualifications and experience.

The district will begin reviewing applica-
tions on April 20, 2018. This position will
remain open until filled. tfn



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tems on loaders, tractors, forklifts, trailers,
grounds-keeping equipment. General weld-
ing and cutting. Position acts as a shop
foreman.

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Contact Kerri Dahl with questions at
kerri.dahl@state.mn.us or 218-735-3009

Application deadline: 5/11/2018
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public with area information. Lifting up to 35
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STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS
DISTRICT COURT
SIXTH DISTRICT
Court File No.:
69VI-CV-18-130

NOTICE OF AND
ORDER FOR HEARING
ON COMPLAINT FOR
DETERMINATION OF
ADVERSE CLAIMS (under
Minn. Stat. Section 559.01)
AND QUIET TITLE TO BE
TRIED IN VIRGINIA, MN

The Estate of Lynette Hakkila
also known as:
Lynette L. Hakkila,
Ronald Lee Hakkila,
Plaintiffs

vs.
GMAC Mortgage, doing
business as dittech.com,
their assigns and succes-
sors, and all other persons
unknown claiming any right,
title, estate, interest or lien in
the real estate described in
the complaint herein,

Defendant,
Ronald Lee Hakkila has filed
a Complaint to Determine
Adverse Claims and Quiet
Title. It is Ordered that on
June 12, 2018, at 9:00 AM,
a hearing will be held in
this Court at 300 South 5th
Avenue, Virginia, Minnesota
55792, on the Complaint.

The petition represents that
the decedent died more than
three (3) years ago leaving
property in Minnesota. The
petition requests that the
Court determine the descent
of such property and assign
the property to the persons
entitled.

Any objections to the petition
must be raised at the hearing
or filed with the Court prior to
the hearing. If the petition is
proper and no objections are
filed or raised, the petition will
be granted.

Notice shall be given by pub-
lishing this Notice and Order

as provided by law and by:

• Mailing a copy of this Notice
and Order to each interested
person by United States mail
at least 14 days before the
time set for the hearing.

• Serving a copy of this Notice
and Order personally at least
14 days before the time set
for the hearing.

BY THE COURT
Dated Apr. 27, 2018
Gary Pagliaccetti,
Judge of District Court

Amy Turnquist,
Court Administrator

Sipila Law Office, LLC
Angela E. Sipila
MN# 024501X
108 S 5th Ave. Suite #1
Virginia, MN 55792
Telephone: 218-741-5000
Facsimile: 866-675-0629
e-mail: ange@sipilaw.com

Published in the Timberjay,
May 4, 11 & 18, 2018

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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, back-
ground and credit checks.

Application packets are available at Orr City
Hall, 4429 Hwy 53, Orr, MN or by e-mail
at 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

Nett Lake School
Teachers Wanted

The Nett Lake School is seeking applica-
tions 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. 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. tfn

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Sudoku grid with numbers 8, 4, 1, 7, 9, 5, 2, 6, 9, 1, 8, 9, 2, 5, 8, 3, 4, 5, 2, 5, 8, 2, 7, 9, 5, 4, 7, 3, 1, 6

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.

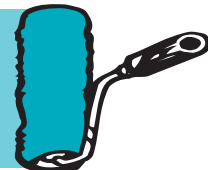
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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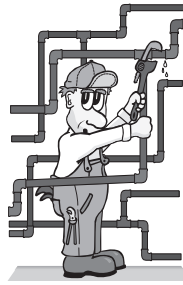
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