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Fall color tour...See /4B



# The **TIMBERJAY**

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## TOWER HARBOR

# City, developer reach terms on town homes

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

Phased approach features pay-as-you go tax abatement deal

TOWER— The town home project at the city’s harbor here is back on track after the city council and the project developers reached agreement on the terms of a new development agreement.

At a special meeting on Wednesday, the two parties

agreed to move forward in a phased approach with repayment for public infrastructure coming through a 20-year, pay-as-you-go tax abatement deal.

The arrangement is a work-around from an earlier city request for an up-front letter of credit to cover the cost of the

full installation of streets and utilities to serve the planned 20-unit development. Under the new agreement, the developers, currently led by Tower resident Orlyn Kringstad, will have until April 1, 2019, to demonstrate a bankable project by obtaining signed purchase agreements

sufficient to move forward with at least the first of three planned town home buildings. The first building would encompass six separate units, the second would encompass eight units, while a third building would account for the remaining six town homes.

The new agreement estab-

lishes a timeline for the various phases, with the first phase set to begin construction by July 2019, with a one-year deadline for completion. The timeline on subsequent phases was less clear, but Jeremy Schoenfelder,

*See...TOWER pg. 10*

## LOCAL FOODS

# Eating by the season

Chef offers menus of a local source

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

VERMILION LAKE TWP - The Black Bear Café is known mostly for its burgers and fries, as well as its weekly specials.

But last Saturday, Chef Bryan Morcom brought the smells and tastes of India to the Black Bear, as he took over the kitchen to serve up a three-course Indian-inspired meal with a local twist.

Using as many locally-sourced ingredients as possible, Morcom served up a curry featuring walleye and locally-grown vegetables, naan bread, and wild rice. The meal started with an Indian-spiced dumpling and ended with a chokecherry sorbet. The curry was spiced just right, with a hint



**Chef Bryan Morcom is using locally-sourced ingredients to serve up special meals periodically this winter at the Black Bear Cafe.** photo by J. Summit

*See...CHEF pg. 11*

## CITY OF ELY

# Community Center just about sold

Ordinance OK’d by council, 6-1

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY— The city council here voted 6-1 Tuesday night to accept the first reading of an ordinance authorizing the sale of the Community Center to the K America Foundation for \$30,000, bringing the city one step closer to seeing the vacant building renovated and returned to the property tax rolls.

Council member Paul Kess reiterated his opposition to the sale of the property to the K America Foundation. “Their business plan doesn’t show enough financial strength, and the purchaser might not be able to accomplish what they say they want to accomplish. Because of that, I would vote no. To me, it is like selling a house and hoping the purchaser can get a mortgage. I need more financial assurances.”

Council member Jerome Debeltz, who also voted against signing the purchase agreement with the K America Foundation, said he had concerns that the city would only get half of the \$30,000 offered for the building. “We have to remove the fuel tank and that will likely cost more than we’re getting for the building,” he said. “But we might as well move on with it.”

Mayor Chuck Novak said he is in favor of the sale. “The building has sat idle far too long,” he said. “Our broker has had several people bring inquiries on the building, and this is the first reasonable offer. I understand that nobody is walking in with a bag of candy. I also understand that we have to dispose of this agreement before we can proceed with any further offers to avoid being sued.”

Novak also said he was concerned with the length of time the building has been vacant. The landmark Community Center was essentially mothballed four years ago when the city built its new

*See...ELY pg. 12*

# Study: Food production could drive local economy

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— What if the introduction of a major new industry to the Iron Range could create hundreds, even thousands, of new jobs, build local resource wealth, and boost the long-term sustainability of the region’s economy, all while improving the health of residents?

Would it justify local efforts to develop and grow such an industry?

That is one of the questions raised as a result of a new

**Cecilia Majerle and her grandmother, Robin, shopped for vegetables at the Tower Farmers Market last summer.** photo by J. Summit

analysis of the potential economic development impact stemming from the rebirth of local food production in a broad swath of northeastern Minnesota.

The study, “Local Food as an Economic Driver,” co-written by David Abazs,

*See...FOOD pg. 11*



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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution set for Thursday, Oct. 11 in Cook

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution will be Thursday, Oct. 11, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m. \$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, Oct. 12, for the November 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.

## Rev. Eric Northard at Mesabi Unitarian Church on Oct. 7

VIRGINIA- Rev. Eric Northard will be the speaker at the Sunday, Oct. 7 service at 10:30 a.m. at Mesabi Unitarian Church in Virginia. "Life's Blessings - Experiencing Our Favorite Things with Gratitude" will be the topic. Do we remember to give thanks for the great things in our lives? What do we love and how do we give thanks for them? During this service we will reflect on gratitude. Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 230 7th Street S in Virginia.

## Roses for sale by Virginia Rotary

VIRGINIA- Virginia Rotary Club is selling roses by the dozen. Red or mixed bouquets are \$20 each. Preorder by Wednesday, Oct. 17 by calling Marge McPeak at 218-753-3503. Roses can be picked up Thursday, Oct. 25 and Friday, Oct. 26 at Virginia Floral, 320 Chestnut St. in Virginia.

## Ladies Luncheon with local author Joni Jesme on Oct. 13

COOK- The Second Annual Ladies Luncheon, with guest speaker Joni Jesme, author of "OMG! I'm Having a White Chair Day," will be on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Hall, 8025 Oak Narrows Rd. in Cook. \$24 suggested minimum donation for lunch. Please RSVP by Monday, Oct. 8 by email to lakevermilionfirebrigade@gmail.com or call Laurie Potter at 218-780-5486.

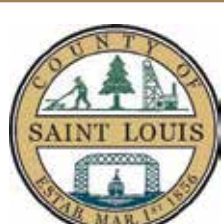
## NWFA Open Art begins Oct. 6

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery's Open Art is a place to do art, experiment with new media, finish a project, or begin a new experience with other artists of all ages. Some objects will be available to draw for still life and some ideas for painting will be available too. Open Art is a weekly event starting Saturday, Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## October is Fiber Arts Month at the Cook Library; special events planned on Oct. 11 and Oct. 30

COOK- Come to the library all month long to see local fiber art pieces including quilting, knitting, crocheting, embroidery, weaving, spinning and felting. Antique/vintage needlework and tools from local collections will also be on display. Special events to celebrate fiber arts will be a spinning demonstration on Thursday, Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. -4 p.m. and a Fiber Arts Tea on Tuesday, Oct. 30 at 5 p.m.

Fiber-art themed books for all ages will be available for check out. Each check out earns a chance to win one of several prizes. The Friends of the Cook Public Library are sponsoring a ticket raffle for a chance to win a beautifully embroidered and quilted wall hanging, donated by a local artist.



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## GREENWOOD



## Play time!

GREENWOOD TWP- The Greenwood Recreation Board celebrated the completion of their playground project during an open house on Sept. 22. The town hall grounds also have a tennis/pickleball court, basketball hoop, horseshoe pit, bocce ball courts, a pavilion with electricity, picnic tables, and new outdoor benches. The pavilion and playground areas are handicap-accessible. The recreation board, a 501c3, has raised over \$100,000 to fund construction of some of these projects over the past several years. The pavilion, playground and other equipment, once in place, have been donated to the township.

Residents can borrow bocce and horseshoe equipment by calling the town hall at 218-753-2231. There is also regular bocce ball league play during the summer, and regular pickleball and tennis games.

**Pictured above are the recreation committee members cutting the ribbon for the newly-constructed playground. Also pictured are Allie and Vincent Vesel playing on the swings with their mother Robin, and community members enjoying a picnic lunch.**

photos by J. Summit

## YOUNG ARTISTS CONCERTS

## Mesabi Symphony Young Artists concerts in Ely on Oct. 13 and Virginia on Oct. 14

REGIONAL- Mesabi Symphony Orchestra opens the 2018-2019 season with two concerts featuring the winners of our annual Young Artists Competition. Concerts are on Saturday, Oct. 13 at Ely's Washington Auditorium at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Oct. 14 at Virginia's Goodman Auditorium at 2:30 p.m.

The program will include a short piece of Wagnerian opera, a variation on a ceremonial

march, a Tchaikovsky fantasy complete with sword fight, a little bit of Broadway, some Italian opera, some Mozart, and a thundering piano concerto.

The winners of our Young Artists Competition are soprano Emily Holter and pianist Emily VerWay.

Ms. Holter is a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. UMD's Chamber Singers, University

Singers, Opera Studio, Vocal Jazz, and Cabaret all call her a member. She has tutored music theory, ear training, and piano. Emily has performed in productions of theatre and opera since age 12. She will perform Luigi Arditi's "Il Bacio" (The Kiss), Frank Loesser's "Somebody, Somewhere" from The Most Happy Fella, and a selection from Mozart's Marriage of Figaro.

Ms. VerWay is a

senior at University of Wisconsin-Superior pursuing degrees in Business Management and Music. She began to play piano at age seven and is currently in the studio of Dr. Hector Landa. Emily also plays on the UWS volleyball team. As a three-time captain for the team, she has earned various awards, and is a three-time first team all conference honor recipient. During the Virginia concert, she will perform the first movement of Maurice Ravel's Piano Concerto in G Major.

Information and tickets (free for students) are available at the orchestra's website at www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org. Like us on Facebook and follow our updates. This concert is sponsored, in part, by Great River Energy. Free student tickets are sponsored by Lake Country Power.

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CITY OF COOK

# McDonald touts local jobs plan to Cook City Council

by **MARCUS WHITE**  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK –County Commissioner candidate Paul McDonald told the Cook City Council, last Thursday, of his plans to help expand county services in rural communities here if elected to the county board next month.

“Five to ten jobs with benefits would be a big boost to the community,” McDonald said. “When you talk about jobs, you are going to get jobs up here.”

The candidate is hoping to bring up to a dozen county health and human services jobs to Cook, if elected, utilizing unused space in old government properties and small hospitals to expand rural services.

McDonald said having those jobs in larger communities such as Duluth and Virginia defeated the purpose of serving the region’s smaller communities.

On the health front, McDonald said, small hospitals in Cook and Ely could house more mental health units to prevent people from having to travel to Duluth or in some cases to the Twin Cities, or even out of state.

“With the mental health crisis

in our country right now, making six-to-eight-bed wings in each little hospital and using telemedicine with doctors and psychiatrists could help,” he said. “If we look at doing these mental health wings, number one it brings in revenue.”McDonald added that mental health patients are better served in familiar settings rather than far away.

On infrastructure, McDonald said he also wanted to see the county form a “citizens’ road committee” that would advise the county board in Duluth on what needed to be done.

“What better people to give advice than the people who are driving on the roads?” he asked. “We have to get as many roads done up here as we can.”

**Falling liquor sales**

A year-over-year comparison of liquor revenue in Cook revealed a \$5,000 drop in sales in August over last year. Overall, year-to-date sales are down around \$30,000.

“Did our sales dip because of the bigger, cheaper out-of-town liquor stores?” councilwoman Kim Brunner asked.

Council member Elizabeth Storm said locals needed to realize



**Paul McDonald**

that buying liquor at the city-owned store helps underwrite other city services, such as water and sewer.

“We need to strategize and talk about marketing,” said City Administrator Theresa Martinson. She added she would be making calls to some of the stores that may be cutting into the city’s own sales.

In other city business, the council:

- Gave permission to Martinson to work with the city attorney on potentially acquiring a plot of land that is attracting safety complaints from city residents.
- Approved a request to apply for a grant giving the fire department funds for a new dryer.
- Approved a grant application request to seek funds for renovating the library for better ADA access.

CITY OF TOWER

# Council backs reprimand over election fiasco

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

TOWER — The city council here has approved giving a letter of reprimand to Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith and requiring her to pay any fines stemming from the mishandling of the Aug. 14 primary election in Tower.

The council’s action came in the wake of a closed session

at the city council meeting last Wednesday, Sept. 26, during which the council was set to discuss possible disciplinary action over the incident. Before going into closed session, the council had finally discussed an Aug. 24 letter from Phil Chapman, the chief elections supervisor for St. Louis County, which outlined several significant errors in the city’s election process during the primary elec-

tion. The council went through each of the seven errors cited by Chapman (which were previously reported in the *Timberjay*) and heard explanations from City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith, who administers the city’s election, about each of them. Keith’s explanations didn’t necessarily sit well with some of the council members.

“The one issue I’ve got just going over them, is that I’m

not sure I’ve ever heard Linda say ‘we screwed up,’” said Councilor Lance Dougherty. “It was always, well, they sent in a plastic bag or ‘we’ve always done it this way in the past.’ Honestly, I think that after seven dings from the county, there was obviously some major screw-ups that happened that day. I hope that you and [deputy clerk] Terri have gotten them figured out here before the general election.”

Keith and the deputy clerk, Terri Joki-Martin, both spent a day in Duluth last week undergoing election re-training that the county had ordered following the problems with the primary election. In addition, Mayor Josh Carlson said that the city had requested that the county review the city’s election process in November. The city will be submitting a formal letter requesting the special review.

# HEALTHCARE TOWN HALL

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6pm - meet and greet

7pm - public healthcare forum

With special guests Rose Roach, Minnesota Nurses Association; Mike Maleska, USW Local 6860; and Bruce Miller, Minnesota Farmers Union

Prepared and paid for by Radinovich for Congress

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# BONE BUILDERS

The **RSVP Bone Builders Class** is a nationally-praised exercise program designed to help maintain bone mass, build on existing bone mass and improve balance. The program’s goal is to empower women and men to reduce their osteoporosis risk through proper exercise and to maintain their independence and quality of life. Classes start **October 16th** and will run from **3:30-4:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays** through winter in the basement of the **Pioneer Building in Cook**.

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# OPINION

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## Editorial

### Standardized testing

MCAs contribute virtually nothing to academic success. So why do they still exist?

For nearly 20 years now, newspapers around the country, including ours, have dutifully reported what is, by most estimates, educational news that is almost entirely devoid of meaning. It's been a waste of reportorial talent, ink, and paper and it's contributed virtually nothing to improving Minnesota schools.

We, of course, are talking about the results of the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment, or MCAs. This year, once again, the Department of Education issued a press release announcing the results, and just like every year, some schools saw improvement, some saw declines, and most pretty much stayed the same. The minor variations from year-to-year are mostly just statistical noise.

That's not to say that all standardized testing is meaningless. Educators use a variety of assessment data, like NWEA tests, midterm tests, and even the occasional pop quiz, to get feedback on how well their students are understanding their lessons. Such information is available almost immediately and can help teachers identify struggling students or adjust their educational methods to increase student comprehension.

The MCAs, by contrast, offer teachers no useful or actionable information on their students. The tests are taken in the spring and by the time the results are released in late August or early September, most students are ready to start a new school year with a different teacher, or teachers.

The tests, which were a central component of the Bush-era educational reform known as No Child Left Behind, or NCLB, were never designed to help teachers. They were a top-down and punitive effort at holding schools accountable for their performance and were supposed to provide parents useful information about how neighboring schools stacked

up academically. In reality, the information was not easily available to parents. And even reformers eventually recognized that the initial, punitive approach, which included defunding schools that were underperforming, was self-defeating. Here in Minnesota, the Department of Education routinely reconfigured the tests, making year-to-year comparisons almost impossible. It stopped being a useful yardstick, for anyone, a long time ago.

In other words, it never worked as advertised. But the testing regimen did have three very clear effects. It resulted in billions of dollars in profits for the corporations that generate standardized tests. It prompted schools throughout the country to alter their curricula to align with the tests. And, finally, it prompted schools to waste huge amounts of educational resources on test preparation for their students. None of these developments improved student learning, which was supposed to be the bottom line. Indeed, in the 20 years since Congress enacted NCLB, student achievement gains have proven to be non-existent.

Unfortunately, the inertia of the testing mindset established by NCLB continues despite the almost universal recognition by educators that it's little more than an exercise in futility. In fact, the whole testing regime has become harmful because it continues to siphon away educational dollars that would be better spent improving salaries to attract higher caliber teachers and increasing the time that students spend on actual learning, rather than mindless test prep.

This is one test question to which we already know the answer. Using standardized tests as a method to rate schools has been a colossal failure. It's time to put an end to it. Let's put our educational dollars where they'll actually do some good.



## Letters from Readers

### What about #MeToo for the unborn?

Women who have had their spirits crushed through sexual assault are crying out in unison for justice from the men who have dishonored them and for the respect of all men. The vehicle that launched their voices was the #MeToo movement.

If the dead could speak, another #MeToo movement would be launched. This movement would be from the millions of babies in this country alone whose mothers have dishonored them through the death sentence of abortion and whose mothers did not respect their chances at life.

Real justice would be to vote for pro-life candidates at every level in this upcoming election. This is the change that needs to happen to ensure equality and dignity for all, male and female.

**Judy Koch Orr**

### Mining is key to renewable energy

I read the story about Skip Sandman by Marcus White in the 9/28 *Timberjay*. As an electrician, electrical instructor and certified solar photovoltaic installer since 2009, I want to add some nuance to the story.

As someone who works with wind and solar on a daily basis, has solar on my garage and home and systems I've installed all over the state of Minnesota. I believe in renewable energy and protecting the environment too. Skip saying "We need to look at sustainable options like wind power" and then to be against PolyMet shows a disconnect between wants and truths. I've toured the wind towers at Taconite Ridge three times with my students. Not to surprise anyone here, but there is very little plastic in a wind farm. The amount of steel is evident by looking at them from Virginia, but the copper and precious metals that are used is less obvious. Tons of copper per turbine. The amount of copper used in solar photovoltaic systems varies per system but copper is used in the modules,

inverter and associated wiring. It is not reasonable to think we can have renewable energy, electric cars and no mining. It is foolish, to be honest. We should get the copper from here and make the solar modules in Mt. Iron. We can mine it with strong environmental standards and call on our history of labor standards for the workers. We cannot recycle our way to the seven generations aspiration. To have a Tesla in every garage and a wind tower in every Crockpot we need mining. That is why I am supporting Joe Radinovich for Congress.

**Jesse Dahl Palo**

*Jesse Dahl is a NABCEP Certified PV installation professional, electrician, and instructor.*

### Why I'm backing McDonald for county commissioner

When ranking the qualities I find most important for a local office holder, communication and the desire to problem solve rank one and two. Paul McDonald shows strength in both of these qualities. I have worked with Paul for many years officiating basketball and football and remember him as a referee during my high school playing days. Paul's officiating style is one of constant communication—helping players understand the rules of the game and bettering themselves as athletes. Paul works with coaches to ensure that high school games are officiated fairly and diligently. Recently, Paul also finished a four-year term on the Minnesota State High School League Board of Directors. While on the board, he was a strong voice for rural Minnesota, ensuring our kids get the same opportunities as kids in the metro, while giving voice to the unique challenges that athletic programs in small, rural communities face. Paul knows how to communicate the issues that affect us in the Fourth District and he knows how to generate solutions. Vote Paul McDonald for County Commissioner on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

**Aaron Donais Babbitt**

### Another effort to twist people's words

As usual, John and Joann Bassing have attempted to twist words - in this case mine.

Two weeks ago I wrote a letter to the editor outlining the training offered by the Minnesota Association of Townships over the next three months. I never said it was the only training offered nor did I ever say that anyone on the board was opposed to training. I was just pointing out that none of the offerings in the recent mailing were pertinent to our township and it didn't make sense for anyone to attend.

In my 35 year career in management, I never saw such controversy over nothing. People creating issues where issues don't exist.

Hopefully the Greenwood residents see through this ridiculous attempt to bash the current board.

**Pam Rodgers Greenwood Township**

### Paul McDonald is supportive of our veterans

I am a retired United States Navy veteran. I have made Ely my home for the past twenty years and have had the pleasure to get to know Paul McDonald very well. Our relationship has evolved through ushering at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely and many community events that we have been involved in. Since the beginning, Paul has always taken a genuine interest in veterans' issues and the veteran groups I am associated with. I always thought that was very kind of him. Paul McDonald has a passion for Northeastern Minnesota and is very well connected throughout the state. He will be a supporter of veterans and I truly appreciate his interest in veterans' issues.

Please join me in voting for Paul McDonald on or before Nov. 6.

**Mike Pope U.S. Navy Ret. Ely**



## Health care for all... it's been a long time coming

American news outlets have bombarded us with health care horror stories. They've reported on the problem, emphasizing the overwhelming complexities, but not too much on real solutions. We know the problems exist because very few of us haven't experienced, either directly or through someone we know, the stresses and strains of finding and keeping our medical insurance. And even if we have been spared from being uninsured, many know the shock of discovering that what you thought would be covered isn't. Many know the obstacles to seeing a doctor when we need to. And statistics show that enormous numbers of Americans are drowning in medical bills for relatively minor conditions, or bankrupted by chronic or catastrophic illness.



**KATHLEEN MCQUILLAN**

Perhaps you've heard the phrase, "Health care is a right, not a privilege." It's one that's been around for a long time. I first heard it in 1974 when I volunteered as a patient advocate at a

Free Clinic in Tucson, Arizona. The founders of this small, community-based non-profit clinic built it on this philosophy. It was part of a movement to assure that anyone and everyone could visit a doctor, regardless of their ability to pay. It delivered "patient-centered care" before those words became a marketing slogan. And it truly was free. No one received a bill. Patients were merely informed that, if they wished, they could leave a

donation in one of the envelopes by the door. The clinic ran general medical and multiple specialty clinics throughout the week on an annual budget under \$100,000. With the help of a small paid staff and over 100 volunteer physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and trained patient advocates, all were welcomed. In time, I graduated from a volunteer position

See **HEALTH...**pg. 5



## Letters from Readers

### Harbor development is a complex process

RE: Harbor town home project back on track

The delay in the start of the Tower Harbor Shores project is as frustrating to the Tower Vision 2025 development team as it is to Tower residents who have been waiting to see building commence around the Tower Harbor for over a decade. But I, along with our development team and the city, agree that the project needs to meet the original goals of the city as well as to fulfill the mission of TV2025 to develop sustainable growth and a more resilient economy for residents of the Tower area.

The town home project is only one of a series of developments that will bring jobs, residents and businesses to Tower. For example, arranging for the sale of the dilapidated Standing Bear Marina, assisting with acquiring renovation funding, and plans for complementary development around the marina, is an example of our commitment to development in Tower. That effort was funded entirely by the TV2025 development team.

It is first and foremost important for all to understand that the Tower Harbor Shores project is a joint effort that requires the cooperation of multiple entities and jurisdictions. Additionally, the Tower Harbor Shores project is a portion of a

larger vision the city and TV2025 have for the entire harbor area. In order for the city to be able to convey specific property to the development team, legal descriptions of the property must exist. Many issues can affect these specific boundaries including existing property boundaries, ingress and egress locations, necessary utility easements, grading and drainage needs, as well as other considerations. As these items become more definite, certain changes (even small ones) are required and can delay final approval by St. Louis County. All of these things can affect a Development Agreement significantly. Understanding this, the city and Tower Harbor Shores have continued to work together in order to move the Tower Harbor Shores project forward, while also allowing the city to integrate other potential projects in the larger vision for the harbor area.

The Tower Harbor Shores developers have been prepared to begin sales and construction of the town homes since late summer/fall 2017, 15 months after they became involved in the harbor development. However, wetland permits, platting and registration of the precise location of the three town home buildings and individual parcels were not complete and therefore the developers' marketing and sales team was not legally able to sell units, eliminating the

possibility for contractors to commence construction. The required permits, platting and county registrations were not complete until this past August. This delay required budget reviews, rebidding, and repricing revisions which are now in place.

The existing Development Agreement with the city was expected to require only a change in start and completion dates to which the developers had already agreed. However, the city introduced new financial requirements (letter of credit as reported on in earlier newspaper articles) which were new to the developers and not possible or acceptable to investors. The developers, however, have continued to work with the city to accommodate city infrastructure funding shortfalls and recently agreed to an approach which will help solve their funding needs.

**Orlyn Kringstad  
Tower**

### Mettler stands out in commissioner race

Elections are strange animals. It's that season when we see hopeful candidates scurrying about slapping backs and shaking hands and promising magical cures for all manner of social ailments. Unfortunately, a lot of this fluff vanishes the day after the election.

At the county level this year, there is one person who stands

above all this cheery chatter. He is Bernie Mettler, who is seeking the 4th District County Commissioner position. I have taken the time to get to know a little about this character.

Raised on a farm in central Minnesota, he worked with his family there for six years or so after high school. That's a good start. Pitching hay and shoveling manure, you get a realistic view of how the earth really turns. Catching gophers and collecting the bounty on them for spending money also gives one an early lesson on the value of money. Then too, farm life crystallizes a vivid definition of work in your thinking. The day often doesn't end at 4 p.m., or even at sundown; the job ends when it's done, whether it takes all night or all week to do it.

After college, a successful career in law enforcement, and several sideline small business ventures, he is now well positioned to run for county commissioner. His job has taken him all over the county, so he knows what's going on in all four corners of it, and he has nearly 30 years of working with and dealing with people.

I haven't heard him make any wild promises of what he's going to do or not do. He doesn't even sound like a politician; he just comes across like a regular guy. Maybe that's a good thing too - I'm not sure we need more tuned muffler sounds from the

silver-tongued orators that you can't figure out what they said when they're done chirping.

It isn't every day you find a guy with both a level head and some grit in his craw for when things need to get done. This guy is more than just a happy handshake. He's real, he's practical, he supports our laborers, miners, loggers, and businesses and will work with our townships, cities and ordinary citizens. His name is Bernie Mettler. Remember that when you go to vote on Nov.

**Jim Hofsommer  
Markham**

### Why not a concern for decency?

When we face a decision as important as a president, or a seat on the highest court in the land, shouldn't we look back to all those who have served and were collectively admired?

Most everyone, even my Republican cousin and her husband, admired Jimmy Carter. Why? It was because of his innate decency. If you compare a candidate for high office with Jimmy Carter's decency, it would be an easy call to conclude that a candidate does or does not qualify.

**Janet Y. Schultz  
Sturgeon Twp.**

# New school resource officer now on duty

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL - Students at North Woods, Tower-Soudan and Northeast Range will see a new face walking their hallways this school year. Deputy Brock Kick has taken over as the schools' Resource Officer, or SRO. He's a deputy sheriff with St. Louis County, but he has a significantly different mission from a typical deputy.

"It's not just about law enforcement," Deputy Kick said. "That's a small role. I tell the kids I want them to have a fun and safe year."

Kick said it is a misconception that SROs are in the schools to be the eyes and ears of the sheriff's department. He said in

reality, being a cop is less than 10 percent of the job, and 90 percent of his time is spent mentoring kids as an informal life counselor or in the classroom helping teachers as a guest speaker on topics such as bullying.

"We want kids to run to us, not away from us," Kick said. "SROs are a resource for parents, teachers and the administration." To be a resource, he said he walks the hallways and schools to be a familiar face to the students, and chats with them not only about being safe, but about everyday things like how they're doing, and or if he spots someone wearing a cool t-shirt.

Kick is a familiar face to the school district. He graduated from the former Cotton School in 2000. He then went on to

Vermilion Community College for law enforcement for wildland and wildlife enforcement. After spending two seasons as a ranger in Yellowstone National Park, he worked part-time in Gilbert and Biwabik before becoming a deputy in 2005.

Before the inception of the SRO program three years ago, Kick said he would frequent area schools as needed doing many of the same tasks he will now do full-time.

"I enjoy small-town community policing," he said. "The schools have been warm and welcoming."

Aside from being on campus during the school days, Kick said he also plans to attend as many extra-curricular activities at the schools as he can.



Deputy Brock Kick with his squad car outside the Tower-Soudan Elementary. Kick is the new school resource officer serving North Woods, T-S, and Northeast Range.

M. White

## HEALTH...Continued from page 4

to that of director, looking after budgeting, fundraising, and community relations. We were a diverse and impassioned group of people believing we were on the cutting edge of change. Now, forty-four years later, our nation is still wrestling with how to make medical care accessible and affordable to all.

Remember when health care was at the top of the agenda for the Clinton Administration? That was in the early 90's. But their efforts failed to get enough political traction to produce reforms with the necessary braking power to control continually rising costs, increasing the financial burden on individuals and the nation, as a whole.

Next came the George W. Bush era, so preoccupied with wars in the Middle East that domestic issues, including the growing health care crisis, was kicked, like the proverbial can, further down the road.

The Affordable Care Act, sometimes called President Obama's "signature achievement", came

about only after what felt like eons of Congressional wrangling that eventuated in legislation so watered-down at final passage that it was never really bound for success — never "tweaked" as promised, or promoted enough to see if it could really work. So here we are, with a health care system that resembles a coastal community after the typhoon — a heart-breaking disaster with thousands of lives ravaged. It's time to face it. Our profit-driven health care system is on the brink of collapse.

Now we are at another juncture on this long and winding road toward change — the 2018 mid-term election. Never in my life have I witnessed such fervent engagement over the issues as I see today. And no doubt about it, the health care crisis is one of the top concerns driving people to the polls. Recently, I've attended several candidate "meet and greets" and debates. When the issue of universal health care is raised, candidates tend to take a safe stance, admitting

that we need change but reluctant to commit to a plan. Ordinary citizens are showing up and sharing their stories of big bills for poor care, statistics that validate their personal experiences, and examples of how other countries are conquering their health care crises. The power of these ordinary citizens is what has pushed our national health care debate to a new level.

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, Health Care For All-MN and the DFL MN 03 Senate Organizing Unit will host a forum, free and open to the public, on the benefits of a "universal single-payer" health care system. This option, designed to deliver affordable and accessible health care to all, has been successfully tested by many countries with varied economic systems, some very similar to our own. The forum is meant to give people here in the north-land an opportunity to amp up their understanding and support for a common sense solution to our health care crisis.

The data show that the

U.S. ranks #1 in the world for the highest percentage of our Gross Domestic Product siphoned off to pay for health care. It also shows us ranking a deplorable #19 compared to other developed nations on nearly all major health care indicators. This reflects an embarrassing failure of our private insurance based model, one that is becoming less accessible to growing numbers of Americans. It's time we get information that helps us see through the smokescreens of myth and misconception, and begin to respect that the rest of the industrialized world, so greatly outranking us in health care outcomes, cannot all be wrong!

Come to Vermilion Community College Lecture Hall in Ely, Wednesday, Oct. 10 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to learn more. Share refreshments with friends and your neighbors. And meet your candidate for Congress. You'll be inspired to hear about what we can do to make our health care system work better for everyone, without

driving so many people into poverty.

Health care is a right, not a privilege! I believed it in 1974. And I still believe it now, because

people's lives and livelihoods depend upon it. Let's hope change is right around the corner!

### FILED AN EXTENSION?

Remember the October 15 deadline for filing. File for FREE at [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov)--search: FREE FILE

For more info log on to [ASKJEAN.NET](https://www.askjean.net) and select the "Tax Tips" link, or call us.

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## MESABI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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Saturday, October 13, 7:00pm

**Virginia, MN - Goodman Auditorium**  
Sunday, October 14, 2:30pm

**TICKET PRICES**  
\$15 adults • \$8 students • \$12 seniors • \$25 family groups  
[www.MesabiSymphonyOrchestra.org](https://www.MesabiSymphonyOrchestra.org)

Get the news at [www.timberjay.com](https://www.timberjay.com)



BREITUNG

# McKinley Park Campground reports terrific season

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA  
Staff Writer

SOUDAN- McKinley Park closed for the season last weekend. At the Sept. 26 Breitung Town Board meeting, Susie Chiabotti, the campground manager, reported it was the best season they have had.

“It was my 15th year and it was the best in every manner,” she said. “The people were great. No problems with people ever, they’re like a family. And it was the busiest ever, even with kind of crappy weather a good part of the time.” She also said the bathrooms that the township renovated last spring were very much appreciated and received many, many com-

plements.”

And to top it off, she noted, the fishing stayed pretty good too!

The town board also discussed projects, both ongoing and possible future projects. The Church Street sewer project began this week. It’s being partially funded through a \$57,000 grant by CDBG with the township paying for the remainder. Parties working on the project include JPJ Engineering and Bougalis and Sons of Hibbing. The project should be finished by Nov. 1.

The board accepted a motion to do a CDBG grant pre-application for \$125,000 in funding for accessibility improvements to the post office and storm sewer repair in front

of the fire hall. Chairman Tim Tomsich was also looking into grants from IRRRB for this project.

### Other business

In other business the town board:

- Will have the first reading of a proposed ordinance to authorize fees for repeated fire department calls for false alarms.
- Decided the frozen water line service ordinance will be voted on at the next meeting.
- Accepted a \$4,020 reimbursement check from the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board for money spent on the Lake Vermilion State

Park grand opening.

- Accepted a \$7,500 donation from Bois Forte for fire department services.
- Received a donation request from Tower-Soudan Historical Society and discussed possibly making annual donations. The township board will defer to the annual meeting in March.
- Chief Dan Nylund recommended that the township pay the remainder of a loan on a forfeited Ford truck. The truck’s outstanding loan is \$889. Nylund suggested it could be used as a maintenance vehicle or said the township could make money by auctioning it. The board passed a motion to pay the loan balance, as long as it is under \$1,000.

- Approved the new fire department policy manual, subject to review by the township attorney.
- Heard from maintenance director Dale Swanson who reported difficulties installing the new hockey boards. He said he may have to re-install the old boards again this year. Both sets of hockey boards are for Olympic-size rinks.
- Would like residents to know that grants are available for homeowners for building demolitions. Contact IRRRB for more information.
- The next township meetings are set for Thursday, Oct. 11 at 1 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 4:30 p.m.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Creative Card-Making Workshop at TS Elementary on Oct. 11

TOWER- A Creative Card-Making Workshop will be held at Tower-Soudan Elementary on Thursday, Oct. 11 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. with instructor Kim King.

Participants will make three fall and five Christmas cards. The cards will be made using a variety of materials and stamps that will make your holiday cards extra special this year. This class will be held in the Flex room. Fee is \$25 plus a \$3 Community Education fee; participants must be paid by Oct. 4 to Leone Graf, Community Education Coordinator, 1640 Camp Lake Rd, Ely, MN 55731.

### Paul McDonald to speak at Soudan Men’s Breakfast on Oct. 13

SOUDAN- Soudan Baptist and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Men’s Breakfast will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13 at 8 a.m. at St. Paul’s. Guest speaker will be Paul McDonald, who is running for St. Louis County Commissioner. All are welcome to attend. There will be time for questions after the talk. Any questions, call Greg Dostert at 218-248-0648.

### Tower-Soudan Women’s Bowling

Week of Sept. 26

Team rankings: Vermilion Club (24-8), Broten Construcion (24-8), Jeannie’s Cards (16-

16).

Hi Team Game-Jeanne’s 701; Hi Team Series- Broten Construcion 1,977; Hi Ind. Game-Bev Thomas 192; Hi Ind. Series- Ruth DeLuca 455.

Week of Sept. 19

Team Rankings: Vermilion Club (20-4), Broten Construcion (16-8), Jeanne’s Cards (12-12)

Hi Team Game-Jeanne’s 706; Hi Team Series- Jeanne’s 2,070; Hi Ind. Game- Jeanne Black 164; Hi Ind. Series- Johnnie Schlieske 433.

### Grief Education and Support Group, Oct. 11

TOWER- A Grief Education and Support Group will meet Thursday, Oct. 11 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, 304 Spruce St. in Tower. The group is open to anyone in our area who has experienced the death of a loved one and is free of charge.

Experiencing the death of a loved one can be very difficult. Learning about the grief process and having support from others can help a great deal. Please consider reserving your spot to participate in this monthly education and grief support group.

The meeting will discuss “Spirituality and Searching for Meaning” as well as the Book Club discussion of the book, “Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy,” by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant.

The Grief Educa-

## So many books to choose from...



Serah Ross took her time while deciding which books to purchase at this year’s Scholastic Book Fair. photo by S. Ukkola

tion and Support Group regularly meets the first Thursday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m.

Registration is not required, but it is recommended. Please call East Range Hospice at 218-749-7975 or 1-877-851-2213 to register.

This Grief Education and Support Group is sponsored and facilitated by Essentia Health St. Mary’s East Range Hospice, Patient and Family Grief Support Services.

### Soudan Baptist Sunday service time change

SOUDAN- The Soudan Baptist Church wel-

comes Pastor Joel Hasz as their interim pastor. Services will now be held at 8:30 a.m. and Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

### Adult classes at St. James

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church of Tower will hold an adult class at 9 a.m. each Sunday. The class will feature a series called “That the World May Know” by renowned teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan. In each lesson, Vander Laan illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the sacred Scriptures. Filmed on location in the Middle East and elsewhere, the film series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus. The next five-week theme is “Cultures In Conflict,”

Paul Proclaims Jesus As Lord - Part 2.

### Estate planning class offered

TOWER- A local attorney, Kelly Klun, from the Klun Law Office, will lead you through key factors to drafting and personalizing wills and trusts, preparing probate documents, creating documents for long-term health care, drafting a durable power of attorney, and preparing health care directives. This free class will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 10 in the library at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School at 4 p.m. You must pre-register so we can plan accordingly for class space and materials. Please text or call Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If no answer, please leave a message, with how to spell your name, the class

you are interested in, and its date.

### Movie Night on Oct. 21 at 6 p.m.

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church is Tower is hosting a free movie night on Sunday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. This month’s movie is “God’s Not Dead – A Light in Darkness.” After a deadly fire rips through St. James Church, Hadleigh University leaders use the tragedy to push the congregation off campus, forcing the church to defend its rights and bringing together estranged brothers for a reunion that opens old wounds and forces them to address the issues that pulled them apart. The film is rated PG.

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

Northwoods Transfer Station

9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt

Winter Hours

Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am–3pm

Tue: 9:30am–3pm

Wed: 11am–5pm

County 77 Canister Site

2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp

Winter Hours

Thurs, Sun: noon–5pm

Embarrass Canister Site

7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass

Hours

Sat: 12:30–4:30pm

Thu: 10am–5pm

Household Hazardous Waste Facility

5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

Hours

Tues and Sat: 8am–1pm

Cook Transfer Station

2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook

Hours

Mon: 10am–6pm

Tues thru Sat: 9am–3:30pm

Soudan Canister Site

5160 Hwy 169, Soudan

Hours

Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun

8am–5pm

Aurora Transfer Station

5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora

Hours

Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am–4pm

Tue, Wed: 10am–4pm

Sat: 8am–noon

Regional Landfill

5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

Hours

Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm

Sat: 8am–3:30pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department

1-800-450-9278

Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday

www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

f

Cook VFW

Open Daily at Noon

CLOSED on TUESDAYS

Happy Hour

Daily 4-6 p.m.

All Beer & Drinks

Bar Menu & Pizza Available

Event Rentals

Welcome

218-780-6709

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Sunday FREE Pool

Thursday Bingo

Early Bird 6 p.m.

Progressive Prizes

Friday 4:30-7 p.m.

Hamburger Special

Take-Out 666-0500

Spread the Warmth

Blanket Drive

September 1st - November 1st

Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union is seeking your help in collecting as many new, cozy and warm blankets to go along with our 3rd Annual Angel Tree Project!

We will also be accepting 1 1/2 - 2 yards of fleece material to make tie blankets.

Each child on our Angel Tree will receive a cozy blanket to cuddle up with on those long, cold winter nights.

Donations can be dropped off at any of our 3 offices: Embarrass, Tower or Aurora

Angel Tree tags will be available Nov 1st. We will accept donations to the end!!!

We are hoping to make 120 local kids, ages 0 - 18, have a little brighter and warmer Christmas Holiday Season.

Thank you for your generosity!

Embarrass Vermillion

Federal Credit Union

NCUA

AN EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



TOWER

Meet and Greet Candidate Forum set for Oct. 24 at the Tower Civic Center

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Civic Club is sponsoring a Meet and Greet Candidate Forum at the Tower Civic Center on Wednesday, Oct. 24 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. All Tower voters and other interested community members are invited to attend.

As of press time, all three mayoral candidates and three of the four active council candidates have agreed to participate.

The forum will be moderated by Tower resident and Civic Club member Ellie Larmouth, PhD. Larmouth is a retired college professor, who has worked as a teacher and a therapist.

The forum will consist of an introductory section where each candidate will have three minutes to address the forum. That will be



followed by a 30-minute question and answer session, where audience members can submit written questions for individual candidates that will be read by the moderator. The final portion of the forum will

be a time for individuals to talk one-on-one with candidates.

Coffee an’ will be provided by the Civic Club and Sulu’s.

Mayoral candidates include Steve Altenburg, Jeff Hill, and Orlyn Kringstad. Council candidates Steve Abrahamson, Rachel Beldo, and Mary Shedd have all said they will attend. Council candidate Michael Larson has yet to respond to the invitation. Victoria Ranua, who had filed for council, has indicated she is withdrawing from the race.

The election will be held on general election day, Tuesday, Nov. 6, at the Tower Civic Center.

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

August 2018

Calls: 271  
Arrests: 0  
Citations/Formal Charges: 8  
Monthly mileage: 2,979 (Tahoe: 1,638, Explorer 1,341)

Training

Chief Nylund attended the annual D.A.R.E. conference.

Squads

Current end of the month mileage for the Gold Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 72,048. Current end of the month mileage for the 2017 Ford Explorer is 13,709.



August Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund

Miscellaneous

The Towards Zero Deaths (TZD) seat belt wave was held on Sept. 17-19. Drivers saw extra enforcement out on the roads. Seat belts save lives every day. They can only save lives, however, if they’re used and there are still many people in America who don’t buckle up. Wearing a seat belt can reduce the risk of fatali-

ty injury by 45 percent. This is why your community needs to know that wearing a seat belt can make the difference between life and death.

Citations/formal charges/arrests

5th Degree Possession – charges requested  
D.A.R. (driving after revocation)  
Expired registration  
Speed  
(3) No proof of vehicle insurance

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION



Dear Hearts,

Here I am, back at the Timberjay. Still have NOT received the new ribbon for my good old Royal typewriter. It is the ribbon that has the red on top and black on the bottom. I use the black for regular typing and the red for my anonymous letters to political figures with whom I disagree...the list grows longer every day.

They are all very quiet here, except for this lovely dog that puts his head on my lap and seems to understand me. His attraction to me could stem from the bits of soft-boiled eggs on my slacks until I got to the TJ.

Hilda insists that I haven’t ordered the ribbon because I fancy myself as Lois Lane and I am waiting to find my Superman here at the Timberjay. I NEED a brash young Jimmy Olson type in my life...especially with winter on the horizon.

Well, to tell the truth, at my age they don’t have to be SUPER...just alive - and rich!

We have two bags of daffodils and crocuses - 200 all together! After planting about fifty of each, we ran out of room and patience. We have given them to Moose and friends to plant. Oddly enough, they ground up some daffs and tried to smoke them - kids!

Hilda and I are thinking of running for the Greenwood Township Board. Things get pretty dull around here and we LOVE controversy! We can’t decide on party af-

filiation, but we will!

The news is fraught with controversy these days...we are tuned constantly to CNN and then switch to FOX for the rebuttal!

In addition to the news, we have become addicted to “Dancing with the Stars”. We question the “star-quality” of some of the performers. However we are flabbergasted at who is still alive and can move!

We cheer for Mary Lou because she looks like one of us! Regardless of how many sequins, fringe or other bits of frou-frou they add to her costume, she still looks like one of US.

Mary Lou, these days, would look right at home pushing a cart at Kmart or Zup’s and doing handstands while waiting to check out. She has out-danced a lot of youngsters and teetered on the bridge of elimination, but she keeps on going.

Hilda wishes that Mary Lou would BRISK up her costumes bit.

To quote Hilda, she always seems to be wearing something from the Alden’s summer sales catalog.

A l d e n ’ s ... A L - DEN’S...if you remem-

ber THAT company you qualify for the Senior Discount anywhere in America or the Free World!

What we enjoy most - is that people actually dance! I’m so used to people just supporting each other as the ooze about the dance floor!

Hilda and I majored in social dance in college, so we know good dancing when we see it!!

Taking social, country, folk and square dance along with the Highland fling was the way we got our physical education requirements done without wearing those gym uniforms required by the BSU Physical Ed department.

We were in archery for thirty minutes and were doing quite well until we missed the bull’s eye and impaled the instructor. What she was doing behind the tar-

get, I’LL never know.

It is very, very quiet here at the TJ. I hoped for someone to explode through the front door and scream, “RIP OUT THE FRONT PAGE...I have a scoop!”

There is the dog, which I feel is a nice touch in a place of business. What boss could be so crass as to castigate an employee for pausing to show a bit of affection to the office pet?

Ta ta loves, off to plant bulbs, then zip indoors to make some hot chocolate with extra marshmallows.

REMEMBER, Dear Readers, Vera has a habitat for abandoned hosta and perennials; we will pick them up, or just leave them by the mailbox.

Ta ta.....

Ms. Vera Milion

Scenic Rivers  
—Medical & Dental Clinics—  
**TOWER  
FLU SHOT  
CLINICS**  
October 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:30-4:00  
October 16<sup>th</sup> 8:30-4:00  
No Appointment Necessary  
Bring your Insurance Card, Photo ID,  
and wear a short-sleeved shirt  
Allow 10 Minutes for Registration  
High-Dose Shot Available!  
Tower Medical Clinic  
415 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Suite 2  
218-753-2405  
www.ScenicRiversHealth.org

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 – 1:30 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.

Homebound seniors can sign up for meal delivery. To register for the new Meals on Wheels, or for more information, please call AEOA Senior Nutrition at 218-735-6899.

Week of Oct. 8

Monday- Chicken ala King in a Bread Bowl  
Tuesday- Chicken Alfredo with a Twist, Bread Stick  
Wednesday- Tater Tot Hot Dish, Dinner Roll  
Thursday- Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Dinner Roll, Vegetable  
Friday- Chicken Sandwich, Cheesy Green Beans

Week of Oct. 8

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 Oct. 16.

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 9. Note change from regular meeting day.

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 9.

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

Vermilion Country School Board- Next meeting is Thursday, Oct. 25 at 4:45 p.m. Meetings posted online at vermillioncountry.org.

timberjay.com



the TIMBERJAY

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St. Louis County: \$37 year Elsewhere: \$52 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover. Please specify Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr or Ely edition.

NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$100 year or \$10 per month.

Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$29.95/year; details at www.timberjay.com.

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 encoun-  
ter 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.

## Grief support group meets next week

ELY-Experiencing  
the death of a loved one  
can be a very difficult  
experience. Learning  
about the grief process,  
and having support  
from others, can help  
a great deal. For help,  
consider reserving a  
spot in an upcoming  
six-week grief support  
group. It is open to  
anyone in our area who  
has experienced the  
death of a loved one.

The Fall 2018  
Six-Week Grief  
Support Group will  
meet on Wednesdays,  
beginning next week  
at Ely-Bloomenson  
Community Hospital.

The dates are Oct.  
10, 17, 24, 31, and Nov.  
7 and 14 from 2-4 p.m.  
in Conference Room  
B at the hospital, 328  
W Conan Street, Ely.  
There is no cost for this  
group.

The workshop is  
facilitated by Catherine  
Burt, BSW, East Range  
Hospice Family Grief  
Support Services,  
and Linda O'Neill  
DeRemee, LGSW.

Call by Friday, Oct.  
5 to register, 1-877-  
851-2213 or 218-749-  
7975.

This workshop is  
sponsored by Essentia  
Health St. Mary's East  
Range Hospice.

Subscribe to the  
**TIMBERJAY!**  
Call  
218-753-2950



by **KEITH VANDERVORT**

Ely Editor

ELY — Mackenzie  
Peterson was named  
Miss Ely for 2018 last  
Friday night at the Miss  
Ely Competition and  
Coronation event held at  
Washington Auditorium.  
She is a senior at Ely  
Memorial High School  
and plans to attend Hibbing  
Community College next  
year to pursue a degree in  
nursing.

Jessica Anderson was  
runner-up in the com-  
petition. She also plans  
to graduate next spring  
from Ely Memorial High  
School and attend Hibbing  
Community College to  
enroll in the dental hygien-  
ist program.

“What an experience  
this was for me,” Peterson  
said in remarks after the  
event. “I can’t say it  
enough, Thank you to  
everyone for your endless  
support, kind words, and  
everything in between.  
I’m so blessed and grate-  
ful. I can’t wait for this  
adventure.”

Peterson is involved  
with Student Council, and  
is a member of the varsity  
volleyball team. She is  
helping to plan Prom and  
is co-chair of the Grand  
March. She is also senior  
class president.

Her peer topic pre-  
sentation for the Miss Ely  
competition was focused  
on organ donation. Pet-  
erson’s first service  
project as reigning Miss  
Ely will be supporting the  
Ronald McDonald House  
project that supports fam-  
ilies with terminally ill  
children.

“I have so many  
things I want to do and  
represent Ely in as many  
ways as I can,” she said.

## OUR COMMUNITY

# Peterson crowned Miss Ely 2018

Engen takes Little Miss Ely honors for upcoming year



**Above:**  
Three Little Miss Ely  
contestants included  
Lindi Zemke, Kayla  
Larsen and the winner  
Audrey Engen.

**Right:**  
Jess Anderson and  
winner Mackenzie  
Peterson competed for  
the Miss Ely crown.  
photos by K. Vandervort



“So first off, I am asking  
anyone who is willing to  
help me out to save your  
pop can tabs for the Ronald  
McDonald House located  
in the Twin Cities. Saving  
the tabs of your pop cans,  
soup cans, or any other  
aluminum cans generate  
funds to help support  
families with terminally ill  
children in so many ways.  
So I’m asking all of you to  
please save them; I will  
pick them up from you if  
you needed; and I plan on

delivering the donations  
to the Ronald McDonald  
House.”

Peterson was spon-  
sored by Boundary Waters  
Care Center. Anderson  
was sponsored by Timber  
Trail Lodge.

Audrey Engen, 7, won  
the Little Miss Ely compe-  
tition. She was sponsored  
by Salon No. 10. The other  
Little Miss Ely contes-  
tants and their sponsors  
included Kayla Larsen,  
Tara Kay Photography,  
and Lindi Zemke, Heavy  
Metal Sports.

During the pageant  
Friday night, the Little  
Miss Ely contestants were  
asked, “If you could be any  
animal, what would it be  
and why?”

Audrey said, “I would  
like to be a cat because  
they get to take naps all  
day.” Kayla responded, “I  
would like to be a dolphin  
because I like to swim  
around.” Lindi answered,  
“I would like to be a turtle.  
They carry their shells on  
the back and they have a  
pretty belly.”

The evening also  
included performances by  
Bella Davis, who sang  
“Someone Like You,” and  
a dance performance by  
Dakota Hanninen and Jaicee  
Krings to “Movin’ On.”

The Miss Ely program  
is a non-profit academ-  
ic and community ser-  
vice-based program,  
sponsored by Studio North  
Dance and Fitness Center.

## Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of

### THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

October 4, 1918

### A patriotic spectacle

Another successful and inspirational event has  
been staged and carried through in Ely which ought to  
make the work of the bond salesmen much easier and  
the “over the top” sign a permanent fixture with us.

On Sunday the immense throng gathered in the  
streets around City Hall. The Ely City Band of fifteen  
pieces opened the afternoon’s proceedings while the  
crowd gathered until the streets were blocked as far  
as the eye could see.

The Home Guards, with the guns, the Red Cross  
ladies, the Boy Scouts and lodge members, teachers  
and pupils — everybody was there with flags.

It was flag day of a verity. The Red White and  
Blue were popular colors. And no happier combination  
of colors exists today in the world than these three.  
Old Glory is the gem of them all.

Promptly on the 2 o’clock hour the great parade  
was started. With bands playing, with sun shining,  
with colors flying, they marched through the streets  
of the city and arrived at Washington School. This  
was soon packed to the doors. It was a sea of faces  
that greeted the Rev. Father Iciek, of Duluth, who  
for more than an hour poured a stream of oratory in  
behalf of the Fourth Liberty Loan, now on.

He began by complimenting the Home Guards,  
the school teachers, and the children, for whom we  
are fighting today. Our homes are at stake and he  
came here to discuss with us the only topic in the  
world today, the War and the Fourth Loan.

“We are not only spectators, but engaged in it,”  
he said. “We are the real actors and our duty is to  
know and to perform our part in every measure that  
we can.”

Father Iciek is an easy, most eloquent talker. He  
has a happy temperament and talks in a language the  
least of us can understand. His talk was punctuated  
at times with a hurricane of applause as the vast audi-  
ence recognized the patriotic points he brought out  
by the hundreds. Hardly a minute went by the hand  
clapping was not shaking the auditorium.

## In Brief

### Gardner Trust offers arts grants

ELY - The Donald  
G. Gardner Humanities  
Trust’s second grant cycle  
of the year has a grant appli-  
cation deadline at noon on  
Friday, Oct. 26.

“The Trust has again  
spent some time review-  
ing a couple of the grant  
applications,” said Keiko  
Williams, the Trust’s exec-

utive director. “The Trust  
tries to review and update  
different grant programs  
each year so that the guide-  
lines and application are  
more clear.”

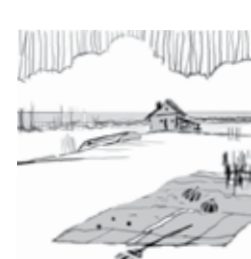
Grant forms and eli-  
gibility requirements are  
available on the Gardner  
Humanities Trust website  
at [www.gardnertrust.org](http://www.gardnertrust.org). Those without inter-  
net access can contact  
Williams by phone at 218-  
365-2639 or email at [info@gardnertrust.org](mailto:info@gardnertrust.org) to have an  
application mailed to them.

Completed applica-  
tions can be mailed to the  
Trust office at P.O. Box  
720, Ely, MN 55731 or  
dropped off at the Ely City  
Hall, Clerk’s Office, at 209  
E. Chapman Street.

Grant forms and eli-  
gibility requirements are  
available on the Gardner  
Humanities Trust website  
at [www.gardnertrust.org](http://www.gardnertrust.org). Those without inter-  
net access can contact  
Williams by phone at 218-  
365-2639 or email at [info@gardnertrust.org](mailto:info@gardnertrust.org) to have an  
application mailed to them.

### Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018



temperature drops  
cool nights, iffy rain - it's fall  
moving toward ice

## the TIMBERJAY



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ELECTION 2018

County Fourth District candidates find much to agree on

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – St. Louis County commissioner candidates Bernie Mettler and Paul McDonald found many areas of agreement during a candidates forum held here this past Thursday. Both men are vying for the Fourth District seat being vacated by the retirement of Tom Rukavina and they used last week’s forum, hosted by the Ely chapter of American Association of University Women and the Ely Rotary Club, to air their views on current issues. The candidates each had an opportunity to answer about a dozen questions during the hour-long event at Vermilion Community College.

Mettler, 55, of Embarrass, and McDonald, 60, of Ely, were the top vote-getters in a crowded field of seven candidates in last month’s primary and are facing off ahead of the Nov. 6 general election.

McDonald, a retired teacher, coach, referee, and athletic director at Vermilion Community College, introduced himself as “a union guy.” He said he is endorsed by the Teamsters and Steelworkers unions, and various education groups, but will also be “an advocate” for everyone. “I have a passion for northeast Minnesota, and I want to continue, like my dad said, to work hard and help others.”

Mettler said he too is “passionate about this area.” He said he sees his candidacy as a continuation of his life in public service, retiring earlier this year from a 28-year career as a St. Louis County sheriff’s deputy. “I grew up on a farm, was also a truck driver, worked in construction, was an auctioneer and am a small business owner,” he said. “I’m also a union man.”

McDonald, Mettler discuss issues at Ely forum



St. Louis County Commissioner Fourth District candidates Bernie Mettler and Paul McDonald met at the Vermilion Community College in Ely for a voters forum. photo by K. Vandervort

Both men agreed that the Fourth District hasn’t seen the amount of county resources and jobs that its size and valuation justify. McDonald argued that the district’s taxpayers, who represent about 13 percent of the county’s population, pay nearly a quarter of the property taxes levied by the county, and are paying more than their fair share. “We have to do a better job of selling what we have here in northeastern Minnesota,” he said. “We need economic development here. The jobs are going to come to Duluth and Hermantown, so we need to have economic development people from St. Louis County come to our area because this is where we need it. We need small business, we need internet access. We want jobs. We want more than 28 kids in a Kindergarten class.”

Mettler agreed that the Fourth District “has been getting the short end of the stick” for a long time. “We have 60 percent of the geographical area of the county and we are only one-seventh of the

population,” he said. “We have more need for infrastructure improvements.”

As many as 1,100 miles out of the 1,600 miles of roads in St. Louis County are still gravel, he said. “We have 48 percent of the total roads. The tide is starting to turn, but a lot more work needs to be done.” He also added that economic development can be improved through broadband, “and just fixing stuff.”

McDonald stressed that some St. Louis County jobs could be moved to Ely or Tower, “where the people want to live.”

Mettler warned that those jobs should be existing jobs, and not just newly-created for up north. “Are we going to raise taxes so we can move four or five more people to Ely or Tower of Cook?” he asked.

Forum-goers found little daylight between the candidates on the subject of copper-nickel mining. Mettler asserted that St. Louis County’s role is to be a watchdog over the state’s environmental laws. “As far as the process itself,

from the research I’ve read and the people I have talked to, I do believe the state has the most stringent guidelines and process set forth in the country and probably in the world, and I do believe it can be done following the guidelines as they exist,” he said.

McDonald noted that the county board doesn’t have much to say on whether or not copper-nickel mining occurs, although he noted that the county board did pass a resolution in support. “I am a supporter,” McDonald said.

McDonald talked about a recent tour of the proposed PolyMet mining site. “I was amazed at the amount of wildlife that is out there,” he said. “I observed swans, geese, ducks, deer, wolves, you name it. It is like a wildlife preserve.”

McDonald also touted the state’s environmental standards. “Do we want people in third-world countries mining (copper and nickel) and polluting the air that spreads across the world?” he asked. “We can have it here and

do it right, and follow the laws. Our country is based on exploration. We sent a man to the moon with exploration.”

Mettler agreed with McDonald about the abundance of wildlife he saw at the proposed PolyMet site and he expressed confidence in the ability of regulators to protect the environment. “This is in my backyard,” he said. “I can’t see how it can’t be done properly and safely.”

McDonald said the region’s history shows that mining can be done right. “We’ve been mining here for 135 years and with the deposit we have now, we could easily mine for another century. We have got to be able to bring people here. We need economic development.”

When asked about recreational opportunities in northern St. Louis County and the impact on the county’s economy, both candidates focused on motorized trails for ATVs and snowmobile, barely mentioning non-motorized activities.

“We should work with the existing clubs

to enhance what we have for ATV trails and snowmobile trails and bike trails,” Mettler said. “I’m an ATVer. I’m a snowmobiler. Those people spend money, ATVers especially.”

McDonald said recreation is another leg for economic development. “It brings in money to our communities,” he said. “Those people are staying in our motels, eating in our restaurants and using our gas stations. That is an economic factor that we can’t forget about. Families are doing these ATV rides, and the people are fabulous.”

Asked about the St. Louis County Board’s role in enforcing the 1963 law ensuring equal pay for equal work for all workers, not just union members, Mettler addressed county employees and said his department went out of their way to make sure people were equal and tried constantly to get an appropriate diversification. “That’s a new one on me,” he said.

McDonald said unions have a role to play in the issue. “The unions can help make sure that these things are followed,” he said.

When asked if he supports the #MeToo movement, McDonald said, “We want to make sure that everybody is treated the same. It is in our country’s values to be able to treat people no matter what race, what gender, whatever it happens to be, we want to be able to treat everyone equally.”

Mettler added, “Everyone should be treated the same. There are no ifs, ands, or buts about it. I have nothing else to add.”

The general election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 6. District 4 covers much of the northern half of St. Louis County, including Babbitt, Crane Lake, Cook, Ely, Orr, and Tower.

UPCOMING ELY LIBRARY EVENTS

**Preschool Storytime**  
- every Friday morning at 11 am.

**Monday, Oct. 8 - 11 a.m.-1:30 pm - NASA@ My Library : I Just Want to See the Moon** - all ages

Drop in over your lunch for an informal opportunity to take a closer look at the moon rocks brought back from the Apollo missions that are on loan from NASA. There will be a digital microscope available to use on the lunar disc as well as other information to look at. This program is part of our NASA@ My Library partnership.

The NASA@ My Library project is led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Partners include the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, Pacific Science Center, Cornerstones of Science, and Education Development Center.

NASA@ My Library is made possible through the support of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Science Mission Directorate as part of its STEM Activation program. Lunar sample discon loan from NASA.

**Monday, Oct. 8 - 3 p.m. - Friends of the Library Book Discussion** - for adults

The title for discussion is “Educated” by Tara Westover. You do not need to be a member of Friends of the Library to attend.

**Friday, Oct. 12 - 3 p.m. - Movie Matinee : Apollo 13** - all ages (Note that the movie this month is rated PG-13)

Looking for a fun way to spend the afternoon? Join us for popcorn and a movie at our monthly Movie Matinee series. Each month, we have a new movie for you to enjoy in our meeting area. This month’s title is Apollo 13. We’ll have the popcorn ready for you! This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

**Thursday, Oct. 18 - 3:30 p.m. - NASA@ My Library : Telescope Basics** - elementary students to adults

Learn more about how telescopes work and how to use them effectively. This program is designed for people who have little or no experience in using a telescope but might be interested in seeing the night sky. The library’s circulating telescope kit will be at this

program so that patrons can learn more about checking out a telescope from the library.

Also covered will be different “accessories” that might make for a better viewing experience. This program is part of our NASA@ My Library partnership. The NASA@ My Library project is led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Partners include the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, Pacific Science

Center, Cornerstones of Science, and Education Development Center. NASA@ My Library is made possible through the support of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Science Mission Directorate as part of its STEM Activation program.

**Thursday, Oct. 18 - 6:15 p.m. - NASA@ My Library : Observing the Moon** - all ages

If the weather is clear enough for viewing, this program will be held outdoors at a location to

be determined - please dress appropriately for the weather that night. For clear skies, we invite participants to bring their own telescopes (the library will have two set up for people who do not have a telescope), and we will take a look at some of the features of the fall sky in Ely with an emphasis on the moon. We hope

that night sky viewers of all ages and skill levels can share what they find awesome about the night sky. If the weather does not cooperate for outdoor viewing, we will hold this program indoors at the library and take a virtual look at the night sky. This program is part of our NASA@ My Library partnership.

Donald C.  
**Gardner  
Humanities  
Trust**

**We are now accepting  
2018 Arts Grant  
Applications**  
for Individual Artists, Project & Youth Grants,  
Scholarships & Operational Funding

Updated grant applications and guidelines are  
available online at **www.gardnertrust.org**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:  
12:00 noon on Fri., Oct. 26**

*Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact  
Keiko Williams, Executive Director, by Oct. 12  
for help and review of their applications.*

**Call 365-2639 or email [info@gardnertrust.org](mailto:info@gardnertrust.org)**  
*Youth Grant applicants must call by October 1 to schedule  
a grant review meeting with Keiko .*

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY  
**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES**  
BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

**Area Solid Waste  
Facility  
site hours**

<b>Northwoods Transfer Station</b> 9384 Hwy 21 N. Ely/ Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am–3pm Tue: 9:30am–3pm Wed: 11am–5pm	<b>Aurora Transfer Station</b> 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am–4pm Tue, Wed: 10am–4pm Sat: 8am–noon
<b>Embarrass Canister Site</b> 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30–4:30pm Thu: 10am–5pm	<b>Soudan Canister Site</b> 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am–5pm
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facility</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am–1pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm Sat: 8am–3:30pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department  
1-800-450-9278  
Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday  
[www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle)



## Community Notices

### NWFA October gallery and events

COOK- At NWFA Gallery there is an explosion of new art and craft made by your friends and neighbors. The opening reception will be on Friday, Oct. 5, from 6 to 8 p.m.. Enjoy an autumn night out to view the talented artist members of Northwoods Friends of the Arts. It will be a complex exhibit....The annual Members Show, "October Festival of the Arts" and "Rocks, Trees, and Water".

Featured at this year's Member's Show is a special exhibit in tribute and memory of Sue Martin, inspirational leader and first president of NWFA.

"Rocks, Trees, and Water" is the theme of the exhibit; a celebration of the spirit of the wilderness. Some of Sue's paintings will be on display. There will also be matted prints of Sue's work for sale, with the generous permission of her family.

Visit the NWFA Gallery throughout the month to take in these complex exhibits until Oct. 27. Gallery hours on Cook's main street at 210 River St. are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Saturday the hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. located next to Dream Weaver Spa and Salon.

Artist meetings, everyone is welcome...beginners and pros alike.

Events In October at the Gallery:

Tuesdays Wood Carvers Group 6 to 8 p.m.

Saturdays Open Art 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday Oct. 13, Writers Group workshop 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday Oct. 16, monthly NWFA meeting 12 p.m.

### Discussion Group at Cook Covenant

COOK - Cook Covenant Church has a discussion group Monday's at 11 a.m. in the church Fellowship Hall (come in the rear kitchen entrance). Educator Shirley Nicholas will convene the group. Shirley led the Ann Voskamp study last year, and will lead this Ann Voskamp DVD group on 1,000 Gifts. Books will be available to purchase. This group is open to the public and there is no charge to participate. The Cook Covenant Church is open to all and welcomes everyone.

### American Legion Post 480 selling 52 Club dinner/drawing tickets

ORR- The Orr American Legion is holding a 52 Club dinner and drawing. Tickets are \$52; one ticket admits two people. Only 260 tickets are sold, so act quickly for your 52 chances to win. The drawing will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13 at the Orr American Legion Hall. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and drawing is at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the following locations in Orr and Cook: American Legion Hall, Pattenn's Café, Pelican Bay Foods, Orr Muni, Norman's One Stop, Oveson's Pelican Lake Resort and Inn, VFW Post 1757, Auto Value, and Northwoods True Value Home Center, or call 218-404-5847. Tickets are on sale in the Tower area at Benchwarmer's and Lake Vermilion Houseboats. Proceeds go to scholarships, community projects, and charities.



**Clockwise from top: Kids take turns at chucking pumpkins, all smiles on the Orr barrel-train ride, fall facepainting and a performances by "Pieces of the Hutter Bunch."**  
submitted photos

# Orr Pumpkin Festival



by **MARCUS WHITE**  
Cook-Orr Editor

ORR - More than 450 people turned out here Saturday for the second annual Pumpkin Festival. More than 50 vendors set up shop in the Orr Center while kids could take turns at "pumpkin chuckin" and having their faces painted by students from North Woods.

"It went fantastic," organizer Ruth Huismann said. "There were a lot more people than we ever expected to show."

The festival is uniquely funded, Huismann said. Instead of soliciting donations from area businesses, the organizers of the event promote a friendly competition to see which area business can sell more donated pumpkins. Norman's One Stop was the ultimate winner.

The festival also raises funds by raffling off voluntary donations from vendors.

The big winners of the day though were the kids who participated in the "pumpkin chuckin contest." The event was

originally meant for adults who would build or bring trebuchets and launch pumpkins into the air to see whose could go farthest.

After only one adult showed up, Huismann said they decided to let kids have a go. Each kid received a \$2 participation prize with the winners receiving an extra \$5.

Huismann said with the success of the revised plan, the festival is planning on making it a staple event in years to come.

Other events on Saturday included a chili

cookoff, a musical performances by "Pieces of the Hutter Bunch," face painting, a 5K sponsored by the Lions Club and a pumpkin weigh-in.

Huismann said the organizers are encouraged by how many people attended this year's festival, and are already planning how to make it even bigger next year.

## Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



Snow, was it really snow? Friday the area witnessed what was really snow! The Snowbirds are packing up and leaving. Those who stay are doing the final shutdown of outside pipes. Winter jackets and gloves are making an appearance. It does seem a bit early, but that is Minnesota. There is still hunting to be enjoyed; have you noticed how pretty the drive has gotten from Crane Lake to Virginia or Hibbing? The colors are a delightful treat for the eyes and make the trip seem so much more pleasant.

Now it is October. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. A proactive

approach to screenings can help combat the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women. National Breast Cancer Awareness Month takes place in October across the USA and worldwide. Supported by a number of organizations including the National Breast Cancer Foundation, the month-long campaign hopes to help anyone affected by this disease. The statistics for this life changing disease are vast, yet more and more people, women and men, are surviving the disease thanks to the awareness that is being raised through the awareness campaign and many others like it worldwide. Women have you scheduled your mammogram? Men encourage your partner to have a mammogram!

A gathering was held at Scott's Seaplane Base to honor Tommy Rukavina and thank him for all he has done for our area as our County Commissioner. As Commissioner, Tom helped us get our Crane Lake Road redone and is a great advocate of

trails for the ATV's. Tom supports mining, hunting and tourism important to this area. Due to health issues, Tom will not run for reelection in November. We shall miss our outstanding friend of the area with his wit and fiery decisions.

Let us hope Tom will stay interested in the Board of Commissioners; this area needs an advocate such as Tom.

Also in attendance was Paul McDonald, who is running for Tom's seat as Commissioner. It was a great opportunity to meet the candidate who was introduced by Tom with his endorsement. Paul will represent our Fourth District as a labor-endorsed and pro-mining candidate. He is a native of Chisholm and a long-time Ely resident. For the past 28 years, he has been a faculty member, basketball coach, and athletic director at Vermilion Community College, and an active part of the Ely community. Anyone from this area knows the McDonald name for the great basketball coach in Chisholm, Paul's father.

Thank you to the hosts of the gathering, Darrell and Carole Scott.

The entire area wishes Tom a speedy recovery from his illness! We know he will soon be back with his candor and wit. Best wishes, also to Tom's caregiver and supporter, his lovely wife, Jean. Thank you for everything, Tom Rukavina!

**SAVE THE DATE:** There will be an important planning meeting for Crane Lake. A day for a workshop/planning meeting was set for Thursday October 25th, at Voyageur Lodge. This day will be important for planning the outside and inside of the visitor center and the new campground area. More info will follow. It is important that you attend.

Zelda Bruns' super-duper garage sale is Oct. 5 and 6 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. She has many varied items that she needs to part company with before her big move to South Carolina. Check it out and say farewell and best

wishes to a good friend and long-time member of our area. You never know—you just may discover something you can't bear to be without, even though you may not have been aware that you needed it!

Carl Stanforth, daughter Julie and husband Mark, and son Mark and wife Madalyn were at Kjustad Lake last week and were able to get together with some friends from Crane Lake, hosted by Mike and Linda Lang. It was great to see the Stanfords, and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Let us hear from you! Send news by e-mail to [info@thelakecountry.com](mailto: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 Teapot Dames are singing off.



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GIRL SCOUTS

Scout troop looks to improve community

Senior year projects will showcase student skill

by **MARCUS WHITE**  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP - Four North Woods students were at the Cook Library this past Monday to talk about their plans to improve their communities through work in their local churches and on behalf of the environment. The group, part of Girl Scout Troop 1242, is mainly seniors, and they're planning to highlight their final years in high school by helping others and possibly earning Gold Star status, which is equivalent to an Eagle Scout.

What originally started as a Gold Star project for Becky Triska, has ended up being much bigger, and she abandoned her plans for the honor in favor of dedicating as much time as she could to renovating the grounds around St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cook.

"Someone needed to do it," Triska said. "It



Left to right: Jackie Triska, Bethany Cotten, Becky Triska, Anna Trip and Kristen Cook from Girl Scout Troop 1242. photo by M. White

was falling apart."

As part of the renovation, Triska has put in at least 150 hours, fixing the church's prayer park trail and Stations of the Cross.

Most of the manual work is done, she said, and now she is focused on wrapping the project up before winter.

Triska's classmate Anna Trip is volunteering at her church as well, keeping the songs alive at First Baptist Church in Cook as part of her effort to receive a community service bar.

Trip began as leader of the church's youth music ministry earlier this year after performing for the past two.

"I'm in charge of

project. Her plan was approved last February by a larger advisory committee from the Girl Scouts, and she has until next summer to complete her project.

In order for Cook's project to qualify as a Gold Star, she will need to work for 75 hours without any help from friends or family.

While still a year away, the group's junior student, Bethany Cotton, has kept an eye on what the older troop members have been doing and, at this point, is interested in planting apple trees around Cook to provide a source of healthy food to people who can't always afford it. She's already working on what she might say to the interview committee that reviews Gold Star projects.

The troop is no stranger to the large projects they've individually planned.

"As a troop we've been doing projects since the fourth grade," Scout Leader Jackie Triska said. We bake pies at the holidays, and we've sent packages to troops."

The group regularly fundraises to help bring money to their projects through sales and dona-

GRIZZLY UPDATE

Meet Mr. Travis Leinonen

North Woods Principal John Vukmanich interviews one of the school's newest teachers

This week we will get to know a new teacher who is not new to our area, Mr. Leinonen! We welcome him back to the North Woods and are happy to have him on board as a teacher at North Woods School.

Mr. V: Where did you grow up?

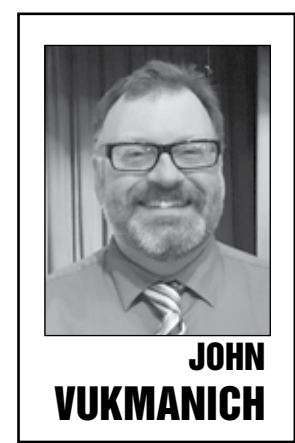
Mr. L: Angora, I am a local guy! I spent the first two years of school going to the Alango School, then Cook. I graduated in 1998 in one of the biggest classes in Cook, about 70 kids.

Mr. V: What do you teach at North Woods?

Mr. L: Family Consumer Science and Math (Algebra).

Mr. V: You have a broad background of work experience in addition to teaching. Can you elaborate?

Mr. L: I went to school to be a biologist, and did that in Glenwood. After a year I became a manager. I returned to the Cook/Orr area to work



JOHN VUKMANICH



TRAVIS LEINONEN

for Ryan's Rustic Railings until 2012. Then, I bought a coffee farm in Hawaii, and moved to Honaunau, Hawaii, which is a small farm town by South Kona. In 2015, I was accepted into Teach for America, and went to Arizona State University. I became a teacher at Kona Weana Middle School for the last three years teaching math, life skills, and special education.

Mr. V: Why did you become a teacher?

Mr. L: Because when I was in school I didn't

thing you enjoy so far about teaching at NW?

Mr. L: Connecting with families from the area and getting to know new people, reconnecting with people from before.

Mr. V: What is a goal for you professionally?

Mr. L: To be active in the community as a resource both in and out of school.

Mr. V: Since returning to the area, have there been any surprises?

Mr. L: The house that we just bought needs a furnace; we were not expecting that right now!

Mr. V: What is something new that you want to try, either personally or professionally?

Mr. L: Outside of school, I'd like to do more whitefish netting. In school, we are looking at starting a robotics team.

Go Grizzlies!

**Your principal, John Vukmanich**

Briefly

Cook Senior Citizens Club

COOK - The Cook Seniors meet monthly on the first Wednesday at 1 p.m. For more information, call Nancy at 666-2726 or Lois at 666-5578.

Mail-A-Book services available

REGIONAL- As the cold winter approaches and driving can be difficult, paperback books, DVDs, and audio books on CD can arrive in your mailbox.

The Mail-A-Book service from the Arrowhead Library System (ALS) loans paperback books and other items via the U.S. Mail, free of charge. This tax-supported service delivers library items directly to your mailbox including the cost of postage. They arrive in a canvas bag with a return label and prepaid return postage.

Who is eligible for this service? Rural residents and people who live in a city without a public library. Paper catalogs listing more than 1,000 items are sent out twice a year to more than 2,250 households. If you are interested in cooking, audio books on CD, DVDs, inspirational books, or children's items, they also have catalogs listing the titles available from Mail-A-Book. Do you have a favorite author? Mail-A-Book can provide you with a list of available titles by that author. Also, Mail-A-Book items are listed in the regional online catalog via the Internet at [www.alslib.info/online\\_catalog/](http://www.alslib.info/online_catalog/).

Items can be ordered by postcard, e-mail, phone, or a form on the ALS website at [www.alslib.info/services/mail-a-book](http://www.alslib.info/services/mail-a-book) and [mail-book@alslib.info](mailto:mail-book@alslib.info), or 218-741-3840.

Find Mail-A-Book on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/alslibinfo](http://www.facebook.com/alslibinfo).

If you need "large print" reading materials, the Arrowhead Library System has a collection of large print books.

Mail-A-Book staff are always happy to respond to your questions.

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the **TIMBERJAY**

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SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

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<b>Orr Canister Site</b> 4038 Hwy 53 Winter Hours Tue, Thu: 9am-noon Sat: 8am-noon	<b>Portage Canister Site</b> 6992 Crane Lake Rd. Winter Hours Tue, Sat: 1pm-4:30pm	<b>County 77 Canister Site</b> 2038 County Rd. 77 Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm	
<b>Cook Transfer Station</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm	<b>St. Louis County Environmental Services Department</b> <b>1-800-450-9278</b> Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday <a href="http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle">www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle</a>	
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facilities</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am-1pm			3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am-1pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th



TOWER

# Questions remain over handling of harbor trail bid

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER—The city council here gave Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith and city engineer Matt Bolf authority to renegotiate the cost of a recreational trail construction bid that far exceeded the expected price tag. That’s despite the fact that the city’s bid request apparently failed to include construction of a half-mile of bituminous hiking and biking trail, which was a major component of the state grant that is supposed to pay for the project.

The council acted after balking at Keith’s original request to approve the bid, for \$890,000, sight unseen, with the stipulation that Keith would try to rework the project

scope to bring the costs in line with the \$679,000 in project funding approved back in 2016 by the Legislative and Citizens Committee on Minnesota Resources, or LCCMR.

The sole bid, from Nordic Group, of Hermantown, was opened on Sept. 20, but Keith had none of the paperwork available for the council at their Sept. 26 special meeting. Keith told the council there were “discrepancies” in the bid, including higher-than-expected quotes for fencing and about 200 feet of floating dock and that the paperwork was currently in the possession of SEH, the city’s engineering firm.

While council members expressed concern about approving a renegotiation of the construction bid without seeing the actual paperwork, Mayor Josh

Carlson said that he was willing to consider it given that the project attracted only one bidder.

Keith agreed that her request was unusual. “It’s kind of back-asswards from how I’d like to do it,” she said, but the project, which has languished on the city’s agenda for more than two years, is facing a funding deadline that would be difficult to meet if the city rebid the project.

The process has been unusual for several reasons. For one, the city clerk never sought authority from the council to issue a request for bids, which is standard practice on most city projects. Second, the council never approved the change in scope of the project at a public meeting, which would also normally be required.

The council did approve

the grant award for the project back in 2016 and authorized SEH to proceed with planning on the project in June 2017, but it’s unclear if the council ever reviewed final plans or the bid documents. The project was supposed to include construction of a walkway around the harbor along with the bituminous trail connecting the city’s harbor zone to the Mesabi Trail near Hoodoo Point. It was also to include interpretive signage for both the trail and a planned kayak route encompassing the East and West Two rivers and a portion of Lake Vermilion’s Pike Bay.

It’s not clear whether the change in the scope of the project is compliant with the terms of the city’s grant. According to Michael Varien, a senior project analyst with the LCCMR, any change in the project would

require approval of an amendment to the project’s scope, and the city of Tower has yet to apply for such a change. Varien said an amendment could be granted administratively if it were consistent with the intent of the original grant, but a more significant change would likely have to go back to the full LCCMR board for approval. “I don’t have anything requesting any change at this point,” Varien said.

Adding to the concern, the city received funding in 2017 for a related boat landing and trail head kiosk, but it’s unclear how the kiosk will be of value without a connecting trail. City officials declined to respond to questions posed by the *Timberjay* regarding the handling of this project.

## Obituaries and Death Notices



**Frank P. Jamnick**  
Frank P. Jamnick, 68, of Virginia, died on Monday, Oct. 1, 2018, at Solvay Hospice House in Duluth after a battle with cancer. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6 at St. Martin’s Catholic Church in Tower. Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 5 at the church and again for one hour prior to the service. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Frank was born in Soudan to Angela and Joseph Jamnick, the fourth of five children. He graduated from Tower-

Soudan High School in 1968. Frank was married to Nancy Lakoskey and they were blessed with two daughters, Alesia and Jolene.

Frank was an avid hunter and fisherman who enjoyed spending time at the shack. He was also a sports fan who coached his daughters in baseball, basketball, and hunter safety. Frank lived a full life and leaves behind many relatives and friends to share great stories of his life.

Frank is survived by his two daughters, Alesia (Jim Jacobson) Jamnick and Jolene Jamnick; and siblings, Janet (William) Hill, Joseph (Helen) Jamnick, Nancy (Fred) Kallio and John (Jeannie Ceglar) Jamnick.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

**Mary A. Omerza**  
Mary A. Deyak Omerza, 96, of Ely and Babbitt, has died. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 8 at St. Pius X Church

in Babbitt. Visitation will be for one hour prior and lunch will follow the Mass. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her daughter, Cindy (John) Stene of Grand Rapids; daughters-in-law, Barbara (Ron) Omerza of Ely and Judy (Gary) Omerza of Scottsdale, Ariz.; eight grandchildren, Tom (Heidi) Omerza, Tim (Patty) Omerza, Jane (Greg) Mosher, Daniel (Vicki) Stene, Alexandra Stene, Francesca Stene, Roxanna Stene and Mathew Stene; seven great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Veronica Farkas**  
Veronica “Bonnie” Zgonc Farkas, 79, a longtime resident of Winton and Ely, passed away at her home on Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018, surrounded by her family, after a courageous battle with cancer. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6 at

St. Anthony’s Catholic Church in Ely with visitation for one hour prior to the service at the church. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her children, Jo Ann (Craig) Whitehill, Robert (Noreen) Farkas, Sue Navarro, Scott (Sheila) Farkas, Darryl (Kelly) Farkas and Duane (Nichole) Farkas; 19 grandchildren, Whitney (Landon) Parker, Kelsey, Caitlin, Jack and Aidan Farkas, Kevin Moses, Ashley (Chris Cisneros) Navarro, Katie (Steve) Jones, Cara (Joel) Clevenger, Loren (Austin) Lampson, Isabelle Farkas, Luke O’Neil, Logan and Landon Tuomala, Mackenzie and Annika Farkas, and Gretchen, Matt and Will Farkas; three great-grandchildren; sisters, Virginia (John) Trucano and Nancy (Rocky) Gaither; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Russell Elofson**  
Russell Elofson, 81,

of Tallahassee, Fla., formerly of Virginia, passed away peacefully on Monday, Sept. 24, 2018. Bevis Funeral Home of Tallahassee is assisting the family with arrangements.

He is survived by his sister, Sandie Carter of Tallahassee, Fla.; sons, Lon Lundstrom and Brett Lundstrom, both of Embarrass, Jeff Elofson and Brent Elofson, both of Tallahassee, Fla.; daughter, Kristiana Gregg (Shawn) of Fayetteville, Ga.; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Marjorie A. Oelrich**  
Marjorie Alice Finckbone Oelrich, 85, of Ely, formerly of Babbitt, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, at St. Raphael’s Health and Rehabilitation Center in Eveleth, with family by her side, after a short battle with cancer. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 5 at the Assembly of God Church in Babbitt with Pastor Ben Morgan

officiating. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service at the church. A lunch will follow the service and burial will be in Argo Cemetery in Babbitt. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia. In lieu of flowers, donations to charities such as Cancer Research Centers or the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America are appreciated.

She is survived by her children, Sharon (Stephen) Bateman of Spirit Lake, Idaho, Curtis Oelrich of Smelterville, Idaho, Doreen Flynn of Ely and Tammy (John) Schubert of Missoula, Mont.; six grandchildren, Jennifer (Jesse) Brunner, Jeremy (Hope) Bateman, Chris Bateman, Shannon (Johnathon) Kelley, Eric Schubert and Rachel Schubert; five great-grandchildren; brother, Darrel (Charlotte) Finckbone of Guthrie; numerous nieces, nephews and friends, especially those at the Babbitt Senior Center.

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ELECTION 2018

# Question on health care derails congressional debate

by MARCUS WHITE  
Cook/Orr Editor

DULUTH - A deep divide over health care was fully on display here last Wednesday in a congressional debate between DFLer Joe Radinovich, Republican Pete Stauber and Independent Ray “Skip” Sandman.

The debate, hosted by the *Duluth News Tribune* at The Playhouse in Duluth, lasted about an hour. While the forum touched on several topics, healthcare proved the most contentious. “This is the most important issue to the district,” said Radinovich, who gave his support for a single-payer, universal health care system. “We are the only First World country that does not provide health care for its citizens. The GOP passed a bill that will cut too much,” he said referring to recent changes in the Affordable Care Act approved by the Republican-led Congress and signed by President Trump.

Sandman voiced his support, as well, for a single-payer system, but Stauber attacked both the idea and Radinovich, without offering his own solution. “The last time we gave Joe the keys to health care, he gave us MNSURE,” he said. “The Medicare-for-all scheme is a \$33 trillion full-throttle government takeover of health-care.”

“I haven’t heard anything from Pete over what he would actually do for healthcare,” responded Radinovich. “The issue is that we have too much overhead by private insur-



Joe Radinovich

ers.” That’s been a frequent complaint from supporters of single-payer health care systems, who noted that private insurers typically siphon more than 20-percent of available health care dollars for overhead and investor profits.

Debate moderators added more rebuttal time after the candidates used time to answer other questions to redirect the conversation to healthcare.

“Let’s take the money away from the top one percent,” Sandman said. “We need it in this country, it is a basic right. We redirect the funds that are being spent in pork barrel funds.”

Radinovich said union jobs, such as the one his father had growing up, that provide health care were going away leaving people who needed the assistance unable to receive them.

## Copper-nickel mining

The future of proposed copper-nickel projects in the region proved another flashpoint.

Sandman, as the sole



Pete Stauber

candidate opposed to copper-nickel mining, was given the opportunity to speak first and he warned against the environmental risks to the region’s water. He also used his time to raise concerns about the track record of PolyMet’s chief financial backer, Glencore, and what he described as a history of union-busting and misleading job numbers for its proposed project on the Iron Range “It’s down to 100- 250 jobs, from over 500,” he said.

But Stauber said the region has waited long enough for the jobs the project could bring. “The PolyMet project has been in the permitting phase for 14 years,” Stauber said. “It will meet every regulation or they won’t be able to mine. We can do it safely, and we can keep our water and air clean. If they don’t meet the standards, they won’t be able to do it. It’s going to bring good-paying jobs to the Iron Range and be an economic boom.”

Radinovich, who also supports the project, said the government has



Ray Sandman

to demonstrate integrity in the decision-making process. “So the role of the person who represents this district is not to be a company man or an errand boy for corporate interests, but is instead focused on upholding the laws that are on the books. Any project that can be done safely should be allowed to proceed, but we need to be certain we’re holding those standards in a high regard.”

“They will,” Stauber said loudly. “The DNR will not give them a permit if they don’t think they will.”

Stauber also said it was no coincidence that President Donald Trump lifted the mining ban in the Superior National Forest after his trip to Duluth this summer and spoke with him about issues that faced the region.

## Other issues

Immigration proved an area where the candidates found some common ground. Both Radinovich and Sandman backed a change from the current

policies on the border, which they believed are based primarily on race. “My family settled in Eveleth at a time when people hung signs on their doors saying no Finns or Indians,” he said. “When it comes to immigration reform, we need bipartisan solutions. We need to have safe borders, but we need to look at where people are coming from; they’re overstaying legal visas.”

Stauber appeared to break from some in his party, expressing support for programs like DACA (Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals), which provide some path to citizenship for the children of undocumented immigrants. “The folks involved in DACA came through no fault of their own,” he said. “It is important we show them our country’s values and support them.”

Stauber also seemed to break with the GOP on whether a wall should be built across the entirety of the Mexican-American border.

He said technologies like unmanned drones could also be used, and that the goal is to have secure points of entry, not necessarily a total blockade.

While some, including President Trump, have suggested that most immigrants come to the U.S. to harm America, Sandman said he disagrees. “They are coming here for the same reason your ancestors did, to obtain prosperity. What I will bring to the floor is working in a bipartisan way to make sure vetting is equal and just. When the doors are

closed, we are cutting off the best who come to this country.”

Gun control proved another area of agreement, with all three expressing support for the right to bear arms, within limits.

“I am not advocating taking anyone’s rights away, but we need to be honest with ourselves,” Sandman said. “We need to have a serious discussion and thought on the types of weapons being sold and closing the loopholes at gun shows. Just like buying a car, you need to prove you can operate it.”

Radinovich, who shared his story of watching a family member attempt suicide and the aftermath of his mother’s murder when he was a teenager, said the country needs to use common sense in discussing how to approach mass shootings and other gun-related crimes.

“We have to respect life,” Stauber said following Radinovich. “We have to stop putting a stigma on mental health and help people in a crisis. We need to keep firearms out of folks’ hands who shouldn’t have them.”

The people who shouldn’t have them, according to both Stauber and Radinovich, included those in personal crisis and felons convicted of gun crimes.

Sandman said he supports an assault rifle ban, although he was the only candidate to express such support.

The candidates will face off again on Oct. 8 in Brainerd.

## COUNTY SCHOOLS

## ISD 2142 levy remains flat going into next year

REGIONAL — The St. Louis County School Board recently approved a preliminary levy for 2019 of \$6.777 million, a drop of nearly two percent over last year. About half of that levy goes toward paying down the district’s debt service, although they don’t reflect additional debt that the district will

be taking on next spring for new capital improvement and expansion projects at the Cherry and South Ridge schools. Some initial spending for those projects is included in next year’s

levy, according to Business Manager Kim Johnson. The final cost for those projects is not yet finalized.

The board will approve a final levy for next year in December.

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Rachel Beldo, NP, Scenic River Health Services

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## ELY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Ely School District awarded \$495,000 school safety grant

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY — The Ely School District is one of 90 Minnesota public school districts notified this week that they will be awarded a school safety grant to be used for security and violence prevention improvements.

ISD 696 received \$495,000. As many as 90 state schools or charter schools received a total of \$25 million in funding for improvements at 123 building sites across the state, according to the Minnesota Department of Education.

The funds may be used to predesign, design, construct, furnish and equip school facilities, including renovating and

expanding existing buildings.

For the last year, Ely school board members have been discussing and planning a project to connect the three campus buildings as a way to make the campus more secure by eliminating the need for students to walk outdoors between classes during the school day.

“That project will cost between \$1 million and \$1.5 million,” Superintendent Kevin Abrahamson said on Tuesday. “It is very good news that we received a big portion of the cost to make our campus buildings safer.”

Bonding may be an option for the other \$750,000 estimated to be required for the build-

ing-connection project. “We are just in the pre-design phase of the project,” Abrahamson said. The school board is looking at a couple of different options for the school campus and will continue discussions next week.

The Minnesota Department of Education received a total of 1,187 complete applications, requesting \$255.5 million—more than 10 times the available amount of funding.

“Students and teachers clearly need more support to ensure our kids are safe,” said Education Commissioner Brenda Cassellius. “When we have more than 1,000 schools asking for over \$250 million in funding to secure their build-

ings, we must respond with urgency. The school safety grants announced (Monday) only scratch the surface. A more comprehensive approach, including efforts to improve school climate, expand mental health services, and enact common-sense gun safety measures is needed.”

Governor Mark Dayton and the 2018 Legislature passed school safety grants last spring. Gov. Dayton proposed a more comprehensive Safe and Secure Schools Act package, including intervention and support for expelled students and improving student access to mental health support. He also supported legislation to reduce gun violence by passing criminal

background checks, age restrictions on assault rifles, and a red flag law.

Districts were able to submit separate grant applications for each building. Due to the large number of applications received, high-priority projects submitted on the first day were assigned random numbers to determine the order of funding up to the available \$25 million.

The final grant award values will be determined after recipients get complete bids from contractors. Schools were able to apply with qualifying projects for up to \$500,000 per building.

The Minnesota Department of Education, in consultation with the Minnesota Department of

Public Safety’s Minnesota School Safety Center, determined grant eligibility based on project priority, with half of the grant funds available to schools outside of the 11-county metropolitan area.

High-priority projects included improvements to exterior entry security, such as access controls, keyless entry systems, door locking and glass integrity, door alarm systems, and structure changes to main entrances. Additions or improvements to communication systems, such as electronic emergency notification systems for staff and first responders, were also considered high-priority projects.

## TOWER...Continued from page 1

the project’s master developer, said construction on subsequent phases would preferably start in 2019 as well. Depending on sales, the project could still be done in a single phase, which would reduce costs for both the city and the developers.

The two parties agreed that the project bonding would need to be ready to go by June 1 of next year so the city would have the funding in hand before approving bids for the streets and utilities work. The city is expecting to receive some grant funding from the IRRRB to pay for a portion of that work, which will reduce the amount of the construction bond.

The city would bond for the cost of infrastructure for each phase, with the developers being responsible for the repayment of the bond. The city council agreed to forego the property tax gains from the development for up to 20 years, with those tax dollars going instead to help finance the bond payments. The city will also be asking St. Louis County to forego its additional tax revenue from the project to help pay the debt. Any shortfall from the tax abatement would be up to the developers to pay.

The agreement allows a project that had been in doubt to move forward again after months of wrangling over the city’s

demand for a letter of credit. Under the original development agreement, the city was responsible for paying the cost of public infrastructure, but when grant dollars proved more limited than the city had originally thought, city officials backtracked on that promise and opted to put more of the financial risk onto the developers.

Schoenfelder said the phased, pay-as-you-go approach was an effort to “mitigate risk” for both parties.

The revisions to the agreement will now go to the city’s attorney for final drafting. The changes will also need to be reviewed by attorneys for the developers before a final version

is signed. That signing is now set for Nov. 13, when Schoenfelder and the project’s primary investor, Lars Hanstad, are planning to be in Tower.

In other business, the council:

➤ Approved a ten-percent preliminary increase in the city’s levy for 2019. The council has traditionally set its preliminary number relatively high, but then adjusts it downward when it approves a final 2019 levy in December. The council has typically received a proposed budget when it sets its preliminary levy, but that budget was still in process, according to Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith, so the council had no proposed budget to examine.

➤ Took no immediate action on a request from Dave Rose for the return of \$7,500 he put in escrow while the city reviewed his proposal for an RV

campground near Hoodoo Point. Rose said the reluctance of the city’s planning and zoning commission to allow him to build 20 lots in his proposed campground had made it uneconomical. City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith said the city had spent down some of the \$7,500 on an engineer’s review of Rose’s EAW. “We can return what’s left or wait pending the review on the house he’s proposing,” said Keith.

The council may take the issue up at their Oct. 8 regular meeting.

➤ Approved a low bid of \$28,500 from C.W. Winger for replacement of sidewalk along the west side of the new clinic. The decision came after considerable discussion and a decision to hold off on replacement of a portion of sidewalk in front of the Ubetcha antique and thrift shop on Main Street.

➤ Declined to change

the billing procedures for city utility customers who only receive sewer or water. A Breitung Township resident who receives only water from the city had asked for a reduction in his quarterly assessment, which encompasses both sewer and water. He indicated in a recent letter that he is disputing the charge.

➤ Approved a resolution accepting a \$7,500 donation the Tower Fire Department from the Bois Forte Band. The city will also be sending a thank you.

➤ Reviewed a letter from the MPCA indicating that the city’s water supply remains in compliance with state standards for haloacetic acids and total trihalomethanes.

➤ Approved a resolution remembering infant deaths due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS.

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# CHEF...Continued from page 1

of heat and a custom blend of spices that highlighted the freshly-grilled walleye fillets.

“Once the cold weather starts coming in,” said Morcom, “I think about curries because they warm you up on the inside.”

The wild rice and chokecherries were all harvested by Morcom and his girlfriend Emily DeCasario, a VCC student who helps out whenever she has free time.

The event, which was advertised only on facebook and by word of mouth, drew in almost as many diners as he expected, but it went so well that the event was held a second time two nights later.

“I’m starting slow with these things,” he said. “Anytime I get people out eating, not just drinking, that’s my goal. I really like the family atmosphere.”

Morcom is hoping to test the waters, and to see if the locals will support this local foods style of eating.

For those who weren’t adventurous enough to try the curry, Morcom also was cooking up the Black Bear’s famous burgers and fries.

The Black Bear, now managed by Morcom’s childhood friends TJ and Brooke Yernatich, is happy to have Morcom in their kitchen, expanding the restaurant’s reach and reputation. The kitchen is



**Chef Bryan Morcom grilled up fresh walleye that he was serving in an Indian-spiced curry.** photo by J. Summit

now becoming Morcom’s home base as he explores his culinary options in the area, helping expand its base as the Black Bear moves on to a new generation of owners and customers.

Morcom graduated from Tower-Soudan High School, spent four years in the Navy, and then attended a one-year program at the Le Corden Bleu College of Culinary Arts in the Twin Cities. But his real culinary education, Morcom said, began when he was offered an internship at Restaurant Alma under the supervision of James Beard Award-winning chef Alex Roberts.

“I was mesmerized by his philosophy of food,”

Morcom said. “It was not what I had grown up with.” Morcom admitted that his childhood eating included a lot of boxed macaroni and cheese, and not a lot of anything close to fine dining.

Morcom spent 13 years at Alma, honing his craft, and seeing on a day-to-day basis how local, organically-grown food was the first step in creating fabulous meals.

“It’s a gift when you get it,” he said. “So cherish it.”

Morcom’s goal is to open up his own restaurant on Tower’s Main Street that would feature a seasonal menu with locally-sourced ingredients whenever possible.

“I want to create menus around what local farmers have available,” he said. “So they have a place to sell their produce.”

“I’m a chef, but it’s not about me,” he said, “it’s about the farmer and the quality of the food.”

Morcom moved back to Tower several years ago and is living in a family home on Birch Point.

“I need to be in the woods,” he said, “and I like the slower pace.”

Morcom also likes to be able to forage for wild foods like mushrooms, watercress, ginseng, fiddleheads, wild asparagus, berries, chokecherries, and cranberries, and then feature these foods in his meals.

Morcom has a large garden behind the old Legion building on Main Street, where he grows cabbages (for his sauerkraut), rhubarb, and this year, lots of flowers.

Living and working in the Twin Cities did teach him more than he would have ever learned on his own, he said, but now he is ready to be on his own.

“I have a good background now,” he said.

“I want to live up here but there is nowhere I can cook up here that would push me creatively,” he said. “So, I need to create my own job.”

Morcom believes the Tower-Soudan community can grow to support such a restaurant.

“We saw the traffic from the new state park this year,” he said, “but there are still not enough reasons to stop in Tower.”

## Upcoming events planned

“I don’t think anyone has ever done a release party for sauerkraut,” Morcom said with a laugh. But this is just what he is planning for this year’s batch of “Towerkraut,” grown and processed right here in Tower. This year he grew 325 pounds of cabbage, which he lacto-fermented and then processed into over 200 quart jars, ready for sale.

Last year’s batch of

about 100 jars sold out.

The date for the Towerkraut party is yet to be set, but it will be held at the Black Bear.

Morcom is planning a theme dinner on Sunday, Oct. 28, also at the Black Bear. The meal, which will be served before the start of the Vikings vs. New Orleans game, will be a New Orleans style shrimp boil, with newspaper-covered tables and shrimp, corn, and red potatoes piled right on the table, along with bowls of jambalaya.

“I will need to take reservations for this meal so we know how much shrimp to order,” he said, “so people can call me at 612-702-2463 or email bmorcom @ gmail.com Morcom’s uncle lived in New Orleans for over 20 years, and has always done a traditional shrimp boil up in Tower on the Fourth of July, so be prepared for some authentic southern food.

But Morcom has a lot of other ideas to try out. He is ready to get his own catering license, so he can expand his horizons. And some unique ideas he has, for example, trying to bring a friend’s crazy idea into reality—a taco barge, as in a floating restaurant that could go dock to dock, serving up tacos.

# FOOD...Continued from page 1

a longtime farmer and local foods advocate based near Finland, and Ryan Pesch of the University of Minnesota Extension, examined three different scenarios to determine the economic effects of boosting local food production in the Taconite Tax Relief Area. That includes much of St. Louis, Lake, Cook, and Itasca counties. The Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board provided funding to the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability, which commissioned the report.

Abazs discussed the study’s conclusions during a public meeting held in late September in Mt. Iron. About 50 people, many of them members of the IRPS, were in attendance to hear from Abazs and discuss ways to help grow the local food economy, as envisioned in the new report.

“As we look forward, let’s imagine what the world could look like with local food produced in a way that lifted farmers up, and that our food is healthy, organic, and produced here, and the money stays here.”

Abazs remains optimistic that the local foods movement will begin to take root in northeastern Minnesota. “As we dive into this, eventually the temperature will get just right for us and the change will happen,” he said, and for many of the same reasons that drew him into the movement. “I got into farming because I had children and I wanted them to have good, healthy food and I was so poor I couldn’t afford it. So, I farmed and could provide them the food.”

The report, not surprisingly, determined that the economic impact of local food production would be dependent on the extent to which the region’s residents opted to purchase locally-produced food.

The study determined that the 68,428 households located within the TTRA currently spend a total of \$469 million annually on food. Residents spent a majority of that, or \$262 million, on food bought for consumption at home, while they spent another \$207 million for dining away from home.

If residents spent just 20 percent of those dollars for foods that were locally-produced, the region would retain \$51 million that currently leaves the region to pay for food and create anywhere from 248-694 jobs, depending on which economic prediction model is used. The study’s authors acknowledge that a 20-percent target is ambitious, but believe it is attainable. It is the same target established in the Superior Compact, which is an effort founded by Abazs that seeks to reach the 20-percent goal by 2020 in the western Lake Superior region. The compact has support from a number of local restaurants and grocery stores, which have committed to boosting their purchasing of locally-produced foods.

An even greater focus on the use of local foods could substantially increase the economic impact of the agricultural sector. The study concludes that farmers and livestock producers in the region could theoretically produce as much as 83 percent of what they called the Standard American Diet, or up to 100 percent of a healthier diet, which the authors called the Range Health Diet, that was limited to foods that could be grown in the region.

Under such scenarios, the region’s agriculture sector could employ as many as 3,500 workers in food production and relating food processing, while retaining as much as \$250 million in the

local economy annually. Currently, more than 99 percent of the nearly half-billion dollars that the region’s residents spend on food each year leaves the area economy, going to farmers, food processors, and other related businesses located outside the region.

## Plentiful farmland

While not currently known for its agricultural production, the area at one time produced much of its food locally, and could easily do so once again, based on available land. “To meet the regional demand for food, we estimate that the region would require between 122,410 and 164,057 acres in food production based on two alternate diet scenarios,” the report’s authors conclude. “Currently, about 2.1 million acres of agricultural land is available within the TTRA,” notes the study.

## Moving forward

While the number of small farming operations in the region has been on the rise in recent years, the study concludes that more systematic investments designed to encourage growth of the sector will be needed to begin to make significant strides. The study’s recommendations include:

➤ A public relations campaign aimed at building public awareness and establishing the goal of producing more food locally as an important regional objective that the public can support through their buying decisions.

➤ Focus funding assistance on farming infrastructure and efficiency. While the report finds substantial demand for locally-produced food, the authors’ interviews with area growers point to the need for basic upgrades to equipment

such as post-harvest equipment like refrigeration or packing equipment which will increase capacity and efficiency of vegetable operators in the region. Assistance for farms could also include help in obtaining land for new growers such as tax-forfeited land (and other lands) set aside through lease and purchase options or student loan forgiveness program for

young folks committed to farming to the region.

➤ Building local processing capability to add value to the foods raised in the region as well as developing methods to efficiently move food products throughout the region. “A reasonable next step would be to identify current production clusters and logical distribution maps and scenarios to

efficiently move products from farm to market.”

➤ Providing technical assistance to growers to assist them in improving the quality and management of their soil as well as providing business planning and development expertise and assistance with financial management.

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## ELY COMMUNITY CENTER

## Alternative plan maintains original intent of landmark

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY—"To restore this iconic building and to preserve the original intent of the cultural heritage of the Ely Community Center."

That was the mission statement that appeared on the first page of an expanded business plan authored by Angela Campbell that she presented to the Ely City Council on Sept. 25, in response to the proposed sale of the vacant city landmark.

Campbell is a long-time Ely resident and frequent council candidate who is competing with an out-of-town couple who have offered their own plan to transform the Community Center into a Korean cultural school and retreat. That plan has been summarized in a recent edition of the *Timberjay* and copies of the K America Foundation proposal are available on the city of Ely website and at the city clerk's office.

Campbell previously announced plans to develop the building as the Ely Civic and Conference Center, with uses similar to



when the building housed events and civic functions. She made available her full business plan at the Sept. 25 public hearing, and indicated she was lining up investors. Her purchase agreement indicated an offer of \$35,000 for the building, that is \$7,000 more than the Yoons' offer.

The city of Ely signed a purchase agreement, on a 5-2 vote, with the K America Foundation on Sept. 4 and that document takes precedence over any other offers, according to Mayor Chuck Novak. "Unless we can't make the Yoons' offer work to our satisfaction, we are legally bound not to consider other offers," he said. "We have Angela's plan on file."

Campbell's objectives for the Ely Community and Conference Center are to "reflect community interests" and "generate economic activity and tax revenue" by developing "facilities, activities and amenities that promote the ECCC as a regional cultural, tourist and entertainment destination."

She said that in keeping with the vision of the past, the vision and goals for the ECCC include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Historical Center;
- Ethnic and Cultural Center;
- Community and Business Event Center; and
- Rental Offices.

Through her project, Campbell is hoping to benefit the city of Ely by providing employment opportunities in many areas, including administration, management, maintenance, commercial property taxes, vendors and suppliers, hospitality and food servers.

"I want to stress the importance of keeping the Community Center in the

community," she said. "It was built by the miners and their families and it is a generational legacy." She said she intends "to restore it and use it for profit."

"Added benefits include public restrooms, a bomb shelter, and a teen center," she said. The Community Center is the only building in the city, according to Campbell, that is a designated bomb shelter. City officials confirmed that City Hall and the Post Office are also designated bomb shelters in Ely.

While the price offered for the Community Center building itself is nominal, the cost of renovating the building to bring it to occupancy standards is likely to cost millions of dollars. The city of Ely's real estate broker, Steve Bragg, stands to collect \$15,000 from the proceeds of any transaction. The Yoons offered \$30,000, and Campbell offered \$35,000 for the Community Center.

"Private capital, accessed through public/private partnerships will be part of the implementation strategy to accelerate

funding for the ECCC construction and remodeling," Campbell said.

A balance sheet included in her plan listed totals of \$3.177 million in "funding received" and "projected expenditures" through the first three years of Campbell's ownership of the building. She is relying on \$1 million in "proceeds from grants/donations" each year for all three years. A one time "BOD Contribution" of \$100,000 is listed in the first year. In-kind donations of \$50,000, \$20,000 and \$7,000, are also listed on the revenue side of the balance sheet.

For expenses in the first three years, Campbell lists such things as: real estate taxes, \$6,990; insurance, \$18,000; legal fees, \$16,000; accounting fees, \$18,000; utilities, \$29,000; fuel, \$72,000; building renovation, construction, \$2.82 million custodial fees, \$68,000; boiler inspection, \$24,000; and building management, \$25,000. Other expenses are also listed.

Campbell projects an annual income of \$135,000 from the Ely Community

and Conference Center, including \$102,000 from office rental, \$24,000 from auditorium rental, and \$9,600 from kitchen event rentals.

A description of her financial analysis reads, "A community center with offices for for-profit and not-for-profit businesses in current unused space. Kitchen will be used for events. In this scenario, the upper floor remains a large event center. The main floor becomes offices for non-profits and for-profit businesses, potentially including a museum. The lower floor will house a kitchen supporting events. The building will be open in the evenings to support the demand for community space. The income projection for this scenario is current community center rental rates for the auditorium and activity at a level of anticipated uses."

As many as four floor plan variations are included in the business plans, along with a listing of ECCC attractions and uses including banquets, weddings, rentals, community events, seminars, symposiums and museums.

## ELY...Continued from page 1

library. "If that building sits idle for another three or four years and is unheated, then it will take a wrecking ball. Unheated sections of that building are already starting to show some issues. We need to alleviate that as fast as possible," he said.

The city of Ely is obligated to remove the fuel tank from the building prior to any sale. There may be 6,000 to 7,000 gallons of fuel remaining in the tanks, according to Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski. "Any prospective buyer will have to provide their own heating source," he said.

Just one tank removal bid, in excess of \$25,000, was received and rejected by the council last month. "We will try to rebid this in the spring and hopefully get a better price," Langowski said.

Council member Al Forsman said the K America Foundation bid for the building was the "only viable business plan" for the property. "As a city council it is our decree that city property is secured and used in the best way possible," he said. "The building can still be used for the benefit of the city and I believe in the business

plan put forward by the K America Foundation."

Council members Heidi Omerza, Dan Forsman and Ryan Callen all indicated support for the sale of the building to the K America Foundation.

City Planning and Zoning Committee members were set to approve a rezoning of the property following a public hearing Wednesday night. The city council is expected to finalize the sale following a second reading of the ordinance at their regular meeting on Oct. 16.

## Other business

In other business, the city council:

➤ Authorized the Ely High School Homecoming Parade to be held on city streets on Friday, Oct 12, beginning at 4 p.m.;

➤ Accepted the 2017 city audit as presented by Greg Knutson of Walker, Giroux and Hahne;

➤ Authorized the filming of the Thanksgiving event at Ledgerock Church;

➤ Approved the purchase of a video camera, as recommended by the Telecommunication Advisor Board, for \$4,029;

➤ OK'd the recommendation from the Park

and Rec Board to increase by \$25 the half-day fee for non-profit organizations for the use of the Rec Center;

➤ Approved the recommendation from the Park and Rec Board to not issue refunds for the Tuesdays in September when there was no Farmers Market event;

➤ Approved payment of \$282 lighting rebate to Gerzin's Wood Wizards;

➤ Approved a note and mortgage for Doug Scheibe for a Residential Rehab Loan for \$7,000;

➤ Passed a resolution authorizing property tax assessments for unpaid utility bills;

➤ Changed the time and place of the council study session to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 30 at Amici's Event Center for the Ely Area Broadband Coalition meeting;

➤ Approved a commercial renovation loan for East Sheridan Properties to repair the roof and insulation at Insula Restaurant;

➤ Passed a resolution appointing election judges for the 2018 General Election;

➤ Scheduled a Truth in Taxation public hearing for Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m.



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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2016 RAM 1500 Crew Big Horn</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">SAVINGS!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">#6297U Black Crystal</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">\$30,995</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2016 Chevy Silverado Double Cab LT</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">#5624U Tungsten</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">\$29,995</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2014 Chevy Silverado Double Cab LT</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="background-color: yellow; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; padding: 5px;">SOLD</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">#280U Ruby Red</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">\$24,995</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2014 Ford Escape Titanium</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">#6148U Ruby Red</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">\$17,995</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2015 Buick Verano</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">#4435U Ashen Grey</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Leather group, Loaded!</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">\$14,995</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2015 Jeep Cherokee Latitude</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">#4379U Cashmere</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">\$14,995</p> </div>

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# SPORTS

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## FOOTBALL

# Rangers outrun Timberwolves

by JAY GREENEY  
Sportswriter

MT. IRON— Miscues and the speed of Rangers senior quarterback Joe Buffetta proved costly for the Timberwolves, as an explosive Mt. Iron-Buhl team dominated Ely in a 44-12 rout played on the

Rangers' new AstroTurf. The Wolves were looking to get back on the winning track after the previous week's loss to South Ridge, but quickly found themselves in a hole as the Rangers took the opening kickoff and drove 70 yards in 2:23 for six.

They added the conversion to go up 8-0. They were back on Ely's doorstep on their next possession, after a quick three-and-out for the Wolves left the Rangers on their own 37. Barely two minutes later, Buffetta scored his second of six

touchdowns on the day, followed by the conversion to put the Rangers up 16-0. The Rangers would add eight more points in the second quarter on an 81-yard drive capped by a 41-yard touchdown run. "We knew coming in this was going to be a

very good football team," said Ely Head Coach Cory Lassi. "We had a hard time matching up with their speed." Both teams tried to take to the air in the remainder of the half, but interceptions stalled the next four drives and the

teams headed for the break with the Rangers up 24-0. The Wolves showed more promise in the third quarter as they took an early possession 60 yards for a touchdown. A failed conversion left them

See **WOLVES**...pg. 2B

## FOOTBALL

# Grizzz stuck in the mud

## North Woods drops first 11-man game

by Marcus White  
Cook/Orr Editor

FIELD TWP - The Grizzlies drew first blood in their 11-man football contest here last Friday, but International Falls dominated much of the rest of way, handing North Woods their fourth loss of the season, 20-6.

"The game featured two teams unable to do much on offense due to wet and muddy field conditions," Head Coach John Jirik said. "As the game progressed the field con-

ditions worsened." The weather was undoubtedly a factor, with a cold wind and mixed rain and snow flurries.

Senior quarterback Chase Kleppe connected with Trevor Morrison on a 25-yard first quarter touchdown strike, which put the Grizzlies up 6-0.

The Broncos would answer with two of their own touchdowns in the second quarter, the first on a one-yard run from Simon Palm. The Broncos added six more on a Riley Larson interception, which he took 35 yards to the end zone.

Defense reigned for the most part in the second half, with the Broncos adding a late

See **GRIZZLIES**...pg. 2B



Above: Chase Kleppe makes the hand off to TJ Chiabotti; below-left: TJ Chiabotti with an interception; below-right: Jake Hyppa with a carry. photos by C. Stone



## VOLLEYBALL

# Injuries plague Nighthawks

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

BABBITT—A season that started with promise has taken an unfortunate turn for the Nighthawks volleyball squad as a series of injuries have taken much of the team's top talent off the court.

"It seems like one thing after another," said Head Coach Jodi Reichensperger after losing two starters in the past two games. On Tuesday, against Nashwauk-Keewatin, senior Shayler Lislegard went down hard, hitting her head on the gym floor. "She did not lose consciousness but you

could tell it was not good," said Reichensperger, who said Lislegard is out for the foreseeable future after suffering a concussion in the fall.

Meanwhile, last Thursday, junior setter Lara Poderzay badly hyperextended her fingers just four volleys into their match-up with North Woods. Poderzay was out for Tuesday's game and is uncertain for action the remainder of the week.

The latest injuries came as the Nighthawks learned that standout freshman Hannah Reichensperger was likely out for the season with torn ligaments in her ankle, that

may require surgery.

"I have kids who just won't quit," said Reichensperger of her team. "They are giving everything to get to a ball and I've had to tell them 'don't sacrifice your body.'"

The injuries have wreaked havoc with a team that started the season with just ten players in the lineup. Reichensperger said she's had to call up junior

See **INJURIES**...pg. 2B

The Grizzlies' Coley Olson goes for the point as the Nighthawks' Maija Maki gets ready to block. More on this game, page 2B. photo by C. Stone



## Sports week

### Football

**Friday Oct. 5**  
North Woods at South Ridge, 7 p.m.

Ely hosts Cook County, 7 p.m.

**Friday Oct. 12**  
North Woods at Floodwood, 7 p.m.

Ely hosts Silver Bay, 7 p.m.

### Volleyball

**Thursday Oct. 4**  
Ely at Bigfork, 7 p.m.

NE Range at Hill City, 7 p.m.

**Saturday Oct. 6**  
Ely, North Woods and NE Range at Mesabi East Tournament.

**Monday Oct. 8**  
Ely hosts Mountain Iron-Buhl, 7 p.m.

North Woods at Nashwauk - Keewatin, 7 p.m.

**Tuesday Oct. 9**  
NE Range hosts Duluth Marshall, 7 p.m.

**Thursday Oct. 11**  
Ely hosts Nashwauk - Keewatin, 7 p.m.

NE Range at Silver Bay, 6:30 p.m.

### Cross-Country

**Thursday Oct. 4**  
North Woods and NE Range at Crosby-Ironton, 3 p.m.

**Tuesday Oct. 9**  
Ely at I -Falls, 4 p.m.

### Swimming

**Saturday Oct. 6**  
Ely and NE Range at Duluth-Denfeld, 1 p.m.

## NE Range schedule change

BABBIT - The previously scheduled game for Northeast Range junior varsity football game on Oct. 16 against Ely has been moved to this coming Monday, Oct. 8 at 4:30 p.m. The change in schedule is to allow the Nighthawks to play during their homecoming week.



VOLLEYBALL

Hawks swept at home

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

BABBITT— Hosting North Woods last Thursday, the Nighthawks fell quickly after a narrow 25-22 first set loss. North Woods took the remaining sets 25-13 and 25-8, to keep an impressive win streak alive. But both teams proved winners in the end as their match helped raise \$2,000 to help the family of two-year-old Zeke Urbas, who has cancer.

“Sometimes, there are more important things than volleyball happening in our gym,” said

Nighthawks Head Coach Jodi Reichensperger.

Regan Ratai had another strong outing for North Woods, posting 19 kills, seven digs, and two blocks, while Hanna Sandberg tallied ten digs. Kayla Tschida notched seven digs and Morgan Burnett put up an impressive 30 set assists.

For the Nighthawks, Sophie Lenz posted 17 digs, seven kills, and a block, while Maija Maki added five kills and Shayler Lislegard posted 14 set assists.

Grizz, Vikings go down to the wire in five-set match-up

by MARCUS WHITE  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP - The Grizzlies extended their nine-game winning streak Tuesday night, but it took five sets against a never-say-die Cook County squad. The Grizzlies improved to 16-2, winning 25-12, 14-25, 25-16, 19-25, and 15-13.

“Cook County was a pretty scrappy team; they picked up everything,” said Grizzlies Assistant Coach Dee Ann Sandberg. The Grizzlies didn’t help themselves in two of the night’s sets. “Overall, there were a lot of errors,” said Sandberg. “Our passing wasn’t the best, which made our sets off, which hurt our hits. Our serving was pretty good.”

Regan Ratai had a good night, with 21 kills, two blocks and two aces,

while Coley Olson had 13 kills and a block. Hanna Sandberg posted ten digs and six aces, while Karlyn Pierce notched eight kills and four blocks.

Setter Morgan Burnett put up 27 assists, while Claire Beaudry added ten along with three digs and a block.

Sandberg said the Grizzlies could learn from the Vikings’ hustle, which kept them in the match.

Even with occasional let-downs, the Grizzlies have still managed an impressive season as the volleyball schedule heads into the final two weeks of the regular season.

The team now heads to the Mesabi East Tourney this weekend. They’ll travel to Nashauk-Keewatin on Monday to take on the Spartans. Game time is 7 p.m.

Ely sweeps Lakeview Christian

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

DULUTH — The Timberwolves made short work of Lakeview Christian Academy on Tuesday, winning in straight sets 25-6, 25-11 and 25-19.

“We had some very consistent serving tonight from Winter, Carts, and Erika,” said Ely Head Coach Andrea Thomas. “Carts [McCartney Kaercher] served points eight through 23 in the first set and ended the night with 11 ace serves.”

Brielle Kallberg paced the team with 11 kills and

two blocks, while Kaercher added nine set assists to her serving stats. Jenna Merhar added six kills, while Lida Dodge posted 11 set assists. Erika Mattson notched four ace serves.

“The girls played well and were able to play at their tempo most of the match,” said Thomas. “Everyone was able to get some playing time tonight and the girls adjusted well to the different lineups.”

The girls head to Mesabi East on Saturday to take part in a weekend tournament. They’ll return home on Monday, Oct. 8, to host Mt. Iron-Buhl.

INJURIES...Continued from page 1B

varsity players and set more realistic goals for the season.

The situation has clearly hampered the team’s success on the court, as the team has lost six straight games after starting the season at 6-3. Even so, the scrappy team gave the Spartans a run for their money on Tuesday, as the Nighthawks fell in five sets, 19-25, 25-17, 26-24, 12-25, and 6-15. “I do have to say that I have never been more proud of a team for pulling together and pulling off some wins with a lineup that we practiced for one day, and using one setter who has never been

on the floor in that position,” said Reichensperger. Freshman Jenna Smith had a big night, with 29 digs and 20 set assists, while Shayler Lislegard notched 27 digs and 13 sets before going out of the game. Freshman Sophie Lenz posted 15 digs and 11 kills, along with four blocks, while junior Maude Lenz tallied 13 digs and eight kills and Chloe Aase added eight kills.

Northeast Range will take part in the Mesabi East Tournament this Saturday. They’ll host Duluth-Marshall next Tuesday, Oct. 9. Game time is 7 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

Ely takes first place at local meet

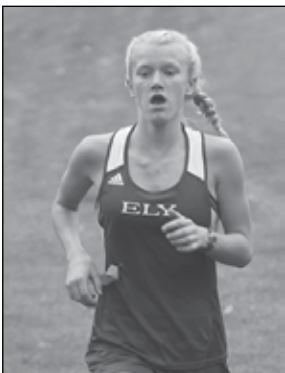
by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY—Another strong team performance, led by junior Luke Olson, lifted the Ely boys cross-country team to a first-place finish in their only home meet of the year. Meanwhile, a young Ely girls squad finished in third place in the competition, held at the Ely Golf Course.

Ely boys took three of the top ten spots, including a second-place finish by Luke Olson, who finished 32 seconds behind winner Cameron Stocks of Virginia. Classmate Emmett Faltesek finished fifth while ninth-grader Gabriel Pointer took seventh place. Juniors Jasper Johnson, Raif Olson, and Kjetil Midttun finish 18th, 21st, and 22nd respectively. James Schwinghamer and Dylan Fenske, two other typically strong finishers, didn’t make this week’s event.

The girls were led by eighth-grader Zoe Devine who took third place, while classmate Phoebe Helms came in the eleventh spot.

“Nice team work for boys, winning the meet,”



Ely’s top runners, Zoe Devine, left, and Luke Olson, right. submitted photos



said Head Coach Jayne Dusich. “Great showing for the Ely girl runners.”

The teams next head to International Falls on Tuesday with the invitational event set to begin at 4 p.m.

TOP VARSITY TIMES	ELY GIRLS
3. Zoe Devine 20:48.3	
11. Phoebe Helms 22:32.7	
18. Sarah Isbell 23:41.0	
22. J. Schwinghamer 24:13.7	
23. Gracie Pointer 24:16.1	
26. Cora Olson 24:56.0	

27. Brynn Vollem 25:03.4	
29. Sydney Durkin 25:11.3	
33. Adrianna Bishop 25:41.1	
36. Amelia Pluth 25:51.2	
37. Sydni Richards 26:01.1	
44. Abigail Thompson 28:25.5	
47. Lucy Stouffer 30:21.9	

TOP VARSITY TIMES	ELY BOYS
2. Luke Olson 16:51.2	
5. Emmett Faltesek 17:28.6	
7. Gabriel Pointer 17:34.8	

18. Jasper Johnston 18:39.2	
21. Raif Olson 18:58.0	
22. Kjetil Midttun 19:07.2	
28. Jon Hakala 20:05.2	
29. Ethan Bremner 20:05.8	
37. Seann Prigge 20:56.6	
39. Harry Simon 21:04.5	
49. Sawyer Klingsporn 21:59.2	
66. Henry Matthys 29:53.0	

GIRLS VARSITY TEAM SCORES	
1. I-Falls 42	
2. Virginia 48	
3. Ely 71	
4. Eveleth 90	
5. Esko 114	

BOYS VARSITY TEAM SCORES	
1. Ely 49	
2. I-Falls 56	
3. Esko 67	
4. Mt. Iron-Buhl 89	
5. Virginia 101	
6. Chisholm 156	

EMBARRASS FAIR



Runners at the starting line of the Flying Finn. submitted photo

Results for August Flying Finn

EMBARRASS-Here are the results for this year’s Flying Finn 5K Run-Walk results.

**Overall winners of \$50 each, male and female**  
Jimmy Zupancich, Molly Libra

**19 and under class**  
Jimmy Zupancich 19.49, Sophie Lenz 22.07, Dylan Johnson 23.16

**30-39**  
Michael Benchina 19.56, Brooke Boulton 22.32, Paul Rasmussen 29.34

**40-49**  
Molly Libra 21.11, John Dixon 25.19, Lynn Lenz (no time listed)

**50-59**  
Debra Hultman 21.58, Ruth Boedigheimer 27.56, Jeff Poppema 30.22

**60 and over**

Michael Swanson 32.12, Mary Esala 46.34, Glen Auikainen 51.54

Thank you to all who helped put on the Flying Finn! A special thank you to all the participants who ran or walked.

WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

down 24-6. The Wolves appeared to handle MI-B on their next possession and forced a fourth-and-six on their own 40-yard line. The Rangers conversion attempt appeared to go awry, but in the confusion, the Rangers’ Joe Buffetta took it 40 yards untouched for six more, leaving the Rangers up 32-6 after the conversion.

The Rangers would add one more as time ran

out in the third quarter to pad their lead to 38-6.

A muffed Ely punt early in the fourth quarter gave the ball back to MI-B on the Wolves’ 22-yard line. The Rangers’ Buffetta wasted little time running it across the end zone, to put MI-B up 44-6.

With the game in running time Ely mounted its best drive of the night, taking six minutes off the clock while adding six

points to the board. That would prove to be the final as the teams traded possessions before time ran out.

Senior Nick Mattila led the way offensively for Ely, with 96 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 24 carries. Juniors Dalton Schreffler and Nate Nettifee added 59 and 33 yards respectively on the ground. The Wolves were just one of six in the

air for a net four yards and three interceptions.

“We have another tough team again this Friday against Cook County,” said Lassi. “We hope to gain back two starters that were out for the MIB game.”

Ely, now 2-3, will host sixth-rated Cook County on Friday. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

touchdown after forcing the ball over on downs in Grizzlies’ territory. North Woods struggled offensively for much of the game, racking up a lackluster 200 yards of total offense. Kleppe completed six of 19 pass attempts, for 67 yards and a touchdown and rushed for 17 yards. Freshman TJ Chiabotti rushed for

35 yards on ten carries and completed a 13-yard pass during a QB stint late in the game. Jake Hyppa added 35 yards on six carries, while Nathan Crain rushed for 33 yards.

Hyppa led on defense with eight tackles, while Kleppe, Chiabotti, and Crain all tallied seven tackles apiece. Stefan Johansen and Brody

Driscoll each had four tackles.

While Friday’s game was a preview of what the Grizzlies will face next season when they transition to Class A 11-man competition, Jirik said muddy field conditions made it a less-than-indicative debut.

“I do not think this game was a good indica-

tion of what we will do or prepare for in 11-man,” he said.” The team will now have to wait until their season opener next year to get their next taste of 11-man play.

The Grizzlies return to 9-man action this week at South Ridge. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## LAKE COUNTRY POWER

# Operation Round Up® gives more than \$35,000 to community programs

REGIONAL- Through the assistance of Lake Country Power's participating members, the Operation Round Up® Trust Board recently approved \$35,850 in contributions to local community programs during its quarterly meeting.

The cooperative's Trust Board reviewed and considered 33 grant applications and distributed funds to 29 projects and programs this past quarter. Since the program's inception in October 2004, more than \$2.1 million has been distributed to community-based projects and programs.

Recent recipients include Queen of Peace Quilters, South Ridge School Art Dept., Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Quilters, Shield 616 gear, Project Care Free Clinic, Range Transitional Housing, Inc., Area Clothing Depot, Tower Soudan Civic Club for Operation Santa, Wee Care Sewers-St. Paul's Lutheran Church, St. Louis County



Sheriff's Volunteer Rescue Squad, ANGELS (Area Neighbors Giving Elderly Live-In Services), Truman Blakesly American Legion Post 432 campground and RV park, First Lutheran Church, Ely Ladies Aid for quilts, ElderCircle Handy Hands Program, ElderCircle Groceries-to-Go, If the Dress Fits road show, Jacobson Community Foundation, Operation Community Connect/Homeless Coalition, Well Being Development/Northern Lights Clubhouse, Ely Winter Festival, and Mesabi Symphony Orchestra.

Operation Round Up® is a charitable program unique to electric co-ops, which is designed to provide financial assistance to worthwhile activities and community projects by "rounding up" members electric bills to the nearest dollar. The average donation of each participating Lake Country Power member is less than \$6 annually.

More than 71 percent of Lake Country Power members participate in the program through voluntary contributions. Interested members can opt into the Operation Round Up® program by calling Lake Country Power at 800-421-9959 or using an online form at lakecountry-power.coop.

Applications are available online at [www.lakecountrypower.coop](http://www.lakecountrypower.coop). The next grant application deadline is Thursday, Nov. 15.

## Leaders needed to facilitate senior health workshops on living with chronic conditions, diabetes, and chronic pain

REGIONAL- 80 percent of older Americans have at least one chronic health condition. Although Americans are living longer these days, more are also developing chronic illnesses. Do illness and aging always go hand-in-hand? The answer is a surprising, but resounding, NO.

The Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging is seeking professionals and volunteers to teach Living Well with Chronic Conditions, Chronic Pain, and Diabetes workshops in the seven-county Arrowhead Region. Workshops are offered through Juniper™, a statewide network delivering evidence-based programs to help people manage chronic health conditions, prevent falls, and foster well-being. Leaders facilitate small groups of people with chronic health conditions or chronic pain to help

them manage their symptoms, build confidence, and maintain an active lifestyle.

"I have seen how important it is for participants when they realize they are not alone when living with chronic health conditions," said Catherine Sampson, Volunteer Lay Leader. "Knowing others are going through similar experiences opens them up to a deeper level of participation resulting in a group they find value in. I have seen participants come to appreciate that using some very accessible techniques can provide relief to their symptoms."

Living Well with Chronic Conditions will be held Monday through Thursday, Oct. 22 through 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at AEOA, 702 3rd Ave. S in Virginia. Cost is \$200 and limited scholarships are available.

Living Well with Chronic Pain will be held Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 5 and 6 from 8:30 a.m. through 5 p.m. at AAAA, 221 W 1st St. in Duluth. Cost is \$100 and limited scholarships are available.

Living Well with Diabetes will be held Friday, Nov. 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at AAAA, 221 W 1st St. in Duluth. Cost is \$50 and limited scholarships are available.

The deadline for registration is Wednesday, Oct. 17. Chronic Conditions leader training is a prerequisite for Pain and Diabetes. For more information or to register, visit [www.arrowheadaging.org/registration](http://www.arrowheadaging.org/registration) or contact Georgia Lane at 218-529-7525 or [glane@ardc.org](mailto:glane@ardc.org).

The Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging is the designated area agency on aging for the seven-county Arrowhead region.

## Wilderness raises over \$1,300 for scholarships

VERMILION RESERVATION- The Wilderness at Fortune Bay raised just over \$1,300 during Patriot Golf Day weekend by partnering with Folds of Honor. The proceeds from the event go toward Folds of Honor scholarships for families of fallen and disabled servicemembers.

Golfers were asked to participate in a Closest to the Pin Contest on hole 17 over the weekend for their chance to win rounds of golf at The Wilderness. In addition, The Wilderness donated \$1 from each

greens fee and 10 percent of all Pro Shop sales to Folds of Honor.

Patriot Golf Day started in 2007; it is held over Labor Day Weekend and encourages golfers across the country to give a little extra to these families. Over 1,600 properties across the United States participated this year in various ways.

Patriot Golf Day has become one of the largest fundraisers for Folds of Honor, a non-profit that has raised more than \$47 million and has awarded more than 16,000 educa-

tional scholarships. Many KemperSports properties, like The Wilderness, are active with the mission and play an integral part in raising funds and awareness for this great cause.

"Thank you to those who participate with Patriot Golf Day each year," said Ryan Peterson, General Manager at The Wilderness. "No act of kindness, no matter how

small, is ever wasted, especially when giving back to those who have sacrificed for us."

Please visit the Folds of Honor website at [www.FoldsofHonor.org](http://www.FoldsofHonor.org) for more information about this program and for a list of the properties that participated.

### Fiberart Guild meets Oct. 4

VIRGINIA- The Range Fiberart Guild will meet Thursday, Oct. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Virginia. Bill Schaffer will present a make-and-take program on Kumihimo Braiding.

### Red Hat Belles to meet Oct. 18

TOWER- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet on Thursday, Oct. 18 at 12 noon at Sulu's in Tower. To make your reservation call Barbara at 218-753-2091 before Tuesday, Oct. 16. New members are always welcome.

### Barbershop Chorus in concert, Oct. 12

VIRGINIA- The Great Northern Union will present Minnesota's Barbershop Chorus in concert on Friday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Goodman Auditorium at the Virginia High School. The concert will feature performances by the Great Northern Union, Virginia High School Choirs, and The Choralaires. Tickets are \$7 for adults; students 18 and under will be free.

The mission of the Great Northern Union is to change lives of audiences and singers alike by creating "thrilling harmony" with nearly flawless unaccompanied vocal music, performed with deep passion and great energy. They envision a world where all men are singing and everyone is listening. They believe such a world would be more harmonious in every way, and seek to promote a lifetime of singing among a diverse community of men and women.

All proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Virginia High School Choir Department to help students pay for their upcoming music trip to Orlando, Fla.

## Local organizations receive grants from Arrowhead Regional Arts Council

REGIONAL- Iron Range organizations were awarded grants from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council in September.

Mesabi Symphony Orchestra was awarded a \$3,370 Arts Learning grant to send an ensemble of MSO musicians, accompanied by retired teacher and MSO board president Lynn Evenson and MSO executive director Rena Hartman, to schools in northern Saint Louis County to act out a story derived from Ibsen's Peer Gynt, while MSO musicians provide sounds to enhance the performance. They will work through the story showing how music can enhance the spoken word.

Ely ArtWalk was awarded a \$5,000 Rural and Community Art Project grant to support the 2019 Ely ArtWalk, to be held Feb. 7-17, 2019. The EAW is designed to reach out to an underserved group, the artists who make their homes in the Ely area, by bringing their work to a wide audience and giving them an opportunity to sell their work.

Steger Wilderness Center of Ely was awarded a \$5,000 Rural and Community Art Project grant to support "Preserving the Artistic Legacy of the Steger Wilderness Center," an effort to produce a website that will publicly host more than 50 years of archival media documenting and empowering the folk-trade community of the Iron Range.

Mesabi Symphony Orchestra was awarded a \$5,000 Arts Learning grant to support the spring performance of Suite No. 1 from Edvard Grieg's Peer Gynt and an original story written and performed by the Twin Cities storytelling group Impossible Salt.

For the complete list of grants awarded in the Arrowhead Region, visit [www.aracouncil.org](http://www.aracouncil.org).

## Vendors needed for Tower Holiday Craft Show set for Dec. 8

TOWER- The Tower Holiday Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. Tables are \$20 each (limit two 8-ft. tables per vendor) and must be reserved and paid for in advance. Checks can be made out to Friends of VCS and mailed to Vermilion Country School, PO Box 629, Tower, MN 55790 or can be dropped off at the charter school or at the Timberjay office in Tower. For more information, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

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WEATHER

# November gloom comes early this year

Persistent clouds and unseasonable chill more typical of Halloween

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—Feeling like the November gloom has come early? You’re not alone, after the North Country has experienced a remarkably cloudy, wet, and decidedly cool stretch of weather over the past three weeks.

“This is really more typical of Halloween,” said state climatolo-

gist Pete Boulay this week. It’s a persistent and not terribly welcome weather pattern, he said, and it’s been affecting much of the state, particularly in northern Minnesota, where average temperatures have run four-to-seven degrees colder than normal in the past couple weeks. Many parts of the North Country even reported a trace of snow last Friday, Sept. 28, just to remind us that winter is definitely

**Right: The bare branches of ash trees this week are backdropped by the persistent layer of stratus clouds that have dominated the area’s weather since mid-September.** M. Helmberger

coming.  
An active jet stream that has pushed a series of low pressure  
See **WEATHER...pg. 5B**



PEAK OF THE SEASON

## Weather plays its part in fall’s color change

REGIONAL— If you’re one of those folks, like me, who tracks the changing of the seasons here in the North Country, you have probably noticed that our fall color seems a bit later than usual. As most residents of our region know, we really have two color seasons here— the fiery oranges and reds of the red maple, which tend to peak about the fourth week of September, and the golds of the aspen and tamarack, which generally peak around Oct. 10.

To understand this process, first recognize what causes the change in leaf color. Throughout the growing season, the green chlorophyll dominates the chemical makeup in leaves, which is why leaves appear green to us. But as the tree begins to shut down for the season, the chlorophyll breaks down and other chemicals, like carotenoids (which appear orange) and anthocya-

**Top: Hwy. 1 was lined in yellow and orange this week as the red maple hit peak color.** photo/P. Wattering  
**Above right: Orange maple leaves backdrop a lone aspen.** photo/M. Helmberger  
**Right: Mixed maple leaves.** photo/P. Wattering  
**Lower right: Maple leaves.**

nins (appeared red), begin to show through.

While color change is typically driven mostly by daylength, other factors can affect the exact timing and brilliance of the color change, and it seems they’ve been mostly working against us this year. The month of August is actually an important period for determining the kinds of colors we’ll see come September, and the dry conditions we experienced in August this year almost certainly reduced the production of anthocyanins, which are produced late in the

See **FALL COLOR...pg. 5B**



MARSHALL HELMBERGER



HUNTING

## 2017 hunter survey results released

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Hunters bought fewer small game licenses in Minnesota last year, and harvested fewer pheasants, and ruffed grouse. Meanwhile, hunters did report taking more ducks and Canada geese. That’s all according to the 2017 hunter survey, conducted by the Department of Natural Resources. The DNR released the results this week.

Overall, small game license sales were off four percent from 2016, a continuation of an ongoing trend of lower license sales in recent years. Small game license sales were down about four percent in 2017 compared to the previous year, according to the Department of Natural Resources’ annual small game survey.

“Given the long-term trends for small game hunting, none of the results are surprising for us,” said James Burnham, hunting and angling recruitment, retention and reactivation coordinator for the DNR. “Declines in small game hunter numbers show the importance of introducing folks to hunting, and small game hunting offers a tremendous opportunity to show safe and fun hunting practices.”

Hunter survey results include:

- Ruffed grouse—80,654 hunters, similar to the previous year. Harvest was 285,180 compared to 308,955 grouse in 2016. Estimated take per successful ruffed grouse hunter dropped slightly from an average of 5.3 grouse per hunter to 4.8 grouse per hunter.
- Ducks—63,426 hunters took part in duck hunting last year, representing a six-percent decrease from 2016. Despite slightly fewer hunters, the duck harvest increased 12 percent with 688,225 ducks harvested. Successful duck hunters averaged more ducks bagged for the season (12.5 ducks compared to 10.9 ducks in 2016).
- Canada goose—44,678 hunters, an eight-percent increase from the previous

See **SURVEY...pg. 5B**





Maples and birch were in their autumn best along Birch Lake earlier this week. photo/K. Vandervort

# This is the weekend!

Peak color has arrived in the North Country

REGIONAL — If you’re waiting for the peak of the season’s color, wait no more. After a somewhat slow start, the fall colors are expected to peak this weekend and it could be one of the nicest displays in years, in part because the maples appear to be peaking at the same time as the aspen, which is unusual.

In most years, the maples peak in late September and have generally faded by the time the aspen hit their spectacular gold in early October.

The persistent cloudiness in recent weeks has likely slowed the pace of the maple turn, which means that this weekend could see almost all of the forest ablaze.

If you’re looking for great colors, a drive along Hwy. 169, from Virginia to Ely, would be a good place to start. According to the DNR, fall color is currently 75-100 percent at both the Lake Vermilion and Bear Head Lake state parks, both located between Tower and Ely.

## SURVEY...Continued from page 4B

year. Estimated Canada goose harvest was 267,192 geese, a 23-percent increase. The increase in harvest was due to the increase in goose hunters as successful hunters bagged an average of 7.4 geese each, which was similar to the previous season.

► Ring-necked pheasant – 45,263 hunters, a 32-percent decrease compared to 2016. Pheasant harvest declined from 196,141 roosters to 171,883, a 14-percent decline. Successful hunters harvested an average of 5.5 roosters each, a slight increase from the five roosters per hunter average

in the previous year.

The DNR aims to increase participation rates in small game hunting by working with conservation partners to show the appeal that small game hunting can have for young adults who already spend time in the outdoors. Efforts will center on serial events that connect new hunters to mentors and get folks out to enjoy the tremendous resources that Minnesota offers. Additionally, the DNR has recently formed a 21-member R3 citizen council to help grow hunting and angling participation and awareness.

## LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
42 37					44 34					46 37					49 41					52 42				
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.
09/24	54	40	0.02		09/24	52	42	0.00		09/24	53	40	0.00		09/24	61	45	0.00		09/24	54	39	0.00	
09/25	65	45	0.23		09/25	65	43	0.25		09/25	61	43	0.62		09/25	48	39	0.55		09/25	64	43	0.37	
09/26	49	38	0.14		09/26	48	37	0.13		09/26	48	38	0.02		09/26	54	37	0.01		09/26	49	38	0.04	
09/27	55	38	0.03		09/27	54	38	0.06		09/27	54	39	0.02		09/27	48	41	0.05		09/27	55	41	0.10	
09/28	49	40	0.32		09/28	54	38	0.31		09/28	52	40	0.38		09/28	41	32	0.39		09/28	57	39	0.35	
09/29	47	29	0.05		09/29	46	27	0.00		09/29	44	28	0.03		09/29	46	27	0.02		09/29	47	26	0.00	
09/30	45	28	0.06		09/30	45	26	0.05		09/30	45	28	0.08		09/30	48	30	0.00		09/30	38	30	0.00	
Totals			19.59		Totals			21.15		Totals			26.19		Totals			NA	NA	Totals				25.66

## FALL COLOR...Continued from page 4B

season in part to better prepare deciduous trees for winter. Any time trees are water stressed, they tend to produce less of this chemical compound, so our August dry spell is likely responsible for the limited amount of the brilliant reds we’ve seen this season from the maples.

And our gloomy weather in the last half of September hasn’t helped. Mild, sunny days and cool nights produce the best color change, but the cool, wet, and persistently cloudy weather we experienced in the second half of September seems to have slowed the changing of the leaves. Even so, there might be a silver lining. I keep waiting for that spectacular year when our two colors seasons merge into one, and the entire forest is ablaze all at once.

Will this be the year? It’s starting to look that way!



photo/P. Wattering

## WEATHER...Continued from page 4B

systems into the region in recent weeks is behind the clouds and frequent precipitation. “To get nice stretches of weather, we really need high pressure to set in and stay there,” said Geoffrey Grobhocinski, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service office in Duluth. “We haven’t had much of that lately,” he added.

The normal high for Oct. 5 in the region is 57 degrees, while the current forecast is calling for clouds, showers, and a high of 41 degrees

on Oct. 5 this year.

The persistent clouds, on the other hand, have kept overnight temperatures somewhat milder than usual, with temperatures averaging in the mid-to-upper 30s. Friday’s low, for example, is forecast to be 36 degrees, which is about six degrees warmer than the average minimum of 30 degrees for Oct 5.

If you’re looking for relief from the current weather pattern, you’re probably out of luck. The U.S. Climate Prediction Center is fore-

casting continued cooler and wetter conditions for northern Minnesota right through October.

That pattern could well shift, however, as we head further into winter. According to Boulay, the Climate Prediction Center has put the chance of an el Niño developing this winter at 65-70 percent. If so, that significantly increases the odds for a warmer-than-average winter in northern Minnesota.

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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**

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



# HEALTHCARE

## Ely forum to focus on universal healthcare on Wednesday, Oct. 10

ELY- Congressional Candidate Joe Radinovich will be featured at a public forum focusing on universal healthcare on Wednesday, Oct. 10, from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall (CL 104) at Vermilion Community College in Ely.

Also on the panel will be Rose Roach, Executive Director of the Minnesota Nurses Association; Mike Maleska, member and former president of United Steelworkers Local 6860 of Hibbing; and Bruce Miller,

Outreach Director for the Minnesota Farmers Union. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Radinovich is the DFL candidate for the 8th District Congressional seat.

“Healthcare is a right,” said Radinovich. “A broken arm shouldn’t bankrupt you and you shouldn’t have to choose between preventative care and paying your electric bill. I support universal healthcare that keeps us and our families healthy and working.”

Roach is a registered nurse with a 40-year history in the labor movement. “Every single study shows that single payer saves money, improves quality, covers everyone, and (most important) saves lives,” Roach said.

Maleska, who has worked for 40 years in iron mining as an hourly laborer, truck driver and electrician, said he believes that “in every medical facility in our region, our current healthcare premiums are supporting the medical costs for people who

have no coverage or inadequate coverage.”

Miller will talk about the impact of high health insurance premiums and deductibles for farmers, sometimes totaling \$25,000 to \$43,000 annually.

The forum is sponsored by Northern St. Louis County Healthcare for All Minnesota and the St. Louis County 03 DFL Organizing Unit. For more information, contact Missy Baker Roach at 218-969-6872 or bearriverfarm@aol.com.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Ely Timberjay Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: 991; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,011; d. Percent Paid: 98; No. Electronic Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: a. Paid Electronic Copies: 183; b. Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,038; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,058; d. Percent Paid: 98; 17. Total circulation includes electronic copies. Yes; 18. Publication of Statement of Ownership: 10-05-18. 17. Signature: Marshall Helmberger; Date: 9-20-2018.

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65; f. Total Distribution: 891; g. Copies Not Distributed: 19; h. Total: 910; i. Percent Paid and/or Requested: 92; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: a. Total number of copies 875; b1. Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions: 100; b2. Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541: 463; b3. Sales through Dealers and Vendors: 235; b4. Other Classes Mailed through USPS: 3; c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 801; d. Free Distribution by Mail: 0; d1. Outside County: 0; d2. In-County as Stated on Form 3541: 0; d3. Other Classes Through the USPS: 0; d4. Free Distribution Outside the Mail: 65; e. Total Free Distribution: 65; f. Total Distribution: 866; g. Copies Not Distributed: 9; h. Total: 875 i. Percent Paid and/or Requested: 92; 16. a. Paid Electronic Copies-

Average No. of Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 162; b. Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: 988; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,053; d. Percent Paid: 93; No. Electronic Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: a. Paid Electronic Copies: 183; b. Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: 984; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,049; d. Percent Paid: 93; 17. Total circulation includes electronic copies. Yes; 18. Publication of Statement of Ownership: 10-05-18. 17. Signature: Marshall Helmberger; Date: 9-20-2018.

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Classes Mailed through USPS: 4; c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 1,176; d. Free Distribution by Mail: 0; d1. Outside County: 0; d2. In-County as Stated on Form 3541: 0; d3. Other Classes Through the USPS: 0; d4. Free Distribution Outside the Mail: 20; e. Total Free Distribution: 20; f. Total Distribution: 1,196; g. Copies Not Distributed: 29; h. Total: 1,225 i. Percent Paid and/or Requested: 98; 16. a. Paid Electronic Copies- Average No. of Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 162; b. Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,344; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic

Copies: 1,364; d. Percent Paid: 98; No. Electronic Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: a. Paid Electronic Copies: 183; b. Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,359; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies: 1,379; d. Percent Paid: 98; 17. Total circulation includes electronic copies. Yes; 18. Publication of Statement of Ownership: 10-05-18. 17. Signature: Marshall Helmberger; Date: 9-20-2018.

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## FUNERAL SERVICES

### Range Funeral Home



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O	L	D	S	A	L	T		C	A	R	O	B	S		A	C	C	E	S	S
P	O	O	H	B	A	H		I	B	E	R	I	A		L	E	A	D	T	O
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E	S	T	A	T	E		W	A	R	D	E	N		T	S	E	T	S		S

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### FIELD TOWNSHIP MEETING NOTICE

The regular October board meeting of Field Township will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2018, 6 p.m. at the Field Town Hall. Pat Chapman, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 5, 2018

### MPCA INVITES COMMENT ON MINNESOTA DECISION DOCUMENT FOR BULINSKI POINT SUPERFUND SITE

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) invites public comment on the draft Minnesota Decision Document for the Bulinski Point Superfund site located at West Shagawa Road in Ely.

The MPCA is seeking written comments from the public before the decision document is finalized. The MPCA will accept written comments until November 5, 2018.

Additional information on the decision document can be found on the MPCA website at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/bulinski-point-superfund-site> or can be mailed.

Interested persons may contact Sondra Campbell at the MPCA (phone 651-757-2840, 800-657-3864 or email [sondra.campbell@state.mn.us](mailto:sondra.campbell@state.mn.us)) for more information.

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 5, 2018

## EMPLOYMENT



### OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

#### Care Center

PT Nursing Assistant  
Casual Restorative Nursing Assistant

#### Hospital

PT Unit Clerk/Nursing Assistant  
~Current NA certification and/or EMT

#### Central Supply/Nursing

FT Central Supply Assistant/Staffing  
Coordinator-Scheduler

#### Activities

PT Activities Assistant

#### Dietary

PT Dietary Aide/Cook  
Casual Dietary Aide/Cook

#### Maintenance

FT Maintenance/Plant Operations

#### Business Office

Casual Secretary / Receptionist

#### Imaging

Full Time & 1 Casual Radiologic Tech  
Casual Radiologic Tech (weekends only)

#### Environmental Services

FT & PT Housekeeper  
Casual Environmental Tech I  
Casual Laundry Aide

#### TO APPLY:

[www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/](http://www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/)

More Info? Contact Human Resources

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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## EMPLOYMENT

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

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### NAPA PARTS CENTER, INC.

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ELY  
**365-3132**

## HAIR CARE

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

## HOSPICE

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

## LICENSE BUREAU

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

## REAL ESTATE

Search ALL MLS listings at [www.pfremmerrealty.com](http://www.pfremmerrealty.com). tfn

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## HELP WANTED

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PART-TIME SERVER NEEDED- Vermilion Club, Lake Vermilion, Tower. Apply in person or email [talmiko@yahoo.com](mailto:talmiko@yahoo.com). 9/28

## SNOWPLOWING WANTED

SNOWPLOWING QUOTES WANTED- for snow removal at the Embarrass Post Office, Mon.-Sat., as needed, min. 2" snowfall. Includes parking lot, sidewalks, porch, and handicapped ramp. Needs to be done by 6:30 a.m. Submit quotes to Postmaster, Tower, MN 55790. 10/19

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## FOUND

ADULT LIFE VEST found on Highway 135 just south of Tower on Sept. 25. Call the Timberjay at 218-753-2950 to describe and claim.

SMALL SILVER RING with stones. Found at Marjo Motel in Tower, on Oct. 1. Call the Timberjay at 218-753-2950 to identify.

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## CRADLE OF THE MIDEAST

### ACROSS

- 1 Seasoned seaman, slangily
- 8 Trees that yield a chocolate substitute
- 14 Entry
- 20 Muckety-muck
- 21 Spain and Portugal, collectively
- 22 Produce
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 There since birth
- 26 Zeta-theta link
- 27 Longtime name in gas
- 28 "— Three Lives" ('50s TV series)
- 30 Sri Lankan language
- 31 Light unit
- 33 Toothpaste-endorsing org.
- 34 Big and oafish
- 36 Riddle, part 2
- 42 Small Aussie parakeet
- 43 Variety
- 44 Small, for short

- 45 Ending for baron
- 46 Plum lookalikes
- 47 Diner cuppa
- 49 Warm up, as leftovers
- 53 Riddle, part 3
- 59 Fighter with Fidel
- 60 Neighbor of Egypt
- 61 Retina locale
- 62 Italian farewells
- 63 Baseballer Aparicio
- 65 Clark of "Hee Haw"
- 66 Original "Hee Haw" ainer
- 67 A fire sign
- 70 Threaded fastener
- 71 Pop singer Goulding
- 73 Gunky stuff
- 74 Perm parlor
- 76 Ph.D. hopeful's test
- 77 Riddle, part 4
- 83 Pedal for a floor loom
- 84 Domain
- 85 11 hours before noon
- 87 Lead-in to Magnon

### DOWN

- 1 Boy of Mayberry
- 2 Place for hay
- 3 "A little dab'll —"
- 4 "Shameless" ainer, briefly
- 5 Aladdin's monkey pal
- 6 City in southeast Wyoming

- 7 Big Apple opera house
- 8 U.S. prez, militarily
- 9 "Peek- —, I see you!"
- 10 Kyo — (Darth Vader's grandson)
- 11 Tater Tots brand
- 12 Sch. locale with microscopes
- 13 In no danger
- 14 Foe of Spinks
- 15 NBA position
- 16 Rabbinical mysticism
- 17 Descendant of Esau
- 18 Bowling aims
- 19 Having only daughters
- 24 Skye of films
- 29 Bad boy in "The Omen"
- 31 Raced in a certain sled
- 32 Big IT company
- 33 Biblical boat
- 35 Eastern rice dish
- 36 Half a fl. oz.
- 37 Hilo dance
- 38 "Modern Family" actor
- 39 Sofa type

- 40 Writer Paton
- 41 Grades K-12
- 47 Karate relative
- 48 "Scram!"
- 49 Light units
- 50 Vegas-to-Denver dir.
- 51 Tic- — -toe board
- 52 Peeved state
- 54 "— Mutual Friend"
- 55 Football's Tim
- 56 Ensnarl
- 57 Concert itinerary detail
- 58 Bone: Prefix
- 59 Musical score symbol
- 64 River buildup
- 66 Manage
- 67 Not on time
- 68 Lioness in "Born Free"
- 69 "How lovely!"
- 72 ENT part
- 73 Hair stiffener
- 74 Singer McLachlan
- 75 Political columnist Peggy
- 78 1954-77 defense gp.
- 79 Sister of Tito Jackson

- 80 Hard cheese
- 81 Singer Corey
- 82 Not fitting
- 86 Labor Day, e.g.: Abbr.
- 87 Whodunit poison stuff
- 88 Goes around
- 89 One rejected
- 91 Seek alms
- 92 Cincinnati citizens, say
- 94 Mexican bloom
- 95 Certain reed player
- 96 Ring of the iris
- 97 Build-it-yourself auto
- 98 Rights group, for short
- 99 Actor Lyle or actress Nita
- 105 Percolate
- 106 Mrs. Jetson
- 107 Idyllic garden
- 108 Airport waiters?
- 109 Fit for the job
- 110 Hair colorers
- 112 Gobbled up
- 114 Lad or lass
- 115 Road hazard
- 116 Belfry animal

## Weekly SUDOKU

### Answer

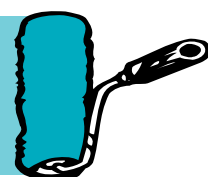
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120								121							122					





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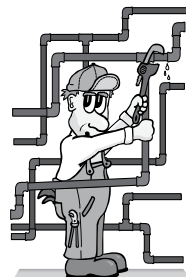
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