**Inside:** 

Scarlet's column returns...See /4 **Veterans Day events...** See /1B Deer hunting stories...See /4B





COMMUNITY IMPACT



# Grocery lost to fire

Zup's to rebuild and pay employees during closure

by MARCUS WHITE Cook/Orr Editor

COOK- Zup's will rebuild after a fire destroyed the store here Monday night.

"We'll be back and better than we were in order to take care of our community," owner Matt Zupancich said Wednesday.

All of the location's employees will continue to receive regular paychecks before an expected re-opening next summer.

Zupancich said he has also been in touch with community members who have expressed interest in arranging a grocery delivery service or rideshares to other area Zup's stores. Zupancich said the plans were still in the early stages, but he was open to working with the community as plans began to solidify.

I do all my grocery shopping here. It will be a terrible inconvenience and devastating loss because the town depends on it.

Becky Tripp, Cook resident

Until then, Cook residents will have to drive to either Zup's in Tower or other grocery stores in Orr or Virginia.



Area fire crews responded Monday night to extinguish a fire at Zup's grocery store in Cook. The building is believed to be a total loss. photos by Marcus White

#### **Monday night blaze**

Fire crews and law enforcement were called to the store on Hwy. 53 shortly before 9 p.m. on Monday night after a report of smoke and flames emerging from the rear of the building.

Responding sheriff'S deputies immediately called for mutual aid from surrounding fire departments including Bearville, Embarrass, Greenwood and Virginia.

"It's devastating," Cook resident Becky Tripp said. "I do all of my grocery shopping here. It will be a terrible incon-

See...FIRE pg. 9

CITY OF TOWER

## Harbor project takes step forward

by Marshall Helmberger

Managing Editor

TOWER- After considerable discussion, the city council here voted to accept a modified tax abatement schedule proposed by the development firm advancing the town home project at the city's harbor.

It was a step forward as the two sides work out a new development agreement for the project, but it could still prove a temporary advance depending on whether St. Louis County is willing to abate 100 percent of the property taxes

See... TOWER pg. 10

**TECHNOLOGY** 

## Orr council considers high-speed

by Melissa Roach

Timberjay Staff Writer

ORR — Representatives of Back 40 Wireless were before the city council here on Tuesday, to talk about their plan to bring high-speed Internet access to the community. The city has lacked any new Internet access for months due to limited investment by CenturyLink.

John-Paul Metsa and Troy Rasmussen, both with the southwest Minnesota-based company, described their plan to extend broadband capacity in the city and surrounding areas by using

See...ORR pg. 9

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Ely-area Joint Powers Board to meet with legislators

by KEITH VANDERVORT

ELY — The legislative priorities for the Ely area will be on the agenda on Monday, Nov. 26, during the Ely Area Community Economic Development Joint Powers Board's annual sitdown with the region's elected

### Public invited to annual event set for Nov. 26

State Sen. Tom Bakk, state Rep. Rob Ecklund, St. Louis County Fourth District Commissioner-elect Paul McDonald, along with aides of other state and federal elected

officials, will meet at the Grand Ely Lodge, beginning at 11:30 a.m. The event is open to the

The Joint Powers Board, with members from the city of Ely, city of Winton, ISD 696, town of Morse and town of Fall Lake, meets quarterly to address local and regional issues. The annual legislative meeting remains a focal point for the organization to share concerns and discuss issues face-to-face

with lawmakers.

U.S. Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith will send representatives to the meeting, according to Joint Powers Recording Secretary Tom Coombe. As of Wednesday, U.S. Congressman-elect Pete

See...ELY pg. 9

218-753-2950



### Open Thanksgiving Night from 6 to 9 pm Happy Thanksgiving to All!

365-6745 Mon-Sat 9 to 6 pm, Sun 10-4 105 N Central Ave.

**Contact The Timberjay** 



2 November 16, 2018 TIMBERJAY Newspapers

## GOMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTIGES

### Open knitting at Sisu Designs Mondays and Saturdays

ELY- Sisu Designs in Ely hosts Open Knitting/ Learn to Knit sessions on Mondays from 1-3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., and Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. All level of knitters are welcome to stop by. There is no charge, and store staff can help beginners choose their first projects. "We are very patient and gentle with our new knitters," said owner Anna Shallman.

#### Ruby's Pantry on Nov. 24 in Babbitt

BABBITT- Ruby's Pantry will be distributing food at the Babbitt Municipal Center, 71 South Dr., on Saturday, Nov. 24 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A \$20 cash donation buys an abundance of food; no checks are accepted. There are no income or residency guidelines. Bring two large baskets. Sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church. Volunteers are always welcome.

#### "Oh, We Give Thanks" at Mesabi Universalist, Nov. 18

VIRGINIA- On Sunday, Nov. 18 at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church, the Rev. Suzanne Wasilczuk's topic is "Oh, We Give Thanks". "We have religion when we have an abiding gratitude for all that we have received," writes Unitarian Universalist minister Ralph Helverson. Gratitude is a spiritual practice, one in which we daily express our thanks to those around us and to life itself. The service is at 10:30 a.m. at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church, 230 7th St. S in Virginia.

#### Annual lutefisk and meatball dinner, Dec. 4 at Gethsemane in Virginia

VIRGINIA- The annual lutefisk and meatball dinner will be held at Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church, 901 S Fourth St. in Virginia on Tuesday, Dec. 4 from 3 to 7 p.m. The menu includes lutefisk with drawn butter and cream sauce, handmade Swedish meatballs, gravy, potatoes, lefse, bread, vegetable, beet pickles, coffee, milk, and a cupcake. Prices are \$16 for adults and \$6 for children ages 6-12; children 5 and under are free. For questions, call 218-741-4961.

### Artisan Market: Crafts to Crops on Saturday, Nov. 17 at MDC

CHISHOLM- Join the MN Discovery Center for the fifth annual Artisan Market: Crafts to Crops on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. We have a variety of local artisans who will be at our show with home decor, candles, knitted items, kitchen towels, photography, and much more. Are you looking for a unique gift for Christmas, a birthday, a wedding, or just something fun for yourself? Support local artisans at Artisan Market: Crafts to Crops. Stop on by to see what you can find. The MN Discovery Center will be having free admission that day with a non-perishable food item(s) or a \$5 cash donation. All food proceeds for entry will be going to the Chisholm Food Shelf and all cash donations will be applied to our Education Fund at the MN Discovery Center.

#### NE Range Band Concert on Nov. 20

BABBITT- The Northeast Range Music Department invites everyone to their Fall Band Concert on Tuesday, Nov. 20 starting at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium in Babbitt. Both the high school and elementary bands will be performing under the direction of Kevin Ryks. Admission is free but donations are welcome. Please come and support our band students and music department.

ELY CHAMBER

### Ely celebrates the holidays



ELY- Ely has long-standing traditions of celebrating the holidays and highlighting their unique and beautiful corner of the north woods. The Ely Chamber of Commerce invites residents and visitors to celebrate the start of winter with these great events:

Thanksgiving Night Shopping, Thursday, Nov. 22 - Gather with family, friends and neighbors to enjoy this Ely tradition and get a jump on holiday shopping. Local businesses open their doors from 6-9 p.m. Many businesses are offering merchandise specials, live music and treats, and all will have plenty of holiday cheer. A map of participating businesses will be available, starting on Friday, Nov. 16, at either the Ely Chamber office or online at www.ely.org.

Festival of Trees, Thursday, Nov. 22 - Support Northwoods Partners with the purchase of a beautifully decorated tree, wreath, item from their holiday boutique, or a memorial ornament to honor or remember a loved one. There will also be a raffle for a beautiful handmade queen-sized quilt. The lighting event is at 5 p.m. at the Grand Ely Lodge. Trees and wreaths will be on display from Nov. 22 through Dec. 2.

Holiday Fantasy, Friday, Nov. 23 and Saturday, Nov. 24 - Enjoy a wide variety of arts, crafts and food. Kids can visit with Santa and enjoy sleigh rides, too. The annual Holiday Fantasy is Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Miners Dry House, alongside Miners Lake.



30 vendors are already registered; it's going to be a busy place and entry is free. Bring your holiday shopping list. There is something for everyone. You can purchase all kinds of things including fresh wreaths and trees, kids' toys, baked goods, photography and pottery. Beautiful ornaments for the whole family will be available to personalize. It is the perfect weekend to bring home a fresh tree to decorate. A new addition to the Holiday Fantasy are traditional sleigh rides with Santa along the Trezona Trail. The sleigh rides will be offered both days of the show with a \$3 per person charge. Sleigh rides will start at the Miner's Dry and will run about 20-30 minutes per ride. A magical way to kick off the holiday season. There will also be kids' crafts so parents can shop. Bring the family and enjoy this celebration of gifts, art and the holiday season. Holiday Fantasy is sponsored by the Ely Arts and Heritage Center and Stone Soup Events.

Small Town Christmas, Saturday, Nov. 24 - Spend the day visiting local businesses. Stores are brimming with giftware, outdoor gear, apparel, tools, toys and plenty of Ely-made items. A list of participating businesses will be available at the Ely Chamber office or online at www.ely.org on the event calendar starting on Friday, Nov. 16.

Ely's End of the Road Christmas Parade, Saturday, Nov. 24 - This annual parade starts at 5 p.m. and winds along Sheridan Street, returning to Whiteside Park. Hot cider, cocoa and cookies await parade-goers in the Whiteside Park Pavilion following the parade. Kids will have the opportunity to greet Santa in the pavilion after he finishes his ride on the Ely Fire Truck. There will be a place to sit and visit with Santa, and Dafne Caruso from the Art Corner will have a fun craft activity for kids from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Join Mayor Novak as he lights up the official city of Ely Christmas tree. The Ely Chamber of Commerce will be offering prizes for best float, walking group, best holiday costume and best deckedout vehicle. For more details or to secure a spot in the parade, call Morgan at 218-365-6123 or email fun@ely.org. Parade registration closes on Tuesday, Nov. 20.

Mrs. Claus Party, Saturday, Dec. 8 - Join Mrs. Claus from 1-3 p.m. at Amici's Events Center at her annual Christmas party. Santa will be there, too. There will be plenty of holiday craft projects, music dance and treats. Each child will receive his or her own gift bag and ornament.









# Unusual drainage eyed along Hwy. 169

Test results show elevated levels of sulfate, other chemicals, near Six Mile Lake realignment

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

EAGLESNEST—Unusuallooking drainage coming from under the surface of the newly-reconstructed portion of Hwy. 169 in Eagles Nest Township has prompted MnDOT officials to collect water samples in hopes of learning more about the chemical reactions that appear to be taking place in the road bed.

One particular seep, located just east of the highest spot on the new highway, has generated both white and orange precipitate that is accumulating on the north side of the road. Initial testing, by both MnDOT and members of the public, suggests that water flowing under the road is experiencing a rise in levels of sulfate, calcium, chlorides, and alkalinity, along with a sharp rise in conductivity, which generally indicates the presence of dissolved chemicals, such as sulfate and an assortment of chlorides.

Project Manager Michael Kalnbach said it's too early to say whether the test results are significant. He said he remains confident that the mitigation plan that MnDOT is implementing will address concerns about the sulfide content of some of the



Above: White bacterial growth has appeared under drainage seeping from under Hwy. 169. MnDOT officials are continuing to gather information about both the white and orangish-brown precipitate (see photo at right) which is showing up near the seep, in photos taken in late Octo-

132,000 cubic yards of rock that contractors removed during the construction of the new portion of highway.

Kalnbach said members of the project's technical working group have been informed of the testing. "They are aware of the water sampling results," he said. "Based on the results, they will help decide what, if anything, needs to be done. At this point, we're following what was in the mitigation plan."

The project's mitigation plan includes the drilling of test wells and regular water sampling to provide early detection if the sulfide rock is generating acid drainage, as is common when sulfur-bearing rock is exposed to water and oxygen. At this point, the drainage does not appear to be highly acidic, which could mean that the large volume of limestone, which was added to portions of the road bed, is doing its job. Road builders added 3,645 tons of limestone to neutralize pockets of sulfide within the rock as it was blasted to make way for the improvements to the highway. That's 22 percent more than the original



engineers' estimate, reflecting a larger-than-projected amount of sulfide rock. Of the 132,000 cubic yards of rock removed for the project, 32 percent tested at or above 0.1 percent sulfur, which is the level where mitigation is

required. At least one sample tested as high as 1.13 percent

#### **MINING**

## Groups seek stay on PolyMet permits, pending appeal

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

REGIONAL - A coalition of four environmental groups has filed a petition asking

newly-issued permit to mine

the Department of Natural Resources to suspend PolyMet's

until the state's appellate court can hear their claim on the need for a supplemental environmental impact study on the company's planned NorthMet copper-nickel mine near Hoyt

On Nov. 8, the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, Duluth for Clean Water, and WaterLegacy hand-delivered their formal request to the DNR as well as the state's Pollution Control Agency to stay and suspend permits for the proposed mine.

The DNR announced Nov. 1 that it had issued PolyMet all of the permits over which the agency has jurisdiction, including the permit to mine. The DNR made the announcement even though the four environmental groups had asked the Minnesota Court of Appeals to reconsider the DNR's decision, earlier this year, to deny their request for a supplemental EIS. That case is currently being briefed by all sides, and oral arguments in front of the Court of Appeals are expected in late winter or early

See POLYMET...pg. 5



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# OPINION

OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS;"

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

"CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW...
ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

### **Editorial**

### **Midterm results**

Democrats' continuing failure to connect with rural voters is a troubling sign

The midterms were generally kind to Democrats, as the party is likely to pick up at least 35 seats, and a clear majority, in the U.S. House by the time all the votes are counted. The party also picked up at least seven governorships and gained hundreds of state legislative seats across the country.

But those victories should not distract the party from the warning signs that continue to linger- primarily about the party's continued failure to regain ground with rural voters. The centrist, neo-liberal wing of the party, epitomized by Bill and Hillary Clinton, argue that the future success of the party lies in turning the suburbs red-toblue. In order to achieve that shift, they argue that the party must espouse "moderate" positions which, to the Clintonistas, means espousing policies that benefit Wall Street and take a hawkish line on foreign affairs.

Such an approach can certainly bring success in many suburban House districts, as the Democrats demonstrated on Nov. 6. Yet that doesn't guarantee success on a statewide basis, where Democrats need to find a way to talk meaningfully, once again, with rural voters. As results from Florida and Ohio suggest, the Democratic path to 273 electoral votes in 2020 isn't as clear as it may have once seemed, particularly when President Trump and candidates aligned with him continue to garner 70-plus percent of the vote in so many rural regions.

Prominent losses of moderate Democratic senators in Missouri, North Dakota, and Indiana, suggest that moderation, even when combined with the power of incumbency, was not enough in an election cycle that was highly favorable to Democrats.

Meanwhile, a staunch progressive and pro-labor Democrat, Sherrod Brown, easily won in Ohio even as a Republican won the state's race for governor. And, in deep red Texas, progressive Beto O'Rourke came within three points of ousting Sen. Ted Cruz.

It's clear there is no silver bullet when it comes to electoral politics. Quality candidates certainly help. Money matters, but those with the most money don't always win, especially in an era where outside billionaires now spend the lion's share of political money in many races, including here in the Eighth District of Minnesota.

Espousing "moderate" positions offers little hope of

winning over rural America, particularly when the moderate policies espoused by the corporate wing of the Democratic Party offer little to improve the lives of most rural residents. Some Democrats still spend too much time complaining that rural residents vote against their interests, without recognizing the degree to which the party's policy shifts since the Clinton administration have hurt rural areas. The passage of NAFTA and the decision to allow China into the World Trade Organization sent jobs that had been the mainstay of many small towns overseas. The failure to reinvest in rural infrastructure and small towns has left many rural regions rightfully feeling like second-class citizens in their own country. It's no wonder that so many heartland communities face huge issues with drug addiction, depression, and suicide. In many cases, they feel left behind from the prosperity on display elsewhere in the country.

President Trump has little but rhetoric to offer rural voters. For many rural voters, however, that's an improvement on being ignored.

Here's the reality. Due to the unusual structure of American government, rural voters have an outsized voice in our political process. A single voter in Wyoming has the same power in determining the makeup of the U.S. Senate as 68 voters in California. The 1.62 million people living in North and South Dakota combined are represented by four senators, twice as many as represent the 39.5 million people living in California. This same issue provides lopsided strength for small, rural states in the Electoral College as well. Democrats had better get used to winning the popular vote and losing the presidency unless they can figure out how to really talk to rural America.

There was a time when Democrats did well in rural America. That's back in the days when they actually stood up for rural America. But since the Clintons took the reins in the 1990s, the party has increasingly written off rural voters, under the assumption that the changing demographics of the country would eventually lay the foundation for a permanent Democratic majority. Rural voters have increasingly demonstrated that such a policy is not only morally bankrupt, but electorally reckless. It's time that Democrats recognize the folly of such thinking, or 2020 could yield a whole lot of disappointment.



### Letters from Readers

### Thanks for the show of respect

Several years ago Bill Hanna printed a letter in the *Mesabi Daily News* that suggested Bob Tammen spent his military career hauling toilet paper from San Francisco to Hawaii. My recent observance of Veterans Day reminded me of that foul insult.

Hanna had my contact information so he could've given me a call and I would've been happy to place a copy of my DD214 (Discharge Papers) on his desk. It verifies my service with the 173rd Airborne in Vietnam.

To add insult to injury, Hanna refused to print my reply, as has his replacement at *Mesabi Daily News*.

It's certainly not that I want to bask in the glory of being a combat veteran. It's just that when you read what I write about our criminal foreign wars and our slaughter of civilians, I want you to know that your reading the words of an honest witness.

Thank you to the *Timberjay* for doing what the *Mesabi Daily News* found to be impossible. Showing respect for an old Vietnam combat veteran.

Bob Tammen Soudan

### DFLers got what they deserved in the 8th

Way to go DFLers! Congrats on losing the Eighth District seat to a Republican for the second time in over 70 years due to your stubborn refusal to listen to folks in this district.

When the Endorsing Convention in Duluth failed to "endorse" a candidate for the primary election, five DFL candidates were left to fight among themselves for primary election votes. Smart call, using your resources to battle people in your own party, rather than support the people's choice, Leah Phifer, for endorsement. Phifer captured majority votes in all 10 ballots, garnering 53 percent of the 60 percent needed, as defined by the convention committee for endorsement.

Delegates and super delegates at the Duluth Convention, you should hang your heads in

elected officials and others who raised your hands not to support any endorsement, even after Phifer was the clear leader and responded professionally to that ridiculous stunt by the Latino Caucus.

shame! Yes, that includes DFL-

Shame on you for perpetuating the good ole' boys network! You opted for a Nolan prodigy, with numerous violations on his record, over an intelligent, articulate woman with national security experience, integrity and such demonstrated passion to serve our country that she left a career with the FBI to seek election to represent our district in Congress. For what? Only to be disparaged by her own political party of dinosaurs, unwilling to move forward with the best candidate for the position.

DFL party, wake up! If you are allegedly a party of the people, then start listening to the people. I truly hope Pete Stauber will listen to the people and serve the Eighth District well.

Jackie (Phifer) Moen Isanti

# Average people suffer as corporatists rule in Washington

EPA, CFPB, FDA, SEC, FDIC appear in the alphabet soup of U.S. regulatory agencies charged with enforcing law as part of executive responsibility. Rules prescribe certain actions and others proscribe (forbid) other actions to protect the public from abusive private power. Civilized societies function with evidence-based rules, not industrial expedience.

"Do you hear the people sing, singing the songs of angry men (and women)?" Vital interests of environment, human health and safety, consumer and investment interests must not be compromised. Corporate "worming" infests the system to the core. Trump appointees sell a self-serving belief system (ideology), devoid of factual reality, to endanger the most vulnerable in our society.

"It's the music of the people, who will not be slaves again." Underfunded and understaffed agencies are powerless to enforce rules. Forbidding scientific inquiry and censoring information about harmful industrial practices endangers us all. Stacking agencies with friends of the regulated industry, is corrupting. Wall St. occupies our government, but protesters aren't allowed to occupy Wall St.

"When the beating of your heart, echoes the beating of the drums."

Regulatory agencies declawed and defanged, become listless house cats. Revolving doors allow corporatists to seat themselves in public positions to serve themselves. The Pentagon is virtually run by the defense industry, as the military-industrial-complex. From "Ronald to Donald," government positions of power are occupied by corporate interests to mute the public voice.

"There is a life about to start, when tomorrow comes." Above quotes are lyrics from Les Miserables. Public service became the servant of privilege, corporatism brought market domination and then they bought political power. Miners, farmers, small businesses, consumers and the environment were left behind. Dark money, invasive and intrusive, infects our social system. A Democrat-controlled House begins to turn hope into action as a disinfectant!

Harold Honkola Tower

# We want your letters!

The *Timberjay* encourages letters to the editor. You can submit letters by mail at PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790, or email letters to marshall@timberjay.com.

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

Letters are subject to editing, primarily for length and clarity.

Where the North Country Sounds Off!

## A souvenir tattoo beats out a linen towel!

"I'm Baack"...
On Sept. 5, I had the privilege of traveling to Ireland for nine days. They were days filled with a mazing experiences, some of which I will share in my next few columns. This trip was indeed the icing on my cake, which has been every kind of cake



know.... sponge, decadent, fruit and stale. I've long been drawn to the Celtic ancestry on my mother's side so when this trip became a reality I was thrilled to be going.

I was one in a group of fifteen, organized by a friend, Mary Batinich of Lake Vermilion. Julie, a co-worker from Soudan's Vermilion Park Inn was my travel partner. She and I flew from Minneapolis to Pittsburgh then to Dublin where we joined the rest of the group who had departed the States two weeks earlier and toured Scotland and Wales.

We landed at Dublin airport

We landed at Dublin airport in the morning under cloud cover and drizzle, then traveled by taxi fifteen kilometers to our hotel in the city center. Our taxi driver, Thomas Kelly (Is that Irish or what?) entertained us with stories and jokes, although just listening to his Irish brogue was a treat in itself. There was much traffic moving on the narrow city streets along the River Liffey. My eyes feasted on the old world charm, thinking about the centuries of characters who had traveled the streets. Royalty, Viking raiders, peasants, hard-working women like sweet Molly Malone (fictitious as she may be) and gifted artists such as Oscar

Wilde, William Butler Yeats, and the list goes on. Dublin has given much to the world. We passed quaint pubs with names like The Brazen Horse (Dublin's oldest pub), The Auld Dubliner and Darky Kelly's. We arrived near the corner of the old, brick Harding Hotel and scrambled out of the taxi. Stepping onto a cobblestone street, I lifted my gaze to see shops covered with carefree vines, colorful flower

See IRELAND ...pg. 5

### New welcome center envisioned for Ely's west end

ELY – The proposed recreational trailhead building envisioned for the west entrance to the city of Ely could also house the Ely Chamber of Commerce offices and serve as the city's official visitors center.

A number of recreational trails are either in place or slated for construction in the near future, which will provide connections across the region. The Mesabi Trail is a 132-mile paved bicycle trail running from Grand Rapids to Ely. The Prospectors Loop is an off-road vehicle trail designed to link several communities and at least two state parks in a 130mile loop in northern Minnesota. The Taconite Trail is a 165-mile designated snowmobile trail that has been open since 1986.

City officials are

working with supporters of the trails to build a trailhead building and parking area at the west entrance to the city, near the existing county recycling facility. The chamber of commerce is looking to move their offices to the other end of town to take advantage of the increased year-round tourism traffic.

City council members considered the vision of the facility committee last week as well as an architectural rendering depicting the new facility sitting atop ledge rock in front of the city water tower.

"The entrance to the city would look a lot better than it does now," said Mayor Chuck Novak. No specific building

plan design is currently under consideration. All groups would work together to establish a floor plan. According to meeting minutes from earlier this fall, the mayor would



An artist's conception of a planned new welcome center that city officials hope to build near the city's west entrance. submitted

work to have the chamber as a rent-free occupant as long as they provide trail information. Year-round staffing would be required.

The facility committee is concerned with the initial parking lot plans and felt a larger parking area would accommodate more trucks and trailers. The building design would hopefully capture a north woods feel and included landscaping that would highlight the area geology and native plants.

Novak said he questioned the availability of future state bonding for the project. "We'll have to see how the transition goes down in the capitol with Governor-elect Walz,

the DNR, Department of Revenue, and everyone

Several outstanding questions remain about the design and intended uses of the facility. Those questions include:

➤ Who would take care of the building exterior, grounds and parking lots?

➤ Who would pay the property taxes?

➤ Would there be a dump station and drinking water access?

➤ Would restrooms be accessible 24 hours a day? ➤ Who is responsible for exterior and interior

signage and maps? ➤ Would the chamber of commerce be responsible for available infor-

The council also discussed adding a representative of the chamber of commerce to the facility committee to join members Steve Piragis,

Cindy Beans, Chris Eilrich. Rob Talkington and Nick Wognum.

#### Other business

In other business, the

➤ Approved the recommendation from the telecommunications advisory board to renew the contract for two years with Todd Crego to run the local access television station.

➤ Directed the city attorney to draft an ordinance for the sale of land at 1227 E Harvey to Patrick Erchul.

Considered the sale of a land parcel to the Ely Veterinary Clinic at 318 E Miners Dr. ➤ Agreed to a rental

agreement with a city employee for use of a piece of surplus equipment. > Approved the

Fourth of July fireworks contract with Premier Pyrotechnics for \$15,000.

### Letters from Readers

#### America continues to wage war on the world

One hundred years since the end of the war to end all wars, and the U.S. has killed hundreds of thousands of people half of which are civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan plus all the dead that the U.S. has killed in its wars in Yemen, Somalia, Libya, Syria, and Niger. We don't even know about these wars as the press doesn't inform us. The U.S. wants as much secrecy as possible. Yemen, for example, was started by Obama and is continued by Trump. The U.S. has been supplying bombs and other weapons to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to bomb and blockade Yemen. As a result, half the people of Yemen are starving and are suffering from a horrible cholera epidemic.

The U.S. supports Israel in Israel's theft and oppression of Palestine. The Palestinians are the victims. The U.S. is supporting the rapist. The U.S., if it's not invading, is supporting some regime change almost always to get rid of a government that is trying to help its people and become more democratic. Examples here are Nicaragua and Venezuela which the U.S. is trying to destabilize. The 25 countries that the

U.S. has invaded since the end of the Second World War have never been a threat to the U.S., and never been enemies of the U.S. Try to tell me that the Vietnamese were about to launch attacks on the U.S.! U.S. soldiers that were occupying Vietnam were not doing a service for the U.S. but doing service to the rich corporate interests that control Washington. Saddam never had weapons of mass destruction and Bush wouldn't even allow the observers to do their jobs. Every war is the same. If the U.S. were a democ-

mation?

racy, people like Bush, Obama, Cheney, etc. would be in prison after, of course, a fair trial which Guantanamo prisoners and Julian Assange are not getting. We as a people need to get control over Washington. Both Democrats and Republicans are responsible for war crimes all over the world

and making life miserable for people.

As taxpayers we are abetting their crimes, turning a blind eye, kind of like, perhaps, what the Germans did to the Jews and Socialists before and during WW II.

Invading and waging war, even economic war, against a country that is not a threat to the U.S. is a war crime.

America disgusts me. **Steve Johnson** 

#### IRELAND...Continued from page 4

boxes and wrought iron signage. Across the street, rising up like an old gray giant, was Christ Church Cathedral, built in 1030 by a Viking king. So much to see...to eat and to drink and so little time! We pulled our luggage uphill about sixty yards to the doorway of the hotel and entered into the small inviting reception area. We couldn't help but notice the foot-wide strip of the oldest medieval street in Dublin, Copper Alley, still passing through the reception area, preserved under heavy glass. I was impressed knowing all the generations of business owners in charge had felt compelled to preserve it.

The brown-eyed front desk clerk told us our room was ready, however the lift (elevator), was out of order so we would need to use the stairs until it was fixed. Weary from travel we bucked up, fortunate that our room was located on the third floor rather than the fifth. The hotel had narrow hallways, doorways built at corner angles were here and there, staircases that branched from other staircases with

worn treads, divulging to me it was an extremely old building that had been renovated many times over. I appreciated the lack of "building code" as nothing was level or square but

very fine and enriching. We were to be in Dublin two days before traveling north toward Belfast by tour bus. There was time to shop and explore sites like the Guinness Brewery, Trinity College's Book of Kells, Dublin Castle and take in an Irish dance show, too. However, of utmost importance, a few hours of my second day were to be spent at Reinkarnated Tattoo just a block away... under the skilled tattoo-gun of Irish artist, Kim Bale! Having had the notion to get a tattoo for a decade plus, Tonka, a bartender in Tower recently had suggested I get it in Ireland. I thought, what a grand idea! I had gone online weeks prior and found an artist and booked my appointment. I'd sent her a design idea with the Celtic triquetra (trinity knot) and black vines with green leaves coming from either

side, wrapping around my right ankle.

I was the only one at the shop for most of the 2.5 hours of discomfort that was equal to being continually scratched by a cat or razored. As I lay rotating on the vinyl lounger as she worked, I felt compelled to endure the pain, after all it was nothing like living through the potato famine! When it was all finished I needed to find some cling wrap to put around it for a couple of days. I headed down Lord Edward Street and dashed into a pizza parlor explaining I needed cling wrap. The manager jovially made a spool from two straws stuck end-toend and spun me some wrap to take...FREE of charge. The generosity of the Irish! I walked back to join my group for rich, dark Guinness and Irish stew with soda bread up at Darky Kelly's pub. We hung there, in the dim, amber atmosphere listening to a trio of musicians play Celtic ballads and jigs. The blond, wispyhaired female with her rich alto voice and her full sleeved blouse added just the right amount of mystical touch to the evening. We raised our glasses in standard Gaelic toast,

"slainte" or good health! Early the next morning I ventured alone for a walk. I craved alone time, not having to converse but instead just exist in this old city so far away from my home on the hillside of Soudan. The soft orange and light blue morning sky cast lovely shining light upon the brick and stone buildings. A lone bird flew through the open spaces of the awakening street. I sat in a coffee shop and watched the morning unfold through a large glass window, quietly basking in the reality that I was in Ireland. I finished a great cup of coffee even though most others there were having tea, then went off into the morning air to

find Dublin Castle. I had a nice visitor map in my hand and knew the castle was tucked behind the buildings to the east, very nearby. I found it easily...just through a large stone archway. Small in size for a castle, it looked out of place in the city center, I thought. It was built in 1204 and until 1922 was the seat of English, and later British rule in Ireland. The castle started as a medieval fortress and as I looked into the eyes of the gargoyles above the front door I felt so much history breathing from the stone walls. It was amazing to me to be alone with it. I walked all around it studying its ancient characteristics, then wandered across a cobblestone street through the wrought iron gate into the castle garden, admiring the groomed greenery and dewy flowers. I was alone and yet I wasn't. I passed under vine-covered stone arches, frequently peeking back over my shoulder. After twists and turns upon brick pathways, I exited the garden through another gate. I stood there a bit rattled, feeling like I was trying to escape some force, maybe history itself might come after me. I glanced down to my right and leaning next to the hinge of the gate was an empty, abandoned beer glass. Too bad it was empty! I picked it up and saw the Irish harp symbol etched on it and the word Guinness. "Well lonely

headed to America," I said, and I stuffed it into my small shoulder purse and walked back to join the others for a full Irish breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast we checked out of the hotel and boarded a very comfortable bus and

headed towards Belfast. I have gone to Italy and Ireland to date and find travel abroad to be without a doubt one of the most worthwhile things to spend money on. It is enlightening to see how other cultures live, to see where historic events happened and in the case of Ireland to have experienced things mystical. To travel for nine days and visit many vastly interesting places is like the saying about eating one potato chip...just a taste that leaves you wanting more! In future columns I will be going back to Belfast and the Aran Island of Inishmore with other stops along the way.

Scarlet Stone welcomes your comments and can be reached at: scarlet@frontiernet.net

### **POLYMET...**Continued from page 3

spring of 2019.

Environmental groups argue that the troubled financial outlook for the mine made it unlikely that it would proceed at the size and scale of operation that is covered in the permit

"PolyMet's permits are based on a bait-andswitch," said Aaron Klemz of the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy. "PolyMet didn't show their hand on its larger

mine plan until March 2018, when it was too late for the public to comment on it. The DNR and MPCA must analyze the environmental harms posed by PolyMet's larger and even

riskier mega-mine plan." According to financial documents released by PolyMet last March, the company's current plan to mine and process 32,000 tons of ore per day would generate an internal rate of return of just 9.6 percent,

which is considered far less than required to support the estimated \$1 billion in investment necessary to advance the project. The DNR's own financial consultant, EOR, stated that the suggested profits under the current proposal "fall below the values expected in most mining projects."

PolyMet, in its March filing, announced that it had vetted two new and much-larger mine

proposals and concluded that the larger operations would be more profitable. DNR officials have stated that the company has not yet proposed to move to a larger scale of operation, so no supplemental environmental review is required.

Such a review would berequired should PolyMet formally amend its mine plan, but environmental groups say they fear that

once a mine is operational,

the political pressure to approve an expansion — or face potential layoffs if a mega-mine plan is rejected— would prevent state regulators from taking a hard look at the plan. 'Our future is at stake

souvenir glass, you are

in this decision, the future of my generation and many generations to come," stated Michael Mayou of Duluth for Clean Water. "PolyMet will inevitably be even larger and riskier than the DNR plan that Duluthians weighed in This stay request

80,000 Minnesotans and

is separate from other potential challenges to the permits issued by DNR last week, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency permits sent to the EPA for review in late October. Environmental groups say they are currently reviewing those permits with environmental experts and attorneys.

VETERANS DAY 2018



#### **TSgt Robert Reichensperger graduates** with honors from flight engineering class

REGIONAL-TSgt Robert J. Reichensperger, formerly of Tower, has been selected as a Distinguished Graduate from the Air Force's EC-130H Compass Call Flight Engineering course. Reichensperger demonstrated the ability to complete and stand out among the very best airmen the nation has to offer, according to Philip F. Acquaro, Colonel, USAF.

Reichensperger, a Technical Sergeant, is a member of the 55th Electronic Combat Group. He is currently stationed in Arizona. He was been with the Air Force for over nine years. He is now a qualified flight engineer for EC-130H aircraft. He has been deployed overseas, in southwest Asia in 2015.

Reichensperger is a graduate of Tower-Soudan High School. His parents are Bob and Jodi Reichensperger of

### **Community** celebrates **Veterans Day**



Above: Two-year-old Harper Olson plays with a toy soldier before the program begins. Right: The Honor Guard carries out the flags. Below: Students sang a selection of patriotic songs and read poems about veterans.









#### COMMUNITY NOTICES **Adopt a Senior**

#### MeDazway Dunkley Alexander Dorman Sierra Roemmich Alyssa Pratt Andrew Sauls Jacob Karasti

Shaylin Peliska

**B Honor Roll Brody Anderson** Alvssa Costello Evan Quirk Preston Tyndall-Robich Leah Anderson Stetson Dewberry Connor Hanson Kyla Stellmach Todd Zibrowski Jacob Dorman Presley Johnson

Jason Premo

on Nov. 27 SOUDAN- The Sou-

program kickoff

dan Baptist Church invites the community to come and participate in Bob Romig's "Adopt a Senior" Christmas card preparation and free soup supper on Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Soudan Baptist Church. The cards, along with donated gifts, will be distributed to nursing homes from Duluth to Ely. Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact Adrienne at 218-753-8922 for more infor-

#### **Little Church** hosting "A **Christmas Story**" sing-along Dec. 2

**VERMILION LAKE** TWP- The Little Church will be having "A Christmas Story" sing-along on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 4 pm. Everyone is welcome with coffee and a potluck meal afterwards. The Little Church also has a men's group that meets every Thursday at 9 a.m. for coffee and conversation. All are welcome. The Little Church is located in Vermilion Lake Township on Cty. Rd 26/Wahlsten Rd. Please contact Len Hujanen at 218-749-2014 with any questions.

#### **Broadband study** informational Session set iur Thursday, Nov. 29

TOWER- The Tower Economic Development Authority (TEDA), on behalf of the City of Tower, is coordinating an "Iron Range Blandin Broadband Communities" study and is seeking partnerships with governmental units, communities, groups, organizations, and businesses within a 10 to 15-mile radius of Tower. Please attend a short informational meeting with refreshments and snacks at the Tower Civic Center on Thursday, Nov. 29 at

5:30 p.m. goal is TEDA's to identify and ensure high-speed Internet services to drive community betterment, economic development, and educational e-learning needs. At an earlier informational meeting members. with TEDA the City of Tower, and representatives from the Blandin Foundation, the group identified a lack of knowledge and documentation of the local broadband infrastructure. The community needs high-speed Internet utilities to be competitive on a global level in housing, marketing, sales and industry. World-class Internet access would give us the edge we need to grow and sustain our local economies, attracting

businesses, families and tourism. TEDA has received a matching grant from IRRRB and the Blandin Foundation to participate in the study. This program will identify areas with fair to good broadband connectivity, and those who are in need of better connectivity; it will then assist in creating a plan of improvement. Entities that choose to participate in the study will have a delegate or two seated on the steering committee.

### Cook VFW

**Maverick Simleness** 

VERMILION

**Vermilion Country** 

School Honor Roll

dents were named to the

first quarter honor roll

at Vermilion Country

**A Honor Roll** 

Kelsie Walker

School in Tower.

The following stu-

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 **Pull-Tabs Sold Daily** 

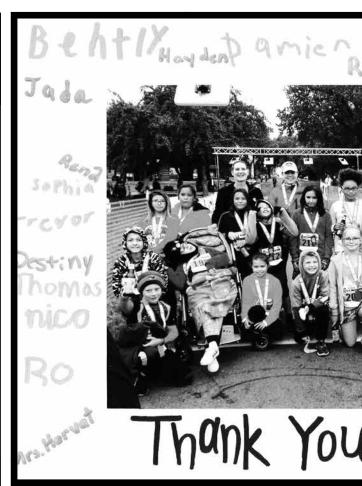
Lic. 00390 Sunday FREE Pool

**Thursday Bingo** 

Early Bird 6 p.m. Progressive Prizes

Friday 4:30-7 p.m. Hamburger Special

Take-Out 666-0500



mation.



**HOLIDAY GIVING** 

Start thinking about **Operation Santa** 

Donations needed by Dec. 7: toys, gift cards, clothing, and cash welcome

TOWER- This year's Operation Santa toy drive is officially underway. Operation Santa is a local fundraiser which purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year we served over 150 area children.

Take advantage of the great deals offered over the upcoming holiday to bring some joy into a child's life.

We have started to receive some donations, but much

more is needed to make sure every child in our community receives gifts and warm clothing this Christmas season. The effort is organized by the Timberjay and the Tower

Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)

Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made a very generous donation to the Tower Soudan Civic Club (formerly the Tower Women's Club), to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the children.

We are looking at donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15).

If you purchase a toy that uses batteries, please also send a spare set!

We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food

Donations can be dropped off at the Timberjay in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 18.

#### Chili benefit for Neil Mayo, Dec. 1

MT. IRON- Join the family and friends of Neil Mayo for a benefit and chili feed on Saturday, Dec. 1 at the Mt. Iron Community Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Neil was diagnosed with stage-four colon cancer in January 2015. Since diagnosis, Neil has undergone numerous rounds of chemotherapy (65-plus), a liver ablation, immunotherapy, and radiation. He is currently staying at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Neil grew up in Kugler Township and is a 1999 graduate of

Tower-Soudan High School. Neil is a proud Iron Ranger. He currently lives in Cloquet with his wife Bethany and their children Hendrix (8), Aili (7) and Charlie (2). All proceeds raised will go to help Neil's family with medical bills and expenses.

The benefit will have a chili lunch for \$10 at the door or \$8 presale; kids under five eat free. Cash donations can be made at Northern Communities Credit Union, 800 S 16th Ave. in Virginia or Northern Communities Credit Union, 3311 W Arrowhead Rd. in Duluth, or online at GoFundMe/neil-russell-

#### St. James hosting **Community Thanksgiving Meal on Nov. 22**

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is hosting a free Community Thanksgiving Meal on Thursday, Nov. 22 at 1 p.m. Take-outs will be available starting at 1:30 p.m. Please call for reservations, 218-753-6005, so we can plan how much food to have. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION



Well it happened...

I always hope that this year it will just pass us by. We who have dealt with the cold, the snow, the frozen long johns on the clothesline for years, decades, have suffered enough. We want to move north of Tampa, Fla. We want to hear the surf crashing on the shore, we want to wiggle our toes in the sand, catch marlin, bet on dog races, and be far away from the wind chill factor, whiteouts, severe weather warnings, and (even though I don't know exactly what it is, I know I suffer from it) seasonal affective disor-

I suppose we could move to Florida, get a trailer, and worry about hurricanes, however, Hilda's biggest fear of relocation is that Florida has basically been a RED state since 1952.

"Who would I talk

My biggest fear would be, where would I get the money to pay the fines she would incur from getting into fist fights with members of the GOP? Being rammed by some senior citizen in a wheelchair can cause permanent damage.

What are we doing wrong?

Moose, et al, have been trying to cheer us up with popular songs about winter and snow: "Snowman" by the Barenaked Ladies, "Snowblind," "Christmas Really Sucks" by Jay Brannan, and "Get Me Through December" by Allison Kraus. Plus, as Yogi Yorgesson sings, "I Yust Go Nuts at Christmas.'

We are trying to get a jumpstart on Christmas this year.

It is difficult to convince people that the reason your Christmas card arrived on July Fourth was the United States Department's problem. I was digging in my desk for last year's Christmas card list when I came upon a menu for Duffy's Tavern, 158 West 48th St., NY, NY. I never realized it was a real

I showed the menu to Hilda who said the words that started every radio half hour show, "Hello, Duffy's Tavern, where the elite meet to eat. Archie the manager speakin'. Duffy ain't here—oh, hello Duffy."

I sat down and read through the menu, amazed at the sides, the selections, and the prices. Lobster \$4, Filet Mignon \$4.50, Broiled Pork Chops with applesauce \$1.85, Fries 15 cents.

Then on the back, the cocktails, la-di-da, la-di-

The names...I had to find the recipes.

#### A Horse's Neck

Drape the spiral of a lemon peel over the rim of a Collins glass so it twists around inside

Secure one end of the peel over the lip of the lime or lemon twist.

Fill the glass with ice cubes

Pour in the bourbon and top with ginger ale

Add a few dashes of

Stir well.

#### **El Presidente**

1-1/2 ounces white

3/4 ounce dry vermouth

3/4 ounce orange Curacao 1 dash grenadine

Garnish of orange Directions: Pour all

ingredients into a mixing glass and fill with ice. Stir briskly for 30 seconds, and strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Twist a piece of orange peel over the drink and use as a gar-

#### Jack Rose Cocktail This classic cocktail

from the 1920s and 30s takes its name from its

main ingredient of applejack and the color from grenadine

1-1/2 ounce applejack Brandy

3/4 ounce ly-squeezed lime or lemon juice

1/2 ounce grenadine Garnish with lime or lemon twist.

Add all the ingredients to a shaker with ice and shake until chilled. Fine-strain into a coupe glass, and garnish with

#### Jelled Consomme

One of the three on the soup menu that went for 30 cents

2 envelopes unflavored gelatin

1/2 cup cold water 3 cups beef consom-

1/4 cup dry sherry 1/2 tsp lemon juice Serve with fresh parsley springs and lemon slices (halved).

Soften gelatin in water. Bring consomme to a boil in a medium saucepan, remove from heat; add softened gelatin, stirring until well blended, stir in sherry and lemon juice. Chill overnight. Cut jellied consomme with a fork, spoon into appetizer serving bowls. Garnish with parsley sprigs and half lemon slices. I have NO idea why I

am attracted to that recipe! Ta ta loves, Ms. Vera Milion

### Transfer station

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

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Soudan Canister

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### Hwy. 77 Canister

Winter hours now in effect 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Recycling canisters available daily at the Greenwood Town

#### **AEOA Senior Dining Menu**

ion 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 ap-

preciated the day before, or morning of, but walkins 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-

#### Week of Nov. 19

No School All Week-No lunch served

#### Week of Nov. 26

Monday- Sweet and Sour Chicken Rice Bowl, **Bread Stick** 

Tuesday-Chicken Alfredo with a Twist

Wednesday- Hamburger Gravy Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Green Beans

Thursday- Lasagna, Dinner Roll Friday-Pizza, Mixed

#### Week of Nov. 19

TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower,

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 Main Street. Next food

Greenwood Fire Dept.-Meetings on the first (drill) and third (business

#### Wednesday

Tower AA- Open Basics-7 p.m. at St. James Presbyterian Church.

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

Board- Next meeting is Thursday, Dec. 20 at 4:45 p.m. Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org.



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at 9 a.m.

the Timberjay building on shelf day is Nov. 20.

meeting) Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Questions, call 753-2332. **Thursday** 

Vermilion Country School



# the TIMBERJAY

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#### Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club 11:00-11:30 a.m.

System at 218-741-3840 or www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us

Wednesday, Nov. 21; Dec. 12

Bookmobile Schedule

Greenwood Town Hall Soudan Fire Hall **Tower Civic Center** Embarrass, Four Corners

12:00-12:30 p.m. 1:45-3:00 p.m. 3:15-4:15 p.m. 5:15-6:00 p.m. For further information, call the Arrowhead Library

Wed. Saturday Sunday

12 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

Hall. For info: 1-800-450-9278

#### 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
Noon-5 pm
Phone: 827-3345

Pnone: 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

ter alcoholism in a relative or friend. BABBITT AL-ANON -Thursdays, 7 p.m., at

Catholic Church in Ely.

For persons who encoun-

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.

### Ely Library

Friday, Nov. 16 - 3:30 p.m. - Metal Stamping Workshop - for teens and adults. Learn the techniques of stamping metal with Jen Anfinson. Participants will be able to create a hand-stamped metal cuff bracelet in this 90-minute class. Sign up in advance as space is limited to 20 people. This program is made possible by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Thursday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 23 - Library Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, Nov. 30 - 3:30 p.m. - Pinterest Projects - for all ages. A program for our creative patrons of all ages. The theme for this month is to be announced This is the perfect craft session for you if you find yourself pinning lots of ideas on Pinterest that you never go back and use. The library will supply materials. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

### Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018



snow seems here for good ready the 'bent over' pose

facing the winter

COMMUNITY FORUM

# **Broadband remains key to Ely economic development future**

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

ELY – Elected officials, business owners, educators and residents can all agree that the economic future of the Ely area will depend on high-speed internet service. Efforts to establish a Broadband project, spearheaded by the city of Ely to serve ISD 696, and area communities, have failed to gain much momentum.

A couple of dozen area residents gathered to discuss new ideas here last week at a community forum on how to use as much as \$50,000 in new grant funds provided thru the jointly sponsored Department of Iron Range Resources and Blandin Foundation via the Iron Range Broadband Communities Program.

"This is as important as the Interstate Highway System during the 1950s and 1960s," said Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski. "Not everything has to be from brick and mortar to provide economic development in this community."

This meeting followed almost two years of focused activity by organizations and residents of the Ely area to improve both access to and use of broadband technologies. Participants discussed the past efforts and results before discussing the area's assets, gaps and desired outcomes in specific areas: Broadband, Knowledge Workforce, Innovation, Digital Equality, Sustainability and Advocacy.

"No one chose to work on the Advocacy or Sustainability elements, though prospective Advocacy projects emerged in the group reporting," Langowski said in a summary of the forum. No information was gleaned around the Sustainability element.

Prospective projects, listed below, must be further developed over the next several weeks to include project partners, specific objectives and budgets to be considered by the steering team for inclusion in the community's application to the Blandin Foundation, he said.

-Broadband: Acquire and deploy equipment to provide service; Implement feasibility findings; Complete downtown Ely fiberring; Deploy wireless services via water and other towers; and Develop a system to help prospective fiber customers absorb costs of fiber drops to homes.

-Knowledge Workforce: Provide technology training and consulting to businesses on-site in their business; Monthly and/or quarterly business technology training workshops; Create incubator space for entrepreneurial development that provides both mentorship and community support for new businesses; and Facilitate internships that build emerging workforce skills and confidence while providing value and a talent pipeline to area businesses.

-Digital Equality: Joint broadband infrastructure projects across the entire area (school district); Consider wireless technology; New provider(s) offering cost-effective solutions

-Innovation: Mentor network; Innovation workshops; Expand existing innovation projects; HAK Ely; Ten Below; and Infuse Innovation into existing community events – social events and festivals

-Advocacy: Promote Design Nine Solution; Conduct community return on investment calculations; Blandin marketing; Community letter-writing campaign to county, state and federal officials; and Promote broadband to Minnesota Mayors Association.

"I think we have some good opportunities available to us and I'm hoping in the next six to 12 months we can actually

get construction off the ground," Langowski said. "We are still looking at the downtown area (to start) and working with our partners in the township and school district."

Langowski admitted last week that progress has been slow to reach the larger goal of providing an area-wide broadband system. Morse Township announced earlier this fall that they were considering abandoning the coalition and going solo with their own internet project through Frontier Communications.

The local coalition competed against five other communities for a \$75,000 grant about 18 months ago to develop various broadband-related economic development projects. Two main projects included designing and launching a website, elyite.com, to promote the area for potential residents and entrepreneurs, and the establishing a business co-working space, Ten Below, in downtown Elv.

In addition, the Ely Area Broadband Coalition received a \$25,000 grant to help fund a feasibility study for developing the infrastructure to provide broadband to the four partners in the coalition, city of Ely, ISD 696, city of Winton and Morse Township.

Four more communities, including the city of Tower, have been added to the original six areas in competing for the funding in this round, according to Bill Coleman, from Blandin Foundation. "With this new round of funding, you can either do more of what you have been doing, some new things, or a combination of both," he said.

Project submissions will be agreed to and developed through the end of the year. The grant application is Jan. 4, 2019, with approval announced next spring. New projects will be implemented in 2019 and 2020.

### the TIMBERJAY

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#### OUR COMMUNITY

### Blacksmithing 'taste' offered at Folk School

ELY – New classes recently introduced at the Ely Folk School include blacksmithing. A taste of this new learning experience will be offered on Friday, Nov. 16. Additional classes are planned for future dates.

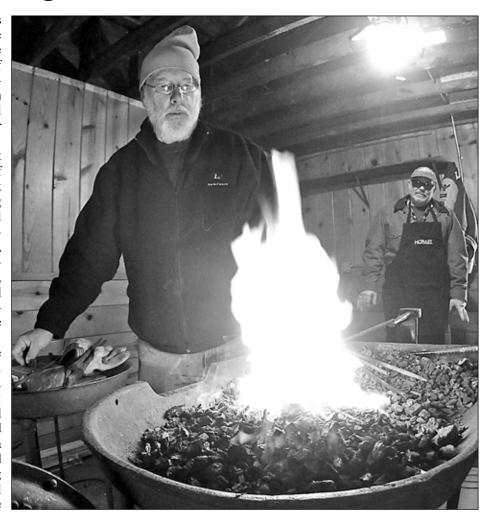
This class is the most basic with the objective of creating a classic 'S' hook using basic blacksmithing techniques. Students will learn the proper color (temperature) to start forging, basic hammering techniques for elongating, bending and twisting metal and go home with a functional 'S' hook. Basic forge safety will be discussed.

The classes will be limited to six students. Tuition: \$20 Materials: \$5.

About the instructors: Chris Mueller and Phil Leino are both intrigued by the process of taking a static material like iron and dynamically transforming it into something beautiful and useful. They have both been instrumental in getting the Folk School blacksmith shop up and running. Chris worked as a professional blacksmith for 17 years in Tennessee, creating unique, custom-made decorative ironwork.

Phil grew up in Ely in hearing stories about his blacksmith grandfather and working with his Dad fabricating metal tools. After graduating with a Masters in botany and PhD in plant sciences, he picked up more metalworking on

skills along the way, which



Phil Leino heats the iron, above, and shapes it, below, at an introductory blacksmithing class at the Ely Folk School. photos by K. Vandervort

he has put to use making equipment needed in his research, creating a functional forge at a high school in Idaho, and demonstrating blacksmithing at Living History Farms in Iowa. He donated the first forge for the Ely Folk School, which was the first step of our blacksmith program.

For more information, go to www.elyfolkschool. org.



#### OUR COMMUNITY



100+ Ely Women Who Care last week awarded \$7,885 from 136 donors to Northern Lights Clubhouse as a result of the group's fourth fundraising event. To date they have donated more than \$30,000 to four different Ely charities. For information, go to 100ElyWomenWhoCare.org. submitted photo

ELY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

## 'ZOMBIE PROM' COMES ALIVE IN ELY



ELY - The Ely High School prom came early this year with a glowing musical about a nuclear student who crashes the dance as a zombie.

"Zombie Prom," played before a packed house both Friday night and Sunday afternoon.

There were no brain-eating monsters, said Director James Lah. The play had only one mutant character and was more like "Mutant Ninja meets the

The story takes place in the beginning of the Nuclear Age, where the promise of better living through nuclear energy thinly veneers the threats of

nuclear disasters. The students in the play attend Enrico Fermi High School. The seniors are ready to graduate, boys and girls wait for the prom, and our two main characters fall in love.

Jonny, played by Jonny Hakala, is the school rebel. The height of his rebellion is spelling his name without an "H." He falls in love with Toffee, played by Erika Mattson, during a fall-out drill. Because of his wily name spelling, Toffee is forced by her parents and the principal, Miss Strict (Cora Olson) to break up with Jonny.

In his doldrums, Jonny falls into a nuclear waste treatment site, changing him into the nuclear mutant that returns from the dead. This un-dead status challenges the preconceived notions of the school, leading to a classic fight for rights and freedom of speech.

Enter in the local magazine editor. Jasiah Wigdahl, the only senior this year, plays the comic role of a local magazine editor who wants to promote Jonny's rights to return to school and go to the prom—while selling more copies. He realizes that Miss Strict is his long-lost, high school sweetheart, and Jonny is their long-lost son, and just wants to have a happy "nuclear" family.





Erika Mattson and Jon Hakala, top, were the lead characters, Toffee and Jonny, in "Zombie Prom" last weekend at Washington Auditorium. Jasiah Wigdahl, above left, played Eddie Flagrante, and Gracie Pointer was Sheila the secretary. Jonny as the zombie is shown above right. Holly Dirks, below, played the part of Ramona Merengue, with the Motor Wise Guys. photos by K. Vandervort



### Around Town

#### **Gifts That Give Sale set** for Saturday

ELY-The Annual Gifts That Give Sale will be held Saturday, Nov. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 226 East Harvey Street.

At the Gifts That Give Sale, participants can buy holiday gifts that give twice. Everything at the sale directly benefits people and organizations in need. This year's tables will support both local and world relief groups like Heifer Fund and SERRV/A Greater Gift (a nonprofit selling fair trade gift items from artisan workshops around the world).

Local organizations selling holiday gift items will include Friends of the Library, the Ely Elementary PTO, Northern Lights Clubhouse, VCC's SCNAVTA (the vet tech student service organization) and Forestry and Wildlife Club.

Items to buy include pet toys, household and kitchen items, greeting cards, candles, Christmas ornaments and balsam swags, fire starters, children's books, fairly- traded chocolate and much more.

Shopping at Gifts That Give allows one to get a jump on their holiday gift list, feel good about giving to people in need, and learn something new about the great service and relief organizations served by many of the dedicated and creative volunteers in our community.

The Ely Food Shelf will be serving soup, rolls, and coffee for a free will donation, with all proceeds going directly to the Food Shelf. There will be live music and an activity table to keep kids busy while parents shop.

The sale is coordinated by St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Email elystmarys@ gmail.com for more information or if you would like to sponsor a table at the sale.

#### **Nominees wanted for award**

ELY - Since 1981, the local study and service group, the Ely Music and Drama Club, has annually sought names of Ely citizens who have generously given of themselves to the enrichment of the local arts scene.

Each year, the Ely Music and Drama Club selects one of those nominees to win the Music and Drama Club's Community Service to the Arts Award. This award is announced at the Club's Christmas Dinner and the recipient and his or her family are invited to join the group to celebrate the season of giving by recognizing the award winner's contributions to the arts in Ely.

The names of all the Community Service Award Winners are mounted on plaques that grace the entrance to the Vermilion Community College's Fine Arts Theater. Last year's winner was Claire Taylor.

Community Service Award nominees need not be living to be acknowledged for their service, and several past awards have graciously been given posthumously.

This year, we welcome your recommendations of those people who have promoted the arts and enriched our lives through their service to the community through the visual, literary, or performing arts.

Names of nominees should be directed to Sara Skelton, who can be reached at Vermilion Community College at 235-2142 or email s.skelton @vcc.edu. Nominations are open until Sunday, Nov. 18.

Ely Free Clinic open Mondays ELY - The Ely Community Health Center is open every Monday evening from

5:30-7 p.m. in the AFU Building, 111 S 4th Ave. East. For more information, call 218-365-5678., or visit their website, www.elycommunityhealth.org, or Facebook page.

## Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



It is winter! Snow is on the ground; the kind that looks like it wants to stay awhile. All the trees are covered with a frosting of snow adding to the look of winter. The deer hunters should be happy with the snow making for good tracking conditions. The report of deer shot has not been very positive but there are still two more weekends of season which includes a three-day weekend for Veterans Day. Veterans Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on Nov. 11, that honors military veterans; that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces. Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a national holiday beginning in

Every year since he

was young, Mike Lang

has joined his brothers at the Grand Rapids Lang Family cabin. As years went on, sons and now even grandsons have been introduced to the annual deer hunt rituals like readying the stands, planning the meals at the cabin and lunches in the woods, and all the good-natured jawing back and forth pre-hunt. As a young 10-year-old, Jaden Lang, son of Dave and grandson of Mike, looked forward to his first hunt with neranticipation and some trepidation after hearing all the uncles' stories of hunts long past. His first hunt was made when he got his first deer, then the following year the second, and finally the third! He was probably thinking, "What's so hard about this?" The fourth year, however, has been much more challenging, and he has only one more weekend to bag his deer. It should be mentioned however, that Gramma has packs of 3-6 deer in her back yard at Crane Lake. These deer have names and reccharacteristics ognized which is why the "men of the family" go to Grand Rapids in search of anon-

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States, and Thanksgiving 2018 occurs on Thursday, Nov. 22. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanks-

ymous deer that they have

no relationship with.

giving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November. Today, Thanksgiving is the most traveled time of the year. When calculating the calorie consumption at an average Thanksgiving dinner in the U.S., preand post-dinner nibbling, appetizers, and drinks before and after the meal all contribute to the final calorie count. Research from the Calorie Control Council lists a typical Thanksgiving dinner at a whopping 3,000 calories. When you add in the 1,500 additional calories from nibbling and drinks, an average Thanksgiving dinner may pack an incredible 4,500 calories or more. This means a typical holiday dinner of turkey with stuffing and all the trimmings is equal to more than 2 -1/4 times most people's average daily calorie intake. How are you planning to spend the day?

How long is 51 years? Ask Mike and Linda Lang who just celebrated 51 years of "wedded bliss" by gifting each other with a new dishwasher. After 51 years, this is not considered a luxury but a necessity and a very appropriate gift to be enjoyed by both

Prayers for Jake Ulen to recover from his auto Best wishes,

This is a true story of a grandfather and grandson as told by Grandpa. You may have to think about it a minute before the humor hits you.

"I'd been teaching my 8-year-old grandson about the names of trees as he'd been growing up. One day as we stood looking out our patio door at a variety of trees in our front yard I decided to test him on his tree naming skills. I said, "Hey Mickey, how many of those trees can you name?" hesitation he said, "All of them Papa." I was surprised at his confidence and so asked him to name the white one (birch) right off the corner of the deck. He thought for a moment and said, "Bob!"

named the tree (get it?). Linda Lang is back from helping Zelda Bruns get settled in her new home in South Caroli-She still has some finishing touches, like window treatments and pictures to be hung, but she is getting comfortable in her new home at her new address. Zelda always has room for visitors from "up North", or a word from a friend at her new address of 227 Santa Ana Way, Duncan, South Carolina 29334.

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

GRIZZLY UPDATE

# Meet Mrs. Kim Jirik

North Woods Principal John Vukmanich interviews a weekly selection of both new and veteran teachers

This week's "teacher of the week" is Mrs. Kim Jirik. Besides teaching at North Woods, Mrs. Jirik is also ISD 2142's District-Wide Q-Comp coordinator, responsible for Professional Learning Communities, Peer Mentoring/Coaching and compliance with MN Department of Ed's Q-Comp initiative.

Mr. V: Where are you originally from and where did you go to high school and college?

Mrs. J: Cook, MN, graduated from Cook HS. Received English Degree from UMD, Social Studies from Bemidji State, Masters of Ed from Southwest State.

Mr. V: Were there teachers who were an influence on you? Please name a few if you can.

Mrs. J: Yes, two of my English teachers were. Mrs. Odegaard and Mrs. Larson.

Mr. V: What characteristics did these teachers have that were important to you?



Mrs. J: They liked

their students, their subject, and they were interesting. You wanted to be in the classroom.

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

Mrs. J: I have taught literally every grade in Social Studies and English. Most recently at North Woods, I have taught British Lit, American History, Psychology, and Government.

Mr. V: Why did you choose teaching as a profession?

Mrs. J: I had an aunt who was a teacher, and she liked it and thought



Jirik

it was a great job. Really, it is all I ever thought of doing.

Mr. V: What are your hobbies?

Mrs. J: I enjoy exercising, gardening, and bargain hunting. I used to cross-country ski, but haven't much recently.

Mr. V: What is something you really like about North Woods?

Mrs. J: The kids are very accepting of each

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

Mrs. J: I love taking classes, and will continue to do so. It keeps me motivated and engaged. I feel that if I expect my students to learn, I also need to continue to learn.

Mr. V: What is something you love about northern MN?

Mrs. J: Summer. I love the warmth. I love the lakes, too. I could do

without winter. Mr. V: What is a piece of advice you'd give your students?

Mrs. J: Learn to think for yourselves, independent thinking. Don't let others dictate what you believe.

Mr. V: Do you have a favorite saying, expression, or philosophy?

Mrs. J: My mom would say, "Build a bridge and get over it."

Mr. V: What do you hope that your students will remember you for?

Mrs. J:Being fair and making them think.

Thank you Mrs. Jirik for being a member of our team at North Woods School! Your expertise and professionalism are appreciated.

### North Woods First Quarter Honor Roll

#### A Honor Roll Seniors

Madison Antikainen, Claire Beaudry, Emily Benoit, Bria Chiabotti, Kristen Cook, Samantha Fultz, Carlie Hadrava, Jakob Hyppa, Parker Jones, Chase Kleppe, Jacie Lakoskey, Regan Ratai, Ian Sherman, Kate Stone, Braden Thom, Anna Trip, Rebecca Tris-

#### **Juniors**

Trevor Adelman, Brielle Anderson, Bethany Cotten, Kenzie Fox, Luke Gabrielson, Clayton Janssen, Amia Moes, Kisch, David Trevor Morrison, Olivia Niska, Nicole Olson, Karlyn Pierce, Meadow Prescott, Nicole Roy, Neiva Smith, Kayla Towner, Michaela Tsch-

#### **Sophomores**

Jocelynn Carver, Emily Fosso, Samuel Frazee, Olivia Fultz, Aubrey Koskovich, Joey Lakoskey, Brynn Simp-

#### Freshmen

Haley Bogdan, Morgan Burnett, Ty Fabish, Trey Gibson, Michelle Hagen, Alex Hartway, Taylor Jones, Abby Koch, Michaela Luecken, Jacob Panichi, Olivia Udovich, Brandie Walk-

Cooper Antikainen, poci, Skyler Yernatich

#### **Seventh Grade**

Jonah Burnett, Annabelle Calavera, Brandon Cook, Madison Dantes, Addy Hartway, Helen Koch, Victoria Olson, Jessy Palmer, Autumn Swanson, Madison Taylor, Trinity Vidal, Jacob Whiteman, Keenan

#### **B Honor Roll** Seniors

Juniors

Eighth Grade

Kohen Briggs, Mason Clines, Blaise Erickson, Grace Koch, Kaden Ratai, Karah Scofield, Elias Smith, Steven So-

Whitney, Luke Will

Sharla Cly, Brody Driscoll, Cade Goggleye, Katlyn Hartwig, Tyler Kiehm, Kylee Lange, Katie Lundemo, Kayla Palm, Hanna Sandberg, Kiana Sargent, Blake Scofield, Madalyn Serna, Drayke Snidarich

Angelina Anderson,

Lauren Arvila, Katrina Chapman, Daniel Crockett, Genesis Day, La-Vonne Drift, Samantha Francke, Katie Johnson, Pierce Johnson, Tyler Kehoe, Morgan Malecha, CeCilia Martinez, Jordyn Nelson, Kylie Parso, Hope Robinson-Zebro, Taylor Vagle, Kennedy Wardas, Courtney Woods

#### **Sophomores**

Rayanne Adams, Christopher Chaulklin, Zachary Cheney, Megan Cote, Darius Goggleye, Rey Marroquin, Logan Nurmi, Ian Olson, Andrew Peak, Austin Sokoloski, Elijah Squires, Cole Thiel, Zoe Trip, Andrew Zika

#### Freshmen

Burris, Ivy Cody Chaulklin, Tyler Chiabotti, Joshua Copeland, Christopher Fairbanks, Aayanna Goodsky-Spears, Erik Hagen, Joseph Hoagland, Katrina Jackson, Owen Land, Timothy Lilya, Leona Lindgren, Francis Littlewolf, Sean Morrison, Nathan Palm, Cole Snidarich, James Towner, Kaya Tschida,

#### Eighth Grade

Brenden Chiabotti, Jared Chiabotti, Thomas Debeltz, Kia Deegan, Brielle Hujanen, Braden King, Hannah Kinsey, Benjamin Kruse, Garrett Lappi, Kiana LaRoque, Angeline Lilya, Dillon Musakka, Olin Nelson, Jacob Swanson, Avery Thiel, Emily Trip, Logan Vlaisavljevich, Alexandria Whiteman

#### **Seventh Grade**

Chapma. Cora Hannah Cheney, Talise Goodsky, Emily Grahn, April Gustafson, Rhonda Hoagland, Alexandra Holm, Chloe Johnson, Riley Las, Haley Leinonen, Zefrym Mankowski, Steven Morrison, Cadense Nelson, Xander Russell, Ella Smith, Caleb Thom, Destiny Weiss



### Community Notices

#### Lyn Reed and Ron Maki exhibit

**COOK** Northwoods Friends of the Arts is proud to announce the opening of an exhibit of new work by two former art instructors from ISD 2142. Lyn Reed and Ron Maki, who taught a combined 50-plus years in the Cook and Orr schools, are showing to the public

what they have been creating since retiring from the classroom.

Lyn will be showing a new line of ceramics/ pottery. Ron will be exhibiting some of his current large abstract paint-

Join us to view something new, challenging and different, from two people who taught our students how

to think in different

ways and to create new worlds. The show runs the whole month of November, starting Nov. 1.

Gallery hours and days are Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### **Food for Fines at Cook Library**

COOK - Bring one nonperishable food item and we will delete all fines on one item. Items include books, DVDs, and audio books. For example, if you have fines on three items, three food donations will clear fines on those items. Food donations must be presented to library staff in order to clear fines. materials Library

must be returned and checked in before fines can be removed.

Online at www.timberjay.com

#### VETERAN'S DAY





# **Veterans Day at North Woods**

FIELD TWP - The Cook VFW and North Woods School had their annual Veterans Day ceremony last Friday.

The program included presentations by the VFW on patriotism along with a ceremonial drum circle from the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.

Newly-elected Bois Forte Tribal Councilman, Shane Drift, spoke of Native American veterans' traditions, inviting students to dance with the drum circle.

Principal John Vukmanich both conducted the school's band in a performance of the Star Spangled Banner and

gave a speech on the value of diversity and inclusivity and why it is important to respect the viewpoints and values of others.

Students presented veterans with thank you cards in appreciation of their service to the country.









students present veterans from Bois Forte and the VFW with thank you cards; the color guard prepares to close the ceremony; students and teachers say the Pledge of Allegiance to mark the beginning of the program; Principal John Vukmanich speaks to students on the value of respecting others and valuing diversity; Tribal Councilman Shane **Drift speaks of Native American** customs to students; the Bois Forte Drum Circle performs a traditional song honoring fallen warriors.

#### FRIENDS OF THE PARK





Gary Palmer and Brad Simpson work on a new swing set. submitted photo

### **Updates at Cook Recreation Area**

COOK - Friends of the Parks was able to get some new additions to the playground installed at the Doug Johnson Recreation Area this fall by volunteers Gary Palmer and Brad Simpson. Area families should be excited to use a duck and a horse spring rocker and a double Expression Swing. An Expression Swing is a swing for infant or toddlers with an adult that promotes in-

tergenerational play as

adults and children swing

together, face to face. These newest equip-

ment pieces, with a cost of just over \$7,500, were purchased by Friends of the Parks through proceeds of fundraisers such as Wings and Things, brat contributed fabric and pea rock.

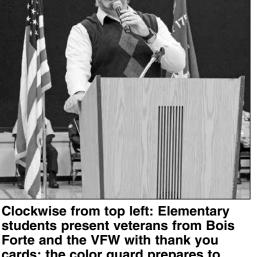
sales, picnic and the park raffles. The City of Cook landscape Friends of the Parks' past projects have included funds and labor to build the Community

Center, purchasing of

Community Center fur-

nishings, purchase of a Northland Building Storage garage, playground equipment, a covered log sand box, pet stations, refinishing of picnic tables, assisting with Cook's Country Christmas, and park clean ups. All of Friends of the

Parks' projects are made possible by the great support received by the community. Watch for future fundraisers and for future projects!



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Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon

Country ReMax building 1:45 - 2:30

**Kabetogama –** Town Hall 3:15 - 3:45 p.m. For further information on the Bookmobile or

Mail-A-Book services, write or call the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768 218-741-3840, or check our website at www. alslib.info.

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ISD 696

## Ely school building project moving forward

by KEITH VANDERVORT

ELY - Following the Ely School Board's decision to utilize the services of Architectural Resources, Inc. for the district's new facilities project, board members agreed this week to consider a professional services contract with ARI.

They will meet with the firm's designer, Katie Hildenbrand, at their Nov. 26 study session to plan the next steps to get the project, which will include connecting the three campus buildings and other potential improvements, off the ground

Earlier this fall, the state preliminarily awarded the Ely School District \$495,000 toward the connection of the three campus building through a School Safety grant program.

That amount is just one-third of the estimated \$1.5 million that it will cost to connect the

Just Do it!

Memorial High School, Washington Elementary School, and Industrial Arts buildings. Adding a gymnasium and other proposed improvements to the project would cost significantly more.

Detailed pre-design plans will likely need to be submitted by March 2019 in order to qualify for the grant award, according to Superintendent Kevin Abrahamson, so time is of the essence in hammering out details.

In a draft proposal for professional services, Hildenbrand outlined her firm's process to help lead the school district in making appropriate decisions. "This will incorporate long-term planning as well as immediate planning," she wrote, "for the (grant) money received to complete the secure entry to the existing (buildings)."

She called for a facilities committee to be formed to serve as a "sounding board" with decision makers to help move the project forward. "This committee should be comprised of 10-12 people including school board members, teachers, community members and district employees," she

Board member Scott Kellerman, who did not seek re-election and is leaving the board at the end of the year, encouraged students to be included on the committee.

Phase One of the process will include the development of an existing facilities condition report, to include a review of the building envelope, finishes, mechanical, electrical, building code, accessibility and technology. "The report will prioritize necessary repairs and provide recommended timelines for replacement," Hildenbrand said.

ARI will also prepare an educational adequacy report as part of the

first phase's data-gathering process. "ARI will compare the existing spaces to the recommended guidelines by the Minnesota Department of Education to provide clarity to the school district on the quantity of square footage that exists now and how it is being used," she said.

The second phase of the decision-making process will involve the development of a community engagement plan, including meetings, surveys or other means to engage public input and opinion. ARI will provide a summary of the involvement.

Phase Three will develop prototypes for multiple options (renovation, additions, new construction) based on the information gathered in the first two phases. ARI will "develop projected costs for each option for further consideration and review funding sources and tax implications" for each plan.

Phase Four will include the refinement of the selected options and

the development of the selected option for the school district to use in engaging the community.

Hildenbrand set the timeline of completion of the process at about four months. The proposed cost is \$28,500 for the professional services. "If a project moves forward into the design phase and ARI is selected to continue working with the district, a percentage of this fee will be credited toward the design phase," she said.

"Last month, you agreed to work with ARI on the project but we have no contractual agreement with them," Abrahamson said. "This could be the first step in that (contract).'

Hildenbrand will attend the study session to discuss the proposal and other facility renovation topics with board members.

Members of Molly Olson's eighth-grade STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) class presented to the school board the results of their project in renovation planning for the girls bathrooms and locker rooms and improvements to the hallways.

#### Other business

In other business, the school board:

➤ Approved the annual senior class trip to Washington, D.C., planned for March 28-April 1, 2019;

➤ Adopted a resolu-

tion canvassing the vote returns of the school district general election held Nov. 6 (Rochelle Sjoberg, 1,721, Anthony Colarich, 1,637, Ray Marsnik, 1,533, write-ins, 96); ➤ Accepted the res-

ignation of Tim Leeson, from his full-time custodian position, and hired him as the Director of Facilities and Transportation, effective Nov. 13: ➤ Hired Jeff Johnston

for the Bus Maintenance Diesel Mechanic position, effective Nov. 1; ➤ Hired Warren

Carlson for the permanent full-time custodian position, effective Nov. 13;

➤ Hired Holly Sherman for the parttime Media Center Clerk

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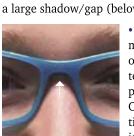
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### Zorman defeats Trump in Winton

WINTON - Marlene Zorman wasn't running for anything, but 41 writein votes were enough to elect her to the Winton City Council last week. Nobody wanted the job, as the council position had no candidates on the ballot.

As many as a dozen other people, including President Donald J. Trump, received write-in votes for the job by residents here, said Clerk Anne Jackson, but Zorman was the only resident to get sufficient support to win the seat.

Kathy Edman ran unopposed and won the special election for city treasurer. Jackson was re-elected city clerk without opposition. Kathy Brandau ran unopposed and was re-elected as Winton mayor.

Voter turnout in the village was 72 percent this year, just behind Ely's voter turnout of 72.7 percent.

> The Timberjay classified ads reach readers of all three editions every week.



venience and devastating loss because the town depends on it."

She added that she was concerned for her daughter as well, who worked at the store and would now be temporarily out of a job.

Tripp was one of dozens of spectators who sat out in temperatures approaching zero degrees as the store burned. A sheriff's deputy who did not wish to be identified at the scene said at one point at least 42 cars lined the highway and adjoining businesses to try and get a glimpse of the blaze.

He said people had to be pushed back after some wandered too close to the fire to catch a better look.

Shortly after 10 p.m., all of the businesses on the west side of the highway were closed and emergency officials had cordoned off their parking lots. The neighboring McDonald's was turned into a temporary shelter for fire crews to warm up.

Daylight on Tuesday morning revealed that much of the rear of the store was gone and damage looked to extend well throughout the building.

A press statement released by St. Louis County at 4 a.m. on Tuesday said there were still hot spots in the building that fire crews were still trying to cool. Steam and smoke could still be seen at the rear of the store as of mid-morning on Tuesday.

"Our community is suffering the loss of an anchorbusiness. Our hearts are with Matt Zupancich

and the Zupancich family, the employees of the store, and our residents who shop there daily.

"We would like to thank all the members of the Cook Fire Department and all other responding services," Cook Mayor Harold Johnston said in a statement Tuesday afternoon. "Our appreciation also to other local businesses who stepped up to assist in any way they could. We need to focus on the immediate needs of displaced workers, shoppers,

and the store owners. Cook is a close-knit community. We will all come together to get through this loss."

Curious onlookers and employees of the store could be seen in the parking lot and Zupancich greeted The store was empty at

the time of the blaze and no

injuries were reported as a result of the fire. The incident is being investigated by the State Fire Marshal and neither investigators nor Zup's

owners have commented

on a potential cause of the blaze since the matter is still under investigation. The fire is the second

to hit a Zup's grocery in the past decade. The chain's store in Babbitt burned in 2011. The latest fire is also one of a series of major commercial blazes to strike Cook in recent decades, including the Cook Dollar Store, the Vermilion Motel, Clark's IGA, Amundson apartment building, the Country Supper Club, and Northern Farmer's Co-op.

#### **ORR...**Continued from page 1 \_\_\_\_

four wireless transmitters that would be installed on the city's water tower. Metsa explained that he would manage local customer support.

Some councilors expressed concern that trees could limit access to the signal, since the homes served by the system would need direct line-ofsight to the transmitters. Rasmussen said that would be an issue, but could be mitigated through the use of directional antennas placed on other buildings working with sector antennas. The signal can then be rebroadcasted to areas the water tower can't reach

The company also offered the city free Internet for city hall and the community center if they approved the radio antennas on the water tower and allowed the company to connect to the electric service at the water tower. Rasmussen showed a recent copy of an electric bill, suggesting it would cost the city very little to have the radios wired into the city's meter. Rasmussen said he would need about forty customers to make it worth the effort.

Meanwhile, another company has come forward with a nearly identical plan of its own for extending

broadband access in the community. Nathan and Sarah Phillips of UniFi North had outlined their proposal in an email to Orr City Clerk Cheri Carter, but the council opted not to pursue the plan given their failure to appear.

The council took no immediate action on the Back 40 Wireless proposal, but are seriously considering the proposal, according to Carter. The company would like to have the new service up and running by the first of the new year.

Relatedly, councilors acknowledged the Grizzlies Broadband Community, which has received a

\$50,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation for continued high speed Internet connectivity work and education. Mayor Astleford thanked Randy Long for his involvement in the initiative.

In other business, the

- ➤ Approved a request from Liquor Store manager Chet Nieman to be paid for an additional three hours worked beyond what is reasonably expected.
- ➤ Approved a resolution authorizing the city to make a final application for Community Development Block Grant.
  - ➤ Approved the pur-

chase of a flow meter for the wastewater plant. Sewer and water manager Paul Koch clarified that the city has a flow meter, but is in need of a calibrated channel that the flow meter would work off of for an up-to-date calibration. The council approved the new flume at a cost of \$3,200.

- ➤ Approved a request from the Ambulance Department to upgrade Lifepak unit to have AC power capacity for \$3,604.80.
- > Approved an Ambulance Department request to add remaining LUCAS to the service plan for all four machines at a

cost of \$570, and purchase of high visibility sweatshirts for 25 personnel, not expected to exceed \$500. ➤ Approved a travel

and training request from ambulance personnel.

➤ Approved having Purdy Electric install lights for liquor store signs at a cost of \$571.46.

Mayor Astleford concluded the meeting by offering thoughts and prayers for the Zupancich family and the employees of Zup's with the loss of the Cook grocery store due to fire. "It's a terrible tragedy for our community," he said.

#### **ELY** ...Continued from page 1

Stauber had not responded to an invitation to attend. He is scheduled to attend orientation in Washington, D.C. that week. "I'll see if he at least could send a representative," Coombe

Other area entities, including the Range Association of Schools and Municipalities, Ely Chamber of Commerce, Vermilion Community College, and the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital will be represented at the event. The two-hour session includes an opportunity for the public to comment, if time

The joint powers

Silent Auction

Memorial Ornaments

board, meeting Tuesday at Ely City Hall, finalized an agenda for the upcoming event. Joint Powers Chair and Winton Mayor Kathy Brandau said she wants the discussion to center on the issues brought up by members of the board. She said she felt that other groups, businesses, or individuals should be limited in their time to speak.

She specifically singled out the environmental advocates on one side of the copper-nickel mining argument that has waged in the community for many years. "Trust me, their time will be limited," she said. "I will not let those people speak

NORTHWOODS PARTNERS

caring connections -

more than a few minutes, because I don't want to listen to that."

Ely Mayor Chuck Novak supported her. "It has gotten so repetitive. We've heard it all before. This is our group. This is our economic development group," he said. "We are the government agencies that have our legislators come here to talk to us and we express to them what our desires are. It is getting convoluted and diluted."

Joint Powers members say the session provides an opportunity for the area to speak with one voice and highlight area priorities and bring an assortment of issues to the attention of the legislators.

Novak said he wants to continue to press area lawmakers to take the lead to bring funding for affordable broadband and high-speed internet service to the Ely area. "I want to talk about economic

is what this group is," he said. "Broadband is a big issue. The (recreational) trailhead is a big issue. We have to make sure we have funding for the Mesabi, Prospectors and Taconite

development because that

Other issues likely to

be discussed include Local Government Aid and other state aid, town of Morse issues, the new permitting process for entry into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and the Winton Post Office struggles.



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**10** November 16, 2018

### $oxed{TOWER}$ ... Continued from page 1 $\_$

generated by the project for up to ten years.

Jeremy Schoenfelder, master developer for Tower Harbor Shores LLC, said both the city and the development team would need to seek other means of "making the numbers work," should the county balk at full abatement. County officials say they won't make a final decision on the issue until the city and the developers have a signed development agreement.

The modified tax abatement plan, under which the city would abate 75 percent of the property taxes generated by the project for up to 15 years, is a way of repaying the developers for the cost of installing public infrastructure, such as streets, water, and sewer, which would serve the planned 20-unit town home development. Once retired, the tax abatement would end under the deal. The city had originally proposed to abate 65 percent of the property taxes for up to ten years, but Schoenfelder noted that scenario left a fairly substantial funding

In the original development agreement, the city had agreed to fund the infrastructure costs, but the city has since backed away from that pledge and is now requiring that the developers fund the public infrastructure costs themselves, to eliminate financial risk for the city.

On Tuesday, however, the council learned that risk reduction doesn't necessarily come without a price. While a city can bond for infrastructure at low interest rates, currently around 4.5 percent, Schoenfelder noted that finding private investors willing to put up the capital requires a substantially higher interest rate, currently set at 12 percent. That is adding as much as \$300,000 to the borrowing costs for the infrastructure, which will extend the period that the city will need to abate taxes. In the end, the total cost to retire

the \$750,000 in borrowing under the plan would be approximately \$1.29 million given the higher interest rate.

Councilor Lance Dougherty seemed to be questioning the approach, noting the high cost of private financing. Mayor Josh Carlson echoed the sentiment. "Mayor, it's a tough

thing," said SEH engineer Matt Bolf, "but that's the price you pay to lower your risk. It's a trade-off. You can go bond for less and have a whole lot more risk or pay more and have less risk."

Carlson agreed, acknowledging that the numbers and scale of the project are beyond his previous experience."I've never done this before," he said. "It's a tough decision."

Councilor Kevin Fitton asked what would happen if the first phase, including six town homes, were built but only one sold. Schoenfelder noted that, under the new development agreement, the city would not be on the hook for repayment of any infrastructure costs under that scenario. Michael Wood, of Biwabik, who is one of the investors in the project, also pointed out that the first phase would not even proceed without signed purchase agreements for all of the

Fitton also appeared to lay blame on the developers for delays in the project. "You were also talking this [project] would be done in two years," he said. Schoenfelder acknowledged delays in the project, but said many were beyond the control of the developers. He noted that as of Tuesday, the development team still cannot legally sell town homes at the harbor because the city has not been able to provide them with a finalized plat with the legal descriptions necessary for purchase agreements. "I believe that if we had the ability to write purchase agreements, which we do not right now, we would be selling town homes," he

Schoenfelder also clarified what he called a misperception by some at city hall that the project, if successful, would provide a major windfall for the developers. He was responding to a comment from Steve Altenburg, who has served for several years on the city's harbor committee and said that the city changed its mind on funding the infrastructure because it was too much risk for the city, while it allowed the developers to "make millions."

"There is a false sense of how much profit there is in this project, responded Schoenfelder. "I've heard it here a lot. I would not be doing this project, at all, for the profit. It's not

"I spend way too much time on it. This is a challenging project and I'm not doing it for the money. If anybody thinks there is a huge windfall, you are mistaken. You don't understand the cost of development and engineering and design and sales and marketing and all those things." The discussion was

prefaced by extended commentary by Tower News reporter Tony Sikora, who cited the recent municipal election results as evidence that city residents are opposed

to the project. He also took a swipe at Mayorelect Orlyn Kringstad, suggesting that he is in default on a loan from the city's economic development authority. Rather than town homes, Sikora suggested the city put up a pavilion at the harbor.

No one responded to Sikora, who quickly left the meeting after making his comments. But Schoenfelder later clarified that the decision to build town homes at the harbor was made by the city, not the developers. "Originally, the city asked us to put together a quote for town homes," he said. "We likely would have gone in a different direction for the harbor, but the request was to start with building town homes."

TIMBERJAY Newspapers

As discussion eventually petered out, Carlson called for action. "We have to make a decision,' he said. "It's either take a risk and bond for it, or do this."

In the end, Fitton made the motion to accept the new tax abatement plan, which was seconded by Dougherty and then approved by the full council. Once incorporated into the new development agreement, the deal must be signed by both parties before going to St. Louis County for a decision on its involvement in the abatement plan.





#### **Festival of Trees**

Welcome to Northwoods Partners 16th Annual Festival of Trees, where beautifully decorated trees and wreaths transform the lobby of the Grand Ely Lodge into a winter wonderland for a silent auction from Nov. 22 - Dec. 2. Lighting Ceremony At 5 pm on Thanksgiving evening with refreshments and entertainment.

Thanksgiving Night Shopping Join us for a longstanding tradition that is part of our charming, small

town culture. Since the eighties, Ely merchants have been welcoming people with goodies and holiday cheer for Thanksgiving Night Shopping. It starts at 6 pm. Bundle up and take a stroll through downtown and share this neighborly tradition

with us. Sponsored by Ely Merchants

**Holiday Fantasy** 

Nov. 23 & 24 Fri 11 - 4, Sat 10 - 2 Miners Dry at the Pioneer Mine will be turned into a Christmas Fantasy with carolers, kid's crafts, sleigh rides, & more! Many artists and craftsman showcase and sell their art, handcrafted items. Sponsored by Ely Greenstone Public Art and Stone Soup Events.

#### **Small Town Christmas** Saturday, November 24 10 am - 5 pm

There is something special about Christmas in a small town - darting in and out of beautifully decorated shops. Friendly merchants help you find that perfect gift from a great selection of unique items and quality gifts. Don't forget our Elv made products too. Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce.

#### **Holiday Parade/City Tree Lighting** Saturday, November 24 5 pm

Celebrate the magic of the season with this Ely tradition. The parade begins at 5 pm and is followed by the City's Tree Lighting at Whiteside Park. Complimentary hot refreshments and cookies will be served. Kids visit with Santa and create a fun art project with Dafne from the Art Corner. Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce

#### **Mrs. Claus Holiday Party** Saturday, December 8 1 - 3 pm

Join us at Amici's Event Center for this free event with games, activities, cookie decorating, dancing, storytelling, hot chocolate and hot cider. Don't forget to bring your list for Santa as he will be stopping in for a visit. Every child gets a bag of goodies. While in town, stop by our shops for holiday gifts! Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce.

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November 16, 2018 **1B** TIMBERJAY Newspapers

VETERANS DAY 2018







Clockwise from top: Zach Poderzay leads students at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School in the Pledge of Allegiance; Tatum Barto hugs a veteran from Bois Forte at the North Woods School Veterans Day Program; Ely VFW Commander Mike Pope gives an address at the Ely High School Veterans Day ceremony. Timberjay staff photos

### **Veteran sees** need for change

More services needed to serve vets in rural areas

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

COOK - Veterans sat down for lasagna with all of the fixings at Trinity Lutheran Church here Monday, part of a string of events to honor veterans across the region that began last Friday.

While there was plenty of food and conversation, one veteran said he wishes there were more events like it in the region.

Robert Galaz is an adjutant at the American Legion Post 480 in Orr.

"Veterans need to be more recognized other than two days a year," he said.

While veterans rise to prominence on Memorial Day in May and Veterans Day in November, Galaz said they still exist throughout the rest of the year even when the public isn't

"We need a lot more for veterans," he said. "We need an advocate for medical and legal needs among many others."

Galaz said in his work for the Legion he's seen too many veterans without proper housing, living in what he describes as "shacks" out in the woods. He said the jobs just aren't there and, in turn, housing opportunities are scarce when vets come home.

While organizations, such as Disabled American Veterans (DAV), have made more strides to come into the communities of Cook and Orr, Galaz said it's not enough since many of the veterans need services and pickups at their homes in the back woods, not at prearranged points in town.

He said with falling memberships at some local organizations such as the Orr Legion, Galaz is concerned local vets aren't getting the help they need.

"We need to keep these guys alive," he said.

Galaz does applaud

moves by the federal Veterans Administration (VA) to allow rural veterans to seek out services locally rather than needing to go to a VA-approved facility.

He said it still is a long way to go and in the interim the VA should allow volunteers to collect travel benefits for transporting veterans in need to VA facilities in Hibbing and Minneapolis.

And as for Monday's lasagna at Trinity Church, Galaz said local groups like churches could hold more events throughout the year instead of waiting for designated days.

"It's a chance to share stories without expectation," he said. "The more knowledge we can get out, the faster we can foster change."

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

## Greenwood denies Maus' disrespect complaint

by Jodi Summit

Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP- The Greenwood Town Board, Tuesday, voted to deny a written complaint made in late September against the town board by fire department member Jeff Maus alleging "multiple disrespectful workplace incidents" that violated the township's personnel policy. The complaint stemmed from the special meeting held in June to discuss Maus' grievance regarding the refusal to pay for documented training time related to study outside of a classroom, an amount which totaled less than \$400.

Township attorney Mike Couri sent the board a five-page memo on the issue, which Chairman Mike Ralston noted had likely cost the township "about a thousand bucks." Clerk Sue Drobac, at Ralston's direction, read the entire memo out loud at the meeting.

The first issue addressed by the memo is whether or not the township actually has an approved personnel policy. The personnel policy language was the basis of Maus' complaint. But according to Couri, the policy was never formally adopted, via motion, by the town board back in 2017. Couri noted that the town board minutes did cite motions to adopt changes made to the policy.

"Under Minnesota law, only the town board can establish township policy," he wrote. "Without a motion to adopt the personnel policy and a majority vote in favor of adopting the personnel policy, that the town board passed various revisions to the different draft iterations of the personnel policy is irrelevant."

Since the town board had never formally adopted the policy, Couri stated, the personnel policy does not apply.

Couri told the board that this fact alone is sufficient to adequately dispose of the issues raised in the Maus complaint. But Couri then went on to address the other issues that had been raised, specifically Ralston's comments towards Maus during a meeting. Couri noted he had listened to the entire recording of the June 19, 2018, meeting in

question, and also cited

state law, and concluded

that "Mr. Maus' complaint is without merit." Couri also noted that Ralston was the lone vote against a motion to not pay Maus for any of the home study time being contested.

"This vote would seem to contradict Mr. Maus' argument that the chair was attempting to intimidate Mr. Maus, relatiate against Mr. Maus, or harass Mr. Maus," wrote

During the public comment section of the meeting, former board chairman John Bassing said that he felt Couri's assessment of the personnel policy is not correct.

"We went through the personnel policy page by page," he said. "We approved it and sent it to the township attorney for review. Then made the final changes in July 2017." Bassing noted that it had been reported that the new policy was adopted. He noted the board then put the policy into the fire department personnel policies, as well as voting to put it on the township website.

"To deny that it was township policy at this point cannot be defended,"

Bassing said. Also, during public

comment, Steve Rodgers

asked the board if there were a way to recover attorney fees when a citizen files a frivolous

complaint. Ralston replied that he didn't know of one, and that he had posed that question to their attorney.

#### Fire department

The board gave final approval (second reading) to the new fire department Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) and Paid-on-Call (POC) guidelines. Revisions were made to both policies to update language, to clarify training reimbursement and approved trainings, and to clarify membership and meeting requirements.

Greenwood Assistant Fire Chief Mike Indihar reported on the department's response to the Cook Zup's fire on Nov. 12. He noted that six firefighters had responded, which included three members from Bois Forte. They stayed on scene until around 4 a.m., with was required. their engine as a backup

water supply and manning "It was nice to see all the cooperation at the scene," he said. Indihar

fire to fight, because the building had no windows. He said eventually an excavator was used to open up the back wall of the building, to allow the fire to be completely

extinguished. Indihar also reported on a meeting held at Fortune Bay to discuss pre-planning for fire and other emergency events. He noted that Virginia Fire Department officials had been very helpful with working on such plans for the department.

"They are true professionals," he said. "It was a very productive meeting."

Chief Fazio asked the board to approve changes to the automatic mutual aid system between Greenwood, Tower, and Breitung. The new "Box Alarm" system will only call for automatic mutual aid in cases of actual fires, rescue, or water-related rescue. For other calls, such as automatic alarms, the system would let the responding department determine if mutual aid

The board also approved a request from Fazio to pay Safety Officer Ed Borchardt his salary year-round, noting that

noted it was a very difficult See COMPLAINT...pg. 2B

ISD 2142

### Board tackles NER hockey

by Marcus White Cook-Orr Editor

VIRGINIA — A proposal to combine the Northeast Range hockey program with Virginia drew impassioned debate by members of the St. Louis County School Board last Thursday evening. An unnamed parent had requested in writing that the district end its cooperative hockey agreement between Northeast Range and Ely in favor of a combination with Virginia.

The suggestion sharply divided members of the school board.

"It's not a one child problem, it's about a group of kids who have stopped playing because they can't play," said South Ridge representative Christine Taylor in support of the change. "Ely can be inconsistent. If Virginia has the levels every year, why not go with that?"

But Chris Koivisto, who represents Northeast Range, said Virginia's program was too large to accommodate more players. "There is no question, they can play in Ely,"

See **HOCKEY...**pg. 2B

### Ecklund, Lislegard keep seats blue for state DFL

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL - State Rep. Rob Ecklund and Aurora Mayor Dave Lislegard easily kept two local legislative seats in DFL hands on Nov. 6.

"It was clear we had a mandate and Democrats took back the state Legislature," said Ecklund, who outpaced GOP candidate Randy Goutermont in the District 3A race. "I am looking forward to being in the majority. I hear it is a lot of fun."

Ecklund assumed

office in 2015 in a special election to replace the late Rep. David Dill, who died of cancer while in office. Ecklund won most precincts in the area, only dropping Beatty, Camp Five, Leiding, Linden Grove and Willow Valley townships.

Overall, Ecklund won with 11,783 votes or 59.42 percent of District 3A. compared to Goutermont's 8,022 votes or 40.45

In District 6B, Lislegard handily beat GOP challenger Skeeter Tomczak with 12,075 votes, or 61.97 to Tomczak's 7,379 votes, or 37.87 percent.

Locally, Lislegard took all of the five precincts in the *Timberjay* coverage area by wide margins. Lislegard replaces Jason Metsa, who unsuccessfully sought the DFL nod for the Eighth District seat recently won by Republican Pete Stauber.

Lislegard is the outgoing mayor of Aurora and previously beat Shaun Hainey in the DFL primary in August.

### **COMPLAINT...**Continued from page 1B

connection.

even though he is out of the area in the winter, he was still actively organizing trainings and overseeing other officers who were acting as safety officer on scene in his place.

In other business, the town board:

➤ Heard from Clerk Drobac, who reported that 606 voters had cast ballots, out of 750 registered voters. The township also registered 38 new voters on Election Day.

➤ Heard that Frandsen Bank will no longer administer the township's community enhancement loan fund. The township will need to either administer the loans themselves, or else find another authority able to do this. Treasurer Pam Rodgers said she is able to generate amortization schedules and generate loan documents, but there are additional administrative, tax reporting, and state reporting requirements. She also said the IRRRB, which contributed the initial \$40,000 that started the fund, is not sure if this part of the loan fund, which now totals about \$97,000, is restricted in

Rodgers said there is currently one party who is seeking a loan from the fund, which offers a low-interest, two-year loan for septic system improvements or replacements

extremely slow speed with relating to littering. the internet connection at the town hall, which is supposed to be connected to the new high-speed fiber optic network installed by Frontier. Rodgers wondered if the networking in the township office was not upgraded to take advantage of the new fiber

➤ Will hold a special meeting on Monday, Nov. 26 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss a decision from one of the township's insurance carriers (Western World) that they are no longer covering legal costs relating to a retaliation complaint by fire department member Jeff Maus to the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Maus had applied for the assistant chief position. Maus claimed that the decision not to hire him was related to his earlier complaints about department safety. Ralston noted that the town board had just received this information, and that the township attorney had not had a chance to review the information from the insurance company attorney. Ralston noted that this case has been going on for most of the year, and that as far as he knew, all of the interviewing had been completed.

➤ Approved ordering a new sign for the recycling canister site, to inform Heard about the users of rules and laws

> Heard that the clerk's office and fire department had both completed their inventories of township equipment.

➤Will purchase 400 feet of rubber hose to use for flooding the skating rink.

➤ Gave Clerk Drobac the authority to spend up to \$3,500 for a new copier. The current copier dates back to 2011 and has stopped working.

➤ Thanked the volunteers who had spent time getting the pavilion area ready for winter.

➤ Held a special meeting on Oct. 15 to approve payment of the township's insurance policy with Corp 4/Western World Insurance Company for a total of \$8,468.

> Approved a rental agreement form for use of the town hall and/or pavilion area.

➤ Will hire Vermilion Snow Management for snowplowing/shoveling services at a cost of \$100 per hour. The board noted this was the only quote received, and the township was happy with the service provided last year.

➤ Ralston discussed a letter to the editor in the Timberjay, sent by Rick Stoehr, and questioned Stoehr about his assertions in the letter.

#### **SWIMMING**

### Team earns academic honors

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

REGIONAL -A good season for the Northeast Range/Ely girls swim team ended with a nice accolade, as the team was named the winner of a Gold Academic Award, an honor reserved for teams with a GPA between 3.75 and 4.00 for athletes in grades 10-12. The award was announced following competition in the Section 7A finals held Nov. 8-10.

NER/Ely posted several finishes in the top 15 in the sectional meet, including 11th place finishes in the 200 yard medley relay as well as the 200 yard freestyle relay. Morgan McClelland, Kelly Thompson, Lily Tedrick, and Abby Koivisto proved a strong combination in the medley, while Kayla Mellesmoen, Koivisto, Tedrick and Thompson claimed 11th place in the freestyle event. Brooke Pasmick also

finished 11th in the 100 yard backstroke.

I n addition. Mellesmoen finished 14th in the 50 yard freestyle and the 100 freestyle events.

"We had a season with the team working hard on conditioning and improving technique," said Head Coach Lynn Gulbrandson. "The girls improved all season and we had numerous lifetime best times in every meet," she said.

#### CRASH

### **Snow plow to blame in crash**

EMBARRASS— A snowplow here caused an SUV to go off the road last Friday. Theresa Lawrence, of Embarrass, attempted to make way for the plow along Hwy. 135, but ended up sliding her Jeep

Cherokee into the ditch according to the Minnesota State Patrol. Lawrence was treated for non-life-threatening injuries at Northern Pines in Aurora.

#### **HOCKEY**...Continued from page 1B

he said. "There are too many people in Virginia. They may not even make the team."

Taylor argued that Ely did not always have a junior varsity team or a bantam team, which meant young kids may end up playing with seniors in high school. Dan Manick echoed the point, saying he was concerned that kids from Northeast Range who were not ready for varsity play would be forced to play against teams that were too far above their skill level, potentially creating dangerous playing conditions. He said this has happened

"Let them (players) develop confidence and the skill set," he said. "You throw these kids into the fire in the high school program. I don't want to hurt the Ely program, but those are our kids."

Both Superintendent Reggie Engebritson and Koivisto reminded the board that the agreement with Ely had been in place for two decades.

Manick however, that Ely was not giving parents and players from Northeast Range a large enough say in the program.

Koivisto said the same would be true of any cooperative agreement not housed within the district While the board was divided, they eventually agreed that ending the program would likely spell the end of hockey at Northeast Range in the

Engebritson said it was too late in the year to make any decision for the 2018-2019 season, though more conversation will likely be held at future board meetings. She added the Ely School District has already indicated they will honor any decision made by St. Louis County

In other business, the board:

➤ Agreed to a vote at its Nov. 14 meeting to create a cooperative agreement between Northeast Range and Mesabi East for Nordic skiing. Mesabi East has already approved the agreement, and it will go into effect immediately upon approval by ISD

➤ Heard from Engebritson that newly elected Bois Forte Tribal Council member Shane Drift will address the board at the Nov. 27 meeting on a proposal to add a seat for Nett Lake on the ISD 2142 board. While the board offered no comment on the proposal, Engebritson said she doubted the proposal was legal since Nett Lake already had its own school district and state law prohibits out-of-district residents from serving on school boards.





### THANK YOU

The Tower-Soudan Athletic Association would like to thank the generous businesses and individuals who made donations for the Fall Auction. This year's event was our most successful fundraiser in many years! Thanks to all the folks who came to support this great cause. Funds raised are donated for youth athletics and activities in Tower-Soudan.

Adrienne DeVries Aronson Boat Works Barb Soderberg Bergetta Indihar Bob's Service & Towing Brandenberg Gallery **Broten Construction** Joan & Dave Broten Cathy Wright D'Erick's Tower Liquors Elaine McGillivray Eloranta & Associates/ **Boulder Busters** Ely Subway **Embarrass-Vermillion** Federal Credit Union Firelight Gallery Fortune Bay Resort Casino Frandsen Bank, Tower Good Ol' Days Joan Dostert

Jodi Summit Kay Vandervort Leanne's Beauty Shop Johnson Bros. Wine/ Leigh Lillquist Linda Leslar McKinley Park Campground Mickey Ferguson Muriel Scott Nancy Eicholtz Up North Ladies Nancy Larson Nordic Home North Northern Pine Embroidery Piragis Northwoods Co. Potuck Kitchen Store, Ely The Quick Ladies Robin Majerle Scarlet Stone/Rollin' Stone Screen Printing

Shoes & Things Sisu Designs, Ely Sulu's Espresso Café Susan Norha The Timberjay Tower Auto Tower Café Tower Car Wash Tower-Soudan **Elementary Teachers** Tower-Soudan Agency **UBetcha Antiques** Vermilion Club Vermilion Fuel & Food Vermilion Land Office Vermilion Park Inn Vermilion Shear Image Wilderness Golf Wolfland Computer & Hobby Marjory Wood Y Store

Zups of Tower

And thank you to our great team of volunteers: Jodi Summit, Marshall Helmberger, Muriel Scott, Joan Dostert, Jackie Kangas, Karin Schmidt, Mandy Northrup, Bill Stone, Sue Beaton, Jolene Herberg, and the VCS choir students.





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### Sarah Stonich signing books in at Piragis in Ely on Nov. 24

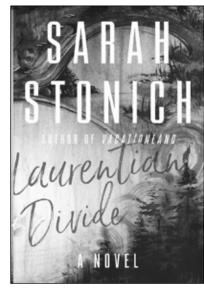
ELY- Minnesota author Sarah Stonich will be signing books at Piragis Second Floor Bookstore on Saturday, Nov. 24 at 4 p.m.

Stonich's newest book, Laurentian Divide, is set in a small northern Minnesota lake town near the Canadian border. While it is a stand-alone book, it picks up the story of the community of Hatchet Inlet, familiar to readers of her last novel, Vacationland.

The novel takes place over the course of the three days leading up to the wedding of two characters, but in that short time, there is plenty of time to get to know the inhabitants of this small town. The book brims with details that will be familiar to those who have lived in the Northwoods, and to those who love the wilderness on its borders

The book draws on details of many Northwoods communities, but its setting is the fictional town of Hatchet Inlet.

For those who have already read Vacationland, this novel is a chance to catch up with the lives of many of that book's characters,



as well as the chance to meet some new ones. For those who haven't read Vacationland, it is the perfect introduction to Stonich's work.

The story spins around three days in the lives of Alpo Lahti, a retired union miner and widower, and his younger fiancée Sissy Pavlova, a waitress at the diner, famous for her gourmet peanut brittle. But at the same time, the community is worried about the reclusive Rauri Paar, the last resident of the federal "reserve" border lakes area, who has

yet to return to Hatchet Inlet after his winter alone on a remote island. Rauri has traditionally always reappeared in town as soon as the ice has melted off the lakes, but this year, he has not been seen. Patrons at the diner have bets placed on the date of his return.

Anyone who enjoys reading about small town, northern Minnesota life, will enjoy this novel.

Stonich's previous books include These Granite Islands, set in the Tower-Soudan area, The Ice Chorus, and a memoir, Shelter, about her time building a small cabin in rural Ely. She has also written (under the pen name Ava Finch) Fishing with RayAnne and Reeling. The Piragis bookstore has most of Stonich's books in stock.

Other upcoming booksignings at Piragis in Ely include:

Saturday, Dec. 1 at 1 p.m. Jack Williams, I'm Not Lost, I Just Don't Know How to Get Home

Friday, Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. Mindy Mejia, Leave No Trace

Saturday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. Jerry Pushcar, Waters Beneath My Feet Saturday, Dec. 15 at 1 p.m. Mary Casanova, Hush Hush, Forest

#### **Voice your opinions about health care** in Ely-Bloomenson survey

ELY- Community members in Ely, Winton, Isabella, Babbitt, Tower and Soudan may soon be receiving a survey form in their mailbox. This survey will be sent to a random sample of homes in November to help Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital (EBCH) identify the health services needed in the community. The information gathered will be used for strategic planning, grant applications, new programs, and by community groups interested in addressing health care issues.

The National Rural Health Resource Center of Duluth is assisting EBCH in the analysis of local community needs, use of local health care services, and overall community health. This process was developed to maintain quality health care to serve the continuing and future needs of the community.

An accompanying goal of this process is to keep health care dollars within the local community While most health care can be provided locally, rural citizens often drive to large medical centers for care, spending money on health care, and non-health care purchases, that could be spent locally. It is estimated that within a typical rural community, millions of dollars in revenue are lost in this way. This revenue could be retained in the local community with stronger community health care provider linkages.

EBCH services currently include Cardiac Rehab, Diagnostic Imaging, Ely Community Pharmacy, 24/7 Emergency Department, Foot Clinic, Home Health Care, Chemotherapy/Infusion Treatment, In-House Lab, Orthopedics, Patient Financial Services, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Sleep Studies, Surgical Services (including a fulltime General Surgeon), Swing Beds and a Wellness Center.

#### Wild vs. St. Louis Blues at Xcel Energy Center bus trip set for Feb. 17

REGIONAL- Travel to St. Paul by deluxe motor-coach bus to watch the Minnesota Wild play the St. Louis Blues on Sunday, Feb. 17 at 2 p.m. - no need to worry about traffic or paying for parking! The cost of this day trip includes deluxe motorcoach (restroom on the bus), roundtrip bus fare, and game ticket. We will make a short stop at Tobies in Hinckley on the way down and on the way back.

Registrations for the trip are limited to 25 people first come first served. There are no refunds for cancellation(s) unless seat(s) can be sold to another party. All patrons will be refunded if the trip is cancelled due to lack of registrations. Please contact Leone Graf at 218-343-3744 for an itinerary, more information, or to register. Students 17 and under must be accompanied by a responsible adult. All seats must be reserved and paid in full by Friday, Dec. 14 at 5 p.m.

This escorted trip is on Sunday, Feb. 17. Bus leaves the Virginia Village Inn Restaurant at 9 a.m., Cherry School parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and South Ridge School parking lot at 10:15 a.m. It returns to South Ridge School at 7:45 p.m., Cherry School at 8:30 p.m., and Virginia Village Inn at 9 p.m. Additional pick-up/drop-off locations are available upon request. Cost is \$150 per person.

### **Annual Virgie Hegg Hospice Lights of Love** fundraising campaign is underway

REGIONAL- The 28th annual VHHP Lights of Love campaign, our largest fundraiser of the year, begins in November to commemorate National Hospice Month and National Family Caregivers Month. Last year's Lights of Love raised approximately \$5,700. Fundraising goals are achieved through the dedicated efforts of our Board of Directors working together with a community of supporting individuals and businesses. We invite you to continue the tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones by supporting VHHP through this Lights of Love campaign.

Our mission is to bring comfort care services to enrolled hospice patients and their families in our local communities. VHHP sponsors two education scholarships for students enrolled in the North Woods School and Tower enrollment area, pursuing a medical career, and one scholarship for college students.

Your tax-deductible donation will help light the trees at the holiday celebrations in Cook, Orr and Tower in support of local hospice patients and their families. Donations may be given in honor or memory of a loved one. Ice candles are available for purchase to be displayed as part of the tree lighting ceremonies. All



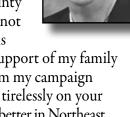
Lights of Love contributions and dedications will be published in local area newspapers during the month of January, unless otherwise indicated on the attached form.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the Lights of Love tree lighting and caroling which will take place at the Cook Library and Gazebo on Friday, Nov. 30 at 5 p.m. at Orr's Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 1 at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 2 at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center at 4 p.m. You are also invited to join us following the ceremonies for coffee, cider and treats.

For more information about Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners, visit our website at www.vhhp.org or contact Becca Bundy, Program Director at 218-780-5423 or Ivette Reing, Chairperson at 218-290-6177. To make a donation, you can find a form on our website or please make checks payable to VHHP Lights of Love and mail to PO Box 244, Cook, MN 55723. PayPal is also available via our website.

#### Thank You

I want to express my neartfelt thanks to the voters of the 4th District for electing me to be your next county commissioner. I could not have accomplished this



without the love and support of my family and the great work from my campaign volunteers. I will work tirelessly on your behalf to make our life better in Northeast Minnesota. I thank you for the opportunity

#### Paul McDonald

Paid for by McDonald for Commissioner Campaign Committee

#### Join Us at the

Mt. Iron Community Center 8586 Enterprise Drive South, Mt. Iron

- for a -

#### BENEFIT FOR NEIL MAYO Saturday, Dec. 1 · 11 AM-3 PM

Neil was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer in January of 2015. Neil grew up in Kugler Township and is a 1999 graduate of Tower Soudan High School. All proceeds raised will go to help Neil's family with medical bills and expenses.

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OR: GoFundMe/neil-russell-mayo

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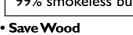




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2018 FIREARMS DEER SEASON

### Deer registrations make modest gains in second week

With final weekend just ahead, hunters should find continued strong deer activity, seasonably cool temperatures

Managing Editor

REGIONAL—Chilly temperatures over the second week of the firearms deer season didn't seem to discourage hunters, as they made up a little lost ground from the slower-than-expected opening

Across Zone 100, which

encompasses northeastern Minnesota, the 2018 harvest was still down, by 17.7 percent over last year. But that reflects modest improvement over the first weekend, when deer registrations were off by 21 percent.

Locally, in the DNR Tower work area, the total harvest is down four percent, with buck registrations running 1.5 percent below last year.

"Hunters reported a mixed bag of deer activity," said Tower DNR Area Wildlife Manager. "Buck activity improved over the second weekend with some hunters reporting bucks chasing does and breeding pairs. Other hunters reported minimal deer activity with most of it occurring at night."

The Nov. 3 start to the deer season this year may have

limited deer activity for the first few days of the season. According to Rusch, peak rutting activity generally occurs between Nov. 7 and 11 in the local area.

Weather has generally been ideal for hunting most days, according to Rusch. The area has had 2-4 inches of snow

See HARVEST...pg. 5B





# A second "deer of a lifetime"

*Editor's Note: The following* story was written and submitted by Catherine Farley, a Lake Vermilion resident, about her recent experience while deer hunting. We hope readers enjoy

y name is Catherine. I am in my 50s and have been hunting every year for the past ten years. I never hunted in my earlier years.

The thing about hunting for me, is that it is my time with nature, the big animals, the birds, the critters. I love to watch the sunrise and the forest come alive. When I sit in my stand, the rest of the world disappears, there's nothing else like it for me. The rules say a hunting day officially begins a half hour before sunrise and ends a half our past sunset. I will sit in my stand for the entire day. Day after day, uninterrupted. Sometimes I take pictures, read, do puzzles, and even catch a nap when it feels too quiet. I pack a lunch and a thermos and I make it my time. I look forward to the experience every year and refuse to miss a minute because

seeing a deer, is always a gift. Deer are, indeed, beautiful animals as well as a great way to feed the family. But, there is much more to deer hunting than that For me deer hunting

**Above: Catherine Farley** with the ten-point buck she shot opening day this year before there was snow on the ground. photo by K. Lovgren

Right: Catherine with the eight-point buck she shot two years ago. submitted

I am shaking. I am going to laugh because I cannot keep still. The crosshairs are moving all over.

**Catherine Farley** 

is truly a sport. While I am sitting in my stand, the sight of a deer will spark my competitive spirit, and I can feel what I call an adrenaline rush". It is that same rush I used to get before my performance in athletic competitions: just before mounting the balance beam or uneven parallel bars, or just before climbing the ladder of the diving board to perform my first dive of the event, or just before I hit my golf ball off the first tee with the crowd watching and holding



their breath to see if I hit it in the fairway. I had a routine before each performance where I would take a deep breath, blow it out slowly, calm myself, and then just go for it. My routine and that "adrenaline rush" happens each time I perform in the woods. The adrenaline rush is what I get when I am in my stand and I see a deer. The routine I perform each and every time before taking my

shot. Deer hunting is indeed a

sport for me, and one I enjoy as much as any sport I have competed in. The difference, of course, is that there is no audience, no team, no coach counting on my performance. It's just me. It's my decision to shoot, the angle to shoot at, the distance to shoot and the accuracy with my 243 that determines the type of kill and the quality of my performance. In the

See HINT no 5R

#### **Outdoors briefly**

### **Keep your** blaze orange gear handy

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER Managing Editor

REGIONAL - While the regular firearms deer season comes to a close just after dusk on Sunday, you might want to keep your blaze orange handy for a little while yet. That's because the muzzleloader deer season gets underway on Nov. 24 and runs through Dec. 9.

While fewer hunters take part in the muzzleloader season, it's still a time to be cautious when active in the woods, and blaze orange is your best bet to stay safe.

A number of special hunts will also be held during the muzzleloader season, including a hunt in the city of Tower.The Tower Area DNR office is issuing a total of 20 permits allowing hunters to take deer of either sex within the city limits. Hunters are allowed a bag limit of up to five deer.

Two area state parks will also host special hunts. including the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park, where 25 hunters will be allowed to take up to two deer of either sex. At McCarthy Beach State Park, near Side Lake, 25 hunters will be allowed to take up to three deer of either sex. The McCarthy Beach hunt runs from Nov. 24 through Dec. 2, while the Lake Vermilion hunt runs through Dec. 9.

#### **You can donate** venison to your local food shelf

The Minnesota DNR in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), has a program that allows Minnesota deer hunters to donate deer carcasses to food shelves and feeding programs. This program provides an excellent source of protein to people in need while helping reduce local deer populations.

To participate, hunters must have their deer processed at a MDA-registered meat processing plant that has agreed to participate in the program. A list of processors can be found on the MDA website. Hunters are strongly advised to contact the processor before bringing in a deer to make sure they are still able to handle the animal. Only entire carcasses with the hide attached can be donated. Cut and wrapped meat will not be accepted for donation.

from NOAA weather



Another generation has been successful in the deer hunt. Chloe Anderson, age 11, shot her first deer opening weekend hunting outside of Soudan. She was hunting with her mom Jillian Anderson, grandpa Franklin Gornick, aunt Nichole Chiabotti, uncle Aaron Gornick and cousins Kaden Gornick and Joey Lakoskey.

#### HARVEST...Continued from page 4B-

on the ground for most the season, which has improved hunters' ability to spot deer in the woods and has aided in tracking



Volunteers in the Orr and Cook area are needed to drive persons to medical appointments and to work. Reimbursement is 54.5 cents per mile. Must have a valid driver's license, a dependable vehicle, insurance a clean driving record and

"Temperatures have been below average but also conducive to deer movement," said Rusch. "This may have reduced time on the stand for some hunters."

As hunters head into the final weekend of the season, Rusch said they should expect continued strong deer movement. "With lower hunting pressure and rutting activity continuing into the last weekend, hunting should be good for those still in the woods," he said.

Hunters can expect seasonably chilly temover the weekend.





### LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

Saturday

Monday

**Tuesday** 

Hi Lo Prec. Sn. Emb. Hi Lo Prec. Sn. Lo Prec. Sn. Tower Hi Lo Prec. Sn. 11/05 40 11/05 40 11/05 11/05 40 32 0.00 29 0.08 11/05 39 27 0.02 39 32 0.03 34 0.01 27 0.10 11/07 11/07 37 25 0.14 11/07 25 0.14 11/07 11/07 38 25 0.06 11/08 18 0.04 11/09 21 18 0.16 1.5" 11/10 21 3 0.04 2.0" 1.5" 0.5" 11/09 20 17 0.04 11/10 20 12 0.02 11/09 19 14 0.13 11/10 19 9 0.00 11/09 22 18 0.04 1.0" 11/09 21 17 0.38 0.07 0.02 11/11 20 14 0.03 11/11 21 8 Totals 11/11 22 19 10 0.00

#### **HUNT...**Continued from page 4B

end, it's just me and my desire to walk away from this season's hunt with an experience that will allow me to return next season.

Two years ago, Nov. 14, 2016, I believed I shot my "deer of a lifetime"...an eight-pointer. (see snowy photo on page 4B).

I have had that deer mounted and was quite comfortable with that experience as my deer hunting "moment to remember".

Then came deer opener, Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018...

I woke up late that morning due to the fact that I had been sick for the past seven days with "the crud". The crud virus that causes one to cough on and off all day and wake up in the middle of the night with a coughing attack, which ultimately leaves one feeling completely worn out and exhausted. I woke up late that morning feeling tired and exhausted and I needed to hurry if I was going to get to my stand thirty minutes before sunrise. I did not hurry and wound up arriving fifteen minutes later than planned, but that was ok as I did not intend to actually shoot anything. I had arrived to watch the forest, the sunrise and maybe get some much-needed sleep, as I had been sleeping better in an upright position, due to the crud. This was my time and I had been waiting all year for it, I was not going to miss it. However, after sitting down, I confirmed once again that I was just too tired to deal with a deer alone and there would be other days to shoot a deer, when I was feeling stronger... unless of course...I happen to see a "deer of a lifetime."

It was not ten minutes and I see a deer walking slowly through the trees toward my lane. I grab the binoculars to confirm it is a doe. She was moving cautiously now and when I go to put down my binoculars, because I am not going to shoot her even though she is rather large, I catch this buck out of the corner of my eye standing proudly in my lane. My first thought is, "You've got to be kidding," standing there in his glory, head held high with the pink sunrise behind him just staring right at me. "Are you for real?" So, I just wait. He does not move. I think, "He's the real deal." I wait. I pick up my gun and take the safety off. I have that feeling. He is still looking in my direction. I counted 10 points. "Well," I think, "let's see what he does." Nothing. I put the cross hairs on his chest. He is at about 35 yards and facing me straight on. "I have never shot a deer straight on," I think, "not much room for error." He starts to move toward me. One slow step at a time. I wait. I am shaking. I am going to laugh because I cannot keep still. The crosshairs

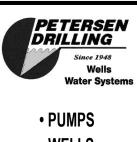
are moving all over. I cannot take a breath as I am afraid I will cough. I tell myself, "Breathe. Just breathe." He stopped. Still looking straight at me. Ok, I breathe, blow it out, I shoot. I have no idea if it will kill him fast or if I will have to track him. He runs towards me, takes a 90 degree left, runs zig-zagging, he follows the edge of the open area and away from me, he is still running. Wait, did he stumble? I must have blinked, I lost him. I wait. I hear a shot fired in the distance. I must wait, just in case he needs time, or someone else got him. I wait ten very long minutes. Ok, I go with my back pack and gun. I start where I first saw him. I see his hoof prints dug deep into the soft ground. No blood. Not a drop. Not good for tracking. I'm following his hoof scrapes even though I do not need to at this point because I saw him go here. So, just practicing. No blood. I get to the spot where I thought I saw him stumble, I look under the pines. Whoa! There he is! It was quick. Wow! He is huge! No blood anywhere. Amazing. The "deer of a lifetime". Fifteen minutes...season over. Shortest season ever. Biggest

deer ever. It is a story. It is my story.

An experience that will allow me to return next season.



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#### **Obituaries and Death Notices**

#### Larry H. Saukko

Larry Harold Saukko, 70, of Duluth, formerly of Tower, passed away on Monday, Nov. 12, 2018, at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth. Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 17 at United in Christ Church of Eveleth with visitation one hour prior to the service. Pastor Art Dale will officiate. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home of Virginia.

He is survived by his

sister, Leone (Millard) Kendrick and their children Chris (Kelly) Kendrick and Julie (Mike Koskovich) Kendrick; brother, Richard (Jane) Saukko and their children Ben (Annie) Saukko, Lindsey (Edward Downs) Saukko and Michael (Kelly) Saukko; sister, Anni (Mike) Knutson and their daughter Beth (Paul) Giddings; and many great-nieces and great-nephews.

#### **Jacob Varoga**

Jacob Varoga, 85, originally of Ely, lost his battle with Alzheimer's disease on Friday, Nov. 9, 2018. The family wishes to thank the staffs at St. Michael's Health and Rehab and St. Raphael's Health and Rehab for all the kindness and care extended to Jake and the family during this difficult time. At his request, there will be no funeral service. Private interment will be in the Vermilion Cemetery.

Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Millie Sandnas; sons, Ken (Lana) Varoga and Chris (MaryAnn) Varoga; daughters, Patty (Rick) Cooper and Kelly Varoga; Terry (Dolores "Toots") Sandnas and Tammy (Ron) Mastin; grandchildren, Rebecca, Benjamin, Caleb, Sean, Eli, Brianne, Jacob, Evan and Miranda; and great-grandson,

#### Joan K. **Deslauriers**

Joan Katherine Tamminen Deslauriers, 84, of Currie, originally of Ely, passed away on Friday, Sept. 14, 2018, at Ava's House Hospice in Sioux Falls, S.D. A celebration of life was held on Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Community Center in Currie. Interment will be in the Fort Snelling Cemetery at a later date. Stephens Funeral Service -Westbrook Funeral Home

is assisting the family with arrangements.

She is survived by her husband Ed's siblings, Bobbi Vaughan of Wayzata, Gloria Schmidt of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mary Ellen (Ivan) Krizan of Hastings, Lucille (Bill Maher) Deslauriers of Currie and Joel (Carla) Deslauriers of Rochester; and many nieces and nephews.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

**MINUTES OF BOARD** OF EDUCATION **INDEPENDENT** SCHOOL DISTRICT 707 Nett Lake, Minnesota 55772-8122

REGULAR MEETING October 8, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brandon Benner, Chairman Beverly Steel, Vice-Chairman Tara Geshick, Director Marilyn Geshick, Director ALSO PRESENT:

Jim Varichak, Supt./Prin.

ABSENT Jane Villebrun, Treasurer

Chairman Benner called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 707 to order at 8:19 a.m.

19-035 Motion was made by M. Geshick and seconded by Steel to approve the agenda with one addition.

MOTION CARRIED

19-036 Motion was made by M. Geshick and seconded by Steel to approve the September 10, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

CARRIED MOTION 4-0-0

19-037 Motion was made by Steel and seconded by T. Geshick to approve the bills in the amount of \$38,806.42 (list attached). CARRIED 4-0-0

19-038 Motion was made by Steel and seconded Villebrun to approve the September 30, 2018 Financial Report. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

Superintendent/Principal report was given: Bill King display finished and he came and spoke to the students 6th grade participated in the STEM program, Vision & Hearing screening will be next Monday, Wild Rice

Camp will be this Thursday. and Halloween parade Oct.

Technology Report was reviewed.

Correspondence: Letter from MDE with the outcome of the school safety grants.

19-039 Motion was made by Steel and seconded by T. Geshick to approve the UHL bid for the system upgrade **MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0** 

19-040 Motion was made Steel and seconded by T. Geshick to form a Committee with the three remaining board members to interview

the candidates to fill the temporary board vacancy. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

19-041 Motion was made by M. Geshick and seconded by Steel to set the special election date April 9, 2019 for the vacant school board position. **MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0** 

19-042 Motion was made by Steel to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 16, 2018

STATE OF MINNESOTA **COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS DISTRICT COURT** PROBATE DIVISION SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 69DU-PR-18-341

NOTICE AND ORDER HEARING PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION INTESTACY, DETERMINATION HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of James Herbert Coleman, aka James H. Coleman, aka James Coleman Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on Dec. 4, 2018, at 1:30 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 100 North 5th Ave West, Duluth, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Sandra Marie Anderson, whose address is 7635 Metske Road, Eveleth, MN 55734 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED admin-

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

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the claims will be barred.

Dated: October 22, 2018

BY THE COURT THERESA NEO Judge of District Court Amy Turnquist Court Administrator Debra Thorstensen, Deputy

Attorney for Petitioner Angela E. Sipila Slpila Law Office LLC 412 1st Street S, Suite 1

Virginia, MN, 55792 Attorney License Telephone: (218) 741-5000 Email: ange@sipilaw.com

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 9 & 16, 2018

**LEGAL NOTICE** In the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Tribal Children's Court Nett Lake, MN Minnesota Chippewa **Tribe** 

The Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v Liberty Lynn Isham and Samuel Vaughn Bryers, Respondents, et. al.

The above named respondents, Liberty Lynn Isham and Samuel Vaughn Bryers, parents of D.I., a minor child.

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a child protection petition has been filed in Bois Tribal Court on July 5, 2018. A hearing will be held on the 12th day of December 2018, at 1:00 p.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard the Bois Forte Tribal Children's Court, Bois Forte Indian Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772 on an admit/deny

HEREBY ARE NOTIFIED BY SUMMONS THIS NOTICE THAT YOU ARE REQUESTED TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING AT THE ABOVE DATE, TIME AND PLACE.

YOUR **FAILURE** TO ATTEND THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN THE PETITION BEING GRANTED BY DEFAULT FOR THE PETITIONER.

Isham., Respondent, et. al. Megan Treuer, Chief Judge Janelle Smith, Clerk of Court

Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Prosecutor Bois Forte Tribal Court 12907 Palmquist Road

P.O. Box 25 Nett Lake MN 55772 Tel: 218-757-3462

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 9, 16 & 23, 2018

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

In the Bois Forte Band

of Chippewa Tribal Children's Court Nett Lake, MN Minnesota Chippewa Tribe The Bois Forte Band of

Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v Liberty Lynn

The above named respondent, Liberty Lynn Isham, parent of K.L.I. and D.I., minor children.

It is Ordered and Notice is

Hereby Given that a child protection petition has been filed in the Bois Tribal Court on July 5, 2018. A hearing will be held on the 12th day of December 2018, at 1:00 p.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Tribal Children's Court, Bois Forte Indian Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772, on an admit/ deny hearing.

ARE HEREBY YOU SUMMONS NOTICE THIS NOTICE THAT YOU ARE REQUESTED TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING AT THE ABOVE DATE, TIME AND PLACE.

**FAILURE** ATTEND THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT JUDGEMENT BEING GRANTED FOR THE PETITIONER.

By The Court Megan Treuer, Chief Judge 12907 Palmquist Road P.O. Box 25 Nett Lake MN 55772 Tel: 218-757-3462

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 9. 16 & 23. 2018

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## Weekly SUDOKU

#### by Linda Thistle

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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**117** Trident, e.g.

119 The Evil One

**120** Pig — poke

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12 Spiritual

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19 Stuffy room

21 Footrace a

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24 Rice-sized

pasta

29 Hatchet

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- aimlessly
- 5 Sport-(vehicle)
- 8 Marsh fuel 12 See 124-
- Down
- 15 "Well, this -
- surprise!" 18 Extents of
- estates 20 Enjoying an
- African trek 22 Biscotti tidbit
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Swaying to and -26 "Heaven
- Can Wait' director
- Lubitsch 27 "... — will!" 28 Diplomatic
- agent 29 Do injury to
- 30 Keeps hold of 33 Brit's 26th
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#### **COUPLE** 87 Oilcan part 91 Rove 92 Lion's home 51 Black-and-

**ODD MUSICAL** 

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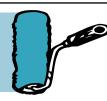
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- 52 Figure skater informally 96 Greek vowel
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  - 102 Bobbin stuff **103** NHL's
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  - actress Birch 104 Time piece? **105** Optional SAT part
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  - unborn) **111** — diet Ave. solicitor
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- stealthily **72** Feels regret 113 Big name in 73 Ibis' homes credit cards
- 115 Lickety-split 74 Fido's prize 116 The Magi, e.g.
- 118 Fanzines, pellets of ice say **79** Probe org. 121 Musical
- 80 From the top syllable **122** "Grand Hotel" studio
  - hunters 12-Across,





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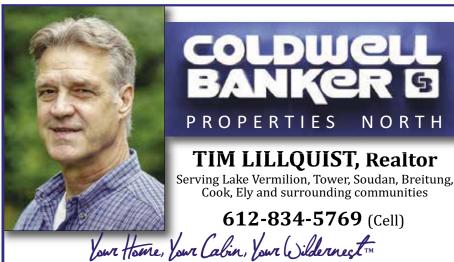
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