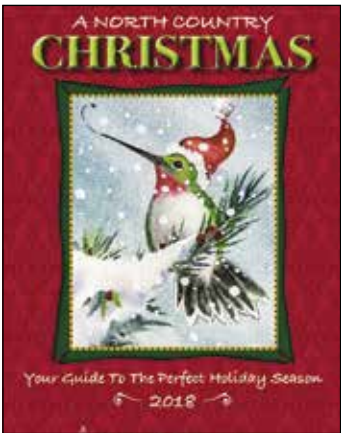


Don't miss this year's North Country Christmas Magazine- inside
Former mayor/commissioner dies...See /3
Ely's Christmas Musical... See /1B



The TIMBERJAY

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HEALTHCARE

More patient transfers spark competition

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

Could affect Tower Area Ambulance's financial health

REGIONAL— An increase in the number of non-emergency patient transfers from Virginia's Essentia medical center to Essentia facilities in Duluth has sparked a competition, of sorts, between area ambulance services.

But it's a competition that

the Virginia Fire Department and EMS is almost certain to win— and doing so will likely affect the financial viability of the Tower Area Ambulance Service's recent switch to paid on-call (POC) staffing.

Tower's ambulance service made the switch to POC staffing

RELATED CONTENT

More information on Page 3

in April, maintaining a two-person crew on call 24 hours a day, five days a week.

The staffing cost, alone,

is significant, but Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg has maintained for more than a year that the cost would be covered by higher revenues from an increase in the number of transfers that the service could provide to area hospitals. So-called inter-hospital transfers are, in fact, lucrative

for area ambulance services, typically paying more than twice the average rate of an emergency call.

According to data generated by Virginia Fire Chief Allen Lewis, who also oversees the

See...TOWER pg. 9

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS



The real Santa Claus

St. Nicholas historian explains traditions of the saint

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- While children today know Santa Claus as the giver of gifts, the origin of this tradition traces back to Saint Nicholas, born in early 300 BC, in Lycia, in Asia Minor (now the southern coast of Turkey).

"Our children are more into the receiving," said Pauly Housenga, "but St. Nicholas was all about the idea of giving."

At this month's Tower Soudan Civic Club meeting,

Pauly Housenga, a longtime member of the Tower Soudan Civic Club, is a collector of St. Nicholas figures and books. photos by J. Summit

longtime club member Pauly Housenga shared her collection of St. Nicholas figures and books— spoke about the history of this saint and how the tradition of St. Nicholas Day (celebrated on Dec. 6)

See... PAULY pg. 11



CITY OF ELY

New website will highlight economic development

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The Ely Economic Development Authority is pursuing a new communication tool with the goal of showcasing and marketing the plethora of programs, resources and opportunities available to existing and would-be entrepreneurs in the region.

Last week, the authority awarded a contract to Richard Stuart, founder of the new Ten Below business co-working space in downtown Ely, to establish and maintain a new website designed to highlight economic development opportunities and objectives of the city of Ely. The new site, once completed, will be located at www.eeda.ely.mn.us

The contract calls for Stuart to undertake the design and development of the new website and register the copyright, at a cost of \$3,800. Additionally, the webmaster services for on-going maintenance and updating of the website will cost \$119 per month. "This part tends to be left out, and many times a new website is built and once it is launched, there is no thought to maintaining it," he told members of the EEDA on Nov. 13.

Stuart based his proposal on solving a problem the city of Ely has had for a

See... ELY pg. 9

EDUCATION

Area school districts consider collaboration agreement

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL— Area superintendents and teachers were set to meet Tuesday (after the Timberjay's early holiday presstime) in Chisholm to consider a proposal to create a broad-reaching collaborative agreement between several Iron Range school districts.

Eighth-graders Emily Trip, Cooper Antikainen and Anya Pearson work in shop class at North Woods School. The class could be offered in a collaborative agreement. photo by Marcus White

Under the proposal, students from the St. Louis County, Ely, Chisholm, Mt. Iron-Buhl and Mesabi East districts would be able to cross-enroll in classes at participating school districts, if they weren't

available at their own school.

The plan would, in theory, increase opportunities for students to access vocational courses as

See...SCHOOL pg. 10



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Fundraiser for Cook Zup's

FIELD TWP- The North Woods boys and girls basketball teams are hosting a fundraiser for the Cook Zup's Store on Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. at the North Woods High School. Everyone is invited to come out and support their community.

There will be three 15-minute games, with teams of mixed boys and girls varsity players. After the games, there will be a three-point contest, skills challenge, a free throw contest, and a relay race.

Admission is \$5 a person. Concessions and a 50/50 raffle will be held. All proceeds will be donated to Cook Zup's for their rebuilding effort.

Vermilion Dream Quilters Christmas Party, Dec. 6

TOWER- Vermilion Dream Quilters will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 6 at the Vermilion Club for our annual Christmas party. Check your November minutes to see if you've already signed up and contact Kathy Lovgren if you would like to add your name or if you find you won't be able to join us.

December is the "Big Reveal" for our candy bar wrapper challenge so please be sure to bring your project plus a show and tell. We all gain inspiration when we see what is possible.

For more information, please contact Corrine Hill in Tower at 218-753-4600.

Pancake breakfast and holiday boutique on Saturday, Dec. 1

EMBARRASS- On Saturday, Dec. 1, head to the Timber Hall in Embarrass for all you can eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, fruit, juice and a bottomless cup of coffee. Breakfast will be served from 8 to 11 a.m. Adults cost \$5, children ages 6 to 10 years cost \$3, and children under 5 years old are free.

Holiday gifts will also be available for purchase at the holiday boutique. For vendor information, contact Sue Beaton at 218-750-2718. This event is sponsored by the Embarrass Region Fair Association.

Giving thanks for our own creativity at Mesabi Unitarian, Nov. 25

VIRGNIA- On Sunday, Nov. 25, Mary Erickson's topic is "Let Us Give Thanks for Our Own Creativity." Some of us acknowledge our creative natures, others maintain we have none. Today we are thankful for the creator in all of us and what we learn about ourselves through creating. Do you design, bake, or write (documents or poetry)? Did you create your own business? How do your gardens grow? Is your creativity born of an artistic or practical nature? In this service, we will share our creative gifts and connect with our creative spirits. Erickson is a weaver. The service is at 10:30 a.m. at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church, 230 7th Street S in Virginia.



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Stop by for your frame adjustment by one of our experienced fitting opticians.

TOWER-SOUDAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



TSAA Auction Fundraiser a success



Retired Tower-Soudan teacher Carol Alstrom won two of the big raffle prizes of the evening. She is pictured with former student Casie Skala.

Tower-Soudan Athletic Association's annual auction fundraiser was great fun for all who attended, and raised money for youth athletics and activities in Tower-Soudan. Above: Vermilion Country School choir students entertained the attendees.

Below: Auctioneer Bill Stone kept the action moving all evening. Irene Hartfield, of Ely, provided entertainment and karaoke. photos by J. Summit



Holiday Music at local libraries in December

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Holiday Music with Zachary Scot Johnson. Join us for an hour of family-friendly merriment at Cook Public Library on Friday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m., at Ely Public Library on Thursday,

Dec. 13 at 3:30 p.m., and at Babbitt Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m.

Zachary Scot Johnson is a singer/songwriter who tours nationally. His hit YouTube channel, the-songadayproject, has over 2,000 consecutive days of recordings over six years



without a missed day and has 40 million views. You'll hear both well-known and lesser-known music performed on guitar, keyboard, violin, mandolin, banjo, ukulele and more. Don't miss this musical event that is

perfect for the holidays.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, please see our calendar at www.alslib.info, follow us on Twitter @ALSLibraryNews, or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/alslibinfo.

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CITY OF TOWER

Council greenlights new ambulance purchase

No final price tag available; will replace existing ambulance with 110,000 miles on it

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER — The city council here, on Nov. 13, gave the green light to the purchase of a new ambulance, with a price tag expected to approach \$250,000. The new ambulance is expected to replace the second-oldest of the department’s three rigs, a 2011 diesel vehicle with approximately 110,000 miles on it. Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg presented the council with a brief purchase request without a final price tag or final specifications, which he said were still being developed. Altenburg told the council he had called around to three different vendors, Lifeline, Braun Northwest, and McCoy Miller, and found the prices all in the same range, at just under \$250,000. He said that includes

See related editorial... page 4

the price of the GMC G4500 Type III, gasoline-fueled ambulance and a Stryker powerload and cot. “I’m looking at going with the Lifeline one,” he said, without explaining his rationale. Altenburg said the department is unlikely to get much resale value from the existing ambulance due to a glut of used ambulances. He estimated that the sale could generate as little as \$10,000. Altenburg said the new ambulance box was designed to be remounted on a new chassis at a later point, which he said would save the department money in the long run. The council did not ask about the source of funding

for the purchase, although Altenburg previously told the council that there was insufficient funding in the ambulance replacement fund, which would likely require drawing from the ambulance’s reserve funds. In related business, the council approved the purchase of other ambulance-related equipment totaling \$54,924. The council also heard from city engineer Matt Bolf, who reported that the final payment on the Hoodoo Point Campground sewer project is being withheld due to some deficiencies. He also reported that the cost for infrastructure for the first phase of the harbor town home project, which includes the first six town homes, is estimated at \$276,000. He noted that St. Louis County has completed its comments on the harbor plat and that he expected to have



The city appears poised to approve the purchase of a new ambulance to replace one of its older diesel rigs. J. Summit

responses to comments back to the county by Nov. 16. Sales of town homes at the harbor cannot begin until the plat is finalized. Bolf also offered a quick update on progress on the new

TEDA manufacturing building at the city’s industrial park. He said the building framework

See COUNCIL...pg. 5

PASSAGES

Herb Lamppa made his mark in teaching, politics, and business

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — One of Tower’s most prominent citizens has passed away. Herb Lamppa, age 88, played many roles throughout his life and, in each, displayed humility, kindness, and an overwhelming desire to help others. Lamppa passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 14, at St. Michael’s Health and Rehabilitation Center in Virginia, where he had been recuperating following stroke. Lamppa was most widely known through his lengthy political career. He got his start in politics on the Tower City

“Herbie Lamppa was one of the most decent human beings I ever met.

Tom Rukavina

Council and served two initial terms as mayor before running successfully for St. Louis County Commissioner, representing the Fourth District, a position he held for three terms before retiring. He later served two more terms as Tower’s mayor,



before health issues forced him to give up the position. During his time at the city’s helm, Lamppa spearheaded the harbor project, obtained funding for the building that now houses the Vermilion Country School, and oversaw the Northstar Addition. Longtime Tower City Clerk

Left: Herb Lamppa, right, congratulates former Tower City Clerk Ann Lamppa at her retirement party several years ago. Ann described Herb as “a wonderful man who was easy to work for.” file photo

Tim Kotzian remembered that Lamppa had vision and the political connections that helped the city advance its goals. “He knew everybody, from here to St. Paul and back,” he said. “He was a helluva guy. Everybody felt that way.” While he made a big mark in politics, for many who grew up in Tower, Lamppa was perhaps best-known as their favorite teacher. “I knew him first as

my math teacher,” said Steve Abrahamson, himself a former Tower mayor who was recently re-elected to a new term on the city council. “He was very observant as a teacher and was one of those kind of guys who would reach out to help if he saw your struggle. He was always willing to give of his time.” He mentored more than just students. Abrahamson, who served on the city council during Lamppa’s fourth and final term as mayor, said Herb taught him a lot and ultimately convinced him to run for mayor himself. “He said he liked that I didn’t come

See LAMPPA...pg. 5

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OPINION

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Editorial

Ambulance purchase

Tower council has more questions that need answers before approving this major purchase

It appears the city of Tower is poised to make another very expensive decision, without adequate vetting.

At issue is the desire by Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg to spend as much as \$250,000 for a new ambulance. The city council gave Altenburg the okay to finalize the purchase of a new vehicle and related equipment at their Nov. 13 regular meeting, but did so without any public explanation of why the current ambulance is in need of replacement or a discussion of whether the city even needs to operate three ambulances. The city council recently approved spending upwards of \$75,000 to bring a reserve ambulance back into service, which increased the city’s full-time fleet to three, up from the two ambulances the city had operated for a number of years.

We don’t fault Mr. Altenburg for advocating for resources for his department. It is the city council that should be asking to see the justification. It’s the council’s job to question whether the purchase fits with the city’s current spending priorities and if this expenditure is an actual need, rather than a desire. As it stands today, that questioning has not taken place, at least not in a public setting.

Here are questions that the city council should be asking before signing any contract for the purchase of a new ambulance:

► Does the ambulance really need replacement? The ambulance that Altenburg seeks to replace is a 2011 diesel vehicle with only 110,000 miles on it. Other area ambulance services routinely expect to get at least twice that number of miles before replacing a vehicle. Virginia EMS shoots for 300,000 miles on a rig before replacement. If the city were going to obtain a substantial trade-in value by selling a relatively low-mileage vehicle, it could perhaps be justified. But Mr. Altenburg told the council that a glut of used ambulances has sent resale values plummeting. Which is all the more reason to get the maximum value out of the service’s existing rigs.

Mr. Altenburg has said the 2011 rig has issues with the ambulance box, but he’s never provided any details to justify replacement. There is no question that the area’s rough roads likely contribute to stress and added wear on all of the city’s ambulances, but is the current vehicle really ready to be essentially scrapped? Following the Nov. 13 council meeting, the *Timberjay* requested, in writing, a more detailed description of the deficiencies with the ambulance box and received no response as of this writing.

► Is it necessary to operate three ambulances? The city’s ambulance service has managed to meet its mission for years without a third ambulance. It is only since the implementation of the city’s paid-on-call (POC) staffing model

in April that Altenburg has pushed aggressively for a third rig to enable the service to take more non-emergency inter-hospital transfers, which help pay for the POC staffing. Yet the future of POC staffing is in serious doubt. As we report this week (see Page One), increased staffing at the Virginia Fire/EMS is likely to cut off most of the transfers that the Tower ambulance service is banking on. Without transfers from Essentia-Virginia, the POC model, at least as currently devised, is unsustainable for Tower. Without the POC model in place, there is absolutely no justification for operating three ambulances and the rig scheduled for replacement could simply be maintained as a reserve unit.

It comes down to adequate utilization. Virginia, for example, operates five ambulances to handle an average of about 3,500 runs per year. That’s about 700 runs per unit annually. By contrast, Tower’s entire ambulance service receives an average of about 450 runs per year. Divided by three ambulances, that’s just 150 runs per unit. At that rate, it takes Tower nearly five years to put as many runs on an ambulance as Virginia does in a single year.

► How were the specifications developed? The rig that Mr. Altenburg wants is a departure from previous ambulance purchases. Mr. Altenburg argues that purchasing a high-end ambulance box, rather than the lower-cost versions the service has bought in the past, may save money in the end by allowing the service to remount the box on a new chassis when the original chassis is worn out. Mr. Altenburg’s plan may or may not work out. Constant updates in the standards of the emergency services suggests that by the time such a remount is in order, the expensive ambulance box will be outdated regardless of its condition.

Before making such dramatic and costly change, the service would be best served by more thoughtful consideration. It’s routine for emergency services to establish a committee to review and talk through the pros and cons of such major decisions. It appears that did not happen in this case. Indeed, the latest purchase request had all the hallmarks of a rush job, timed to allow the city council to finalize the purchase before the new mayor and city council could take office.

There has certainly been no suggestion that the service is in desperate need of a new vehicle. Indeed, one of three rigs has been sitting outside, unused and covered in snow, for weeks. Clearly, the service is operating successfully with the two other ambulances. Given that there is no urgency to the purchase, and that the fate of the service’s POC staffing looks increasingly tenuous financially, there is good reason for the city council to take time for a more careful look.



Happy Thanksgiving
Have a Bountiful Holiday

Letters from Readers

Thanks to Zup’s for their commitment to our area

As regular shoppers at Zup’s in Ely, we already appreciated the service and the wide variety of items in the store. At our request, the butchers cut bulk bacon thick, save boxes of turkey bones for us and greet us enthusiastically when we order a lamb shoulder for kebabs.

More than ever, since the fire in Cook, we appreciate Zup’s. We celebrate their decision to reopen in Cook and especially to continue paychecks to Cook employees until that happens in the summer of 2019. It reflects an admirable community commitment.

Thank you, Zup’s.
**Carolyn Chalmers
and Eric Janus
Ely**

Help Zup’s by shopping at their Tower store

One of the best ways to support Zup’s of Cook is to shop Zup’s of Tower.

Mark and Sally and the crew at Ludlow’s Resort

No viable solutions for acid drainage

Uncontrolled oxidation of sulfide minerals in mine wastes causes acid rock drainage (ARD) that contaminates receiving waters with acid and heavy metals. ARD is an enormous environmental problem, and the most significant environmental issue faced by the mining industry. Effectively dealing with ARD has been and continues to be a formidable challenge for which no global solutions exist. <https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer/abstracts/index.cfm/>

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**Robert Lammi
Ely**

I feel for Christine Blasey Ford

I feel very bad for the brave Christine Blasey Ford who testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Getting up on the stand in front of the world, really, telling a story where she accused Brett Kavanaugh of assaulting her, had to be intimidating for anyone. Then her testimony was dismissed by Senator Susan Collins who felt she was mistaken. How could anyone who has gone through this trauma not know the perpetrator’s name who was on top of you with his hand over your mouth so you could not scream! A memory of this happening will never leave you! You may need help with sleep to keep this horrific memory in the closet.

**Skip M. Dickinson
Britt**

Radinovich showed he’s not a quitter

In last week’s paper, Leah Phifer’s mom, Jackie Moen, took issue with the DFL’s failure to endorse a candidate at the Eighth District endorsing convention. There are lessons to be learned.

I caucused for Leah and was a delegate supporting her at the district DFL convention in Ely. The sizable group I joined with in Ely strongly endorsed Leah Phifer. When we voted to select delegates to go to the convention in Duluth, many of us sought assurance from the delegates we sent that they would be prepared to stand tough. A delegate told me later that Leah gathered her delegates after only ten votes and told them to vote their conscience

on the next vote. That ended it. I was very disappointed. In hindsight, the “super-delegate” table should have been taken to task and the voting should have continued until there was an endorsement. That’s what I expected of Leah Phifer and the delegates I voted for. I wasn’t alone.

Moving on, I became a strong supporter of Joe Radinovich after getting to know him. I don’t regret it. Joe is very knowledgeable on all of the issues facing our country. He fearlessly takes a clear stand on the issues that are important to my class of folks-- the lower and middle class-- notwithstanding a few parking tickets. For our sake, I hope Joe Radinovich stays in it. He proved that he’s not a quitter.

**Lee Peterson
Greenwood Township**

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.

Letters are a great way to offer your input to the *Timberjay*’s editorial page. We want to know what you think!

Where the North Country Sounds Off!

A tale of two great women...

If Tom Brokaw didn’t invent the phrase, “America’s Greatest Generation”, he surely embedded it into our nation’s psyche. I didn’t read his book but from his interviews, he seemed to highlight the fighting men of World War II who defeated Hitler’s Nazi Army. When



**KATHLEEN
MCQUILLAN**

I reflect on that era, my thoughts turn instead to the women, whose glory, for the most part, followed a different story line. With the exception of some who bravely volunteered for military service, most remained stateside to “hold down the fort” and fill voids in the workforce.

Beginning in 1941, with that first call to arms, hordes of men, lit by patriotic fervor or dreams of heroism, enlisted or were drafted into the military. They boarded ships for overseas as young sweethearts waved good-bye, also swept up by “the Cause”. My mother’s family sent two sons, my father’s sent four. Five daughters stayed behind.

At 18, my mother was hired as a postal clerk, a job newly opened to females to keep the home-front functioning. Aunt

Sally, the adventurous one, headed for California, responding to a newspaper ad calling on women to help build aircraft for the “war effort”. Aunt Pat stayed home to care for younger siblings and help Gramma in the family’s “Victory Garden” while Grampa worked the assembly line at Ford’s, retrooled to build fleets of military trucks. The 1940’s marched on until the world was finally liberated from the threat of fascism. Boys came home and life resumed with a lust for

normalcy. Imagine America’s young men and women reuniting, hell-bent on forgetting the fear, mayhem and loneliness of war and separation. First came love. Then came marriage. Then came a bunch of us in baby carriages.

The post-war period arrived prior to modern medicine’s miracle, one now taken for granted, called “family planning”. Back then, young fam-

Letters from Readers

Let's use facts rather than name-calling

I have waited until after the election editorials subsided to respond to the Rodgers' letter in a previous *Timberjay*. Question, if the facts are not in your favor is it best to divert attention away from the issue presented? Let's see. I chose satire to outline board actions. Rodgers chose name-calling instead of rebutting the facts presented. Yes, I received a whopping 22 of 289 votes cast. Don't we all wish that we were successful in all of our endeavors? The Rodgers researched the vote count — that

shows promise. It is encouraging that some fact-finding was undertaken but it seems that the fact-finding stopped there and then back to name calling. If Rodgers had more historical knowledge of the township, Rodgers would know that I have been attending board meetings for a few more years than Bassing so I do not know where the "protege" comes from. Oh yes, more name-calling. If having a disposition to call names as a first choice is a way to demonstrate the inability to have a factual discourse, you win.

The matter of the protege? John Bassing has integrity and honesty. At the October meeting,

the visibly overwrought Chair Ralston blasted Bassing for his comments. Ralston requested of Bassing, "do something positive for this township." Maybe the board should be the protege. I would call that positive.

The current board knows very well how close the last election was. At any cost they will support their voting blocks. They will even make misleading statements thinking that no one will notice and then call those who do notice and say something, the "naysayers". The chair complains about "personally offensive" statements of those who voice their opinions. Hearing any statements contrary to their

story-line, re. votes, is deemed "personally offensive". It is to them as if a citizen is putting a finger in the board's pudding. Maybe that is why the public comment and correspondence were moved from the front of the meeting to the end of the meeting. As if to say, the board has no need for anyone's input on items that affect the township. Leave us alone while we eat our pudding.

Rodgers comments on my campaigning. As far as me "campaigning" for a spot on the town board, I saw the writing on the wall of a three-way race. Please let me know if you find any printed campaign material

that I put forward for that election. Yes, I am asking for facts. Will you find the facts or will it be more name calling? To get you started, I did print a thank you in the *Timberjay* after the election for the 22 votes.

It seems you have chosen to throw your unwavering support to a board that is fast earning a reputation of making misleading statements and bullying. The elixir? The proverbial "kool-aid" of thinking one is above it all and need not answer to anyone.

Jeff Maus
Lake Vermilion, Tower

WOMEN...Continued from page 4

ities were largely at the mercy of their reproductive instincts. (After all, humans, not unlike other earthly creatures, are charged with the "continuation of the species".) Babies came in droves — two, then four, then six, or more! My family prematurely stopped at three, only because Dad became seriously ill.

Our childhood was characterized by stress and strain. My mother, at 33, was unprepared to be the sole breadwinner and full-time disciplinarian. During the war she was happy to work but once it was over, she just wanted to be someone's wife, to make a home of her own and have a family. She liked the idea of keeping things orderly,

cooking, gardening, and waiting for dad to come home. But that was not what her life delivered. Despite living to 94, my mom never seemed able to adapt to change gracefully. Instead, she was a fighter. I've wondered if this was in her DNA or if those early experiences with trauma and loss were the culprit. Whatever the cause, my aunts became my refuge.

Most of my extended family lived nearby so it was routine for the cousins to plan weekend or holiday overnights. Aunts became our my "moms away from home", keeping track of us, expecting respect, and disciplining as needed. I was a shy girl. Being the youngest, I learned to take orders at an

early age. I watched a lot from the sidelines, picking up cues on how to avoid getting into trouble. My two older siblings liked giving orders, threatening to tell Mom when she got home. The rule of thumb was to "be seen and not heard", and generally, that strategy worked well.

I remember once staying at Aunt June's for Christmas vacation. She liked to bake. One morning, my cousins and I woke to find her kitchen table scattered with bowls of freshly made cookie dough, piles of nuts, chopped fruits and colored candy sprinkles. My beautiful aunt, in her hand-embroidered apron, was busy pulling trays of gingerbread men from a

hot oven. The smell was enticing. But before a toe could cross the threshold, Aunt June vigilantly defended her territory with the terse command, "Stay out of the kitchen!"

Later on, while putting supplies back into the cupboard, she called to me, "Kathy, would you like a cookie?" Shyly, I replied in little more than a whisper, "I don't care." Without a second's time granted for me to reconsider, Aunt June shot back brusquely, "Well, if you don't care, I don't care either." With that, I watched her put the cookie canister away — a lesson learned that has lasted a lifetime. Thank you, Aunt June.

If Aunt June is remembered for her tough love,

I remember Aunt Shirley as soft on crime. One day she went out, leaving us kids alone for awhile. My cousin, Art (remember Art) was always the one we counted on to push the limits, or sometimes even break the rules.

On this day, Art decided we should raid the pantry. He rifled through the contents before finding his mother's hiding place for cookies! I stood by warily, as he set the table. Six glasses, six plates, six napkins. A gallon of milk. And a never-before-opened package of Oreos. He hollered out the front door, "Last call for cookies!!" Within minutes, the entire McHugh clan clambered around me, taking their seats.

We'd gorged our-

selves on the entire bag before I realized what we'd done. Art and his sister cleaned up just in time for Aunt Shirley's return. As if from a Brothers' Grimm fairytale, she ordered, "Art, get out the Oreos. A snack, your reward for being good while I was gone." Art's face turned white as a sheet. "Oh no!" I thought, "Big trouble now!" And as if clairvoyant, Aunt Shirley looked Art right in the eye and asked the next question. "Art, did you leave any for me?"

Two dear Aunts, two very different styles! Both full of love, and wisdom. Most of these great women are gone now, but be assured, they will never be forgotten!

COUNCIL...Continued from page 3

is now mostly in place, with footings and sidewalks in place. In other development news, Bolf noted that he had spoken to Luke Kujawa of Your Boat Club to alert him that \$20,000 was still left over for demolition work at the Standing Bear Marina. He said Kujawa told him he would get a plan for using

the money to Bolf soon.

In other business, the council:

- Certified election results from the Nov. 6 general election. None of the councilors inquired about the city's apparent failure to follow through with the St. Louis County Auditor regarding a special review of the city's elec-

tion process. At a Sept. 26 city council meeting, City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith told the council that she had drafted a letter to county elections supervisor Phil Chapman requesting the special review and said it was ready for the mayor's signature. But Chapman confirmed last week that he never

received the letter.

- In his ambulance report, Steve Altenburg noted that runs were down in October, with 34 calls, including nine transfers.

- TEDA member Joan Broten informed the council that TEDA is working on the Blandin Broadband initiative and is holding a public meeting

to get input from residents. That meeting is set for Nov. 29, at 5:30 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center.

- Approved a low bid of \$15,020 from GMen for demolition of two residential structures — located at 711 Main St., and 408 S Second St. The bid assumes no finding of asbestos at either property.

- Approved two pay estimates for Lenci Enterprises for ongoing work on the TEDA manufacturing building.

- Accepted the resignation of Nick Levens from the ambulance service.

- Accepted an application from Jolene Herberg to serve on the planning and zoning commission.

LAMPPA...Continued from page 3

to the job with an agenda," Abrahamson said.

When longtime county commissioner Steve Raukar retired two years ago, he publicly credited Lamppa with teaching him how to understand the county's complex budgeting process.

"Herb was a math teacher and he really knew numbers and the budget. But he also made sure things were fair, right down the line," Raukar told the *Duluth News Tribune* in late 2016.

Fairness was a hall-

mark of the man, according to those who knew him and worked with him.

"Herbie Lamppa was one of the most decent human beings I ever met," said current St. Louis County Commissioner Tom Rukavina, who worked for Herb and his son Daryl at their stove works in Tower before launching his own political career. "He was humble, extremely intelligent, and he treated his workers like family," recalls Rukavina, who notes that he actually suggested the name

"Kuuma" (which means "hot" in Finn) for the line of stoves that have since become famous for their low emissions and efficiency. "Herb laughed that a Bohunk from Virginia would come up with a Finnish name like that," said Rukavina.

Lamppa's passing comes just months after the death of Edna Lamppa, his wife of 70 years. Rukavina said that wasn't a surprise.

"They go together because they were such a team," he said.

A celebration of Lamppa's life will be held at 11 a.m., on Thursday, Nov. 29, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower, with Pastor Liz Cheney officiating. Friends and family are invited for visitation beginning at 10 a.m.

Herb Lamppa will be laid to rest in Lakeview Cemetery in Tower.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Vermilion Housing Corporation

currently is taking applications for
1 and 2 bedroom apartments in
Tower and Soudan.

RENT SUBSIDY AVAILABLE
CALL 218-753-6111

Please leave your name and address
and application form will be sent.



NOTICE Range Cooperatives, Inc. Annual Shareholders Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Shareholders Membership Meeting of Range Cooperatives, Inc.

The meeting will be called to order at:

6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 3, 2018
at Range Funeral Home Fellowship Hall,
911 16 St North, Virginia, MN

- Registration and Lunch will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.
- The regular business meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in the Range Funeral Home Chapel.

Regular business will be transacted at this meeting, which will include presentation of reports, election of directors, and any other business that may come up.

Highlights of last year's updates and improvements in the Range L.P. Dept will be presented.

David Stanaway, President
Michael Boyd, Secretary

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Queen size bed, private bath with shower, small refrigerator and stove.
Will rent until June 1, 2019 (possibly longer)
\$550 per month (all included)

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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.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Raffle tickets for great drawings, Kid friendly.

Pre-Sale Chili Lunch \$8 Bowl
(at both Duluth & Virginia NCCU locations)
\$10 at the door. Kids under 5 are FREE!

Cash donations accepted at:
Northern Communities Credit Union
800 S.16th Ave.
Virginia, MN 55792

Cash donations accepted at:
Northern Communities Credit Union
3311 W. Arrowhead Rd.
Duluth, MN 55811

OR: GoFundMe/neil-russell-mayo

Week of Nov. 26

Monday

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

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

Tuesday

Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Nov. 20.

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

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

Subscribe to the
TIMBERJAY!
Call
218-753-2950



timberjay.com

AEOA Senior Dining Menu

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

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

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

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

Week of 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 over Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Green Beans
Thursday- Lasagna, Dinner Roll
Friday- Pizza, Mixed Fruit

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 shelf.

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

Broadband study informational session set for 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.

TEDA's goal is to identify and ensure high-speed Internet

services to drive community betterment, economic development, and e-learning educational needs. At an earlier informational meeting with TEDA members, 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.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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 pre-sale; 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-mayo.

Red Hat Belles Christmas luncheon on Dec. 7

GREENWOOD TWP- The Red Hat Belles will meet for their annual Christmas luncheon at the Vermilion Club on Friday, Dec. 7 at 12:30 p.m.

Members are asked to bring an unwrapped

gift for Operation Santa, and also non-perishable items for the Tower Area Food Shelf. Any "next-to-new" items you may bring will be used for gifts for the games. New members and guests are always welcomed. Please RSVP by Monday Dec. 3 to Kathy 218-753-2530 or Pam 218-753-3006. Members will order off a limited menu.

New family daycare opening

SOUDAN- Paige Hinkel Olson will be opening a new daycare facility in the lower level of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan. The daycare will serve infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children. Cost is \$3.50 per hour or \$6 per hour for two children from the same family. Call Paige Hinkel Olson for details at 218-780-7217 or email paigehinkel41@gmail.com.

Lights of Love in Tower, Dec. 2

TOWER- The 28th Annual Lights of Love will be held on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 4 p.m. at Tower's Lake Vermilion Cultural Center and Tower Civic Center.

Participants will meet at the Cultural Center for the lighting of the Lights of Love tree and singing of a few Christmas carols. Afterwards,

the group will move to the Tower Civic Center for coffee and Christmas delicacies, and special Christmas music performed by the Community Christmas Choir directed by Rolf Anderson. The Joy Bell Ringers, led by Jane Johns, will perform more Christmas tunes and a special Christmas story will be read to all.

Lights of Love is an opportunity to honor the memory of a loved one or recognize someone special in your life by making a donation to the Lights of Love campaign.

All proceeds raised through this campaign go to helping Virgie Hegg Hospice carry out their mission of bringing comfort care services to enrolled hospice patients and their families in our local communities.

Adopt a Senior program kickoff on Nov. 27

SOUDAN- The Soudan 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.

Transfer station

Soudan Canister

Expanded hours year-round

Monday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Hwy. 77 Canister

Winter hours now in effect

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

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

Contact Adrienne at 218-753-8922 for more information.

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.

Cook VFW

Open Daily at Noon
CLOSED on TUESDAYS

Happy Hour
Daily 4-6 p.m.
All Beer & Drinks
Bar Menu & Pizza Available

Event Rentals
Welcome
218-780-6709

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Sunday FREE Pool

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Early Bird 6 p.m.
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Friday 4:30-7 p.m.
Hamburger Special

Take-Out 666-0500

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Libraries

Ely library

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

Babbitt library

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

Support groups

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

Ely Library

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.

Wednesday, Dec. 5 - 3:30 p.m. - Zachary Scot Johnson Holiday Music - all ages. Minnesota singer/songwriter presents a holiday show of favorite songs and lesser known gems that will delight the whole family. Zachary also shares stories about the songs and his own experiences within the music industry. This program is made possible by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Monday, Dec. 10 3 p.m. - Friends of the Library Book Discussion - for adults.

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018

thanks day arriving
cooks prepare the delicious
gratitude abounds

The Annual Gifts That Give Sale was held Saturday at First Presbyterian Church. Everything at the sale directly benefits people and organizations in need. This year's tables supported 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). Phoebe Helms, left, and Zoe Devine helped out at the sale. Local organization selling holiday gift items included 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.

photo by K. Vandervort



SUPPORTING THE ARTS

Ely music students have a busy fall

ELY - This fall has been a busy one for the music students of Ely Memorial High School. Thus far, according to music director Mike Rouse, the band has been busy playing at games and in the homecoming parade, the Fall Concert was a couple of weeks ago, and the Fall Musical just completed its run.

However, there have been other activities in the music department that may have fallen off the radar.



The Ely Memorial High School Honor Choir, above, from left, Amelia Pluth, Matt Janeksela, Grace Erickson, Composer/Director Andrea Ramsey, Karissa Vanvickle, Cora Olson and Hanna Littler.

Finally, on Nov. 9, Caleb, Maggie Renner, Amelia Pluth, and Hanna Littler attended Choirfest, an honors choir event held at the University of Wisconsin-Superior. "It was another long day of rehearsals beginning at 8 a.m. and concluding with a concert at 7 p.m.," Rouse said.

This year, the music chosen for Choirfest was in honor of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. Selections included, "Homeland" a song whose first stanza was written by a soldier who had been in World War I. The second and third stanzas were written to honor the arranger's own father who walked the Bataan Death March in World War II. They also sang the Mass No. 9 in C major, "Missa in tempore belli" ... Mass In Time Of



The Ely Memorial High School Honor Choir, above, includes, from left, Caleb Rouse-Littler, Maggie Renner, Amelia Pluth and Hannah Littler. Caleb also attended the Honor Band event. submitted photos



musicians. "Both the Ely High School band and choir performed at the school's Veterans Day Program on Nov. 12, always a community favorite," Rouse said.

the **TIMBERJAY**

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In Brief

Ely Holiday parade, tree lighting, set for Saturday

ELY – An "End of the Road Christmas in Ely" kicks off Saturday, Nov. 24. Each year, the Ely Chamber of Commerce coordinates the annual Christmas Parade and City Tree Lighting celebration.

Last year, hundreds of excited parade-goers lined the route and cheered on parade participants. "This year we anticipate the same strong attendance and hope your business

or organization will support the kick-off to Ely's holiday season," said Executive Director Eva Sebastia.

Parade line-up will take place on Stukel Way between the ball field and stadium. Line up begins at 4:30 p.m. The parade begins at 5 p.m. The parade route is Sheridan Street to 2nd Avenue E to Chapman Street to First Avenue E to Harvey Street and back to Whiteside Park.

"We are looking for walking groups, musicians and singers, dancers, vehicles, floats - all types

of entries are welcome," Sebastia said. "For those who plan to hand out treats or other items, those must be handed out by individuals walking the parade route. Due to safety issues, nothing can be tossed from vehicles or floats."

The City Tree Lighting will follow the parade at Whiteside Park performed by Santa and Mayor Novak. "We will provide hot cocoa, hot cider and cookies for everyone in the pavilion," she said. "We will also have a bonfire in the park."

Community Notices

Grocery services offered

COOK - Registrations are being taken here for a grocery delivery service following last week's fire at Zup's Grocery. The program, offered by the AEOA, is for seniors 60 years of age or older. Registrations will be taken over the phone by calling the agency at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 6899

Lyn Reed and Ron Maki exhibit

COOK - Northwoods Friends of the Arts is proud to announce 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 is showing a new line of ceramics/pottery. Ron is exhibiting some of his current large abstract paintings.

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

Bookmobile schedule

Visit your library on wheels, the Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile.
Nov. 29, Dec. 20
Nett Lake - Community Center 9:30-10:15 a.m.
Crane Lake - Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon
Orr - Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.
Kabetogama - Town Hall 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.
For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, write or call the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768 218-741-3840, or check our website at www.alslib.info.





the *TIMBERJAY*

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GRIZZLY UPDATE

Meet Mrs. Amanda Hinrichs

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

This week, North Woods Principal John Vukmanich interviews the school's high school math teacher, Amanda Hinrichs.

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

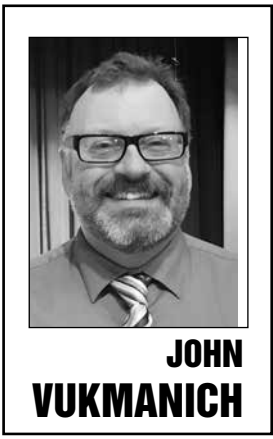
Mrs. H: I grew up in Midway, between Virginia and Eveleth. I went to school at Virginia. I received my teaching degree from UMD. Go Bulldogs!

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

Mrs. H: Mrs. Savela, my 8th and 9th grade math teacher inspired me to be a math teacher. Mrs. Ismil and Mr. Kowalski were also two math teachers who were a great influence on me. I feel I took a little piece of all of their styles.

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

Mrs. H: Mrs. Savela's attitude was that all



JOHN VUKMANICH



AMANDA HINRICHS

I am in a graduate program for my Master's in Education/Math Emphasis, so that is my current goal.

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

Mrs. H: It's relaxing. I don't get stressed out driving like in the Cities! Less stress overall.

Mr. V: What is a piece of advice you'd give your students?

Mrs. H: Follow your dreams and do what you love.

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

Mrs. H: I used to say "alright" a lot. Is that alright?

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

Mrs. H: I know math isn't everyone's favorite subject, but I'd hope that my students remember me for making it as relevant and enjoyable as possible.

Mr. V: What is always liked helping my friends with math, so it was a natural fit for me.

Mr. V: What are your hobbies?

Mrs. H: Fishing, cooking, and reading. Right now I am into suspense novels.

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

Mrs. H: I like that it's small and everyone knows each other. The school has a great sense of community and a welcoming culture.

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

Mrs. H: Right now



Families gather at the North Woods School for Family Fun Night. submitted photo

FAMILY NIGHT

Superhero family night a soaring success

COOK - Superheroes was the theme for this year's Family Fun Night! The annual event, which is sponsored by North Star Credit Union, was once again hosted at North Woods School in Cook. There were approximately 135 students attending the free community event, making it a huge success.

North Star Credit Union has sponsored the popular Family Fun Night for 10 years and this year brought some of the classic games like the bounce house, photo booth and cupcake walk, but also saw some new Superhero-inspired games like Pin the S on Superman (mask prize for all), Wonder Woman Lasso Ring Toss and Aqua Man Phishing game.

Students were encouraged to visit as many booths as possible, to not only play games, but to be educated on various topics all related to personal finance.

Lutheran Social Services was in attendance and sponsored a game which covered wants versus needs and had information on protecting your personal information which is more important now than ever before. ECFE partnered with Title One to run a craft booth and Peer Helpers assisted students at a cookie decoration booth; both were hits with the students.

After visiting at least eight booths, students could then get their name entered into a drawing for the grand cash prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25.

Along with all the games, people attending could open a membership at North Star Credit Union and were told about the student branch open at North Woods on Thursdays throughout the school year. The branch teaches students about the importance of saving, improving interviewing skills and many other things to prepare

students for the future. The student branch is rolling out a Stamp Program this year where students are encouraged to make a deposit and get their card stamped, and after 10 stamps they receive a \$1 gold coin.

The night also included a meal of ho

LIBRARY AWARDS



Kristi Sopoci (center-right) pictured with her husband Dave (left), son Steven and daughters Amber and Alice. photo submitted

Volunteer honored

COOK - The Friends of the Cook Public Library celebrated Kristi Sopoci before their Friends meeting on Thursday, Nov. 15. Kristi was awarded the Stand-Out Friend award from the Minnesota Association of Library Friends (MALF). Friends President Kathy Sacchetti nominated Kristi for the award, highlighting her commitment to and enthusiasm for the Cook Library. Kristi coordinates the summer reading program which includes school visits and asking local businesses for donations, volunteers with the BFF Club and is an active library board member.

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Ely AAUW launches shoe drive fundraiser for education

ELY – The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Ely Branch is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser now through Jan. 15 to raise funds for local area educational programming for women and girls.

AAUW Ely will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn used and new shoes collected. Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Those dollars will benefit mission-based educational projects serving the Ely community.

Anyone can help by donating gently worn used and new shoes at designated local drop boxes, with any AAUW Ely member, or by calling 218-365-6802 to arrange drop off; please leave a message.

Drop boxes are currently located at The Pebble Spa, Gator's Grilled Cheese Emporium, and Vermilion Community College, Office CL135.

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Funds2Orgs helps impoverished people start, maintain, and grow businesses in countries such as Haiti, Honduras, and other nations in Central America and Africa. Proceeds from the shoe sales are used to feed, clothe and house their families.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Pam Brunfelt, AAUW Ely Branch president. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us and help those less fortunate become self-sufficient. It's a win-win for everyone," added Lucy Diesslin, AAUW Ely Shoe Drive Committee Member.

"The shoe drive is not just about shoes," Brunfelt said. "They give a chance at a livelihood that someone may not have had before. The shoes you collect should be in good condition, meaning that the soles are intact, they have laces (if necessary), there are no holes, they are dry and clean, and that they still have life left in them. If you wouldn't give them to your friend, then they are not worthy to submit."

ORR HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Orr Snow City set for Saturday, Dec. 1

ORR - Don't miss out on the fun with this year's Snow City Festival in Orr. While the festival is held on Saturday, Dec. 1, the event begins with the Medallion Hunt. Clues will be posted starting on Monday for the Snow City Medallion hunt, kicking off the annual holiday tradition.

Residents and visitors alike will be treated to the annual festival on Saturday Dec. 1 at events around Orr starting with



breakfast bright and early at 7 a.m. at Orr Community Center (Legion Building). At 10 a.m. craft vendors

will open their shops at the Orr Center. While moms and dads shop, kids will have a day filled with activities at

the center as well.

Once your stomach is ready to eat again, the Orr Center will host lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Don't forget to watch the parade at 1 p.m.! If you're feeling lucky stop by Norman's One Stop at 3 p.m. for a chance to win a 4-wheeler. The day will conclude at 6 p.m. back at the

Orr Center with the Lights of Love tree lighting and refreshments.

ELY CHAMBER

Ely holiday events begin Nov. 22

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.

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 hand-made 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 Miner's Dry House, alongside Miner's Lake. 30 vendors are already registered; it's going to be a busy place and entry is free. 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.

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. 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.



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TOWER CRAFT SHOW

FARMING

Federal program seeks to extend the Iron Range's growing season

by **MARCUS WHITE**
 Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL - The Department of Agriculture is looking for more local farmers to take advantage of a decade-old program to extend the growing season on the Iron Range. The "high tunnel" program provides government funds to growers to install covered areas on their property to protect crops during the early spring and fall.

The program could provide a boost to area growers hoping to take advantage of the increasing interest in locally-grown foods.

"They are like a greenhouse," said Michelle Gunderson, owner of Dirt Lady Greenhouse, north of Virginia. Gunderson has been participating in USDA-funded programs for two decades and recently added high tunnels to her property.

The tunnels trap heat and allow certain crops to be planted in early April instead of May or later. In turn, when the weather turns cold, rather than harvesting in September or early October, the crops can stay in the ground until early November.

Gunderson said she is currently growing perennial flowers in her tunnel but plans to put fruits and vegetables in place during the next growing season.

To be part of the program, farmers apply through the USDA offices in Virginia. It's a cost-share program, which means the government provides matching funds determined by the scope of the farmer's plan.

According to Jen Faint, a USDA



Vic Gunderson next to the under-construction high tunnel at his Dirt Lady Greenhouse north of Virginia. submitted photo

program associate in Virginia, the application takes between three and six months to be approved depending on how much money has been set aside for the year.

If approved, Faint said farmers create a stewardship contract with the USDA that lasts anywhere from one to ten years. The contracts lay out specific goals that the farmer plans to meet in certain timeframes.

Gunderson said even though the tunnels extend the growing season, she said growers should be careful not to get one too large since snow accumulates on them quickly in cold

weather and they need to be kept clear in order for them to be effective.

She added that some growers have been able to grow products from other, warmer, growing zones, though she said she hadn't tried it herself and didn't want people to get their hopes up if warm-weather crops don't thrive as intended.

For more information on the program, call the Virginia USDA office at 218-305-3592.

Gunderson said interested parties can call and ask for her first-hand experience at 218-741-0174.



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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 pass a background check.

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TOWER...Continued from page 1

city’s ambulance service, the typical emergency run generates an average of about \$588 in revenue. By contrast, a non-emergency patient transfer generates an average of \$1,307.

According to Altenburg, handling just three of those transfers a week would be enough to cover the staffing costs for the paid-on-call employees, while also providing a more prompter response in some cases for emergency calls.

So far, the service has completed somewhat fewer than three transfers a week, averaging about two-and-two-thirds per week through the first seven months of the POC staffing.

According to Virginia’s Lewis, he’s been advising ambulance directors in neighboring communities for some time that they shouldn’t expect the growth in transfers to continue. In fact, he said, they can anticipate a steady decline in the number of transfer requests they receive.

The reason for that is straightforward, notes Lewis, who focuses heavily on data for decision-making. While the number of inter-hospital transfers has been on the rise the past few years, virtually all of that increase is attributable to just one medical facility — Essentia in Virginia. Indeed, the Virginia facility made 1,378 requests for patient transfers in 2017, more than all of the other hospitals in the county combined, according to Lewis. And the demand for transfers from Virginia is continuing to rise. Lewis notes that the Virginia EMS received 153 transfer requests in July of this year alone, with 124 of them coming from Virginia’s Essentia facility. That’s the highest number of requests from Essentia-Virginia since Lewis began record-keeping in 2015.

For the past few years, as the number of transfer requests from Essentia-Virginia rose steadily, Virginia’s ambulance service couldn’t keep pace. As Virginia turned down transfer requests, due to lack of staffing or available ambulances, Essentia turned to other outlying services, includ-

ing Tower’s and Ely’s, to pick up the slack. In 2017, Virginia’s ambulance service turned down 234 transfer requests from Essentia alone. Throw in declined transfers from other area hospitals, and that number jumped to 384, which provided plenty of opportunity for other departments to pick up transfers and the extra revenue they generate. As Lewis sees it, it also meant that Virginia was leaving a lot of revenue on the table — at just over \$532,000 a year.

But Lewis warns that the gravy train could soon be running on empty, at least for outlying ambulance services. That’s because Virginia is on a hiring spree in order to build capacity to meet the needs of Essentia. Lewis, who came on as fire chief in 2015, said the department had just 19 employees back when he came on board. Today, the service employs 34 people, and is in the process of hiring four more EMTs or paramedics who will be handling transfers almost exclusively.

That’s confirmed by Virginia Mayor Larry Cuffe, who said he expects the Virginia ambulance could receive as many as 1,800 transfer requests in 2018 given the current pace (the most recent data shows the service on pace to hit about 1,600 requests this year). Lewis said by next year, his goal is to accept virtually every one of those requests, particularly requests coming from Essentia in Virginia. “Last year we turned down nearly 400 requests. I want that to be in the single digits going forward,” he said.

Virginia is in a position to claim most of those Essentia-Virginia transfers because of rules that establish what is essentially first-right-of-refusal for ambulance services that serve a particular hospital. “That’s our understanding,” said Cuffe. “They have to call us first.”

Lewis confirms that, and notes that it creates a certain disadvantage for those outlying ambulance services, such as Tower, that don’t have a hospital in their primary coverage area. Ambulance services

in Cook and Ely, which do serve local hospitals, have a certain level of guaranteed transfer activity, should they choose to accept it. Ely Bloomenson generated 143 transfer requests in 2017, according to Lewis, which was a decline from 170 in 2016. The Cook Hospital generated 225 transfer requests last year, up just slightly from the 223 requests the year before. The Fairview Hospital in Hibbing has requested fewer transfers in recent years. In 2017, Fairview requested just 525 transfers, down from a peak of 739 requests back in 2013.

Indeed, with the

exception of Essentia-Virginia, transfer requests from hospitals in northern and central St. Louis County have been generally declining in recent years. In 2017, all of the other hospitals generated 1,266 transfer requests, which was down slightly from the 1,282 requests those same facilities requested in 2016. And the 2016 total was well below the 1,420 transfer requests those same hospitals generated in 2013.

With the exception of the Virginia ambulance service, which is in a guaranteed position to capture the revenue from transfers from its local Essentia

facility, the potential for increasing staffing based on transfer revenue would seem tenuous. “For outlying services, that model just isn’t going to work anymore,” said Lewis.

Other factors may be undermining that model as well. Geoff Galaski, executive director of the Ely Area Ambulance Service noted that transfer requests dropped noticeably last month, which is a trend that affected the Tower service as well. Altenburg reported just nine transfers in the month of October, well below the level the service will need to fund its paid on-call staffing. Six of

those nine were transfers from Essentia-Virginia, and are expected to trend downward in the near future as Virginia increases its capacity to meet the demand.

Galaski said the October slowdown is likely due, at least in part, to a new company, Meds-1, which has taken over the Buhl ambulance service and is taking more transfers than the old service. Given their proximity to Virginia, that service has begun taking up some of the transfer activity that other, more distant, services had previously handled.

ELY...Continued from page 1

number of years with presenting economic development assistance to the business community.

“The non-profit group, ‘Ely Area Development Association,’ has introduced confusion into the market and they are not representational of the EEDA or the work that is being done to support the economic development goals and objectives of the city,” he said.

Stuart indicated his website design will include clean layouts and strong use of photography. “We scoured economic development sites across the country to gain insight in terms of what they are doing well, and what we can improve upon so we can take those best practices and put those forward for (us),” he said.

He said he is looking forward to highlighting economic success stories, available resources, partnerships and collaboration across the region, utilizing testimonials, and making contact information easy to access in order to “tell the

story of Ely.”

Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski said initially it was difficult to get anyone interested in designing the economic development website for the city. “From my point of view (Stuart) has a really good handle on what we are looking to do,” he said.

The new website will also add other similar internet addresses to directly forward interested web users to the city’s official site, Stuart said.

Social media may be a facet of the new website project to generate interest about various projects in the works around town, including providing access to high-speed Internet, according to Langowski.













With the approval of the proposal, the next step is to schedule a kick-off meeting to review research and define the “information architecture” or presentation style of the included information. Stuart said he hopes to “hit the new year running” with the new economic development tool for the city.

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SCHOOL...Continued from page 1

as advanced classes not offered at their individual campus. The plan could also affect how schools choose to use post-secondary enrollment options (PSEO) if the schools can offer advanced classes through the proposed

agreement.

"The plan comes from discussions on how to better meet the needs of the students in the four (ISD 2142) high schools we have," Superintendent Reggie Engebritson said. Engebritson, who

serves as a joint superintendent with both St. Louis County and the Mt. Iron-Buhl districts said she's reached out to schools across the region to see if the districts could benefit from a collaborative agreement.

"This is exploratory to see how we can help students," Ely Superintendent Kevin Abrahamson said. "We're not doing this to reduce staff or replace staff but look at the options of what we have to share

and offer more than we offer currently."

How exactly the plan would work is still up in the air, with Engebritson proposing that scheduling could be worked around the St. Louis County School's flexible Wednesday schedules.

The use of interactive video and online coursework are also on the table. Both Engebritson and Abrahamson also proposed a school bus network that would connect the region's schools.

It's the unknowns of the plan, however, that are not sitting well with at least one St. Louis County board member.

"We need to remain cognizant that it can water down curricula," said Chris Koivisto, who represents the Babbitt-Embarrass area.

"When you're going into partnerships we might not have control or oversight of the curriculum we want. We don't know what their process is. It's not that it's bad, it's just that we don't know."

Koivisto, who is also an instructor at Vermilion Community College in Ely, said he favors offering more choice to students, but worries some of the proposal's specifics will either be ineffective or too costly for the districts to take on.

"Online always sounds good, but a face-to-face class is always more valuable," he said. "You can find data going in both directions, and everyone has their own

opinions. As a teacher I feel face-to-face is more valuable."

He added that he worried the district would overstep union contracts by having teachers teach and provide out-of-district pupils with services not included in their own agreements.

Engebritson, however, has said every high school student in each of the districts will have the opportunity to speak up on concerns with the agreement.

The region's educators will be sent a survey to gather thoughts on the project.

"We can emphasize our strengths and share them with others and in turn get some help with areas where we are weak," Abrahamson said.

He added that the districts are also planning to pursue funding from the IRRRB to cover costs of transportation and technology needs in the schools.

The proposal comes on the heels of an agreement between Virginia and Eveleth-Gilbert schools to pursue an agreement to create a shared campus to diversify their own classroom offerings.

Engebritson said an agreement the size of the one she was proposing had never been attempted in Minnesota.

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BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

Rates change for McKinley Park Campground

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA
Staff Writer

BREITUNG- The town board met here last Wednesday and voted to increase the rates for McKinley Park Campground. This year the campground had a very busy summer with increased revenue, but also had higher expenses. Campground manager

Susie Chiabotti researched rates at other campgrounds in the region and found the McKinley Park Campground rates were lower than average. The daily rate will change from \$39.50 to \$44.50, weekly from \$250 to \$275, monthly from \$850 to \$950 and seasonal from \$2,600 to \$2,800. The new rates are still below

average prices. It's been five years since the daily rate changed and three years since the weekly, monthly, and seasonal rates have changed. Chiabotti said she felt the rate increases were fair.

In other news, the board:

➤ Sent in the final application to CDBG for grant funding for improved

handicap accessibility to the post office.

➤ Heard that the Church Street sewer project has been completed, with the exception of clean up work that will resume when it dries out. \$73,985 was paid to Bougalis and Sons of Hibbing.

➤ Arranged for the fireboat to stay in Stuntz

Bay.

➤ Gave the second reading of a proposed fire ordinance, to charge residents for repeated false alarm calls to the fire department.

➤ Heard from Chairman Tim Tomsich who reported on his meeting with an official from the Census Bureau. Breitung has had a low

census response rate, the Breitung Town Board encourages its residents to fill out the census forms as accurately as possible. The census results help to determine funding and representatives in Congress.

➤ The next township meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 4 p.m.

PAULY...Continued from page 1

became the gift-giving extravaganza celebrated on Dec. 25.

Housenga, first became introduced to St. Nicholas by her friend Carol Myers in her hometown of Holland, Mich., where Housenga, who grew up in Tower, raised her family. Myers, who is considered an expert on St. Nicholas, runs the non-profit St. Nicholas Center (www.stnicholascenter.org), based in Holland, Mich. The center sponsors traveling exhibits, educational programs, and an online store devoted to telling the story of this saint, whose message has been eclipsed by the popularity of Santa Claus.

St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children, sailors, innocents, and others in need.

Housenga said that introducing her children to St. Nicholas was a way to understand who the real Santa Claus was.

"We celebrate Christmas, the birthday of Jesus," she said, "but somehow Santa Claus has taken it over."

Relatively little is known from the historical record about St. Nicholas. He was born into a wealthy family that practiced Christianity. He was taught to give what he had to those who did not have, said Housenga. His parents died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still a child, leaving their wealth to their boy. Nicholas became a priest, and then a bishop in the early church.

"The main point of his life was giving to the poor," said Housenga.

Legends tell tales of St. Nicholas' generosity

to the poor, as well as his importance to sailors. Classic St. Nicholas stories describe how he calmed the seas when a huge storm overtook the ship in which he was traveling to the Holy Land. Another story tells how he secretly left a bag of coins with his neighbor, to use as a dowry for his daughter. Without a dowry, his daughter might have been sold into slavery. He did this again for the second daughter in the family, and when it was time for the third daughter to be married, the father tried to spy and figure out who their benefactor was. To keep his giving secret, St. Nicholas is said to have climbed up on the roof, and tossed the bag of coins down the chimney, where the bag of coins safely landed in a stocking hung in the fireplace to dry.

The historic record does show his date of death, Dec. 6, 343 A.D., and that day became known as St. Nicholas Day.

St. Nicholas Day was celebrated in many countries throughout Europe. Children received small treats, chocolates, and oranges. In Holland, children put out their wooden shoes, filled with hay and carrots for St. Nicholas' horses. In the morning, they found chocolate coins, chocolate candy or cookies shaped in the letter of their first name, and perhaps a small toy.

The Dutch brought this tradition with them to the new world. The Dutch "Sinterklaas" became Santa Claus in the English language. Then the influence of the classic children's story, The Night Before Christmas, first

published in 1823, popularized the idea of Santa Claus delivering gifts on his sleigh on Christmas Eve. The tradition slowly blossomed, along with the jolly fellow's belly, and by the end of the 1800s, it had taken hold for good. Santa Claus took the form we recognize today after an annual series of Coca-Cola ads beginning in the 1920s and running until the 1960s, popularized the image of Santa Claus that most Americans recognize today. The Coca-Cola ads, themselves were based on illustrations originally produced for Harper's Weekly in the late 1880s.

How to tell if it's St. Nicholas

Figures of St. Nicholas all share some common symbols, said Housenga. He is usually pictured wearing a mitered hat (bishop's hat), his vestments often have a cross, and he is often pictured carrying a shepherd's staff.

Years ago, she said, it was quite difficult to find a St. Nicholas figure, something she wanted to have in her home to use while telling her children the story of his generosity and giving.

From the first simple corn husk figure she found, her collection now is quite large. Housenga said one of her favorites is a piece she found in Tower, at a moving sale on a farm just outside of town.

"Lo and behold," she said, "sitting on the fireplace was this heavy St. Nicholas... This one was so fun to find." The figure, one of the largest in her collection, has the classic

miter hat, and bishop's vestments.

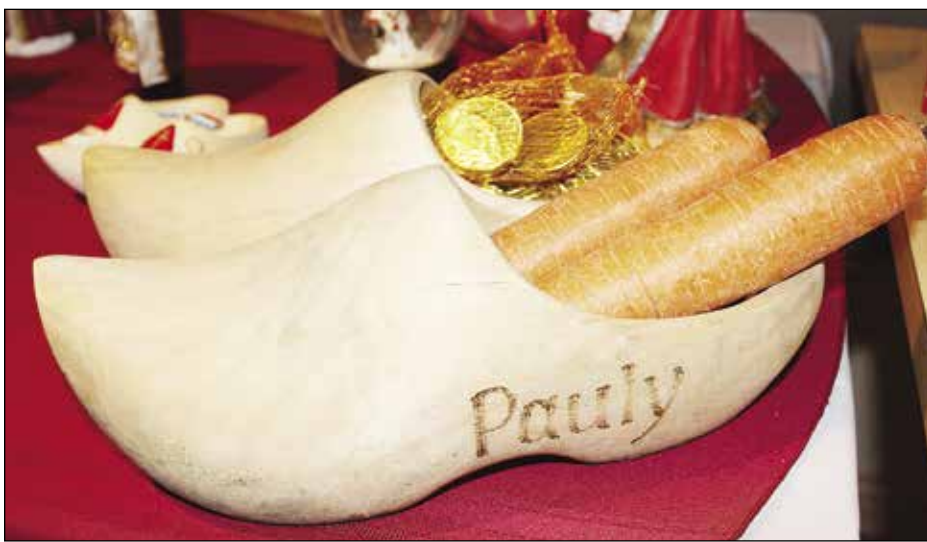
Housenga talked about the traditions that came over from Holland, where Sinterklaas, as he was called, would bring treats to children who had been good on St. Nicholas Day. Parents also warned children about Sinterklaas' mischievous Moorish companion Zwarte Pete who would

place coal in the shoes of children who had misbehaved. While the tradition of Nicholas's companion has mostly disappeared, the idea of Santa leaving coal in a naughty child's Christmas stocking still is part of many children's worst fears.

Brenda Winkelaar, whose husband Karel grew up in Holland, said they have continued these tra-

ditions with their children and grandchildren.

"These traditions are important to him," she said. "He remembers the parades held on Dec. 6. Zwarte Pete would come and scare the little kids, she said. The Winkelaars give chocolate letters to the children in their family, and also celebrate with the traditional gifts of fruits and nuts.



In Holland, children put out their wooden shoes, filled with hay and carrots for St. Nicholas' horses. photo by J. Summit

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ELECTION 2018

Radinovich's campaign manager looks back

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL - In a congressional district that has only voted Republican twice in seven decades, losing is a big reason to explore where things went wrong. Now that the dust has nearly settled on the 2018 election, it's clear to Joe Radinovich's campaign manager Jordan Hagert that a combination of factors led to the DFL loss in a district that had long been considered a safe one for Democrats.

"The first turning point was when we walked out without an endorsement in April," he said. The DFL endorsing convention, in Duluth, had deadlocked after candidate Leah Phifer fell just short of reaching the 60-percent majority needed for endorsement. In the end, DFLers in the district spent the next four months in a heated primary fight for the party's nomination.

"Going back, we should have gotten the endorsement in April," Hagert said. "We could have made a stronger argument of why we needed to hit the ground in May, not August."

Timing was another factor, particularly the late announcement by Congressman Rick Nolan that he would not seek re-election to the seat he had held for six years. Nolan had originally announced his intention to seek a fourth term, so his withdrawal from the race in April after a strong showing by Phifer in precinct caucuses left DFLers scrambling to assemble campaigns.

Meanwhile, Republican Pete Stauber had already been laying the groundwork for his bid for more than six months. During that time, he had lined up key endorsements and assembled a substantial war chest that left him well-positioned to take advantage of the disarray on the DFL side.

Despite that, Radinovich seemed to emerge from the August primary with an effective campaign in place and polls showing the race was tight, leaving open the possibility that the DFL could hold the seat in a year with substantial Democratic enthusiasm.

Attack ads

The August primary would give way to what

was potentially one of the campaign's greatest challenge—a veritable flood of attack ads produced and paid for by outside Republican-leaning political action committees.

"Character attacks hurt both professionally and personally," said Hagert. "Joe is a tower of integrity and we should have taken those character concerns head on."

The ads, which were judged mostly false by fact-checking organizations, were relentless and focused on Radinovich's unpaid parking fines, and other mostly traffic-related infractions. Outside groups, like the Congressional Leadership Fund and the Trump-affiliated America First Political Action Committee, poured an estimated \$7 million into the negative attacks against Radinovich. Hagert admits the response from the campaign was too little too late.

Hagert said he was dismayed by the hypocrisy of Republican backers and others who believed the ads. "The President has more credible sexual assault claims against him than Joe has parking tickets," he said.

But, Hagert acknowledges, the ads worked. While early polls suggested the race was even or that Radinovich even held a slight lead, that changed noticeably after weeks of the relentless attacks.

NYT poll a factor

Polling in the district was a major source of contention, especially in the final weeks.

The *New York Times* began a series of "live" polls in September that allowed online viewers to watch in real time as the newspaper and its research partner, Siena College, called hundreds of thousands of voters in districts across the country.

Their first look at the district, in September, suggested a tight race, with Radinovich clinging to a statistically insignificant 44-43 percent lead.

It was the *Times'* second poll, released in mid-October, that proved a shocker. After revising their polling methodology and assuming a much-larger GOP turnout than the earlier poll, the *Time's* showed Stauber up by 15 points. The numbers were hotly contested by

the DFL, and calls from the *Timberjay* to Siena College and the *Times* resulted in the latter issuing a statement that the poll's results could be off by as much as ten points. The *Times*, however did not retract the information nor reconduct the poll.

While polls don't elect candidates, they often affect fundraising, and that proved the case with Radinovich. Just days after the Radinovich campaign announced that it had set a record for campaign fundraising in the district, with more the \$1.2 million raised in a single quarter, the flow of campaign cash

began to dry up.

"We wanted people on the ground to know that by no means was this a 15-point race, same with the donors," Hagert said. "One bad poll shouldn't define a race, but sometimes it can."

Hagert said around the time of the poll, the DCCC did pull its ad money from the Eighth District, however Hagert said the poll likely didn't have much to do with the decision. Instead, the DCCC opted to put more resources into races in the Twin Cities area, where it appeared that two GOP congressmen,

Jason Lewis and Eric Paulsen, were vulnerable to defeat. In the end, both Lewis and Paulsen were defeated, but their victories came, at least in part, at Radinovich's expense.

"It makes sense that the DCCC would go after Lewis and Paulsen," Hagert said. "They were easier candidates. Stauber was a stronger candidate."

Hagert expressed dismay, however, that the DCCC did not try to match the millions being spent by outside Republican groups, particularly in the expensive Twin Cities media market, where the Radinovich campaign lacked the resources to

fight back.

Overall, the DFL estimates they were outspent three-to-one in advertising in the race, which the GOP had identified as one of only a handful of seats they had the potential to flip.

Despite the loss, Hagert said he's optimistic. While he pointed out the district had voted for Trump by 16 points over Hillary Clinton in 2016, he predicts the Eighth will continue to be highly competitive.

"When the congressman-elect has to take party line votes, this district will be even closer than it was this time."

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Starting this Sunday, November 25, Arrowhead Transit will be providing transportation from Cook to Virginia every Friday and Sunday.

At 10:30 am, the Arrowhead Transit bus will begin picking up in Cook, with pickup points at Carefree Living and the Pioneer Apartments. The bus will also pick up at individual residences. The last pickup will be at McDonalds. Arrival in Virginia will be at 11:30 am. This bus returns from Virginia starting at 2:00 pm.

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Big Woods Transit presently provides transportation from Cook to Virginia Monday through Saturday.

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FAMILY BAKING TIME

A recipe book made for holiday time memories

by AIDEN ROHWER-NUTTER
Timberjay Contributor

When “The Great Minnesota Cookie Book” made its way into my kitchen with a request to write a review, I was a little intimidated. While I have binge-watched every baking show available on Netflix, I am no expert when it comes to baking. In fact, it’s been a good baking day if there’s no smoke coming from the oven and the floor is only half covered in flour.

Being originally from Wisconsin, I thought it

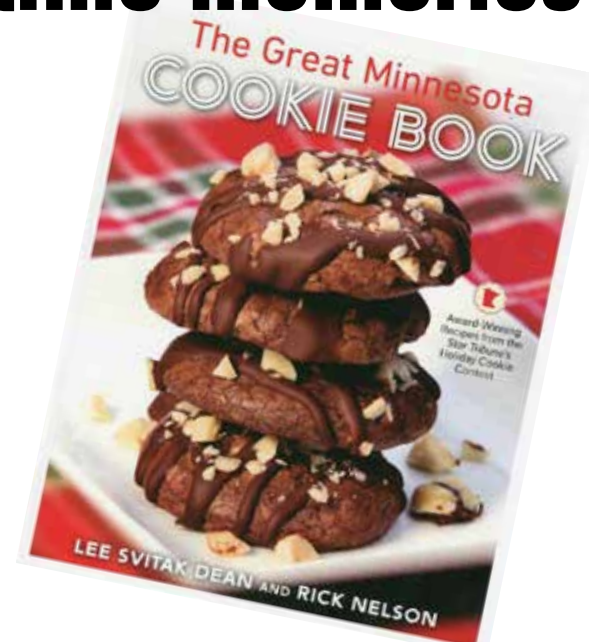
would be fun to take a look at some of the recipes that Minnesotans claim as their own. The collection is from 15 years of the *Star Tribune’s* holiday cookie contest, and each one has a story associated with it. From cherished memories of baking with family members to recipes brought over by immigrant ancestors, each cookie is unique and offers something different from the last.

Knowing my baking knowledge was minimal at best, I combed through

the book until I had three that looked within my skill range. Picking those recipes was the hardest task of the entire review. Should I start with a French-Swiss butter cookie? Or Grandma Eva’s Ginger Cream Cookies? There were even recipes for chocolate covered churros and decadent looking cranberry nut bars. There was a wide range of different cookie styles, and it looked like many of the recipes could easily be adapted for those with allergies or other food intolerances.

Craving the krumkake that I associate with Minnesota, I started with a recipe for Almond Spoons. These thin sugar and almond cookies are meant to be curled up when they are still hot out of the oven, creating a scoop-like shape. The only problem was that the cookies had two temperature settings out of the oven- molten goo or rock solid. After five batches, I only managed to roll seven pathetic attempts at a scoop, even after trying out different rolling

See **COOKIES...**pg. 2B



THEATRE



‘Fiberoptic Unicorn’

Show opens Nov. 29 at VCC

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY - The Ely Community Theatre will perform, “A Tiny Miracle with a Fiberoptic Unicorn,” as an early Christmas present for area residents.

Director Greg Mann described “Tiny Miracle” as a humorous look at family life in the 1980s. “We present a play filled with laughs and nostalgia, as well as poignant moments and some tears,” he said. “It also contains some PG-13 level adult content, so parental discretion is advised.”

“Tiny Miracle,” written by Don Zolidis, is set in December 1986, and recounts a Christmas week that Louis, the story’s central character, describes as “the worst week of his life, and also the best,” according to Mann.

Louis (Shane Geiger) is a normal 13-year-old navigating through life

with his dysfunctional family including his joker father (Todd Crego), control-freak mother (Andrea Strom) and intolerant older sister (Courtney Brittingham).

Louis is determined to win over Carolyn (Hanna Littler), “the hottest girl in the eighth grade’s gifted and talented class,” but finds that his plans aren’t so easily accomplished, especially with the arrival of his Grandma Jacobs (Tom Bennett) and Grandma Skolowski (Morgan Sauls). The entire story is told as seen through the eyes of present-day Louis (Adam Dykes),” Mann said.

Period costuming by costumer Laurie Kess, including huge shoulder pads, leggings, jogging suits and “mall hair,” brings the nostalgia alive, and some memorable 1980s boom box music sets the tone for this throw-back to a time before computers and cell phones.

“A Tiny Miracle with a Fiberoptic Unicorn” will

Top: Actors from the “Fiberoptic Unicorn” pose for a cast photo. Above: Hannah Littler and Courtney Brittingham in costume during a rehearsal of the show.

photos by K. Vandervort
open on Thursday, Nov. 29 and will be presented over two weekends, on Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 4, 7 and 8 at 7 p.m., with a special matinee performance at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater.

Tickets are \$10 and can either be purchased at the door or online at brownpapertickets.com. This play is sponsored by the Northern Lakes Arts Association and made possible, in part, by a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Trust.

Who is Don Zolidis?

Don Zolidis is a playwright, novelist, and former middle and high school teacher. He writes comedies and dramas,



but is mostly known for his comedies. He has published near 100 plays which have been produced over 10,500 times in 61 countries. “You might also have seen my work on the forensics circuit, where I am as popular as grilled cheese sandwiches,” he writes in his biography on his website, www.donzolidis.com.

Professionally, his work has appeared at the

Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Phoenix Theatre, The Bloomington Playwrights Project, Dallas HUB Theatre, The Purple Rose Theatre, The Victory Theatre Center, Mirror Stage Ensemble, and many other places.

His first novel, *The Seven Torments of Amy and Craig* (A Love Story), will be published by Disney-Hyperion by the end of 2018.

Timberjay turkey winners

Winners in the annual Timberjay turkey drawing were chosen last week at area businesses. The winners are as follows.

ORR

Orr Municipal Liquor Store - Peggy Claviter
Pelican Bay Foods - Carol Woehrl
Lumber Orr Hardware - Jesse Laakkonen
American Bank - Laura Manai

COOK

Due to the fire at Cook Zup’s, these winners will all receive a check to use to purchase a turkey at the store of their choice.

Cook VFW - Annie Skraba
American Bank - Candi Stavenger
Waschke Family Chevrolet - Toni Monsivais
McDonald’s - Kathy Sikkila
Cook Building Center - Kristi Sopoci
Subway of Cook - John Poczekaj
North Star Credit Union - Ruth Huisman
1st National Bank - David Pearson
Zup’s of Cook - no winner drawn- we will make up for it next year when they have reopened!

TOWER/SOUDAN

Nordic Home North - Katy Popesh
Soudan Store - Kathy Salmela
Bob’s Service & Towing - Brad Match
Tower-Soudan Agency - Mark Match
Sulu’s Espresso Café - Pauly Housenga
UBetcha Antiques & Uniques - Cass Mihelich
Zup’s Tower Grocery - Mark Match
Good Ol’ Days - Jim Nelson
Vermilion Fuel & Food - Morgen Carlson
D’Erick’s - Albert Berg
EVCU, Tower - Kathy Vogh
Tower Auto Parts - Dusty Dostert

ELY

Potluck - Heidi Favet
Plum Bun Bakery - Deb Kowal
Winton Roadhouse - Maggie Schulze

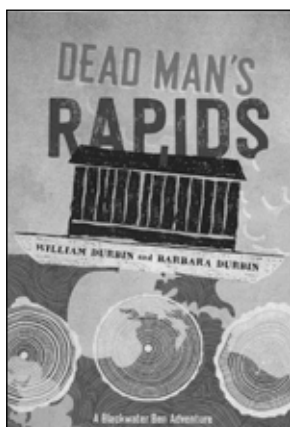
See **TURKEY...**pg. 2B

HOLIDAY READING

Minnesota authors debut new titles for the holidays

Dead Man's Rapids

By William Durbin and Barbara Durbin



The further adventures of a boy discovering the challenges and the humor of a log drive in Minnesota's north woods in 1899.

When 13-year-old Ben Ward left school to work with his Pa in a logging camp, a winter of peeling potatoes wasn't the adventure he had in mind. Still, come spring, he signs up for the log drive with his friend Nevers, wishing the head cook on the wanigan (the floating cook shack) could be someone other than his crabby Pa. Fate, with a wink, complies and Pa quits, only to be replaced by someone far worse, Pete Sardman, aka Old Sard, a cantankerous character complete with a greasy apron, an eye patch,

one deaf ear, and plenty to say.

Luckily, there's also the rest of the crew- a colorful, sometimes outrageous company of men. Together Ben and Nevers endure freezing weather, dangerous rapids, logjams, storms, and floods, and a number of gripping tall tales, along the way learning about logging on the river and a whole lot more about life.

Taking up where Blackwater Ben left off, Dead Man's Rapids returns to Minnesota's north woods in the late nineteenth century, and with warmth, humor, and attention to historical detail engages readers young and old.

William Durbin is a writer and former teacher who lives on Lake Vermilion at the edge of Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. A winner of the Greak Lakes Book Award and a two-time winner of the Minnesota Book Award, he has published eleven novels for young readers, including The Broken Blade, Wintering, and also published by the University of Minnesota, Song of Sampo Lake, Blackwater Ben, and The Darkest Evening.

Barbara Durbin is

a lifelong educator who has worked as an elementary school teacher and a teacher of gifted and talented programs.

Hush Hush, Forest

By Mary Casanova with woodcuts by Nick Wroblewski



Lyrical words and elegant woodcuts capture the quiet beauty of the forest as day fades to night and autumn gives way to the North Woods winter.

While we are tucked in snug and warm blankets as we listen to bedtime stories, the woods around us whisper another tale. As the golden leaves waft through the lengthening shadows, the loon sings one last lullaby, the whirling hummingbird takes one last sip, the industrious beaver saws one last branch for her lodge. Here, in enchanting words and

woodcuts, is the magic of night falling and winter approaching in the North Woods. Hush Hush, Forest peers through twilights window at the raccoon preening, the doe and fawn bedding down, the last bat of the season flitting away. The owl surveys, the rabbit scurries, the bear hunkers, readying her den.

Marking the rhythm between the falling leaf and the falling snowflake, picturing the rituals of creatures big and small as they prepare for the long winter's sleep, this charming book captures a time of surpassing wonder for readers of all ages- and bids everyone in the hushed forest a peaceful goodnight.

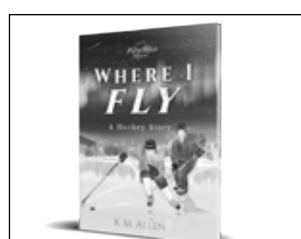
Mary Casanova is author of more than thirty books for young readers, ranging from picture books such as One-Dog Canoe and Wake Up, Island (Minnesota, 2016) to the novels Moose Tracks (Minnesota, 2013) and Frozen (Minnesota, 2012). Her books have earned the American Library Association Notable Award, Aesop Accolades from the American Folklore Society, Parents' Choice Gold Award, and Booklist Editors' Choice, as well as two Minnesota Book Awards. She and

her husband live in northern Minnesota near the Canadian border.

Nick Wroblewski is an artist and printmaker specializing in handmade woodcut blockprints; his art is in private collections and galleries throughout the country. H illustrated Mary Casanova's book Wake Up, Island (Minnesota 2016) and lives in Duluth with his wife and two children.

Where I Fly: A Hockey Story

Author and Illustrator K. M. Allen



Where I Fly: A Hockey Story written and illustrated by K. M. Allen, this is the perfect gift for hockey lovers of all ages. This picture book is the first in the Play Wild! series that focuses on promoting family connection through outdoor activities. This book cheers for hockey played on the lake surrounded by forest and lit by northern lights. A child imagines a future of cheering crowds and successful

trick shots as animals peer from the edges. Appealing to hockey players of all ages, this book is likely to start conversations about young dreams and promote a family bond that is formed around the love of hockey.

North American Wildlife - An adult coloring book

Illustrations by Shaun Chosa



The untamed wild of North America creates a sense of awe and wonder. Experience it for yourself as each turn of the page pulls your imagination into the woods, lakes, and skies to see timber wolves, owls, trout, and much more. North American Wildlife offers intricate animal designs for more complex coloring to challenge the artist. Each piece was designed to promote relaxation and ignite your creativity.

COOKIES...Continued from page 1B

methods recommended by the internet. I also found these overly sweet and sort of greasy, no doubt due to the corn syrup called for in the recipe. I will definitely pass on these in the future, especially because they were nothing like krumkake in the end.

My second experiment was with the orange ginger drops, which ended up being gingerbread dough with some citrus tossed in. The recipe was easy to follow, and despite

the dark color of the dough, I managed not to burn any of them. However, the dough baked in the same round shape I rolled it into before putting it in the oven, creating little balls of cookie with a hard outside and a half-cooked inside. I remedied this in my second batch by pressing them flat with the heel of my hand. This would be a good dough to roll out with a rolling pin and cut out shapes with, and the cookies bake fairly hard,

so they could stand on their own in a gingerbread display. They tasted okay, but they weren't anything I would have sent home to my family as a holiday treat.

But it was the cardamom cookies that made up for the lackluster results of the previous two. These were surprisingly easy to make, simple to roll and press into circles, and baked evenly in the time recommended by the recipe. The icing

was messy to work with, even after letting the cookies cool completely, but it added a nice sugary topping to a well-balanced cookie. Plus, the combination of cardamom and cinnamon just sing "Christmas time!", so the smell while baking was as enticing as what actually came out of the oven. These were fantastic, and I am going to be using this recipe regularly from now on.

Overall "The Great

Minnesota Cookie Book" was a fun little peek into the recipes of the region, with a nice range of recipe difficulties for different levels of baking knowledge. As an amateur, the recipes definitely were not a perfect fit for me, but I think with a few more practice bakes I could get them down.

I also really enjoyed reading the stories of the people who submitted the original recipes, and the meaning each recipe had

for their family. After all, isn't that what baking cookies at the holidays is all about- memories with those we love most? So if you get a chance to pick this book up this season, or want to gift it to the baking enthusiast on your gift list, its magical recipes will help you bake some special moments of your own.

We have moved!

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Leslie Thibodeaux with Equipment from Northern Tier High Adventure Boy Scout Base
Curt Matilla & Family

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Tom Omerza

TURKEY...Continued from page 1B

Mary's Spinning
Wheel - Cheryl Jahr
Zup's in Ely - Kim Anderson
Frandsen Bank, Ely - Claire Blauch
Wintergreen Northern Wear - Kate Willis
Piragis - Tara Forsman
Dee's Bar - Linda Fern
Gator's Grilled Cheese Emporium - Cheryl Hegman
Ely Auto Service - Mike Fultz
Grand Ely Lodge - Tootsie Moravitz
Lakeshore Liquor - Craig Stepec
Steger Mukluks - Forest Lunemann
Ely Flower & Seed - LuAnne Bialik
Ely Surplus - Kari

Podominick
Mealey's Gift &
Sauna Shop - Jim Blauch
Front Porch Coffee &
Tea - Gloria Cox
Blomberg's in Ely - Dan Olson
Ely Northland Market - Dave Milton
Merhar's Ace Hardware - Jerome Debeltz

BABBITT

Blomberg's in Babbitt
- Lowell Erickson
Zup's Grocery Babbitt
- Robbie Stangland
Lossing Building Center & Cat Shack - Dennis Beaulieu

EMBARRASS

EVCU, Embarrass - Roland Fowler



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Obituaries and Death Notices



Raymond J. Wallin

Raymond Jonas Wallin, 92, lifelong resident of Virginia, died on Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018, at Essentia Health-Virginia. Funeral services were held on Monday, Nov. 19 at the Bauman-Cron Funeral Home Chapel with Kari Olson, SAM, as the officiant. Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery. Family services were provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

Raymond was born on March 21, 1926, in Virginia, the son of Fred and Hilda (Mattson)

Wallin. He was a graduate of Virginia High School and went on to attend Virginia Junior College. A Veteran of the U.S. Navy, he served in the Pacific Theatre during WWII. Raymond worked as a clerk at Virginia Public Utilities, and also as a laborer at Staver Foundry. He was a member of the VFW. Raymond enjoyed spending time at the cabin he built on Lake Vermilion, woodworking, fishing, and hunting.

Raymond is survived by his children, David (Sandy) Wallin of Lake Vermilion-Tower and Marjorie Wallin of Chisholm; grandchildren, Sheila Wallin of Wyoming, Sara Bevan of Ramsey, Sandra (Jose) Barrios of Monument, Colo., Katie (Jeremy Lockwood) Richards and Nick (Lisa) Richards, both of Virginia; great-grandchildren, Skyler, Michaela, Logan, Payton, Kaylynn, Tyler, Ashlyn, Noah and Vivian; extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Lorraine in 2017; sons, Glenn and Mark; and siblings, Margaret Marvin, Helen Tscholl and Fred Wallin Jr.



Jim Postudensek

Jim Postudensek, 79, of Duluth and Lake Vermilion-Tower, passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2018, at the University of Iowa Hospitals. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 21 from 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in Duluth. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery. Arrangements are by Dougherty Funeral Home of Duluth.

Jim was born on July 10, 1939, in Eveleth, to Louis and Mafalda (Lanari) Postudensek. Active in baseball, football, and playing the accordion, he graduated in 1957 from Roosevelt High School in Virginia. Jim earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education from St. Cloud State College and a Master's degree in education administration from University of Wisconsin-Superior. His teaching career began

in Buhl, where he worked for six years before moving to Casper, Wyo., to teach for one year. He then taught in Duluth until his retirement in 1996.

Jim loved fishing and hunting. He was a legendary fishing guide on Lake Vermilion and Trout Lake, earning the title of "Fish Whisperer." He was also a skilled duplicate bridge player who achieved the level of American Contract Bridge League Life Master. Jim was loved and respected by his family, generations of students, fishing partners, and all who knew him. He will be missed.

Jim is survived by his wife of 57 years, Norma (Folkedal) Postudensek; daughter, Lynne (Peter Hart) Postudensek Hart of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; son, Mark (Paula Meyer) Postudensek of Ham Lake; grandchildren, Stella (Addison Benzshawel) Hart of Iowa City, Iowa, Roland Hart of Brooklyn, N.Y., Ellen Postudensek of Duluth, Eddie and Anthony Postudensek, both of Ham Lake; sister, Judy (Bob) Theis of Burnsville; brother, Tom (Pam) Postudensek of Virginia; and other relatives and friends throughout the country.



James F. Crenshaw

James F. "Doc" Crenshaw, of Tyler, Texas, died on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018, in Tyler. Honorary pallbearers are Arcenio Ramirez, Bill Ferguson, Mel Edstrum, Dazion and Jerry Whiddon. Memorial donations may be made to the Tyler Unity Center of Practical Christianity, 14024 Hwy 155 South, Tyler, TX 75703 or the American Cancer Society, 1301 S Broadway Ave., Tyler, TX 75701. The family is planning a celebration to memorialize Doc Crenshaw's life at a later date.

Doc was born on Oct. 15, 1947, in DeLeon, Texas. After completing high school in Jal, New Mexico, he went on to study at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. As a newly minted graduate, "Doc" Crenshaw moved to East Texas and built the famous "Alamo" building on Highway 69 N, where he offered chi-

ropractic care for over 40 years. "Doc" Crenshaw was instrumental in founding the Tyler Unity Center of Practical Christianity. He also shared a lifelong interest in music, playing numerous instruments and recording across several genres. Doc had a certain interest in leather-working, hand-tooling several saddles from scratch. He had a keen interest in Native American culture and was an avid reader of fiction centering on the "Old West." He had a love of the outdoors, whether it was a good game of golf, or paddling around the lake with his best friend, Carol, this past summer in a stunningly beautiful hand-hewn cedar strip canoe he had crafted. A man of many talents, from painting to poetry, he will be missed by his friends and family.

He is survived by his longtime companion, Carol Herring of Tyler; three children, Paul N. Crenshaw of San Antonio, Texas, James Benjamin Crenshaw of Yantis, Texas, and Darryl Crenshaw of Oklahoma; mother, Reta Crenshaw; and sister, Sheila Frank, both of Plano, Texas; and many grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Eugene Crenshaw; and beloved son, Frank Ramon Crenshaw.



Marie A. Angier

Marie Ann Angier, 51, died on Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018.

She was born on April 8, 1967, to Evelyn and Alfred Snay in Oahu, Hawaii. She moved to Minnesota in 2000, and married David Angier Jr. on Dec. 30, 2010. She enjoyed baking, crafting and reading. She loved getting to know people, had an open mind and an open heart, and made friends everywhere she went. She was a caring, adventurous, loving woman and always had a great story to tell. She was also very kind and went out of her way to help others.

Survivors include her loving husband, Dave; brother, Bruce; daughter, Ashley; son, Jacob; brother, Duane; and friend, Cherie.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Evelyn and Alfred; and brother, Steven.

Philip K. DuFresne

Philip K. DuFresne, 104, longtime resident of Two Harbors, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2018, at Ecumen Scenic Shores in Two Harbors. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30 at Cavallin Funeral Home.

He is survived by his sons, David (Ronnie) of Ely and Fred (Vicki) of Two Harbors; Karin Norlen; grandchildren, Brenda, Barb (John), Debbie (Ron), Patty (Pat), and Bob (Xiahua); nine great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson.



Herbert R. Lamppa

Herbert R. Lamppa, 88, of Tower, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018, at St. Michael's Health and Rehabilitation Center in Virginia. A Celebration of Life for Herb will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 29 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower with Pastor Liz Cheney officiating. A gathering of family and friends will be for one

hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery in Tower. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

Herb was born on Dec. 11, 1929, the son of Richard and Rose (Rapinoja) Lamppa, in Embarrass, where he grew up. He was united in marriage to Edna Hiltunen on Jan. 24, 1948, in Vermilion Lake Township. They made their home in Tower where he and Edna owned and operated the Tower Dairy for over 25 years.

Heserved on the Tower City Council, served four terms as the mayor of Tower, three terms as County Commissioner, established Lamppa Manufacturing, and was a math teacher for 19-and-a-half years.

During his over 32 years in public service, Herb had the foresight to spearhead the harbor project, obtain IRRRB funding for the current charter school building, ran water and sewer lines for future development of the new industrial park, along with infrastructure improvements throughout Tower, obtained funding for the Tower Civic Center and the housing developments, both at the cemetery and the hillside Northstar Addition, and the initial expansion of both Hoodoo

Point and the airport.

During his years of teaching math, he helped implement the hands-on Piaget math program, which spread to many school districts throughout the state. He was also the head baseball coach and assistant basketball coach in Tower.

Herb was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower and the National Teachers Association. He served on the Seaway Port Authority Board for 12 years, JPTA for 12 years, and the Gundersen Forest Board for 12 years.

Herb is survived by his children, Faye (Nick) Tekautz of Soudan, Daryl (Cheryl) Lamppa of Lake Vermilion-Tower, Gayle (Philip) Lamppa of Chicago, Randall (Sharon) Lamppa of Texarkana, Ark., and Steve (Sonja) Lamppa of Duluth; grandchildren, Brendon Lamppa, Garret Lamppa, Blaine Lamppa, Andrea Vlaminck, Lindsey Lamppa, Delia Durfee and Reese Lamppa; step-grandchildren, Pamela McMahon, Keith and Craig Nelson; great-grandchildren, Taimi Lamppa, Henry and Elizabeth Vlaminck, Weston and Everett Durfee; brothers, Roger (Joan) Lamppa of Virginia and Fred (Karen) Lamppa of Britt; nieces

and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife of 70 years, Edna Lamppa; sisters, Flora Koivisto and Kathleen Janekselä; and brothers, Raymond, Bernhardt and Francis Lamppa.

Robert D. Hodge

Robert Donald "Bob" Hodge, 97, of LaQuinta, Calif., and Fall Lake-Winton, passed away quietly on Friday, Nov. 2, 2018, at the end of a long and happy life. A Celebration of Life service will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Ely on Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 11 a.m. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by his daughters, Bobbie Hodge of Ely, Vicki Hodge (Walt) Tomascak of Missoula, Mont., and Becky Hodge Wahlberg (Darin Peterson) of Aurora; grandchildren, Andrew Tomascak, Amara Wahlberg (Zak) Chesson, Cory (Kathleen) Tomascak and Nikki Wahlberg (Luke) Ibis; and great-grandchildren, Sajan, Walter James and Penelope Ann.

Gretchen Lobe

Gretchen Webber Lobe, 102, of Ely, died on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018, at Carefree Living in Babbitt. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 24 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Ely. A gathering time for family and friends will begin at 10 a.m. Inurnment will take place in the Ely Cemetery. Memorials are the preferred way to honor Gretchen's life and may be directed to the John and Gretchen Lobe Helping Hands Fund at the Vermilion Community College Foundation. Family services provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

She is survived by her children, Joneene Lobe of Ely, Vincent (Paula) Lobe of Pittsford, N.Y., Larry Lobe of Roseville and John P. (Michelle) Lobe of Woodburn, Ind.; grandchildren, Michael (Josie) Lobe, Sarah Lobe, Charlie (Lynn) Lobe, Katie (Mark) Farr, Siiri (Aaron Bubb) Lobe and Ian (Sarah) Lobe; great-grandchildren, Max, Evan, Hunter and Arlo; extended family and friends, including special friend, Nancy Bement.

TOWER BINGO Monday, Dec. 3

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

Upcoming dates for 2018:

No bingo in January 2019
Monday, February 4



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Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

WINTER FINCH OUTLOOK

New BWCA permit changes under fire in Ely

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Local users of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness offered up an earful of criticism to top officials on the Superior National Forest this past week, when they came to town to talk about the new recreation reservation procedures that will take effect for next year.

Paul Hancock, the new Deputy Forest Supervisor for

the Superior National Forest, who started his new job just six weeks ago, received a not-so-warm welcome and a blunt education from local residents and outfitters. Local users are concerned that the new reservation system will leave many Ely resorts, outfitters, and wilderness users at a disadvantage.

Advertised as an informational meeting at the Kawishiwi District office, the session quickly turned into a series of

complaints and accusations from as many as fifty people who wanted nothing to do with the upgraded nationwide reservation system set to go live on Jan. 30, 2019.

Kawishiwi District Ranger Gus Smith said the new system provides a simpler, more efficient and equitable way for the public to reserve BWCAW quota permits and offers improved tools for people to plan their trips.

“Understand that we are

doing our best to work with you,” Smith said. “If you have issues and questions we will bring those back to the contractor who actually created this reservation system.”

As of Oct. 1, recreation reservation services on the Superior National Forest were upgraded within the nationwide “recreation.gov” website. These include stronger security controls, better protection of personally identifiable information,

and increased fraud protection.

Opponents contend that the new system makes it harder for local wilderness outfitting businesses to obtain permits for their customers and for local anglers to secure day-use motor permits.

Ely resident Paul Maki questioned the use of the new reservation procedures for those who can’t get Internet or choose not to have it. “You

See **CHANGES...**pg. 5B



DANGER IN THE WOODS

Dogs and traps, redux

My recent story on conibear traps and the risks they pose for dogs in the woods generated a couple of letters that I wanted to add to the discussion on this topic. I think the letters well reflect the personal pain that people who have lost dogs to these traps justifiably feel.

I know I’ve been thinking about it a lot in recent weeks watching our friendly new pup as he explores the woods with me, knowing that this potentially deadly risk is out there. It’s always a joy to watch an energetic young dog as he bounds through the woods, digs deep into the thickest of thickets, and snoops through the swamp-edge sedges for a chance to pounce on a vole. Yet all that energy and curiosity is what leaves them most at risk from one of these traps.

It was those thoughts that prompted me to reach out to our local conservation officer to familiarize myself, at least a bit, with the threat, in hopes that I would at least have a fighting chance to rescue my dog if the worst should happen. I appreciated CO Marc Hopkins’ willingness to help me demonstrate how the traps work and how one might attempt to save their dog.

Having tried the technique myself on two different sized conibear traps, I fully recognize that it isn’t easy. It would be far tougher in a panicked state knowing that your dog’s life depends on your ability to act quickly to accomplish a very difficult task. Probably the surest way to help your dog in such an instance is to purchase a pair of trap-setting tongs to carry with you when you’re in the woods with your dog during the trapping season. They’re available at L&M Supply for under ten bucks.

I appreciate the letters on the subject, which I am reproducing here in the hope that they provide more information and perspective for dog owners who spend time in the woods with their furry best friends.



MARSHALL
HELMBERGER

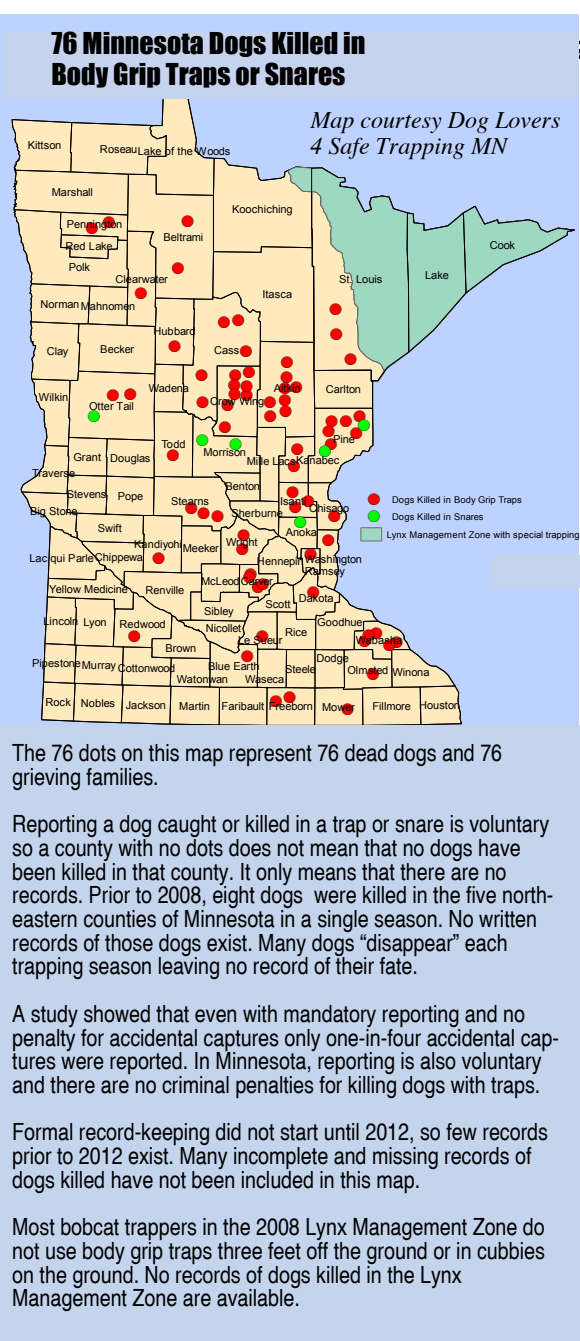
Letter: Clarifying the record on body grip traps and dogs

by John Reynolds, President, Dog Lovers 4 Safe Trapping MN

I always look forward to reading the well-thought-out articles in the *Timberjay*. I also trap and hunt grouse with my dogs, so the title of the trapping article immediately caught my attention. As usual it was a well-written article but there are a couple of things that need to be clarified.

My own dog was killed in a legally set 220 body grip while I was setting fox traps nearby. Like many dogs she was dead before I found her in the trap. She was a great partner and I will never own another hunting dog as good as her. Her story touched a nerve with a lot of other hunters and dog owners. Dog owners from across Minnesota contacted me with their story of losing a dog to a body grip trap. It was truly like being in a survivors group. That led to the formation of our nonprofit, Dog Lovers 4 Safe Trapping MN in 2012. Since that time I have spent much of my time studying this issue. One common misconception is that most dogs are killed in illegal sets. That’s incorrect. Nearly all of the 70 Minnesota dogs that have been recorded

See **LETTERS...**pg. 5B



CO reports

Deer hunt a focus of area COs

CO Sean Williams (Ely #1) reports cold weather took hold in the Ely area and after a week of below-freezing weather the small lakes are now frozen over with ice. Deer-hunting success seems to be fair overall around the city, with much fewer deer being reported up the Echo Trail. Williams assisted area officers with an investigation of a deer being shot from a roadway and trespassing.

CO John Velsvaag (Ely #2) checked deer hunters and netters this past week. Deer hunting was slow and some lakes skimmed over with ice on the weekend. Several calls about nuisance animals were received as well as about the new pike regulation in regards to spearing.

CO Troy Fondie (Orr) reports another week of lower hunting success, fewer hunters and fewer deer observed harvested. Hunters reported a lack of deer. Wind, rain, snow and cold weather have arrived further diminishing hunting activities. Fondie continued work on equipment and administrative reporting.

CO Duke Broughten (Cook) spent the week monitoring hunting and ATV activity. He continued to work deer-hunting activity. More violations of hunting deer over bait were encountered. Several calls of shooting deer from the roadway were investigated. Enforcement action included hunting deer over bait, transporting a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle, untagged deer, failure to validate a deer site tag, failure to register deer, and transporting an illegally taken big game animal.

CO Marc Hopkins (Tower) spent most of the week dealing with deer-hunting issues. He took enforcement action on the following violations: loaded firearms in a motor vehicle, shooting from the roadway, discharge of firearm less than 500 feet from a dwelling, and trespassing. Hopkins also took a call of hunters fighting. A bull moose head was found and is under investigation.

CO John Slatinski (Ray) reports deer-hunting activity was the main focus of a busy week. Site tag validation, lending and borrowing tags, and registration were the most common violations. He worked with the Forestry Division on a spruce top cutting incident where a person was educated on requirements to legally harvest forest resources.

CHANGES...Continued from page 4B —

used to have a telephone number that people could call,” he said. No one has mentioned that.” He was told the telephone number (877-444-6777) remains the same.

Ely-area resident Nancy McReady stressed that she “never sees any people” when she visits the Boundary Waters. “It seems like this system will make it harder for people,” she said. “What initiated the need for the change? Why wasn’t there any public input? Was Ely ever a consideration for the (national reservation system) call center here, or at least for the Boundary Waters?”

McReady said she would rather talk to people from Ely when making her permit reservations. “Why are we going to be talking to someone from Kentucky that hasn’t been up here and doesn’t understand the area?” she asked.

Other opponents lamented the fact that Ely-area residents don’t have access to fast-enough Internet service and can’t compete with those who grab all the available permits on the first day to make reservations. “By day two there won’t be any motorized day-use permits available,” said Ross Petersen. “It’s going to be the Elyites that take it on the chin.”

Superior National Forest Supervisor Connie Cummins said, “If we have problems (as the new reservation system goes live), we need to figure out what they are and what are the ways that we can move forward in changing it.”

“Well, that doesn’t help those of us that can’t take our boat into Basswood next year,” Petersen responded.

Forest Service officials ran through a tour of the new website and reservation system, maintaining that the look and feel of the website remains similar. In addition to security

upgrades, the new site will offer real-time notification of availability and reservation of campsites in Superior National Forest developed campgrounds as well as Boundary Waters permits. Beginning in January 2019, the Forest Service will implement the administrative decision to make all BWCAW quota permits for all entry points only available for reservation using the first-come, first-served model.

But those in attendance had other grievances to air. At other recent informational sessions, local outfitters and day-use residents have complained that as many as 40 percent of the permits issued for the BWCAW are unused. They continued to lobby unsuccessfully last week that the unused permits be placed back into the system.

Smith disputed charges made by many members of the audience that the permits are being taken by people or “environmentals” that have no intention of using them. “It is not groups like the Friends of the Boundary Waters,” he said. “The no-shows are among us.”

Kawishiwi District Public Information Assistant Becca Manlove added that the Forest Service office here attempts to contact those who don’t use their permits and she has seen no pattern of abuse. “We see the names and call and ask them about it,” she said.

McReady argues for banning some users. “You have the data on who is applying for the permits. If there are multiple, multiple abuses of no-shows that person should be barred for a season or two from reserving,” she said.

“That would be prohibited by law,” Smith said.

For more information on the new permit reservation system, go to www.recreation.gov.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST from NOAA weather

| Wednesday | | | | | Thursday | | | | | Friday | | | | | Saturday | | | | | Sunday | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|-------|-------|----------|----|----|-------|------|--------|----|----|-------|-------|----------|----|----|-------|------|--------|----|----|-------|------|
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| 16 10 | | | | | 32 31 | | | | | 39 31 | | | | | 33 23 | | | | | 25 16 | | | | |
| Ely | Hi | Lo | Prec. | Sn. | Emb. | Hi | Lo | Prec. | Sn. | Cook | Hi | Lo | Prec. | Sn. | Orr | Hi | Lo | Prec. | Sn. | Tower | Hi | Lo | Prec. | Sn. |
| 11/12 | 24 | 15 | 0.09 | 3.0" | 11/12 | 21 | 13 | 0.01 | 0.4" | 11/12 | 21 | 11 | 0.02 | 0.2" | 11/12 | 18 | 3 | 0.03 | 1.0" | 11/12 | 22 | 13 | 0.00 | |
| 11/13 | 17 | 5 | 0.01 | 0.2" | 11/13 | 15 | -1 | 0.00 | | 11/13 | 15 | -1 | 0.01 | 0.1" | 11/13 | 18 | -6 | 0.00 | | 11/13 | 15 | -1 | 0.00 | |
| 11/14 | 16 | 4 | 0.00 | | 11/14 | 14 | -2 | 0.00 | | 11/14 | 15 | -2 | 0.00 | | 11/14 | 34 | 10 | 0.00 | | 11/14 | 16 | 4 | 0.00 | |
| 11/15 | 33 | 14 | 0.00 | | 11/15 | 33 | 13 | 0.00 | | 11/15 | 34 | 14 | 0.00 | | 11/15 | 36 | 27 | 0.00 | | 11/15 | 33 | 12 | 0.00 | |
| 11/16 | 37 | 25 | 0.11 | 1.8" | 11/16 | 36 | 23 | 0.12 | 1.5" | 11/16 | 36 | 23 | 0.20 | 2.5" | 11/16 | 27 | 18 | 0.15 | 3.0" | 11/16 | 36 | 23 | 0.20 | 2.0" |
| 11/17 | 25 | 13 | 0.00 | | 11/17 | 23 | 12 | 0.00 | | 11/17 | 23 | 10 | 0.01 | 0.1" | 11/17 | 16 | 1 | 0.00 | | 11/17 | 24 | 11 | 0.00 | |
| 11/18 | 19 | 2 | 0.00 | | 11/18 | 16 | -1 | 0.00 | | 11/18 | 15 | 2 | 0.00 | | 11/18 | 18 | 5 | 0.00 | | 11/18 | 18 | -2 | 0.00 | |
| Totals | | | 23.40 | 14.4" | Totals | | | 25.36 | 9.6" | Totals | | | 30.15 | 14.0" | Totals | | | NA | NA | Totals | | | 28.06 | 9.2" |

LETTERS...Continued from page 4B —

killed in body grip traps were killed in legal sets. Reporting a dog death is completely voluntary so the real number of dogs killed is likely much higher than 70. The map I’m attaching shows only the recorded dog deaths. Many other dogs were not included in the map because their reports did not have needed information, or were not reported.

Sets that have been killing dogs for decades are still legal and still killing dogs so you cannot depend on the rules to protect your dog. For example, it’s completely legal to set a body grip trap baited with a grouse carcass on the ground next

to a designated grouse hunting trail during grouse season.

It’s incorrect to say that dogs are most likely to be killed in beaver sets. Our records show that only one of the 70 dogs killed was killed in a legally set 330 beaver trap. His name was Bronco and he was at the peak of his hunting career. It doesn’t take a 330 to kill dogs. Medium-sized dogs have been killed in the much smaller and weaker 160 body grip traps. Body grip traps set for bobcats in the north and raccoons in the south are probably responsible for most of the dog deaths.

Letter: Story perpetuated MN DNR propaganda

Mr. Helmberger:
It’s easy to see that you didn’t think about or try-out the MN DNR instructions for how to release a dog from a body-gripping trap before you parroted them in your article “Could you save your dog from a conibear trap?”

I first read the MN DNR instructions in the hunting and trapping regulations handbook in 2010 when I adopted a couple of Jack Russell Terriers. The MN DNR reputation gave me the same comforting impression that they seem to have given you. Like you, I didn’t examine them, or try them out to see whether or not they would really work.

Tragedy struck in January 2012, when a 160 (the second-smallest body-gripping trap) killed one of my dogs. The trap was set in our neighborhood marshland—a dangerous place for such a trap, but completely legal. I was there

in seconds. I took one spring in each hand, squeezed with all of my strength, and tried to turn the trap 90 degrees to take the pressure off of my dog’s windpipe. You should have seen the expression on his face. I’ll never forget it.

I hadn’t practiced with the leash-pulley method, and I was in a panic (MN DNR recommendations to remain calm were so far from my mind). The only other options that I could think of were two hands on one spring (nope) or pushing down on one end of the spring, with the other end on the ice (which I could only do after my dog had lost consciousness).

The MN DNR instructions that you repeated without experience or critical analysis call for the threading of a leash or a belt through the trap loops, then standing on one end of the leash or belt, and pulling up on the other end until the spring is compressed, and finally latching the

A much easier way to compress the springs is with a pair of aluminum setting tongs. You can buy them from trapping supply houses. You can also pre-tie a couple of ropes and practice on a 220 body grip trap. Personally my dogs and I give up on grouse hunting when bobcat season opens and so do many other hunters. It’s simply not worth the risk to our dogs.

If you want to learn more about this issue, please visit our website at www.DogLovers4SafeTrappingMN.org

hook. Think about that alignment in the context of a living dog in a trap. The dog is already badly injured, and is fighting for his life. When you pulled up, you would be pulling the dog up by its neck, already badly injured in the trap. If you managed to release one spring this way, and then found and secured the hook, you wouldn’t have accomplished a thing—you would need to repeat the whole process on the other spring—with the living dog, already badly injured, and fighting for its life.

I hope you’ll think about it before you go spreading this dangerous MN DNR propaganda any further.

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• 7-10 AM BREAKFAST:

Served by Calvary Lutheran at Orr Community Center (former Legion)

• 10 AM-4 PM CRAFT VENDORS:

At the Orr Center

• 11 AM-4 PM KIDS ACTIVITIES:

At the Orr Center

• 11 AM-3 PM LUNCH:

Served at the Orr Center

• 1 PM PARADE:

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and the FTC.

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

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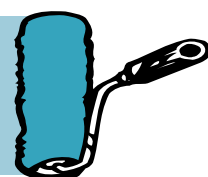
Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Build up
6 Features of gymnasts' horses
13 With a single flat, musically
16 Tam or fez
19 Start a web session
20 "Seriously!"
21 Measure in Ohm's law
23 See 112-Across
25 Metallic marble
26 German GM subsidiary
27 Ernie of the PGA Tour
29 Put forth, as effort
30 See 112-Across
38 Lake vessel
39 "I Go —" (Peter Allen song)
40 Hindu masters
41 Spies, e.g.
43 Kind of violet
45 — kwon do
46 With 87-Down, collectively
49 TV's Arnaz
- 50 See 112-Across
55 Singer King of "Tapestry"
57 Barmaid on "Cheers"
58 Name of five Norse kings
59 Profs.' helpers
62 "Man" or "12" lead-in
63 Gulf War missiles
65 Mold, as clay
66 See 112-Across
72 "The Wild Swans at —" (poem by Yeats)
73 Lawyer on "Ally McBeal"
74 H.S. math class
75 Blaster's stuff
76 Like much music of the '90s
77 "You — both!"
79 Many a Muslim
82 See 112-Across
86 Debussy's "Clair de —"
90 Bundy and Unser
- 91 "Mazel —!"
92 "— is human ..."
93 Like a perfect place
95 School skipper
98 Like back-in-fashion
100 Buddy
101 See 112-Across
106 Microsoft ad campaign
107 Ear-relevant prefix
108 Paula once on CNN
109 Sleep-inducing drug
112 Not sharp, as a picture on a screen (and what 23-, 30-, 50-, 66-, 82- and 101-Across are, literally)
120 Comic actress Wiig
121 Alcohol in liquor
122 Comaneci of gymnastics
123 DOS part: Abbr.
124 "Assuredly!"
125 Wet outside
- 126 Clearing in the woods
DOWN
1 Alien of TV
2 Stooze of TV
3 Get ripper
4 Very wise
5 Brief excerpt
6 Little oinker
7 "Holy cow!," in a text
8 Singer Tillis
9 — Zedong
10 Brian of electronica
11 Treated with calcium compounds
12 Fashion trends
13 ICU sights
14 "— fair!"
15 More woolly
16 Novelist Carr
17 "It's —" (delivery cry)
18 Calvin of golf
22 Dallas locale
24 "— Blu Dipinto di Blu"
28 Dallas-to-Austin dir.
30 Gerbil holder
31 Singles
32 "Fiddler on the Roof" star
33 Obliterate
34 Quick note
35 Ned who manages the Royals
36 Plate for the Eucharist
37 Picture
38 Blackguard
42 Scuffle
44 "Hey, bro"
46 Phrase after "café"
47 Fasten with a click
48 Onset
51 Nessie's waters
52 Lunar effect
53 Door fixture
54 Big-top cries
56 Church area
59 Port near Seattle
60 Musically keyless
61 Artists' wear
63 Tight-lipped
64 Quarter of M
65 USMC rank
67 Merrie — England
68 Inner: Prefix
69 Do, —, fa ...
70 Sprinkle, say
71 Skip over
77 Love, to Gigi
78 Kim of "Pal Joey"
79 Kinda maybe
80 Rush
81 Rudimentary thing
84 Like slasher films
85 Look like
87 See 46-Across
88 Nearly here
89 Prefix with law or chic
94 Debonair
95 Sorts
96 Cpl., for one
97 Epithets
99 How slimy stuff seeps
101 Tiny wounds
102 University in Atlanta
103 Seasonally dry ravines
104 Molar, e.g.
105 Tore
110 Born, to Gigi
111 Lt.'s inferior
113 "— is it?"
114 Crow relative
115 Phenyl ender
116 FWIW part
117 Ore- — (food brand)
118 Meteor tail?
119 Scots' "no"

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 120 | | | | | | | | | 121 | | | | | | | | 122 | | | |
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