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Thrift store startup in Ely...See /3
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the TIMBERJAY

VOL. 30, ISSUE 3 January 25, 2019

\$1⁰⁰

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Board member questions future of Tower school

Swanson, Koivisto: Community shouldn't have to sacrifice another teaching position

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook/Orr Editor

VIRGINIA - A plan to trim staffing levels at the Tower-Soudan School prompted a spirited debate at the St. Louis County School Board meeting

here Tuesday evening with one school board member questioning why the school is still open.

The original plan by superintendent Reggie Engebretson would have cut a full-time position, but she reconsidered after meeting with staff in Tower who

asked to draw up the restructuring plans themselves for only a half-time cut. The superintendent agreed.

Board member Troy Swanson, who represents the Tower-Soudan area on the board voiced his opposition.

"I don't want a reduction at Tower," he said. We've had seven years of good success. We have kept the teachers there that work well together. I don't want to mess with something that works well, I think we are playing with fire."

Swanson added that the school doesn't draw any funding away from any of the other district campuses.

Business manager Kim Johnson said the proposed cut, as

See...TOWER pg. 8

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New life for an Ely landmark



AFU building now houses three non-profits

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY— Three Ely area non-profit groups have a new home at the renovated American Fraternal Union building thanks to the continuing efforts of John and Tanner Ott, Alley A Realty, and one football team, who combined forces to bring new life to

See... AFU pg. 10
The American Fraternal Union building in Ely was built in 1933. The landmark now houses three non-profit organizations, including the Ely Community Health Center.
photo by K. Vandervort



BOIS FORTE

Service cuts loom as tribe goes without fed funding

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook/Orr Editor

BOIS FORTE - A handwritten "closed" sign hangs in the window at the Lake Vermilion Wellness Center.

It's one of a handful of programs already suspended by the Bois Forte Band as federal funds dwindle due to the government shutdown, now at over a month.

Already, the tribe has laid off around 20 workers, with more than 30 others, including members of the Tribal Council, working reduced hours.

But even with the staffing cuts already enacted, it may not be enough to keep critical social services fully operational for much longer.

"We are thinking we can manage until the end of the February before severe cuts have to occur," Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers said during a recent interview with the Timberjay. "Fitness and heritage centers are already closed until further notice. Transit has reduced routes. Non-contract routes have been cut to two days a week," she added.

Additionally, officers with the Bureau of Indian Affairs have been working without pay.

Chavers said a meeting of the council on Feb. 4 will decide where the next cuts have to be made, and that

See...SHUTDOWN pg. 9

FUNERAL SERVICE

Hundreds turn out to remember Tom Rukavina

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

VIRGINIA— Hundreds of people from around the state made a pilgrimage, of sorts, to Holy Cross Catholic Church here this past Saturday to pay homage to a true Iron Ranger. Gov. Tim Walz, former Gov. Tim Pawlenty, and Minnesota's U.S. Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith were there. Congressmen,

former Congressmen, legislators and former legislators, from both sides of the aisle, were among the estimated 700 people who turned out to remember Tom Rukavina, who died far too young earlier this month of a rare form of leukemia.

He was 68.

While the throng of politicians at Saturday's funeral reflected Rukavina's longtime political connections, it was

the average folks, whose lives Rukavina had touched in some way over the years, who filled the church hall to overflowing and heard mostly personal recollections of his less public life, as a father, a brother, and a loyal friend.

Rukavina's son Vic recalled a father who forced his children to grow up early. "A lot of you

See... RUKAVINA pg. 8



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Vermilion Dream Quilters to meet on Thursday, Feb. 7 in Tower

TOWER- Vermilion Dream Quilters will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7 in the social hall at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower.

To accommodate schedules we will hold our Chinese Auction in February rather than March. Check your bins, shelves, closets and cupboards for quality things you never want to see again. Thank them for coming into your life but release them to find a new home. They might be unfinished projects, duplicate tools, fabrics or any other item (quilting related or not) that will benefit by leaving your home, finding a new home and will generate a donation to the Tower Area Food Shelf. Bring cash or your checkbook to buy chances and win a new treasure. Kathy Lovgren and Marlene Johnson are program coordinators. Brown Bag Challenge One, a pincushion or needle case, is due for exchange with Nancy Andreae coordinating. Our hostesses for February are Jill Wagoner, Marlene Johnson, and Donna Filson.

As always, please bring your own projects to share for Show and Tell since we all gain inspiration when we see what is possible.

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

Ruby's Pantry on Jan. 26 in Babbitt

BABBITT- Ruby's Pantry will be distributing food on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Babbitt Municipal Center, 71 South Drive. A \$20 cash donation buys an abundance of food. No checks will be accepted. There are no income or residency guidelines. Bring two large boxes or baskets. Babbitt Ruby's Pantry is regularly held the fourth Saturday of each month and is sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church. Volunteers are always welcome.

Pancake Breakfast, Feb. 2 at Timber Hall in Embarrass

EMBARRASS- A pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Embarrass Region Fair Association, will be held Saturday, Feb. 2 at Timber Hall in Embarrass from 8 to 11 a.m. Support the Embarrass Region Fair by joining us for all-you-can-eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, fruit cup, juice, and a bottomless cup of coffee. Pancakes are served the first Saturday of each month through May at the Timber Hall. Adults meals cost \$5, children (6-10 years) are \$3, and 5 years and under eat free.

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DFL POLITICS

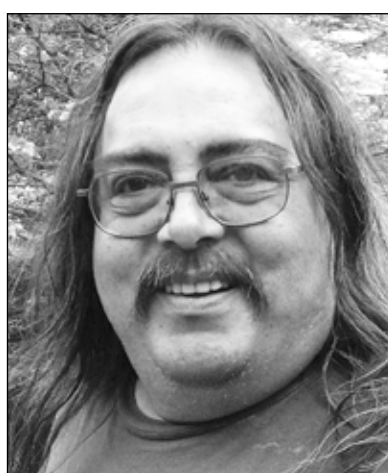
DFL listening session set for Jan. 31 in Cook

COOK- Area Democrats will hold a listening session and pizza party on Thursday, Jan. 31, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cook Community Center. The gathering is open to the public.

Democratic Farmer Labor Party officials will be present to visit with area residents and hear their post-midterm election ideas and concerns.

The meeting is sponsored by the Outreach Committee of DFL St. Louis County Organizing Unit 03, which covers northern St. Louis County including Cook, Orr, Tower, Ely, Babbitt and the surrounding rural areas.

"We want to give an opportunity for people in the northern part of our very large and sprawling district to have a voice," said Leah Rogne, of Gheen, board member of DFL District 03. "We want to hear about what's important to DFLers and to help keep people engaged as we look



Bob Miller

forward to the important elections in 2020."

"Our district runs all the way from Kabetogama to Hermantown and rural Duluth," Rogne said. "It's hard for people from up here to drive two hours to attend meetings down

in Duluth, so we want to extend organizing activities to our local areas in the north."

Bob Miller, chair of DFL Organizing Unit 03, will be at the Jan. 31 meeting to visit with area DFLers.

The area DFL Outreach Committee includes Leah Rogne, Melissa Roach of Bear River and Carol Orban of Ely.

Future DFL meetings will be held in Ely in February and in Tower in March.

Pizza and beverages will be provided at the Jan. 31 meeting in Cook.

The Cook Community Center is located just off Johnson Road on the south edge of Cook. For more information, contact Leah Rogne at 218-787-2212.

Learn how to form your own music duo with Pushing Chain at local libraries in February

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present How to Duo with Pushing Chain, a free one-hour program being offered for high schoolers and older at Cook Public Library on Friday, Feb. 8 at 5 p.m., at Babbitt Public Library on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 1 p.m., and at Ely Public Library on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 4 p.m.

Join Pushing Chain, an acoustic folkly-tonk duo from the shores of Lake Superior, as they discuss musical choices and performance decisions as they apply to being a duo. How do they arrange songs to fit into the seemingly small box of an acoustic folk duo? What do they think about while writing, performing, and arranging material? How do they hold an audience's attention with two instruments and two microphones? During this 60-minute program, Pushing Chain will discuss their process and illustrate the discussion with songs chosen from a vast catalog of original music, as well as some songs you probably know.

Pushing Chain is a Northern Minnesota-based duo formed by longtime musical collaborators Boyd



Blomberg (guitar/vocals) and Adam Moe (fiddle/vocals) that features marvelously exuberant vocal harmonies, impeccable timing and wit, and an infectious vibe that leaves audiences grinning. It's high-energy folk music with a country twist, and it's been winning them fans all across the U.S. and Canada.

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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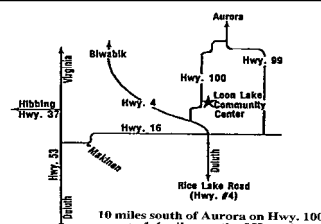
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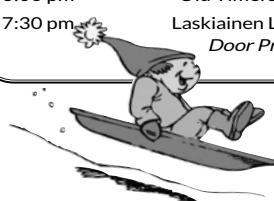
Ameriikan Poijat (Boys of America) is a Finnish American Brass Ensemble that has been appearing at ethnic festivals and music conferences since 1991, presenting Finnish social dance music and concert repertoire.

Sunday, February 3

7:30 am-9:30 am Piggies & Pancake Breakfast (Pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee)
10:00 am Ecumenical Church Service
Special Music "Friends on the Range"
9:00 am-4:00 pm Old Co-op Theatre
Strolling Musicians
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In Laskiainen Tradition
Tori (Marketplace)
Bakery (Finnish breads)
Museum
Fry Bread Booth
10:00 am-4:00 pm Sleigh/Carriage Rides (Free)
11:00 am-4:00 pm Pea Soup Dinner
1:15 pm Introduction of the Royal Court
1:30 pm "Ameriikan Poijat"

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SAVING RETAIL

Former Goodwill workers look to restart Ely store

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — A group of Ely residents is hoping to raise \$10,000 to establish a replacement for the Ely Goodwill Donation Center and Store that ceased operations here on Saturday.

According to information provided to the Timberjay by former Ely Goodwill store manager Monte Martin, contributions can be made at www.gofundme.com for the Internet fundraising effort. Donations are also accepted at the Ely Area Credit Union.

Funds collected will be used for initial start-up costs for what is being called the Ely Drop and Shop Thrift Store, organized by Martin and former store employ-

ee Amanda Stevens.

On the GoFundMe.com fundraising site, Martin stated, “Recently a nationally recognized thrift store chain decided to leave the community which caused a void for the products and services provided. Seven people were left without employment because of this. It is our hope to be able to fill these needs by providing a locally-operated thrift store that will provide services lost with profits going back to designated sectors of need in Ely. Your donated funds will be used for the initial business start-up costs.”

After five years of operation in Ely’s downtown, Goodwill

announced earlier this month that it was closing some northeastern Minnesota stores in a move to improve efficiency and lower costs. “Many in the community have expressed the need for such a store in the Ely area with the closest remaining Goodwill being in Virginia,” Martin said.

“We are working on a location and have been in contact with the building owner who said he is willing to help our community. That is not our only option for a location but it would be an easy transition.”

As of Wednesday noon, contributors had pledged \$885 on the website for the thrift store fundraising effort.

Greg and Heidi Mann of Ely donated and left this comment. “I had actually hoped (and mentioned on Facebook that it would be great if) the current employees of Goodwill in Ely — who know how to run the store better than any of the rest of us — would set up a thrift store of their own to replace the Goodwill that is closing here. It will be a blessing to our entire community, so I hope everyone will pitch in and help make it a reality. I wish I could give more, but the reason I can’t is the same reason I value a low-cost shopping option for our family. I also believe in good stewardship, and reusing when possible, instead of buying new

all the time. Good luck, Ely Drop and Shop. Best wishes for success.”

Cheryl Boyes, who directs the local food shelf, added, “Let’s support this effort to bring back a thrift store to Ely. It is a much-needed, valuable resource for everyone. It would keep the circulation of goods and funds within the community.”

Martin said he is working to form a volunteer board to help with organizing the operation. “There are so many people here in Ely who supported the Goodwill store and would like to see a similar facility maintained here,” he said.

COPPER-NICKEL MINING

Lawsuits filed against PolyMet air and water permits

Allege MPCA fell for “bait-and-switch” by permitting mine critics believe won’t be built

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — A host of environmental and conservation groups are alleging that the state’s Pollution Control Agency fell for a “bait and switch,” when the agency issued both air and water discharge permits to PolyMet Mining late last month for their planned copper-nickel mine near Hoyt Lakes.

The four groups, including the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, the Center for Biological Diversity, and the Sierra Club, made the claim in a joint lawsuit over both air and water permits filed on Tuesday. Simultaneously, the group Water

Legacy filed a separate appeal of the water discharge permit issued by the MPCA, arguing that the permit fails to set limits on toxic seepage into groundwater and serves primarily as a liability shield designed to protect the company from citizen lawsuits should its planned mine pollute the environment.

MPCA spokesperson Dave Verhasselt indicated that the agency could not comment on ongoing litigation.

Several of the environmental groups involved in this week’s filings had earlier requested a contested case hearing to address concerns before an administrative law judge, a request that officials with both the MPCA and the Department of Natural Resources rejected. The groups

have since asked that the agencies place a stay on the issuance of their permits to PolyMet pending the outcome of court appeals.

The groups, citing the company’s own technical report and financial update issued last March, contend that PolyMet is unlikely to actually build the 32,000-ton-per-day mining operation that they spent years studying, and for which state regulators have now issued permits.

“PolyMet has told Canadian financial regulators they intend to build a much larger mine than the version they submitted to Minnesota environmental agencies,” stated Kathryn Hoffman, CEO of the MCEA. “By turning a blind eye to PolyMet’s plans for faster and more intense mining,

Right: An aerial view of the complex wetlands at the proposed PolyMet mine site. file photo

the MPCA permits for PolyMet allow them to skirt the law and avoid stronger environmental protections.”

PolyMet’s updated technical report did propose a significantly faster rate of mining as a means of boosting the project’s financial viability. PolyMet’s latest financial report suggested a sharply lower return on investment than previous estimates, which the company had issued more than a decade ago. Those initial estimates had pegged an internal rate of return at more than 30 percent, but that had dropped to less than ten percent in the most



recent analysis — far less than would typically attract investor interest in a mining venture.

In response, the company had analyzed profit margins

See POLYMET...pg. 5

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OPINION

“CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW...
ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM
OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS;”

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

Editorial

Protecting wild rice

The Minnesota Legislature
has a chance to redeem itself

Can Minnesota find a way to protect wild rice, and, perhaps, save ourselves in the process? It's a question that's particularly relevant with the Legislature back in session. For the past several years, the Legislature has taken repeated steps to undermine a water quality standard designed to protect wild rice— that extraordinary natural grain that has been a mainstay of Ojibwe culture, spiritual life, and diet in Minnesota for centuries. Perhaps this will be the year that legislators decide to redeem themselves.

They have the opportunity to do so through the creation of an effective wild rice stewardship council, which was one of the recommendations of a task force created last year by Gov. Mark Dayton, which issued a report last month. Wild rice is clearly in need of some stewardship. This once-ubiquitous grain has been on the decline in recent years, most likely as a result of a number of environmental problems. It's a sensitive species. Some liken it to a "canary in a coal mine," signaling changes in the overall environment that might not be immediately detectable to most people.

Wild rice has already disappeared from the vast majority of its historic range and is largely confined today to parts of central and northern Minnesota and adjacent portions of Canada and Wisconsin. Even here in the heart of its range, however, we've seen worrisome declines in both distribution and abundance.

We know that discharges of sulfate from some industrial polluters are at least part of the problem, particularly in areas downstream from mining operations. In fact, the link between sulfate levels and the health of wild rice has been known since the 1940s and formed the basis for Minnesota's strictest-in-the-nation sulfate standard, enacted back in 1973. Recent attempts by the Legislature to undermine that standard, simply to placate the state's mining industry, have been telling. For a state that has long prided itself on protection of the environment, it's been eye-opening to watch a Minnesota Legislature ignore science and take its environmental cues almost entirely from a powerful industry. It's like waking up one day to discover we've become Texas.

The Legislature's failure, to date, to address the water quality threats posed to wild rice, has justifiably increased the sense of urgency among the state's native peoples. In their own report on wild rice, the state's Ojibwe and Sioux bands reaffirmed their conviction that control of sulfate emissions from taconite mines and major electrical utilities, is critical to their goal of restoring wild rice to its former abundance.

In the end, it's really a matter of health— for all people in our region. We would all benefit from incorporating wild rice into our lives. The true, native grain is an extraordinary food, high in protein, scarce minerals, and anti-oxidants, not to mention delicious. Harvesting and preparing the grain for the table is a meaningful and deliberate act that stands in remarkable contrast to the industrial food system that has left so many Americans sick or in failing health.

And our medical establishment is well aware that increasing sulfate levels in lake and stream sediments not only boosts the production of sulfide, a toxin known to harm wild rice, but also converts elemental mercury to toxic methyl mercury, mobilizing it through the aquatic food chain.

And a 2011 study by the Minnesota Department of Health found already-elevated levels of mercury in the blood of infants within the Lake Superior basin, with nearly 10 percent exhibiting levels considered above a safe level. Fish consumption is believed to be the primary cause of these elevated mercury levels, and the same pollutants that are harming wild rice may be facilitating a worsening situation with mercury in our region's fish.

Perhaps this year, the Minnesota Legislature can begin to put the pieces together and recognize the connection between water quality and public health and well-being.

Better late than never.



Letters from Readers

Big mining doesn't care about you or me

Timed to coincide perfectly with the U.S. government's selective "shutdown" (the NSA, CIA and FBI remain fully funded), we can now be fairly certain that the BLM's "review and comment period" for Antofagasta's (Twin Metals') mining plans for northern Minnesota will be shortened, curtailed or eliminated. Next there will be a cursory – oh, sorry, "rigorous" – environmental review. Quickly after that, approval of Twin Metals' mining plan. In an effort to reduce costs, we hope that the BLM will recycle and re-use its rubber stamps. After all, Poly-Met is close behind.

Rest assured, the humans who are driving this pending destruction of our land, water and heritage do not live here. They have no interest in you, me, or our children. Their singular motive seems to center on extracting as much copper, nickel and gold from the ground as possible, at an absolute minimum cost. Shortcutting, ignoring and/or flat out violating existing environmental law is, historically, the easiest way to get there. Mining interests' perfect record of severe and permanent contamination to impacted groundwater speaks for itself. (If you still believe that foreign billionaires give a crying cluck about you or me, you deserve our pity.)

So it's nearly in place now. The mines will move forward. Later, and as always, the rest of us will suffer under the subsequent contamination, cleanup and monitoring costs, costs that will not and cannot be funded merely by diverting still-MORE tax revenue from roads, schools, hospitals, public transport and/or care for the elderly.

And who will suffer the most? I suggest it will be the union miners, those good and kind men and women who will try to remain here, live here and work here . . . forced to sell their grandchildren's souls for the sake of a temporary "living wage."

Welcome to the third world.

Duane Behrens
Ely

Ely needs an official paper that supports copper-nickel mining

This has always been a wonderful small town with small town values. We all got along, all supported each other. This week I have been scolded for shopping for lower prices in another town and not supporting local businesses. Then I am told the City MUST choose the lowest bidder for their official newspaper, even though it is in another town. In my mind this is the same thing. Money cannot be the only factor taken into consideration. What about their contributions to the community?

When times are tough, we rely on each other for support, that's what makes a community. Let's work together to support each other through these tough economic times. Let's work together to choose a newspaper that fairly supports our community, not one that takes every opportunity to condemn an entire industry striving to provide us with a better life through environmentally sound mining practices. Let's work together and support those who support us.

Linda Maki
Ely

Treasurer's claims don't fit the facts

In response to Greenwood Township Treasurer Pam Rogers' statement, "John Bassing has made public statements that his goal is to eliminate the Fire Department," I challenge Pam Rogers to provide any documentation in Township minutes or audio recordings to back up her statement, as I have never stated my goal is to eliminate the Greenwood Township Fire Department. I do support the Fire Department and have worked and will continue to work toward improving the services it provides. I also support the idea of shared services (a fire district) for area cities and townships, which would include the Greenwood Fire Department personnel and building as is, if and when the opportunity presents itself.

Lee Peterson
Greenwood Twp

I do not think it is wrong for Treasurer Pam Rogers to research and present data to residents. The problem I have is while the first half of the Treasurer's letter on ISO fire ratings was researched and somewhat factual, the second half used the words "unorganized," "dissolved," and "annexation" which are devoid of any facts and research, set out simply as red herrings to mislead and to fearmonger.

In answer to Treasurer Rogers' statement, "Is this the guy we want representing us?" I believe the answer is yes. While I was a Greenwood Supervisor, in support of our fire department, I rewrote the Paid-on-Call Guidelines and Standard Operating Guidelines and corrected the misclassification of the firefighters as public employees, not private contractors, to the benefit of the Fire Department, its members, and the Township.

Finally, the Greenwood Township Treasurer's misstatements about the Fire Department and my ability to represent Greenwood Township fit the definition of a political hack.

John Bassing
Greenwood Twp

Time to call out untruths

In her letter to the *Timberjay* last week, Greenwood Treasurer Pam Rodgers says: "John Bassing has made public statements that his goal is to eliminate the [Greenwood] fire department." That is a lie. I usually get a kick out of the vitriol that Pam and her husband include in their writings and I just laugh it off. But lying is different, and it needs to be called out. We get enough lying out of the top level of our government. We don't need to let it become the norm here.

I know John Bassing and Carol Maus very well. They are decent, hard-working, honest people, very capable of doing the people's work for our township. I will be gladly voting for them in March. I trust them. I trust them to settle things down in our township. Please join me.

Lee Peterson
Greenwood Twp

A few good poems can help the stories flow

I've spent a lot of time in skilled nursing homes and other facilities that offer assisted living to aging folks. For many years, my professional work took me into places designed for old people when they've begun to have trouble living alone. My mother spent the last few years of her life at Carefree



**KATHLEEN
MCQUILLAN**

Assisted Living in Cook. Although I was grateful that she was safe and well cared for, it was not always easy for her. No question about it, she missed her independence and her familiar surroundings. Who said it? "There's no place like home."

Mom was creative. She considered every space she occupied

her canvas upon which she painted her version of beauty. She took great pride in her decorating, choosing colors, making drapes, arranging furniture and her personal artifacts in unique and appealing ways. As her health and capabilities diminished, so too did the square footage of each place she occupied, but her creative fingerprint continued to appear wherever she landed. Despite her physical and mental infirmities, Mom's imagination seemed to make the necessary adjustments, gradual-

ly condensing her creative vision to accommodate even her final tiny abode, her cozy apartment at "Carefree".

Perhaps to honor my mother, but maybe most of all, to ease my "missing", I've continued to visit Carefree Living. On the second Tuesday of every month, with a folder tucked under my arm, I buzz myself in and take my place at a big table in the sunroom. Minutes later, I'm joined by a half dozen or more silver-haired men and women for an hour of poetry reading, reminiscing, and

some of the richest storytelling I've ever heard. Some arrive in wheelchairs, some with walkers, but all with smiles and enthusiasm for the opportunity to share innermost thoughts and feelings triggered by a few good poems.

I wasn't born a poetry lover. Or if I was, somewhere in my early school days it got a knock-out punch. Maybe it was Mr. Koller, my 9th grade English teacher. I entered the class with a premonition that

See **POEMS ...pg. 5**

Letters from Readers

Border wall? Sorry, the bad guys got in a long time ago

The good news is we don't have to build any Trump walls along the U.S. borders. Bad news is it's too late: The first of the bad guys made it in-country over 500 years ago, a little after midnight, October 12, 1492, when a 40-year-old white guy from Spain set foot on the island of San Salvador, off the coast

of America. That was only a beginning.

The late poet and novelist Jim Harrison, in his essay "Poetry as Survival", offers the following image to visualize our untold history since that date: picture this country as a wounded body, a body with many wounds, each marked by a break in skin and seeping of blood. Carefully lower a white sheet over that body, the Americas, let it settle for a while, then just as carefully lift it up, set it down and study

the geographical locations that are stained red. That's where we learn our history. That's where the truth still resides.

Go there, to those places, and you can feel the unacknowledged grief. Look a few of them up, and read:

►Attica Prison Rebellion - Attica, N.Y.

►Firebombing of The Upstairs Lounge - French Quarter, New Orleans

►Wounded Knee Christmas Massacre - north of Chadron,

Neb.

►Bear Paw Massacre - south of Chinook, Mont.

►Bombing of The First Baptist Church - Birmingham, Ala.

►Sand Creek Massacre - north east of Chivington, Colo.

►Firebombing of the MOVE headquarters and burning of three city blocks - Philadelphia, Penn.

►Ludlow Mine Rebellion - Ludlow, Colo.

►Columbine High School,

Sandy Hook Elementary School, Parkland . . .

The time to look outward, out across these invented borders separating brother from brother, out across skin-deep differences separating sister from sister, that time is long over. Now is the time to simply be still - to look inward, within our borders, considering our own history. The right time to start that work has always been, and will always be, now.

Steve Larson
Ely

PUBLIC SAFETY

Many rural highways set to see higher speed limits

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Your trip from Tower to Ely could take a couple minutes less than before as a result of an increase in the speed limit on Hwy. 1 that will take effect as soon as new speed limit signs are in place.

The increased speed limit is part of a statewide effort by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to boost speeds on a total of 5,240 miles of state highways based on the recommendations of a five-year study

released this week. The speeds on some rural highways, including a large portion of Hwy. 1, between Cook, Tower, and Ely, will increase from 55 to 60 miles per hour under the plan.

Of the 7,000 miles studied, speed limits ultimately will be increased on 77 percent of rural, two-lane state highways, according to the final report. Most of the signs posting the new speed limits are already in place, with the rest expected to be up by spring 2019.

The Minnesota Legislature

in 2014 mandated that MnDOT study all Minnesota two-lane roadways with a speed of 55 miles per hour for possible adjustments to speed limits.

It is the most comprehensive study the agency has made in terms of miles studied and level of detail, according to Nathan Drews, engineering specialist in the Office of Traffic Engineering. The latest changes represent the largest system-wide change in Minnesota speed limits since the national maximum speed limit of 55 mph was included in President

Nixon's Emergency Highway Conservation Act bill in 1974.

The \$1.2 million study collected travel speed samples on each section of roadway and evaluated roadway geometrics and hazards to determine if a speed limit could be changed without affecting motorist safety.

The recommendation for a speed increase along each of these roadways considered the speed that 85 percent of motorists drive at or below along with an evaluation of other factors, such as access points, shoulder width,

vertical grades and crash history.

MnDOT has conducted before-and-after studies on many roadways that recently increased to 60 mph. There was no change in the overall 85th percentile speed from before the speed limit change to after. The mean speed, which is the average speed of all drivers, increased by one mile per hour.

MnDOT plans to study the effect of the changes over the next several years to ensure these roadways continue to operate safely.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Struggling to pay your heating bill? Apply now for help

REGIONAL – With the return of subzero temperatures across the North Country, the Minnesota Commerce Department is reminding residents that they can apply for the state's Energy Assistance Program for help paying their heating bills.

For those who have not already applied for help this heating season, there is still time. Households with young children, people with disabilities, veterans or seniors are especially encour-

aged to apply. The deadline is May 31, 2019, but residents are urged to apply as soon as possible since the funds are limited and are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

The average annual grant is \$545.

"Energy assistance is an essential safety net that can help vulnerable Minnesotans avoid the cruel choice between buying food or medicine and paying the heating bill," said Commerce Commissioner Steve Kelley.

"Heating your home is a necessity in Minnesota, and we don't want anyone's health or safety put at risk because they can't afford to pay for heat."

The Energy Assistance Program serves households that earn less than 50 percent of the state's median annual income. That translates to \$49,698 or less for a family of four. It helps low-income homeowners and renters with heating bills through grant money paid directly to their utility companies or heating fuel

vendors. Funds are also available to help some homeowners repair or replace malfunctioning heat systems.

In October, Minnesota received about \$116 million in federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds for this year's Energy Assistance Program. The program is not affected by the federal government shutdown.

Last year the Energy Assistance Program served more than 126,000 Minnesota

households, including nearly 56,000 seniors and more than 8,000 veterans.

Residents in northern St. Louis or Lake counties can apply for the funds through the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency in Virginia, which is one of 29 local agencies that administer the funds for the state. You can reach the AEOA by phone at 1-800-662-5711 or at 218-749-2912, or visit in person at their office located at 702 S. 3rd Ave W, in Virginia.

POEMS...Continued from page 4

this might be a subject "over my head". It didn't take long to discover that I was right. Each time he'd call on me to explain the meaning of, say, a line from Emily Dickinson, or to define iambic pentameter, I either drew a complete blank or stumbled through some weak attempt, totally embarrassed.

By the time 11th grade came along, and Mr. Groebbel's efforts to stimulate some excitement over a Shakespeare sonnet, I knew I was sunk. And, sunk was just one grade above flunk. I was freaked. My fear of failure was so intense that any chance for me "loving poetry" was not in the picture. I had to accept that "it just wasn't my thing". I gave

myself permission to quit trying. It would be several years before someone would crack my armor of resistance.

When I was 21, I was restless. I decided to load my backpack and my big white German Shepherd into my VW Bug. Destination? Tucson, Arizona, to visit my big sister.

At an early age, Karen decided to be a teacher. She honed her skills throughout my childhood teaching me (and her dolls) how to read before we entered Kindergarten. Although she didn't join the convent, which was also her plan, she did become a passionate high school English teacher. While she was fulfilling

her life's dream, I enjoyed exploring whatever possibility presented itself. By 1974, I was ready to "go west". When I arrived, rather unannounced, on Karen's doorstep, with my only accomplishment being that I'd left Detroit and found her, thankfully, she welcomed me with open arms and encouraged me to stay.

It wasn't long after I'd moved into her little house that one evening, while I washed a sink full of dishes, Karen asked if I'd like her to read aloud the poems from that day's lesson plan. As you might guess, I wasn't enthusiastic. Just the mention of poetry triggered flashbacks of high school Lit class where my teachers

pressed me to upgrade my appreciation for a "good poem".

"But," I thought, "How could I deny her when she's agreed to support me until I get a job?" So, I listened.

To make a long story short, I found that my sister's feverish love for poetry was contagious! While my stomach would tense, her voice would soothe. When my mind would drift, her voice would grab my attention and imagination. She pulled me into the world of great writers, as adept at their craft, creating intimate scenes with words, as great painters do with color and line. Those good poems imbued me with vivid imagery and

poignant emotion. She showed me the power of poetic language and sometimes moved me to tears. By the end of that year, I was hooked.

Now forty years later, her legacy lives on — the roles reversed. No, my dear friends at Carefree need not slave over a dishpan in trade for some good poems. They've done enough just by allowing me into their home, saying "yes", when invited to join me, listening to my personal "lesson plan", and sharing that special kinship of the pleasure of spoken word. They have no idea how much I love listening to their recollections and shared stories, an art form in itself.

Poetry has the power

to speak to our souls. It can connect us despite our differences of age or background. I have felt the joy and meaning of our being in that room together — a rare and intimate opportunity to share where we've come from and who we each are now. We laugh. Sometimes we cry. We've discovered how much we share in common. And when the hour is through, we quietly gather our belongings, ready ourselves to leave one another's company, but not before words of thanks and hugs that will carry us until we meet again.

POLYMET...Continued from page 3

from two different mining scenarios, including a plan for a 59,000-ton-per-day operation and one for 118,000-ton-per-day. Both of those scenarios boosted the company's financial outlook, while still falling well below the projections of a decade ago.

This week's lawsuits are just the latest in a series of cases filed against agencies that have advanced PolyMet's proposed mine, which would be the state's first copper-nickel and precious metals mine if ultimately approved. The company has made significant progress in the permitting process, having received all of its state-issued permits as of December. PolyMet is still waiting on a federal

wetland permit from the Army Corps of Engineers as well as a handful of minor local permits.

But both the MPCA and the DNR face lawsuits over permit decisions, including over the DNR's issuance of a permit to mine. The U.S. Forest Service is also embroiled in a lawsuit over the 6,600-acre federal land exchange that provided PolyMet

with surface rights at its planned mine site. Efforts to end that lawsuit through federal legislation have so far proven unsuccessful.

Any of those lawsuits could potentially delay or derail the project. At the same time, low metal prices appear to be limiting investor interest in the project, despite the company's progress on permitting. The stock was

trading at just 77 cents a share earlier this week, well below its \$1.13 spike on Nov. 1, 2018, when the DNR announced it would issue the company's permit to mine. PolyMet's lackluster financial projections, issued last March, assumed copper prices at \$3.29 a pound, well above the latest posted price of \$2.74 per pound. Nickel, meanwhile, was trading

at \$5.29 per pound this week, far below the \$7.95 per pound that PolyMet assumed in its latest financial analysis. A slowdown in global economic activity, particularly in China, appears to be affecting

prices of metals, oil, and other basic commodities, and that could pose challenges for PolyMet as it seeks to raise the \$1 billion-plus it will need to begin mining operations.

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TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY



Ian Sundahl repeats as TS Spelling Bee champ

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

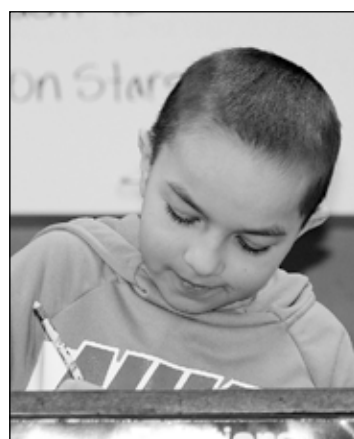
TOWER- Last year this mighty little speller conquered endure and pliant to take the trophy, this year it took now sixth-grader Ian Sundahl a few more rounds, and correctly spelling crackle and shivery, to take the prize.

Six spellers from grades five and six took part in this year's bee, on Jan. 16. Fifth-graders Rena Buckanaga, Caz Carlson, Chloe Adkisson, and Elsie Larson, along with sixth-graders Greyson Reichensperger and Ian Sundahl.

After the first four rounds, Greyson, Caz, Rena, and Ian were still in the race. Round

five saw Rena miss on the word squeeze, and in round six, Greyson missed on cue and Caz on briefing. Ian correctly spelled crackle in round six, and then shivery to win the bee. Spellers Greyson and Caz then had a spell-off to break the tie for second place. Greyson took second place and the alternate spot after correctly spelling prayer, cardboard, and obtain. Caz missed in the second round of the spell-off on portray.

Ian will now compete in the Northeast Service Coop's Region 3B Spelling Bee on Feb. 7 at the coop building in Mt. Iron. The winner of that bee moves on to a statewide bee.



Pictured clockwise from top left: Ian Sundahl, Chloe Adkisson, Caz Carlson, Elsie Larson, Greyson Reichensperger, Rena Buckanaga.
photos by J. Summit



TS Elementary and Nett Lake Elementary Ice Fishing Day

LAKE VERMILION RESERVATION- On Tuesday, Feb. 12, about 30 fifth and sixth-graders at the Tower-Soudan Elementary and Nett Lake Elementary schools will get a special cold treat — and it's not ice cream! The kids will spend the day ice fishing on Everett Bay, Lake Vermilion.

Grilled hot dogs, chips, and hot chocolate will be served for lunch and the kids will get to fish in the comfort of heated fish houses from 9

a.m. to 1 p.m.

The fun day is sponsored by the Lake Vermilion Guides League and Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

Soudan Baptist Bible Study moves to Thursdays

SOUDAN- The Soudan Baptist Church mid-week Bible study class now meets on Thursdays at 1 p.m. The class previously met on Wednesdays.

Miranda Kishel named to Dean's List at Crookston

REGIONAL- Miranda Kishel, of Tower, has been named to the Fall Semester Dean's List at UM Crookston. Kishel is majoring in accounting/finance. To qualify for a place on the Dean's List, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded classes while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

Red Hats to meet on Feb. 14

TOWER- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet on Thursday, Feb. 14 at the Black Bear Café at 12 noon. Please RSVP by Monday, Feb. 11 to Pam Lundstrom at 218-753-3006. There will be a limited menu to order from.

St. Paul's sets annual meeting for Jan. 27

SOUDAN- St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Soudan will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, Jan. 27 after the service. All members are encouraged to attend. Any questions please call Susan Trucano-Precht at 218-780-1560.

Joint Powers Recreation Board to meet Jan. 25

TOWER- The Joint Powers Recreation Board will meet on Friday, Jan. 25 at 8:30 a.m. at Sulu's in Tower. All requests must be made in writing to either Julie Suihkonen,

Clerk of Kugler, or Linda Keith, Tower Clerk/Treasurer, prior to the meeting.

Chimpy's Skating Parties

SOUDAN- Chimpy's skating parties at the Soudan Rink are now underway.

This weekend, Jan. 26 and 27, there will be skating parties from 12 noon - 2 p.m. This weekend's parties are sponsored by Cherilyn and Daniel Eveleth, who are summer residents on Lake Vermilion.

Children of all ages are welcome to stop by for skating, fun, and food. Loaner skates are available in the warming shack.

Chimpy is planning to host skating parties on Saturdays and Sundays, weather-permitting, during the skating season. The warming shack regular hours are weekdays from 4 p.m. to closing, and weekends from 11 a.m. to closing.

Tower-Soudan Athletic Association to hold annual meeting, Jan. 31

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Athletic Association will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, Jan. 31, following the end of the Vermilion Country School Board meeting at approximately 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Vermilion Country School.

The 2018 officers were Marshall Helmsberger, president; Joan Dostert, vice-president; and Jodi Summit, treasurer. The 2019 officers will be elected at the annual meeting. Anyone wishing to learn more about the group, or to request funding, can contact Jodi Summit at vcs.charter@gmail.com.

Friends of Vermilion Country School hold annual meeting on Jan. 31

TOWER- Friends of Vermilion Country School will hold their annual meeting on Thursday, Jan. 31 at the Vermilion Country School, at approximately 6:15 p.m. The group is a booster club for the school, and all money raised goes to support school activities and other needs that are not funded through the regular budget.

The 2018 officers were Muriel Scott, president; and Jodi Summit, treasurer. New officers will be elected at the annual meeting.

Friends would like to send special thanks to the regular adult bingo volunteer crew of Muriel Scott, Joan Dostert, Jodi Summit, and Sheldon Majerle.

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ST. MARTIN’S CATHOLIC YOUTH

Souper Bowl of Caring set for Feb. 3



St. Martin’s Youth are once again hosting a “Souper Bowl of Caring” on Sunday, Feb. 3. The students will be serving their homemade booyah from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the St. Martin’s Social Hall. Take-out meals will be available, cost is a freewill offering. All money taken in goes to the Tower Area Food Shelf. submitted photo

Breitung to present design for town hall renovations at annual meeting

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA
Staff Writer

SOUDAN- The Breitung Town Board has approved a design proposal from Architectural Resources Inc. for the township building renovations. The firm plans to work with the township on design and have a final plan review at the March 12 annual meeting. Final bid documents would be up for approval at the March 26 meeting and construction would run from May through December. Cost estimates will not be available until late May after contractors have placed bids. ARI will charge eight-percent of construc-

tion costs. At the board meeting on Jan. 16, Tower Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg came to advocate for a 100-percent increase in ambulance subsidy rates from \$15 per person to \$30. Altenburg said the ambulance has gone this long without a significant increase by using money-saving measures, but to avoid a significant shortfall in the future, residents should vote for the rate increase. Chairman Tim Tomsich suggested that instead of immediately doubling the subsidy, a gradual year-by year increase might be more pop-lar with Breitung residents. The residents of Breitung will vote on the ambulance subsidy at the annual meeting on March 12. Area townships served by the ambulance service, along with the city of Tower, pay an annual subsidy to the service based on the number of year-round residents. The town board will send a \$1,000 donation to the Tower Cemetery Association to fund the purchase of a small plot of land from Vermilion Housing Corporation. One of the cemetery’s storage buildings was mistakenly built on that land. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 6 p.m.

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 are 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 Jan. 28
Monday- Chicken Chow Mein, Brown Rice
Tuesday- White Chicken Chili, Tortilla Chips, Bread Stick
Wednesday- Cheese and Bean Enchilada
Thursday- Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Dinner Roll, Vegetable
Friday- BBQ Riblet Sandwich, Baked Beans.

Week of Jan. 28
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 Feb.19.

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

Breitung Town Board- 6 p.m. on Jan. 29

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- Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org.



Read It Here

Finnlander Bocce Ball Tournament set for Saturday, Jan. 26



It’s going to be cold out, but bundle up and join the fun at the Iron Ore Bar parking lot on Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. file photo

TOWER- The second annual Finnlander Bocce Ball Tournament will be held on Saturday, Jan. 26 starting at 9 a.m. at the Iron Ore Bar parking lot. The games have been moved off the harbor due to ongoing construction this year. Cost to enter is \$40 per team of four players (must be two men and two women). All players must be 18 or older. Cash payout (100 percent of entry fees) goes to the top

four teams. Enjoy a winter day sliding on the ice. The event is being sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board. Good Ol’ Days will have their food truck on site, offering hot food including hamburgers and fries, and cold drinks. They will also have a tent with a heater set up adjacent to the food truck to keep participants and spectators warm. To sign up, see the registration forms at Good Ol’ Days, D’Erick’s, or Benchwarmers in Tower, or sign up on the Facebook page (Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board). Team pre-registrations are preferred, but last-minute teams will not be turned away on tournament day. For questions, contact Julie Johnson at 218-750-7242.

| Bookmobile Schedule | |
|--|------------------|
| Wednesday, Feb. 13; March 6, 27 | |
| Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club | 11:00-11:30 a.m. |
| Greenwood Town Hall | 12:00-12:30 p.m. |
| Soudan Fire Hall | 1:45-3:00 p.m. |
| Tower Civic Center | 3:15-4:15 p.m. |
| Embarrass, Four Corners | 5:15-6:00 p.m. |

For further information, call the Arrowhead Library System at 218-741-3840 or www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us

| Transfer station | |
|--|------------------|
| Soudan Canister <i>Expanded hours year-round</i> | |
| 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 <i>Summer Hours through Sept. 30</i> | |
| Tuesday | 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. |
| Thursday | 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. |
| Saturday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. |
| Sunday | 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. |
| Recycling canisters available daily at the Greenwood Town Hall. For info: 1-800-450-9278 | |



the **TIMBERJAY**

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| General Manager | Jodi Summit |
| Staff Writers | Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola |
| Ely Editor | Keith Vandervort |
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Hours: Monday — Friday,
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Closed on Sundays
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Babbitt library

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

Support groups

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

In Brief

Tuesday Group
ELY - The upcom-
ing Tuesday Group
schedule is listed below.
All talks are at 12 noon
on Tuesday at the Grand
Ely Lodge.
Jan. 29 -Sgt.
George Burger - Ely
Police Department -
Traffic Safety.
Feb. 5 - Tim
Stouffer and Joey
Koenig – Poetry and
Music, A Multi-media
Preview.
Feb. 12 - Emily
Stone - Adventures in
Alaska.

**Ely Free Clinic
open Mondays**

ELY - The Ely
Community Health
Center is open every
Monday evening from
5:30-7 p.m. in the AFU
Building, 111 S 4th
Ave. E.
For more infor-
mation, call 218-365-
5678., or visit their
website, www.elycommunityhealth.org, or
Facebook page.

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



extreme cold readings
predictable clear night skies
frozen feet and hands



the TIMBERJAY

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OUR COMMUNITY

Ely Area Ambulance Service records busiest year on record

ELY – According to Ely Ambulance Service Director Geoffrey Galaski, 2018 has turned out to be our busiest year on record with 624 calls for service. “Before that, 2012 held the record with 553 runs,” he said.

Other statistics quoted in the January 2019 news-letter include:

►49 percent of EAS call volume was from hospital transports, up from an average of 20 percent (207 runs);

►Patients all over the state, including North Dakota, have been transported;

►Mileage – Trans-

ported billable mileage (patient in the ambulance) has nearly doubled from previous years at 21,139. “Overall, we added 51,282 miles to our fleet,” he said;

►EAS responded to 11 calls outside of their service area for mutual aid, and provided 17 ALS intercepts to neighboring BLS services.

►The busiest days of the week are Tuesday and Saturday and the busiest times of day are 1-2 p.m. and 8-9 p.m.;

►As much as 55 percent of EAS patients were over 60 years of age, with 80-89 years of age being the highest group

transported;

►Average response time (dispatched to enroute) for emergency calls is 3.51 minutes, and the average time it takes EAS to arrive on scene is 10.44 minutes. “Remember, our licensed Primary Service Area is just over 1,500 square miles, one of the largest in Minnesota covering two counties,” he added.

Galaski also said that 2018 marked the first full year of independent staffing. “As of Oct. 1, we are renting a house for our staff, that is only a few blocks away from the ambulance garage

that we also rent,” he said. “We previously rented two offices from EBCH to serve as bedrooms for our staff.”

“The EAS is looking at being able to operate out of one facility to accommodate staff and apparatus in the near future. We currently have 25 employees that are certified at the EMR, EMT and Paramedic levels,” he said. “We are excited for the continued growth of our organization and what 2019 will bring.”

Please visit the EAS website for more detailed facts, at www.elyambulance.com.

INTERNATIONAL WOLF CENTER

Wolf advocate honored at symposium

Narumi Nambu presented with Who Speaks for Wolf Award

REGIONAL - It was clear to the entire audience that Narumi Nambu had just received the surprise of her life, as the advocate for wolves in Japan accepted an award before her peers and heroes.

In a packed hotel ballroom in Minneapolis during the recent International Wolf Symposium, Nambu was named the recipient of the Who Speaks for Wolf Award presented by the International Wolf Center.

As she walked toward the stage to accept the award, Nambu's hands covered her mouth in excitement. “I thought it was a mistake when I heard my name, especially since Japan has not approached the world level of wolf conservation,” she said. “Because my country no longer has any wolves, it can only take from the world but cannot reciprocate.”

Nambu earned the award for her work with the Japan Wolf Association. She's an active member of the association, which aims to have wolves reintroduced in Japan. Nambu has translated multiple wolf books into Japanese, researches Japanese attitudes about wolves and their possible reintroduction there, speaks at conferences and publishes in a variety of forums.



Narumi Nambu, who works with the Japan Wolf Association, was recently honored by the International Wolf Center. The organization has an interpretative facility in Ely.
submitted photo

“There were many researchers and educators from all over the world at the symposium,” Nambu said. “I was walking on air when I could speak and talk directly with these people. There were many experiences and ways to learn at the conference other than from formal papers about human and wolf society. At the banquet many of my heroes were gathered.”

Dr. L. David Mech,

the founder of the International Wolf Center, said, “I have known Narumi since the Center's 2013 International Wolf Symposium, and she is one of the most passionate and enthusiastic supporters of wolf reintroduction into Japan.”

This is the first time in International Wolf Center history that the Who Speaks for Wolf Award has been given

to a recipient from Asia. The Center's Executive Director, Rob Schultz, was thrilled to see Nambu earn the award. “Narumi's efforts in Japan illustrate that wolves across the world play a vital role in our ecosystems,” he said. “The work she's doing there is all too familiar to those who have done similar work in North America. We're honored to present her with this award and thrilled to celebrate her success in front of her peers.”

The Japan Wolf Association (JWA) was formed in 1993. The JWA estimates that animals with no natural predators left in Japan, mostly sika deer and wild boar, have caused the equivalent of \$1.8 billion in agricultural and forestry damage to date.

Preserving the environment for future generations in Japan motivates Nambu to continue her efforts for wolf reintroduction. “I love my own country, Japan,” she said. “I want to leave the nature of Japan in a beautiful condition for the next generation. In biology I learned that wolves are important in nature. But Japanese society must learn how to relate with wild animals. I believe that connects with the happiness of people in the future.”

ELY WINTER FESTIVAL 2019

Reserve a block for amateur snow carving contest

ELY – The Northern Lakes Arts Association (NLAA) is again sponsoring an Amateur Snow Carving Contest during the Ely Winter Festival. This year's contest will be held from Feb. 7-10 with judging on Saturday, Feb. 9.

Participants need to enter to reserve one of 15 4x4 foot snow blocks available for carving in Whiteside Park over the week. The contest is for amateur carvers and is judged according to the following three categories:

- 1) Individuals, adult or student;
- 2) Adult groups;
- 3) Student groups.

Rules:

Fifteen blocks are available, one block per group, on a “first come first served” basis according to entry order.

Contestants may carve Thursday, Feb. 7 through Sunday, Feb. 10 with judging on Sunday, Feb. 10.

No colorants are allowed, but the theme is wide open for creativity. A sign will be left in the park for each group or individual who should pick a block and claim it with the sign.

Once you have submitted an entry, unless otherwise notified, you

are registered for a block. There is a \$15 fee. All fees must be received by Feb. 1. If we do not receive your fee by then, we will cancel your reservation and give it to the next group on the list.

A few things to remember:

►We will try to provide the best block we can for your use, however, we are not responsible for the weather conditions, or condition of the snow, should it warm up.

►We will try to make the entry categories as fair as we can. You must tell us who and how many are carving, to determine

your category. (Also, if in a youth group category, youth should be designing and carving the block, not adults.)

►Once you mark a block with the sign, it is yours; do not switch blocks.

►Watch the weather forecast and then plan your carving around the weather and the judging. For example, if it is to be warm and sunny on Thursday, save carving for later so that the block does not begin to deteriorate once carved down.

Subscribe to the Timberjay 218-753-2950

ELY COMMUNITY RESOURCE



A Valentine factory

Ely-area children designed and produced Valentine greetings for nursing home and assisted living residents Tuesday at Ely Community Resource. Above, hearts, markers, stickers and colored paper were all available for creating a special card. Below left, Mattie Lindsey and Stella Koivisto concentrate on their project. Below right, Moxie Lindsey pauses for a smile.

photos by K. Vandervort



ELY SPACE CAMP



The 2019 Ely Space Camp was held Friday and Saturday at Grace Tabernacle Church. As part of their five-year anniversary, Space Camp organizers hosted a special Friday night for families, complete with rocket launches and telescopes. Above, Jessie Gowell, 8, and Naveah Dams, 7, get assistance from Julie Baxter in constructing 'doodle-bots.' photo by K. Vandervort

In Brief

Polka Party Saturday at Amici's

ELY – A Polka Party will be held on Saturday from 3-5 p.m. at Amici's Events Center, featuring live music by Bernie Palcher.

The whole family is invited. There is no charge for music and snacks. A cash bar will be available.

This event is sponsored by Northland Foundation, Ely Community Resource, Northwoods Partners and



Ely Slovenian Union, in cahoots with the Ely Key Club and Ely Youth in Action.

Hoarfrost in Ely is 'magical' occurrence

Hoarfrost is a deposit of ice crystals on objects exposed to the free air, such as grass blades, tree branches, leaves, or in this case pine needles, as photographed recently by Jaime Brennan in Ely.

The phenomenon is formed by direct condensation of water vapor to ice at temperatures below freezing and occurs when air is brought to its frost point by cooling. Hoarfrost is a rare weather occurrence, but has formed around Ely several times this winter.



Essay contest deadline is Feb. 9

ELY – The deadline for The Ely Outfitting Company's second annual "Boundary Waters Teen Essay Contest" is Saturday, Feb. 9.

The winner receives a fully outfitted, self-guided, five-day, canoe-camping adventure in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). Up to three friends, ages 15 through 18, can join in, but—no parents or adult guides are allowed.

The contest is open to current high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. Essays should range in length from 1,000-1,500 words and respond to the question, "Why do you want to go on a parent-free, BWCAW canoe-camping adventure with your friends?"

For complete contest details, go online to elyoutfittingcompany.com/essaycontest.

Co-dependents meets Friday

ELY – The Ely co-dependents support group meets Fridays at noon at St. Anthony's Church in Classroom 3. Use west side entrance.

Higher Education



The Veterinarian Technician program and the rest of Vermilion Community College is back in session for the second semester. A couple of Vet Tech students, Bailee Thorp and Katelyn DeRosier, were so excited to be back, they wore costumes to class. submitted photo

Ely student graduates from MSCTC

FERGUS FALLS - Andrew Pirkel, of Ely, is among the 240 Fall 2018 graduates of Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

Pirkel earned an Associates Degree in Applied Science and Computer Programming.

Prigge honored at Michigan Tech

HOUGHTON, MICH. - Michigan Technological University, in Houghton, Mich., has released the Dean's List for the 2018 fall semester. More than 1,800 students were named to the Dean's List last fall.

Among the honorees are Seth W. Prigge, of Ely, who is studying Mechanical Engineering.

To be included, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Founded in 1885, Michigan Technological University is a public research university, home to more than 7,000 students from 60 countries. Their campus in Michigan's Upper Peninsula overlooks the Keweenaw Waterway and is just a few miles from Lake Superior.

Students graduate from St. Scholastica

DULUTH - The College of St. Scholastica announced its list of conferred graduates for Fall 2018. They include the following local students:

-Sarah Anderson of Ely. Anderson graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

-Kathleen Udovich of Ely. Udovich graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Community Notices

Winter Reading Programs

COOK - The Cook Public Library is ready for winter, offering programs and events for all ages. The programs kicked off in January and run through March.

Adult Winter Reading:

Curl up with a good book and enter to win prizes during the Winter Reading Program. Prize entry tickets will be given for each book or audio book checked out from the Cook Public Library. This includes items requested from other libraries. Write your name, phone number and prize number on your ticket and turn it in at the front desk. Prize bundles are on display at the library. Drawings for prizes will be held on March 13.

Teen Winter Challenge (Grades 7 - 12):

Check out 25 books or more and get an invite to an all-day Saturday party at the library in March.

Preschool - Sixth-Grade Reading Challenge:

Every time a child checks out a book she or he will receive a mitten cutout to hang in the library window. If 400 mittens are in the windows by March 8, we'll have a pizza party at the library.

Winter Events at NWFA Gallery

COOK - Northwoods Friends of the Arts (NWFA) Gallery winter hours for viewing the exhibits and shopping are in effect now until April: Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

New Painting Class
"A Study in Light and Color" presented by Thomas Chapman from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16. Open to adults using any media. Bring your own materials. Necessary colors: red, yellow, blue, white and black.

You must register with Tom Chapman at 218-750-4416 or tom@artfromgodsheart.com.

Make a red cardinal pincushion at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook on Thursday, Feb. 14 with Susan Archbold from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Susan Archbold of Range Print Shop and General Store, will teach a class how to make a Needle Felted Cardinal Pincushion. The kit cost is \$15 paid to Susan when

the class begins. Please pre-register for the class with Alberta Whitenack at 666-2153.

Aside from Feb. 16, every Saturday is Open Studio Art Space at NWFA Gallery from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Note the ending time is 12:30 to accommodate transition to the writers group.

Woodcarvers For Beginners to Expert meets every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. at the gallery.

Grocery delivery services offered in Cook

COOK - Registrations are being taken here for a grocery delivery service following the 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.

Empty Bowl event at North Woods

FIELD TWP - North Woods is celebrating their seventh year of Empty Bowl. This year it will be on Friday, Feb. 22, from 4:30-7 p.m. in the North Woods Commons. To switch it up this year students made more bowls on the pottery wheel than ever before, along with decorative plates! You'll want to get to the event early because bowls made on the pottery wheel sell very fast!

This year, Miss Minnesota's Outstanding Teen, Eden Webb, will also be in attendance. She will be providing free autographs and taking pictures. So, be sure to bring the entire family along. As usual, there will be plenty of soups and desserts to choose from. One bowl costs \$10. In return you get a soup meal and get to keep the handmade bowl. All of the proceeds are given to the food shelf. We look forward to seeing you there!

New Women's Study Announced

COOK - Area ladies were enthused when they gathered Monday, Jan. 21 to review a DVD by Lysa Terkeurst, Christian writer, speaker and founder of Proverbs 31 Ministries. The six-session DVD entitled "It's Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered" is an easy study because it's DVD-based and no reading is required during the

weekdays between each session. Perfect for keeping your energy up on these frigid wintry days!

Cook Covenant Women welcome area women to gather with them in the church starting Monday, Jan. 28 at 11 a.m. to watch the weekly series and discuss the session together. Coffee, teas and munchies will be provided. The public is invited. Come in the west back door of the church.

Cook Senior Citizens Club

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

Arrowhead Library System digital magazine

REGIONAL- Arrowhead Library System, in partnership with Recorded Books, is happy to announce the launch of the digital eMagazine Collection. Digital Magazines offers full-color, interactive digital magazines for anytime, anywhere reading on desktops, mobile devices, and apps. Patrons can browse the collection of over 120 popular magazines with no holds, no checkout periods, and no limit to the number of magazines you can download. Collection features include:

►Online reading: Check out magazines and read them instantly on your desktop or mobile browser, or check out and download magazines through mobile apps.

►Mobile apps: Download and read magazines on mobile devices, including iOS (Apple), Android, and Kindle Fire[®]/HD/HDX.

►Current issues: New issues are often released simultaneously to the print edition or with a slight delay to allow for formatting issues. New issues appear automatically in the library's collection once available and are ready for immediate checkout.

►Easy browsing and checkout: Browse your library's collection by newest issue, keyword search, genre and language to find your favorites and to discover new reading interests.

►Helpful notifications: Sign up for weekly email reminders about your favorite magazines.

HEALTH CARE Cook Hospital trustees among those receiving advanced certifications



Trustees receiving advanced certifications. submitted photo

ST. PAUL — Twenty-five hospital trustees from across Minnesota were recognized for earning certification through the Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) trustee certification program. The comprehensive certification process prepares hospital trustees to effectively meet the growing demands of serving on a hospital board and to be strong health care and community leaders.

By participating in MHA's voluntary certification program, hospital trustees receive training on current health care trends, governance best practices, ethics, government regulations, patient safety and quality. Participants undergo 35 hours of coursework, making Minnesota's initiative the most comprehensive in the nation.

Trustees who have completed MHA board certification are eligible to participate in an additional eight hours of coursework to obtain advanced certification, which provides education to ensure excellence, innovation and accountability in health care governance.

"In Minnesota, more and more hospital trustees are formally

preparing themselves to address the complex issues facing hospitals and health systems today," said Lawrence Massa, MHA president and CEO. "Our trustee certification program proactively ensures that hospital leaders are equipped to make good decisions. Earning certification demonstrates a trustee's commitment to the patients and communities the hospital serves."

Newly certified trustees include:

Bigfork Valley Hospital: George Rounds

Community Memorial Hospital, Cloquet: David Hall, Lee R. Olsen

Essentia Health, Duluth: Dean Ager

Essentia Health-Sandstone: Ronald Osladil

Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Medical Center, Brainerd: Chuck Albrecht

Lake Region Healthcare, Fergus Falls: John Erickson

Lakewood Health System, Staples: Christine S. Albrecht, M.D., FAAFP

Mille Lacs Health System, Onamia: Dennis Burr, Wendy Kafka, Betty Lundquist

Pipestone County Medical Center: Daniel Wildermuth

Ridgeview Medical Center, Waconia: Katherine Roehl

Tri-County Health Care, Wadena: Ryan L. Anderson, Terry Davis.

Trustees obtaining advanced certification include:

Alomere Health, Alexandria: Dian Rae Lopez, Owen Miller

Community Memorial Hospital, Cloquet: Kevin Toboleski

Cook Hospital & Care Center: Michael Enzmann, Eric Pederson

Lake Region Healthcare, Fergus Falls: Debra Ferguson

Lake View Hospital, Two Harbors: John Strange

Perham Health: Eugene Jahnke, Terry Marthaler

Swift County-Benson Health Services: Joe Fox.

For more information about MHA's hospital trustee certification program, visit www.mnhospitals.org/trustees.

The Minnesota Hospital Association represents 142 hospitals and health systems, which provide quality care for their patients and meet the needs of their communities.

SWCD annual tree sale begins now; order early for best selection!

REGIONAL- Small trees are available to order for your spring planting needs. Take your choice of over 20 varieties of shrubs, deciduous trees, and conifers in bundles of 15 or 25 from the North St. Louis

Soil and Water Conservation District's annual tree sale.

All are reasonably priced between \$30 and \$45 per bundle. New this year are river birch, black chokeberry, serviceberry, and peachleaf willow. Plantskydd and Repellex brands of organic animal repellent products are also available to help keep the critters away.

Deadline to order is

May 6. Pickup will be in Eveleth on May 9 and 10. For questions about what types of trees to plant on your property, contact our forester, Beth Kleinke at 218-730-8002. Order forms and more information are available at www.nslswcd.org, via email to info@nslswcd.org or by call or text to 218-749-2000.

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



Crane Lake has entered the January Deep Freeze! Temps have been in the deep minuses below zero at night and barely, if at all, reached zero during the daytime

Destin, Fla., has also been cold; it reached 36 degrees one night with daytime highs in the 40s to 50s. Cold temps all over!!!

Warm companionship, however, can be found if you attend Bingo at the Voyageaire, starting Jan. 24. This year they will feature a different Bingo Burger each week with "more" for \$10.95. Bingo games will begin at 6 p.m. You can enjoy a Winter of Giving, as \$1 from every burger or beer during Bingo will be donated to various organizations to aid those

with special concerns this year. This is where the warm feeling comes in—even if you "lose", you "win" by knowing that you are helping out someone in the community. The organizations receiving donations are: 1/24 Zup's Grocery Store, 1/31: Blackwoods Blizzard Tour- Ride for ALS, 2/7: Jake Ulen's Medical Expenses, 2/14: Cook Food Shelf, 2/21: Crane Lake Volunteer Fire Department/EMS, 2/28: Voyageur Country ATV Club, 3/7: Girl Scouts (Cookies for sale). Be a sport—have

fun, help someone out, and you may even win at Bingo. What a great way to spend a Thursday evening!

As we now have a pretty good start on the last year of this decade, there are certain Laws that you should be aware of. There is the Doctor Law—if you don't feel well and you make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better—but don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick. Then there is the Law of Commercial Marketing Strat-

egy—as soon as you find a product that you like, they will stop making it. Then there is another related Law that is along that line which states: If the clothes fit, they're ugly! The Dames bet you've experienced this one: The Variation Law, which is that if you change checkout lines or traffic lanes, the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

Bob Anderson is home from the hospital to continue his recovery. Speedy return to normal, Bob. Tom Rukavina's

large funeral was last week, in spite of the extremely frigid temps. RIP, Tommy! Prayers for all who are recovering from illness or distress at this time. May resolutions to your worries be swift and bring comfort to you and your families.

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

Until next week, the Teapot Dames are singing off!

Angora artist honored at Duluth exhibit

DULUTH - Basket-maker Cathryn Peters from Angora was one of 26 artists selected for the 62nd Arrowhead Regional Biennial Exhibit which features juried artwork from the Upper Midwest produced within the past five years.

The opening reception on Thursday, Jan. 24, from 5 to 8 p.m. will include announcements of three awards totaling \$2,000 in cash prizes. The show is held at the John Steffl Gallery in

the Duluth Art Institute in Duluth and runs from Jan. 24 until April 15.

The Arrowhead Regional Biennial celebrates a dynamic range of artwork produced in the upper Midwest. The Biennial is open to artists residing in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, Iowa, Michigan, and Ontario, Canada.

Juror Jerha Patrick, tasked with identifying works from over 70 submissions, echoes the

vibrancy of our region in her selection. Patrick, Director and Curator of Macalester College's Law Warschaw Gallery, explains "The 26 artists in the 62nd Arrowhead Regional Biennial are making work in response to place and present moment: the environs of the North, current events and politics, and their identities. They are locating themselves in the Midwest — the North— where they look out to their backyards, their

city, and their nation."

Peters' wall basket sculpture Silent Whispers from the East is over three feet wide and over three feet high. It was made in 2018, woven using dyed and natural round reed on a framework of two naturally shed fallow deer antlers. The exhibit catalogue will be available for purchase following the event.

GRIZZLY UPDATES

Meet Mrs. April Glass

Principal John Vukmanich interviews a selection of educators and coaches at the North Woods School

This week we continue our teacher interviews with Mrs. April Glass.

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

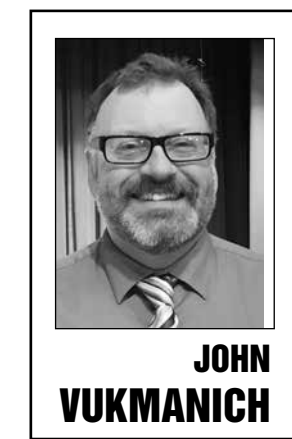
Mrs. G: I grew up in Cook right on Lake Vermilion! I graduated from Cook High School and went on to Hibbing CC for two years. Then, I transferred over to Bemidji State to finish my Elementary. Ed degree. My Master's Degree was completed through St. Kate's University.

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

Mrs. G: I had so many great teachers! I loved my second grade teacher, Mrs. Niemi. I also really enjoyed Mrs. Panichi in the fourth grade. In High School, I enjoyed Mrs. Popelka's English class. My first teaching job was in Mitchell, S.D., and I had a great mentor teacher, Karla Koons.

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

Mrs. G: Mrs. Niemi was always very calm and nurturing. It felt like a fun and safe place to learn and take risks. Mrs. Panichi did a lot of hands-on learning and we did lots of cooperative group work, and Mrs. Popelka was very professional and I enjoyed English. Karla was just an exceptional



JOHN VUKMANICH

Kindergarten teacher- warm, caring, fun, and so helpful my first two years! She was a great partner to work with and I learned so much from her.

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

Mrs. G: I teach 2nd grade and I love it! I started my career in kindergarten, then moved to some multi-age K/1 and 1/2 classes. I even team-taught a Pre-K-2nd grade combination, and as crazy as it sounds, it was a really good experience. But- my heart is in 2nd grade!

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

Mrs. G: I just love working with little ones. I always have! How lucky am I to be the one who gets to watch as they learn and grow together? Every day I get to see a light bulb turn on for students, watch them befriend each other, and think about the impact they will have on the world someday.

Mr. V: What are your hobbies?



APRIL GLASS

Mrs. G: Spending time with family and friends! My own kids are just getting to the ages where we start running around and chasing them, they are keeping me busy! Summers are filled with swimming and boating, and I enjoy playing the piano from time to time too, though I'm pretty rusty.

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

Mrs. G: I could list a bunch of things here. We have such wonderful students and families! When I go out somewhere in town, it's so nice to see former and current students/families and get in a quick visit. I have awesome coworkers; we can visit and learn from each other professionally, but many of these coworkers are friends outside of school. I also love that I get to sneak a peek at my own kids each day, and of course working with my sister is a bonus!

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

Mrs. G: I don't

know if it's so much of a professional goal, but a personal goal is to make connections with each and every student who walks through my door.

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

Mrs. G: Well, my whole family lives up here- and that's pretty special. We spend lots of our days together on the lake- boating and swimming- and you really can't have a bad day on Lake Vermilion!

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

Mrs. G: Just Be Kind.

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

Mrs. G: I like a quote from Audrey Hepburn, 'As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.'

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

Mrs. G: It sounds cliché, but I really do hope they each remember how much I care for them.

Thank you, Mrs. Glass, for letting us get to know you a little better this week. Thank you, too, for all of the positivity you bring to our school and our kids!

Go Grizzlies!
Your Principal,
John Vukmanich

Briefly

Wi-Fi hotspots available for checkout at Cook Library

COOK- The Cook Public Library now owns five wireless hotspots available for check out. A hotspot is a portable Wi-Fi device that allows you to connect your computer, tablet, smart phone and other devices to the Internet.

Hotspot Terms of Use

Eligibility: Borrowers must have an Arrowhead Library System library card. This card must be in good standing. Borrowers must sign the Hotspot User Agreement at check out. If under 18, a borrower must have a parent or caregiver sign the Hotspot User Agreement at check out.

Check Out Terms: The hotspot loan period is seven days. Hotspots cannot be renewed. Hotspots circulate only from the Cook Public Library. Hotspots are not available for interlibrary loan. Internet service will be disconnected if the hotspot is overdue. Hotspots cannot be used outside of the United States.

Check In Terms: Hotspots cannot be placed in the overnight drop. Hotspots must be returned to the circulation counter. All items listed on the packing slip must be returned at the time of check in.

Coverage Area: Disclaimer: The hotspot relies on an AT&T 4G signal. There may be some areas without coverage.

Mail-A-Book services available

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

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the TIMBERJAY

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| Publisher | Marshall Helmberger |
| General Manager | Jodi Summit |
| Staff Writers | Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola |
| Ely Editor | Keith Vandervort |
| Cook/Orr Editor | Marcus White |
| Office Manager | M. M. White |
| Graphics/Ad Sales/ | |
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TOWER...Continued from page 1

modified, would amount to about \$50,000.

Representing Northeast Range, Chris Koivisto backed Swanson. “It isn’t that much to keep the teacher there,” he said. “It sends the wrong message.”

Yet, board member from South Ridge, Chet Larson, questioned why Tower was still even open since the school has the lowest enrollment in the district.

“How long are we going to even support Tower?” he asked “It’s an expensive school to run.”

Larson asked what message it sent to the other district schools that Tower was allowed to have the funding it does.

Swanson countered and said being able to keep their teacher was a small price to pay compared to recent multi-million dollar investments at South Ridge and Cherry.

“We’re talking about a community here,” Koivisto said. “We should be supporting this community. We can afford this.”

“At the expense of everyone else,” Larson countered. “If they’re a star school, why don’t the students come?”

“They used to have a K-12 school and now they have a K-6 school,” Swanson replied. “People want to stay with their families.”

Swanson said the referendum that consolidated the schools wasn’t working, and that students were being bled out of the northeast part of the district because of the lack of high school options.

He said the decision to close the high school left few good options in the community for families that want to keep their kids together in one school.

He said, nevertheless, the community stood

behind the school.

Koivisto said the schools in the area were institutions that were helping the communities, and that the towns were behind their students and teachers. Koivisto said keeping the half-time equivalent position in the school would be a show of support from the district to the community.

“If the community was supporting the school,” said Orr area board

member Pat Christensen, “we’d have better enrollment.”

In the end, Koivisto and Swanson were the lone votes against the plan, with all other board members present voting in favor of the cut.

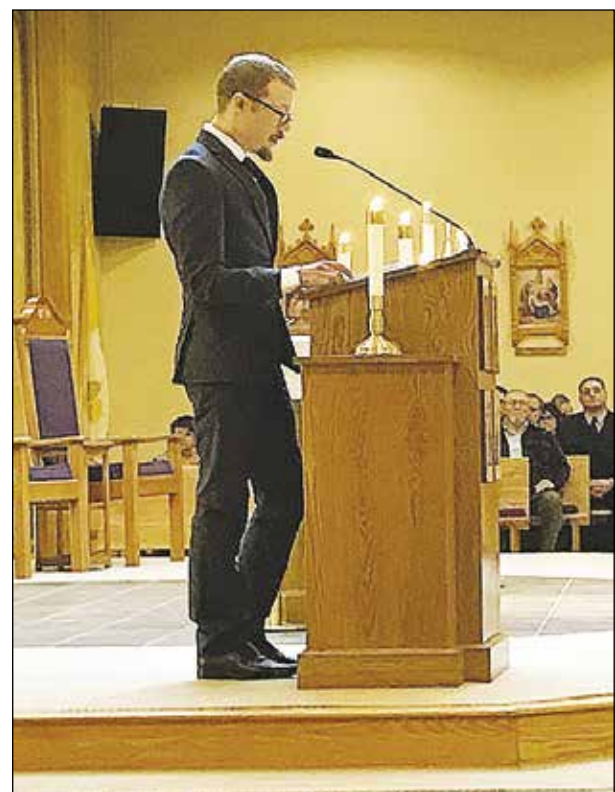
Following the meeting, Swanson and Johnson said the district has no plans to close the Tower-Soudan School in the future.

RUKAVINA...Continued from page 1

knew what a hard-ass he could be... can I say that in a Catholic church?” Vic said. “But underneath that tough love and rough demeanor we all knew was a very loving individual who cared greatly about his family, his friends, constituents, and working-class people,” said Vic. “And Tim Pawlenty, he even cared about you,” he added, prompting plenty of laughter as he made note of the former governor, long one of Rukavina’s favorite political targets, who was seated near the front.

Vic described life growing up on the rural Pike Township homestead that has been the family’s base of operations for decades. Besides the many chores typical of rural life, he remembers how he and his sister Ida were responsible for handling constituent phone calls that came to their home phone when their father was at the Legislature in St. Paul, or off at some other political function. “We would not only take notes and transcribe answering machine messages for him, we would also talk with constituents, who often-times seemed oblivious to the fact they were speaking to children,” he recalled.

Vic recalled the many



Tom Rukavina’s son, Vic, described his life growing up in Pike Township, Saturday, at his father’s funeral service. photo by M. Helmberger

things he learned from his father, including lessons of his roots, how to work in the woods, and even, unintentionally, how to swear to Croatian, which nearly gave his grandfather Benny a heart attack. “You taught me to respect my elders and my community. You taught me the trees and the wild animals on our property. You taught us

how to grow food, to hunt, to fish, and to be sustainable. You taught me about camping in the beautiful Boundary Waters.” And in a reflection of Rukavina’s political philosophy, Vic recalled: “You taught us that the janitor who cleans the hospital is just as important as the doctor who practices medicine there.”

Rukavina’s brother Mark recalled what it was like growing up with an older brother who seemed to take pleasure, at times, in tormenting his younger sibling, whom Tom nicknamed “Cry Baby.”

“And then he did things to me that ensured that I lived up to the name,” Mark said.

It was a personality trait that seemed to follow Rukavina, who relished tweaking fellow politicians, throughout his political career. “Growing up, it was not lost on me that Tommy didn’t really have the rule thing down,” said Mark. “He was mischievous and he excelled at challenging our parents.” Rukavina had also, at one point, convinced his younger brother that he had been adopted and that if he didn’t behave, his parent would send Mark back. “And I still loved the guy,” said Mark, suggesting it might have been an example of “Stockholm syndrome.”

Mark told of their childhood on Virginia’s north side and how they could listen, for hours, to the stories of the Croatian, Italian, and Finnish immigrants who had come to America and the Iron Range for the opportunity for a better life. It was a recurring theme throughout Saturday’s funeral, one that his family emphasized by handing out a copy of Rukavina’s last political statement, a letter to the editor of the *Timberjay* published last month, about the recent immigrants who were providing his care while he battled his leukemia at the University of Minnesota medical center. Mark called it Tom’s final message: “Hate helps no one. Love solves everything.”

Longtime friend Gary Cerkvenik echoed that theme in his own recollections. “We are all immigrants in some shape or form, and Tom welcomed new immigrants with an

enthusiasm that is rare in the political class.”

Cerkvenik said he had been Rukavina’s second choice to deliver remarks at his funeral. “He really wanted to do it himself,” he joked. The only instruction he said Rukavina offered him was to keep his remarks under an hour and to wear an American-made suit, shirt, and shoes. “That’s what he was about. Tom took jobs and unions seriously because, as he said, when good people have good jobs, problems go away. And unions brought America the middle class. And he really believed it.”

Cerkvenik noted that during his 26 years in the Legislature, Rukavina never lost his humility. While many at the Capitol would seek out those in power, Cerkvenik recalls how Rukavina would almost daily seek out the average workers, the janitors and cafeteria workers, all of whom he knew by name. He said he was recently reminded that it was Rukavina who carried the bill allowing House and Senate staff members to unionize. “He was their advocate,” he said, a position that came naturally from Rukavina’s working class roots. “His employment set him apart from most politicians at this level; he was a garbage truck driver, steelworker, logger, lawmaker. There is a working class and Tom was in it.”

And despite the fact that his political leanings frequently put him at odds with Republicans, and even more conservative members of his own party, he never lost sight of the fact that when the politic fights were over, it was still possible to be friends. Cerkvenik said Rukavina was touched when he returned to the Capitol after his retirement from the Legislature and was invited to meet with the Republican caucus to say hi and remember past

political battles. “He had no enemies, only sparing partners,” Cerkvenik recalled. “We know he was a character, but he had character.”

Cerkvenik recounted just a few of the 529 bills that Rukavina had sponsored during his time in the Legislature, including some significant accomplishments, such as a plant-closing bill that required mining companies to maintain their plants in the wake of closures. The law likely made it possible for two of the current taconite operations on the Iron Range to reopen after previous owners walked away.

He recalled, as well, one of Rukavina’s most unlikely achievements, suggesting that divine intervention may have played a role in his successful passage of a state minimum wage increase, one that Gov. Pawlenty ultimately agreed to sign.

Cerkvenik eventually returned to the less public side of Rukavina’s life, recalling how Rukavina vetted his newfound love interest, Jean, who his longtime friend Scott Asbach had brought to his house one day, about ten years ago, for an introduction. While Rukavina was at the height of his political influence, Cerkvenik said it was the other side of him that attracted Jean. “She fell in love with the guy who knew every tree on his land, who hand-built his own house with the lumber he harvested, who cleared and worked his garden, who had so much love for his friends and his children and their family, and neither of them cared much about money.”

In remembrance, his family is asking that donations be made to the Tom Rukavina Scholarship Fund, c/o Mesabi Range College Foundation, 1001 W Chestnut St., Virginia, MN 55792.

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COMMUNICATIONS

Bill seeks regular funding for rural broadband

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook/Orr Editor

ST. PAUL - A bill sponsored here last week by Rep. Rob Ecklund (D-International Falls) seeks continued funding for rural broadband projects amounting to \$70 million over the next biennium.

The bill, advanced by the Minnesota Rural Broadband Coalition, would change how the state funds projects in the rural areas. Currently, the program, known as the Border-to-Border Grant, only gives funding through one-time appro-

priations.

For broadband projects, that has created problems, said spokesperson Judy Erickson, and the new legislation would create ongoing funding for such efforts.

A previous attempt to obtain funding fell short when legislators, in 2017 put funding in a 900-page omnibus bill that Gov. Mark Dayton ultimately vetoed.

Ecklund's bill would add more funding. The 2017 measure included \$20 million, only a fraction of the \$70 million in requests that communities proposed.

"We hope this bill will encourage and enable projects on the ground in ways they haven't been able to do before," Erickson said.

The bill, however, will not solve how companies are held accountable for the services they provide to small towns and rural areas. Erickson said the coalition plans to address that in a separate piece of legislation, currently being written.

"We do recognize that there are some policy issues that may need to be addressed to solve underserved and unserved areas where we have run into walls," she said.

Some of those issues have resulted in long delays in service expansion projects, such as in areas around Orr where CenturyLink has been working on a million-dollar project to expand their capacity in the city. With the uncertainty of that project, the city council recently voted to allow another company to try and solve the town's Internet woes through wireless internet.

"Sometimes it needs to be an outside provider who wants to come in," Erickson said. "Homeowners and local government buy in together to bring in outside help."

Policy aside, Erickson said there has been reluctance on the part of local governments and companies to commit to long-term improvements because of past funding uncertainty. She hopes the funding bill, with a promise of guaranteed year-over-year funding will alleviate that reluctance and allow projects to move forward.

Ecklund said both bills, funding and policy, need to focus on the underserved.

"Where I live, I am considered served," he said. "But what is frustrating is that I have three

companies that go through my yard, but I can't access any of them."

Erickson said it is her hope that increased funding and improved policy in the bills would allow customers, like Ecklund, better Internet service in the long run.

The funding bill is expected to go to committee by the end of January, while the policy bill is scheduled for later in the session. Erickson said the coalition was not prepared to discuss the language of the policy bill at this time.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

SNAP users urged to conserve benefits during shutdown

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL - Nearly half a million Minnesotans could lose their SNAP (food assistance) benefits at the end of February if the federal government shutdown persists.

Already, the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) is advising those who receive benefits under the program to make plans and conserve their February benefits, which were released ahead of schedule over the weekend.

"People need to be

cognizant of the fact that if they have used their January benefits, the February ones need to last about six weeks," Director of Employment Training Julie Greenly said. "Our current understanding is that if the shutdown doesn't end by February, SNAP will run out."

Greenly said the AEOA, which administers the benefits for about 830 families in the area, is urging those families to seek out help from their local food shelf or call the Minnesota Food Helpline. Already, the helpline has seen a 43-percent increase in calls in the first 10 days

of the year over last year.

Greenly said the early winter months tend to be busiest for local food shelves and last year over 3,000 families were reported to the AEOA as having used one of nine local food shelves on the Iron Range in January.

One of those food shelves is located in Ely.

"We have about 400 households that have visited over the past year," Manager Cheryl Boyes said. "If the benefits run out, we anticipate we could see some of those show up, more so than the usual."

During an average month, the Ely Food Shelf

sees about 220 households.

Boyes said the shelf has already put in an extra order of food to their distributor, Second Harvest, in Duluth, to prepare for a potential increase in traffic from both furloughed federal workers from the Forest Service or those who will see their SNAP benefits run out.

In order to cope with the potential temporary loss of the program, Boyes said the food shelf may open a second day each month to allow people easier access.

She added the organization is in good shape financially and would be

able to handle additional orders for a time if the shutdown lingered.

"We are blessed to have really great community support," Boyes said. "We feel financially secure if we need to ramp up our services at this time."

As of press time, the U.S. Senate was set to vote on two bills on Jan. 24 that could allow for a temporary re-opening of the government. One bill would provide funding until Feb. 8, without providing funds for President Trump's border wall. The other is expected to include \$5.7 billion for a portion

of border wall.

An earlier proposal by Trump included a three-year immigration agreement to allow the DACA or "Dreamers" program to be reinstated for three years. The idea was panned by both parties.

More information on area food assistance can be found by going to www.mnfoodhealthline.org.

Area food shelves can be reached at 218-255-8527 in Ely, in Tower at 218-753-3202 and in Cook at 218-666-2715.

SHUTDOWN...Continued from page 1

services could be affected through a reduction in office hours by staff.

"We want to instill in our employees that everyone has an important position, but right now we need to be more conservative to make our money last," Chavers said. "There is a misconception that tribes have money. Bois Forte is not one of those tribes."

According to Chavers, tribal officials have prioritized which services to spare from cutting for now, including elder care and forthcoming scholarship opportunities for graduating high school seniors.

While the state has been helping make up some of the funding gap, providing needed cash flow programs like SNAP, Chavers said it's anyone's guess whether the tribe and other social service programs will be reimbursed at the end of the shutdown.

While lawmakers in Washington have voted to provide back pay for federal employees, no such commitment has been made on replenishing state and tribal coffers for funds they've expended to keep programs temporarily afloat.

"We've talked with Sen. Tina Smith (D)," Chavers said. "She has been advocating for the tribes in regard to the shutdown, but it's being shot down by the GOP. No one knows which programs will be reimbursed. It's a terrible situation to be in."

Chavers said Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan has also been in touch with tribes to see where the state can step up aid, even if it is only temporary.

For now, the tribe is working with its Fortune

Bay Resort Casino to try and get some of the laid off workers temporary income and benefits during the shutdown. Chavers said the casino is filling some of its open positions with out-of-work tribal employees. The agreement allows for the workers to forgo the standard probationary period for benefits, so families won't have a lapse in health coverage.

Chavers has asked other local politicians to put pressure on Washington to end the shutdown, and she hopes with enough

pressure the shutdown will come to an end.

According to Chavers, tribes across the country are working with the BIA to create new federal policies that would make funding for critical tribal services non-discretionary and therefore not subject to suspension in the event of a shutdown.

Chavers said such a move would better honor treaties and trust in place between tribes and the federal government.

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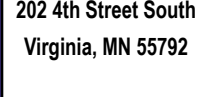
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CITY OF ELY

Electricity rate hike modified for Ely residents

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Rate increases for electricity service for Ely Utility Commission (EUC) customers won't be quite as high this year as originally proposed.

After a brief public hearing prior to their Jan. 15 regular meeting, where one resident, Mike Banovetz, spoke in support of the increases, members of the city council here approved the rate hike sought by the city's utilities commission.

City sewer rates will remain the same and the fixed monthly water rate will climb by \$1. However, the council opted to trim the proposed three-percent across-the-board electrical rate hike, presented late last year, to

one-percent.

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski noted that the rate hikes were arrived at by careful scrutiny of the utility budgets, historical fund balances and projected revenues and expenses. "When we put these (recommendations) together back in December, we had a proposed rate increase from Minnesota Power of approximately two percent as part of our capacity charge," he said.

"We then received good news that the (transmission) charge increase is less than anticipated due to favorable energy conditions, and also some non-capacity charges are going down because of the tax reform, reduced operating and maintenance costs, as well as lower

(expenditures) in capital investments."

Langowski noted that Minnesota Power's investments in wind and solar projects are bearing a positive pay-back due to increases in tax rebates that result in an overall reduction in energy charges. "We should see our wholesale rate from Minnesota Power stay pretty constant compared to 2018," he said.

He noted that the three-percent rate increase proposed by the EUC last December was put in place to cover the anticipated two-percent rate increase from Minnesota Power, plus a one-percent increase in costs in the local utility.

"Costs continue to rise, such as employee costs, health insurance costs, supplies, contrac-

tors and other things," Langowski said, "so we are proposing just a one-percent hike across the board."

Banovetz, who serves on the city's planning commission, said he was fully in support of the latest proposal. No other residents spoke in favor of or against the rate hikes.

The recommendation from the EUC for a \$1 increase in the fixed fee rate for water service will increase that fee from \$14.25 to \$15.25 per month. There was no recommended rate increase for sewer service.

"We feel really good about our rates as proposed and our projected revenues," said Langowski. "We continue to invest in capital improvements."

The council unani-

mously approved the rate increases and they will go into effect starting in February.

In other business, the city council:

➤ Named city council members to various city committees with new council member Angela Campbell named to the Gardner Trust, Employee Relations, and Heritage Preservation committees.

➤ Named former mayor Ross Petersen to the Events Coordinator Board;

➤ Asked for interested community members to submit their name to serve on the Ely Ambulance Board.

➤ Selected Warren Nikkola to a renewed term on the Ely Utility Commission, and also named Mauro Caruso

and former EUC member Anthony Colarich to the oversight committee.

➤ Hired Justin Akins as the Ely Fire Department's newest member, pending his passing of a physical and drug test.

➤ Granted a request from Tour Minnesota requesting camping in Whiteside Park, June 17-18.

➤ Agreed to provide in-kind services for the Ely Winter Festival, set for Feb. 7-17.

➤ Approved a Residential Rehab Loan for Ryan and Michale Callen for \$4,500 to replace basement sewer lines.

➤ Named Heidi Omerza as the acting mayor for 2019.



AFU...Continued from page 1

The Fraternal Union Building in Ely is located across the street from Ely Washington Elementary School.
photo by K. Vandervort

one of this city's numerous landmarks.

An open house last week at the AFU building, located at the corner of Harvey Street and Fourth Ave East across from the Ely Schools campus, highlighted the transformation of the Greek Revival-style building that became the permanent home of the AFU in 1933.

Ely Community Resource, Ely Community Health Center and Range Mental Health Center are now housed in the building.

But let's start at the beginning.

The American Fraternal Union was founded in Ely and incorporated on July 18, 1898. Their offices were located in two previous locations before the organization erected the current AFU building in 1933. The Ely office of the AFU closed in 2012 and was relocated to St. Paul.

The Otts acquired the building in 2017. "The building sat empty for a number of years," said Tanner Ott. "We bought the property with the idea that we could open a daycare business there. We started some light demolition work to see what the building was like

for renovation purposes."

The exterior stonework is made of Kasota Stone and comes from the Mankato area. "It is a limestone variation and resembles sandstone," he said. "Look at the city's Community Center and the top portion of the Ely Post Office for more of this stone."

Alley A Realty has refurbished many old buildings in Ely in an effort to renew and enhance the economic development outlook for the area.

The Otts, with much help from Kovall Construction, spent most of 2018 working on the AFU renovations. New energy-efficient windows and a cleaned, tuck-pointed exterior really dressed up the building. "The old double-hung windows actually extended above two drop ceilings," Ott said.

"We removed the drop ceilings and refurbished the crown moldings and picture rail moldings. We put in all new mechanicals, electrical service and a new heating and ventilation system along with a new roof and skylights. Part of the basement has the flattest ledge rock I've ever seen. Part of the foundation was laid right on the ledge rock. We also refurbished the maple flooring."

The second floor will be utilized by the expanding Range Mental Health organization. New interior and exterior doors were also included in the ren-

ovation project according to Ott.

The three non-profit organizations moved in to their new home last fall with the help of members of the Ely High School football team who showed up in full force on a Sunday afternoon with a giant trailer to move furniture and equipment to the building.

In three loads, according to ECR executive director Julie Hignell, the team moved seven desks, six filing cabinets, dozens of chairs, a full-size conference table, a full-sized refrigerator, two worktables, several bookshelves, countless boxes of paper records, books and program supplies, medical equipment, and a pair of heavy exam tables. "The eager, respectful, and patient attitude along with the teamwork the young men showed was really a nice glimpse into their future potential," she said. Other volunteers helped with painting the interior of the building.

"This is really the perfect location for us," Hignell said on Tuesday as her organization hosted a Valentine-making activity after school for elementary children. "The kids can get here safely after school, and we have a wonderful space to use."

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TUESDAY GROUP

Biologist shares experiences working with indigenous people

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY - Jon Gilbert, the director of Biological Sciences at the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, recently talked to a Tuesday Group gathering here about “Six Essential Elements in Working with Indian Tribes.”

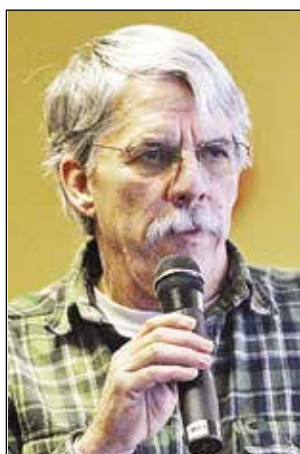
He said it was more of his personal story, about his past and how he got to where he is today. “Along the way I learned some lessons and figured out some essential elements in working with Indian tribes,” he said.

His presentation was borne out of the goal to help University of Minnesota students and professors conduct successful research. He noted that the lessons he learned are applicable to a wide variety of audiences.

Gilbert graduated from Pennsylvania’s Washington & Jefferson College in 1975, and being “sick and tired” of school, he wanted to see the world and experience other cultures.

He joined the Peace Corps and wound up as a teacher in the Fiji Islands. “I was young and idealistic and wanted to become a Fijian and learn the way they live,” he said. “I went two years without wearing shoes and became fluent in their language and accustomed with the ways.”

He then went to the Ivory Coast of Africa and worked in the national park system there. “Africa is a very complicated continent. Ivory Coast is about the size of New Mexico and they speak 65 different languages and have at



Jon Gilbert has worked as a wildlife biologist in Wisconsin for 35 years.

photo by K. Vandervort

least that many different cultures,” he said.

In his three years in Africa, he realized, “one can never not be an American. That is my culture,” he said.

After his Peace Corps experience he applied to a Masters Degree program at Michigan State University. While he was at MSU he applied for a job opportunity to work with indigenous people on wildlife management issues in northern Wisconsin.

Fast-forward 35 years and Gilbert continues to work with the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) as a wildlife biologist. He works with as many as 11 tribes of the Ojibwe nation. Part of his early work involved writing rules for the tribe’s rights to hunt and fish. “I spent the first seven years as an expert witness in federal court and wrote rules that were biologically sound and culturally appropriate,” he said.

Over the last 35 years, Gilbert said he learned

some things about how to interact with the Indian tribes to accomplish goals.

He packaged them into six essential elements.

► **Communication:** “The easiest element to fulfill is going and meeting with people one on one,” he said. “When you work with the tribes, you have to talk with them, tell them your ideas and ask them about their ideas. Then tell them about what you learned. Writing letters or emails is not the way to communicate. Talk face-to-face. Go meet them.”

► **Empathy:** “Become comfortable with them,” he said. “I call it, ‘going Fiji,’ from my time on the islands. Understand their cultural norms and appreciate them. This is the really the first step in developing relationships with tribal peoples.”

► **Respect:** “Respect goes two ways,” Gilbert said. “Like the Ivory Coast, as much as I tried to learn the language, understand their ceremonies and culture, I have to remember, respectfully, that I am an American. I’m not Ojibwe and never will be.”

► **Flexibility:** “If you come in and say you have your own methodology and research techniques and I’m doing it my way, you will fail,” he said. “You must adapt to the way they see things and the way they do things.” He related a story of working with graduate students in setting fisher and marten traps for mammal study that taught him to take his time and be respectful of the animal.

► **Time:** “This is the hardest to master,” he said. “It takes time to

develop relationships with Indian people. You can’t just zip them an email as your contact. Work one on one. Build trust. Understand where they’re coming from. Let them understand where you are coming from. It takes a long time.” He described the difference between a chronological and a place-based world view.

► **Humor:** “Anyone who knows anything about Ojibwe people knows that humor is an important part of their daily lives,” he said. “A tense subject may be discussed and someone cracks a joke and the tension is gone. This is the way (Ojibwe) interact with people, especially with self-deprecating humor. I’m still reminded from

1984 that I didn’t know the difference between a pile of pine cones and pile of deer pellets. That still gets big laughs.”

“In many ways, I feel like I never left the Peace Corps,” Gilbert said. “I still feel like I’m doing the same thing as I did so many years ago in Fiji.”

LUNAR ECLIPSE



This time-lapse photograph of the Jan. 20 lunar eclipse was created by Timberjay staffer Pam Wettering of Tower.

New year means a new minimum-wage

REGIONAL - Minnesota’s minimum-wage rates will be adjusted for inflation beginning Jan. 1, 2019, to \$9.86 an hour for large employers and \$8.04 an hour for other state minimum wages. An estimated 219,000 hourly workers in Minnesota (not including jobs in Minneapolis) will earn the \$9.86 or \$8.04 state minimum-wage rates.

“This is great news for Minnesota’s lowest-wage workers and will help them keep up with inflation to better provide for themselves and their families,” said Ken Peterson, commissioner, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. “But more needs to be done so

all Minnesotans can earn their way to economic security.”

As of Jan. 1, 2019:

Large employers must pay at least \$9.86 an hour when the employer’s annual gross revenues are \$500,000 or more.

Small employers must pay at least \$8.04 an hour when the employer’s annual gross revenues are less than \$500,000.

The training wage rate, at least \$8.04 an hour, may be paid to employees younger than 20 years of age for the first 90 consecutive days of employment.

The youth wage rate, at least \$8.04 an hour, may be paid to employees younger than 18 years of

age.

These state minimum-wage rates will not apply to work performed in the city of Minneapolis, which has higher minimum-wage rates.

Workplace poster

Minnesota law requires employers to display some state-mandated posters (www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/workplace-posters) in a location where employees can easily see them. The posters are available at no cost and need to be updated only when Minnesota law changes.

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TOWER

Ross RV Park proposal back before city zoning board

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- A proposal by Gary and Charity Ross to develop an RV Park on a 50-acre parcel of land they own on the shores of Lake Vermilion's Pike Bay was back before the city planning and zoning commission on Tuesday.

The Rosses, who live in Tower, began working on the idea about 12 years ago and are looking to develop as many as 60 RV sites. The project, which would be located just west of the Standing Bear Marina, would be done in phases according to the Rosses, with the first phase comprised of a smaller campground without electrical hookups.

The plan they presented to the commission on Tuesday showed an access road ending in a loop with sites clustered on the interior and exterior of the loop, as well as a smaller area with five sites closer to the marina. None of the sites are directly on the lakeshore, with the closest located at 600 feet from the shore. The site would also include a small office/campground store building, as well as some floating docks and unspecified lakeshore amenities.

The Rosses have already built a small cabin on the property, which has no immediate residential neighbors.

According to the current city zoning rules, the project would require both a wetlands delineation and an Environment Assessment Worksheet (EAW), requirements that proved costly and time-consuming for another would-be RV park developer, Dave Rose,

who worked for three years to convert a smaller parcel along the East Two River to RV lots before shelving the proposal. Tower Planning and Zoning Board Chairman Steve Altenburg said the EAW is required by city zoning because the site is within 1,000 feet of the shoreline of Lake Vermilion.

Julia Maki, a real estate agent with BIC Realty, as well as the former zoning director for Greenwood Township, attended the meeting with the Rosses. She noted that St. Louis County does not require either a wetland study or EAW for similarly-sized RV parks, including another

project she is assisting with on Lake Vermilion. The paperwork for that project, which will be heard by the county zoning board this winter, took about a week to complete, she told this reporter after the meeting. The recent zoning hearing for a proposed RV Park at BayView Lodge also did not require an EAW.

Tower Clerk/Treasurer Linda Keith said the fact the property is on the shores of Pike Bay, versus the East Two River, as well as the large size of the parcel, will make the application simpler than the Rose project.

"The biggest piece of advice I can give you is detail, detail, detail,"

Keith said.

Keith said the timeline for approval would be at least 120 days, once the wetlands delineation is completed. The project would require public hearings and comment periods for both the EAW and the needed conditional use permit. The land in question has already been rezoned, and an RV park is allowed with the proper permits.

Keith said she would provide the Rosses with a detailed list of all the information that must be provided to the city as part of the conditional use permit, as well as the EAW process. She also said the city could

forward any questions they have to the city engineers. Information on how they would handle water and sewage (the site is not connected to the city water and sewer lines), along with electrical service, would also be needed.

Charity Ross said their previous efforts with the Tower Planning and Zoning were frustrating. "We weren't told about needing an EAW until the Dave Rose project started," she said.

Altenburg said that the rules had been in place all along.

Charity said she thought the city's zoning was based on state rules and wondered why the

city's rules were more complicated than either St. Louis County or the state.

Keith said the city's zoning rules dated back to 1996.

Maki noted that the state has revised their shoreline rules numerous times since then.

"This is what we have on the books right now," said Altenburg. "We have to follow it."

It was noted that the city would have the option of updating their zoning ordinance to get rid of these requirements. The committee is currently working on updating language in the ordinance but hasn't made any major changes.



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BOYS BASKETBALL

Wolves looking good

Senior guard sets career high in Tuesday evening FDL matchup

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

ELY— Solid back-to-back performances this week helped the Timberwolves improve their record to 9-6 and build confidence heading into the final five weeks of the boys basketball season.

On Tuesday, senior guard Pat Vanderbeek set a career high, pouring in 44 points to lead Ely over Fond du Lac, 84-66. Vanderbeek was red hot from beyond the arc, sinking seven-of-eight attempts in the first half alone. “He really took control of the game for us,” said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. Strong defense also helped the Wolves fend off the scrappy Ojibwe, who managed some outside shooting success of their own to hang in with Ely, trailing just 38-30 at the break. “I thought we played well on both ends of the floor,” said McDonald.

Junior forward Dylan Fenske had a good night, adding 12 points for the Wolves along with nine

rebounds, while junior guard Eric Omerza added 12 points and eight assists. Senior guard Trevor Mattson and senior forward Collen Seliskar each posted six rebounds.

In action on Saturday at Duluth-Marshall, Vanderbeek again led all scorers with 33 points and five assists to lead the Wolves to a 72-56 win over the Hilltoppers.

“We played well from start to finish,” said McDonald. “I thought our defense really limited what they got off us. They’re a pretty talented team but they never really got into a flow offensively against us.”

Fenske put up 14 points and nine boards for Ely, while Seliskar posted eight rebounds.

The Wolves travel to Littlefork on Friday. They’ll host Cook County next Tuesday, with a 6:30 p.m. start.



Above: Timberwolves point guard Eric Omerza evades Fond du Lac’s Jalen Paulsen.

Below: Omerza goes up against Ken Fox.

photos by J. Greeney

BOYS B-BALL

North Woods roll past Cherry

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook-Orr Editor

CHERRY — The Grizzlies had little trouble overcoming the winless Cherry boys basketball team on Tuesday, as they drubbed the Tigers 105-31.

Trevor Morrison led the way for the Grizzlies, with 28 points.

The Goggleye cousins, Cade and Darius, tallied 22 and 12 points respectively. TJ Chiabotti rounded out the major scoring, with 11.

Head Coach Will Kleppe said all of the team’s 14 varsity players had a chance to take the court in Cherry, adding to the team’s overall victory.

Despite the victory, the team did fall one place in the state ranking this week, dropping from fifth to sixth place among Class A squads.

The team takes on Eveleth-Gilbert at North Woods on Friday evening, with tipoff set for 7:15 p.m.

GIRLS B-BALL

Grizz girls have mixed week

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP— The Grizzlies let a big first-half lead slip away as they fell to the Broncos here, 89-84.

“I’m a little disappointed in last night’s outcome,” Head Coach Robbie Goggleye said after the match. “We were up 22 at the half, and they (I-Falls) crawled back in and we ended losing by five.”

Goggleye said the Broncos reset their strategy at the half, and the Grizzlies couldn’t keep pace.

Kate Stone had a big night for North Woods despite the loss, pouring in 27 points. Alanna Rutchasky added an additional 18 while Regan Ratai added 13.

Last week, the Grizzlies broke a three-game losing streak, defeating Nashwauk-Keewatin, 87-44.

Stone put up 30 points to lift the team’s spirits, and the more experienced Grizzlies players dominated the game.

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

HOCKEY

Ely can’t hold on against fast moving Proctor

Timberwolves earn a hard fought overtime win against Red Lake Falls on the road

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

PROCTOR —The Timberwolves fell behind early and couldn’t make up lost ground as they fell to Proctor 9-4 on Tuesday.

The Rails grabbed the early momentum, with four straight goals in the first nine minutes of the opening period. Ely finally got on the board later in the

frame, when Jason Skube scored with assists from Luke Olson and Dalton Schreffler, to close the gap to 4-1.

Olson, with an assist from Schreffler, added another one for Ely at the 6:35 mark of the second to trim the gap to 4-2.

The Rails responded just over three minutes later, but two more Ely goals in the period would

make it a game for a time. Jimmy Zupancich found the net on an unassisted play, followed by Olson, who notched his second of the evening off a Jackson Hegman assist minutes later.

The Rails would add another goal in the final minute of the second, before dominating the final period enroute to the 9-4 final.

The Wolves struggled on offense, managing just 16 shots on goal, compared to 62 shots for the Rails. Ely goalie Chase Sandburg stopped 53 shots for a .854 save percentage.

Both teams were guilty of three penalties, good for six minutes.

Proctor made effective use of the power play as they converted two of three. Ely had the same

number of opportunities but couldn’t make good on any.

Ely battled Red Lake Falls on Saturday and notched their third win of the season, 3-2 in overtime.

The Eagles scored the only goal of the opening period with just over four minutes to go until the buzzer.

Nick Mattila evened the score at 4:04 into the

second, with assists from Austin Meskill and Seann Prigge. Red Lake Falls followed with a goal of their own, giving them a 2-1 lead at the end of the second.

Mattila tied the score at the 10:01 mark, on an assist from Luke Olson, which eventually sent the game to overtime.

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

Huskies hold off Wolves

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TOWER BINGO

Monday, Feb. 4

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Obituaries and Death Notices



Thomas R. Poderzay Sr.

Thomas R. Poderzay Sr., 91, of Soudan, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower with Father Nick Nelson as celebrant. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at church. Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery in Tower. Military honors will be accorded by the Cook VFW Post 1757 Honor Guard and the Orr American Legion Post 480 Honor Guard. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Schwinghamer, the staff of Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital, Boundary Waters Care Center, the staff of Vermilion Senior Living and the Essentia Health East Range Hospice team for all the compassionate care Tom received.

Tom was born on July 13, 1927, in Soudan. He attended and graduated from Tower-Soudan High School and enlisted in the U.S. Army in December 1945 during World War II; he re-enlisted in the Army during the Korean War. He was united in marriage to the love of his life, Dolores, on Nov. 15, 1955, in Neckarweiheingen, Germany, while he was serving in the U.S. Armed

Forces. After returning to the United States, they lived in Fort Polk, La., for a short time before settling in Soudan in 1957. After working for 30 years, Tom retired from Erie Mining Company.

Tom was a member of St. Martin's Catholic Church and the KSKJ Lodge. He enjoyed playing accordion with his brothers and sisters, doing crossword puzzles, watching game shows, and spending time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his children, Dolores "Toots" and Terry Sandnas, Tom and Bernie (Russo) Poderzay, and Robert and Tina Poderzay; grandchildren, Laura Aune, April and Jesse Glass, Erin and Bill Bryson, Jacob Sandnas, Christina Poderzay, Donald Poderzay, Brennan and Ashley Poderzay, and Jordan Poderzay; eight great-grandchildren, Kate and Luke Cheney, Sawyer, Laurin and Libby Glass, Vera and Audrey Bryson; sister and brother-in-law, Theresa and Frank Galaski; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his loving wife of 54 years, Dolores; brothers, Robert, Leonard, Joe and Tony; and sisters, Caroline Akins and Pauline Trucano.

Elizabeth Povhe

Elizabeth "Betty" Scufsa Povhe, 69, of Ely, passed away on Friday, Jan. 18, 2019. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church.

She is survived by her siblings, Rudy (Sue) Scufsa and Bernie (Donna) Scufsa; brothers-in-law, Fred (Jeanie) Povhe and Garry Kitchens; nieces and nephews, Samantha

Kitchens, Tabitha Carter, Amy (Bob) Kellogg (children Courtney and Cole), Trisha (Barry) Weisinger (children Emily (Dan) Forsman and Stephen), John (Heather) Scufsa (children Addison, Rebecca and Rachael), Wendy Varey (children Adam and Clayton), Michael Scufsa, Denise Scufsa (children Kali, Brady, Parker and Reese); Ben (daughter Grace, one of Betty and Jim's greatest gifts), Alex and Bradley Povhe; grand-nieces Kiersten, Alexis and Kiley; and step-niece and nephew, Donnie and Joey.



James J. Hall

James John "Jim" Hall, 85, of Orr, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019, at Essential Health in Virginia. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 25 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cook. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. A light lunch will be served after the service at St. Mary's. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Jim was born to John and Julia (Rom) Hall on Aug. 30, 1933, in Neenah, Wis. When Jim was a young child, his family moved to Greaney, where he grew up and attended school. He graduated from Orr High School in 1952. After graduating, Jim was employed at various construction jobs in the area.

In the 1960s, Jim started his own business, D&H Construction, where he worked until retirement in the late 1990s. Jim was united in marriage to Jeanette Doroff in October 1953. They were blessed with five children before they divorced.

Jim later met and married Jean Adair Craven and became a meaningful patriarch to her two boys. He enjoyed many fishing trips in Canada with Jean. Jim also loved to spend time at deer camp hunting deer and grouse, or just simply spending time with loved ones, especially playing cards. His family lovingly remembers Jim as upbeat and happy, always having a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye.

Jim is survived by his children, Jim (Linda) Hall of Gilbert, Geri Fendler of Shakopee, Jolene Brewton of Wisconsin, John (Laureen) Hall of Eveleth, Marie (Patrick) Maczko of Lakeville, Mike Syversrud and Scott Syversrud, both of Gilbert; sister, Maxine (Bill) Purdy; 13 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, John and Julia; first wife, Jeanette (Doroff) Hall; second wife and fishing partner, Jean (Craven) Hall; and sister, Winnie Gheen.

Doris E. Milbridge

Doris E. Milbridge, 89, of Virginia, passed away on Friday, Jan. 18, 2019, at Essentia Health Virginia Care Center. Services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are pending with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.



Pamela G. Clines

Pamela G. Clines, 72, of Lake Vermilion-Cook, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019, at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth from leukemia. A gathering of friends and family to honor her memory was held on Thursday, Jan. 24, at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cook or the Cook Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store. A service will be held at a later date in Indiana. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Pam was born on July 6, 1946, in Santa Barbara, Calif., and grew up in Terre Haute, Ind., where she graduated from Garfield High School in 1964. She then attended Indiana State University and graduated in 1968 with a teaching degree. After graduation she moved to Indianapolis for an elementary teaching career. She was united in marriage to Larry Clines on June 28, 1969. Pam spent 37 years in Indianapolis, where she raised her family and taught for Warren Township and then Franklin Township School Corporation; she retired in

2005. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends, reading, and vacations at Walt Disney World and Lake Vermilion. After years of vacationing in Minnesota, Pam and Larry purchased a summer cabin on Lake Vermilion in 1985. In 1997, they acquired Timbuktu Marina with their children, and then retired and moved to Lake Vermilion in 2005.

Pam enjoyed volunteering at the Cook Thrift Store, spending time with friends, and her time spent at Timbuktu Marina. Her most favorite times were those with her grandchildren and watching their sporting events. Pam was a sweet lady, loving wife, mother and grandmother, and a truly great friend to many. She will be forever in our hearts and will be missed greatly.

Pam is survived by her husband of 49 years, Larry; daughter, Christine (David) Hampson; son, Matthew (Michelle); brother, Richard (Anita) Walters of Indiana; grandchildren, Mason and Micaden Clines and Jack and Lauren Hampson; nephews, Jason and Daniel Walters; lifelong cherished friends and extended family.

Pam was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Antoinette Walters.

Briefs

Sisu Heritage Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 24

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage, Inc. will hold its annual meeting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 24 at the Embarrass Town Hall, 7503 Levander Rd. Agenda items include the president's and other committee reports, election of four board members, and approval of the 2019 budget.

The business portion will be followed by members of The Farmstead Artisans, speaking on The Nelimark Museum: History and Hospitality. They will present

the history and current mission of this little gem of a destination in Embarrass. Some regular visitors to the museum will also speak - about why they come and the value of this community gathering place.

There will be door prizes and coffee and an' will be served. All Sisu members are encouraged to attend. Interested residents of surrounding communities are invited to attend and to consider joining Sisu Heritage. Membership is just \$10 a year. Call 218-984-3024 with any questions.



THANK YOU

The Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club would like to thank the following Tower area businesses and individuals for sponsoring or donating prizes for the 19th Fun Run that was held January 19, 2019.

Aronson Boat Works
Benchwarmer's
Black Bear Café
Bob's Standard Service
Cl's Body & Boat Works
D'Erick's Tower Liquors
Embarrass-Vermillion Federal Credit Union
Fortune Bay Resort Casino and The Wilderness
Frandsen Bank and Trust- Tower
Glenmore Resort
Good Ol' Days
Harold's Arctic Sales
Jeanne's Cards and Gifts
Lake Vermilion Houseboats
LeAnn's Beauty Salon
The Ledge Liquor Store
Nordic Home North

Northwoods True Value
Pike Bay Lodge
The Timberjay
Tower Auto Parts
Tower Car Wash
Tower News
Tower-Soudan Agency
UBetcha Antiques & Uniques
Uffda Thrift & Gifts
Vermilion Club
Vermilion Fuel and Food
Vermilion Golden Rule Lumber
Vermilion Land Office
Vermilion Park Inn
Vermilion Shear Image
Liz Vilnow
The Y Store
Zup's Grocery

Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club

Special thanks to Benchwarmer's for hosting the check point. Thanks to Jane and Don Johnson, Mike and Bergetta Indihar, Van and Liz Vilnow, Julia Maki, Don Brown, Rachel Indihar and Sam McGuire for setting up and registering participants; Roberta and Curly Skogman for collecting prizes; Tom Coombe for announcing the winners; and Jim Zupancich and Nick Wognum for co-chairing the event. The success of the Fun Run is due mainly to all of the volunteers and businesses in the Tower, Babbitt, and Ely area, and the participants who support the event.

Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club



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Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods



ARROWHEAD ULTRA 135

Gluttons for punishment

One of the world’s most brutal endurance contests gets underway Monday, with finish at Fortune Bay

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—Participants in the 15th annual Arrowhead Ultra 135 should be all smiles when the gun sounds Monday morning, sending the roughly 180 participants on their way from International Falls to Fortune Bay Resort Casino, near Tower. The temperature at race time is currently forecast at about minus-20 degrees, with even colder weather in store during the 60-hour race window which

ends at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. In other words, it should be just about perfect for a hardcore group of long-distance racers as they take part in what is now widely known as one of the toughest extreme endurance races on the planet and attracts participants from around the world. Race organizers time the event to coincide with what is typically the coldest week of the winter in the North Country, in hopes of challenging the skills and mental toughness of those who compete in the event,

whether on foot, bike, or ski. Fewer than 50 percent of those who start the race will make it to the end on their own power. “We have racers from Serbia, Italy, Brazil, Australia, and at least 30 states, plus most provinces,” said Ken Krueger, of International Falls, who directs the event with his wife Jackie. Krueger was a longtime participant in the race but retired as a competitor several years ago to help organize the event. He’s generally pleased with the weather forecast but would like

to see it a bit colder if possible. “I’ve done the race eight times,” said Krueger. “The most memorable was the toughest.” Event organizers don’t just let anyone take part. First-timers must have significant experience in extreme events, according to the event website. “A race in winter conditions improves your odds of being selected and surviving,” states the website. Most of the participants are old hands at the event,

See ULTRA 135...pg. 5B

Will persistence pay off for ultramarathon racer?

58-year-old Bill Bradley has run the Arrowhead Ultra 135 seven times before, without finishing. He insists that 2019 will be his year.

by EMILY GEDDES
I-Falls Journal Staff Writer

Traveling 135 miles by bike, ski or on foot is challenging for even the most extreme athlete. Covering that distance in subzero temperatures puts the accomplishment on a completely different level.

The grueling Arrowhead 135 ultramarathon starts at 7 a.m. on Jan. 28 at Kerry Park, takes racers through northern Minnesota’s wilderness, and ends at Fortune Bay Resort Casino in Tower. Hailed as one

of the toughest races in the world, the 15th annual competition draws athletes from around the state, country and world.

Bill Bradley is one of those athletes.

Born and raised in northern California, Bradley has been temporarily living in International Falls since mid-December, acclimating himself to the Borderland’s climate and preparing himself for his eighth attempt to finish the race on foot.

“I haven’t been able to cross that finish line yet,” he said. “This is my year.”

The 58-year-old has dropped out of the race because of problems with his feet, such as blisters or trench foot that caused his feet to swell out of his shoes. Other times, his sled has encountered mechanical errors and there was even an instance when his fingers suffered severe frostbite. Regardless, the runner’s energy is contagious and his spirit is inspirational. Even

though seven attempts at the challenging race have fallen short of his goal, he keeps coming back.

“I was put on this earth to motivate people and I thought my message was to tell people to get outside of their comfort zone,” he said. “I realized my message is don’t quit on your dreams... So I keep showing up.”

Bradley’s athletic resumé is lengthy. He holds the world record for seven continuous rim-to-rim crossings of the Grand Canyon, he ran 584 miles through Death Valley – twice,

biked 3,021 miles across America in 16 days, swam 20 miles in the English Channel with no wet suit or breaks, and the list goes on and on. Still, he can’t crack the Arrowhead

code.

“It has always been something,” he said. “Not this year. I’m doing it.”

Going into the 2019 event, Bradley knows his physical ability is strong and his gear is top-of-the-line. It’s the mental component he needs to keep in check.

“It’s mind, body and gear,” he said of what is needed to finish the race. “I’m not worried about my fitness... I just gotta get my head in the game. I know I’ve got this. I just gotta do it.”

Race prep

Among fans rooting for Bradley’s finish are race directors Ken and Jackie Krueger. The International Falls couple are gearing up for the fast-approaching event and said



Bill Bradley struck a confident pose earlier this month as he prepares to take part in the Arrowhead Ultra 135 race, which starts Monday in International Falls.

photo courtesy The International Falls Journal

they’re excited to see Bradley back on the roster.

“He’s a character,” Jackie said with a laugh. “This is his year to finish.”

But, they know the race is a challenge – physically and mentally.

Jackie said at about the halfway point of the race, finishing becomes a mind game.

“Ken knows from experience,” she said of her husband, who has finished the event in past years. “The people who show up are physically fit... It comes down to how they can handle the weather, both the cold and it being wet while maintaining the right body temperature. It’s interesting. They are a special breed of people out there.”

This year’s race will feature 94 bikers, 69 runners, 12 skiers and four with kick sleds, who have 60 hours to finish. Thirty-six of those athletes will race unsupported, meaning they are not allowed to stop at any of the checkpoints along the route.

“This is our third year

offering unsupported,” Ken said. “It adds to the challenge.”

Ken credited the diverse group of dedicated racers, many of whom continue to sign up year after year. Some even attempt to earn the “Arrowhead a’Trois” trophy, which means they have finished the race by skiing, running and biking.

“They usually save skiing for last,” Jackie said. “That is why our skiing number is up a little this year.”

The race directors also gave a nod to the volunteers who help the race run smoothly.

“Without them, we wouldn’t have a race,” Ken said. “We’re very appreciative of all the volunteers we have... And this community, too. We’re looking forward to another great, cold race.”

Editor’s Note: This story was originally published in The Journal in International Falls. It is republished here with permission.

Outdoors in brief

Trail conditions improving with more snow, cold

REGIONAL—Area snowmobile trails are listed in fair-to-good condition, helped along by the three-to-five inches of snow that fell across the area earlier in the week. Both the Taconite and Arrowhead trails are freshly-groomed, with a packed base ranging from two-to-five inches. Snow depths around the area range from 14-24 inches according to the Department of Natural Resources.

While trails are in generally good shape, trail crews are advising riders to watch for areas of thin ice or open water near current or in some swamps. The recent cold has helped to stiffen area swamps, but more cold weather is needed to help stiffen trail conditions across the area.

Fishing report

Ely area



George Samec, of Forest Lake, caught this 25” lake trout on the opening day of trout season on Burntside Lake. submitted

The ice conditions are slowly improving due to the below-zero temps of late. Many lakes have up to four-to-five inches of ice, and the slushy spots have frozen over as well. Some travel could still be difficult, in places where a crust had formed on top of the snow, but for the most part folks have been moving around using sleds and four-wheelers with few problems. Some access points have seen some roads plowed and this should open up more opportunities over the next couple of weeks.

Trout fishing has dominated the scene since its opening on Jan. 12. Lake trout on Burntside and Snowbank lakes have been cooperating, with some fish in the five-to-eight pound range being taken. Active jigging with small vibrating lures, white tubes, and Jigging Raps have been working on active setups, and smelt or suckers fished on the bottom under a tip-up has resulted in a few fish too.

Stream trout have been very active on Miners and Tofte lakes, with a few anglers coming in with limits of really nice rainbows and splake. Small jigging lures like forage minnows and small spoons have caught some bigger fish and small jigs tipped with wax worms or spikes and mousies have been producing good numbers.

Courtesy Babe’s Bait located at Ely’s west entrance.

ULTRA 135...Continued from page 4B –

since about 70 percent are repeat racers according to Krueger. “It’s almost like a family reunion,” he said.

While the race is tough, participants do now have the opportunity to make it even tougher by going unsupported. Most racers take advantage of a few checkpoints along the way, where they can rest, change socks, and grab something warm to eat. About three dozen of this year’s racers, however, won’t be taking advantage of the checkpoints, but will rely entirely on their own supplies and forego

a chance to warm up in temperatures that are not expected to reach above zero Fahrenheit throughout the entire event.

For participants, it’s all about bragging rights, since the event offers no cash prizes. But ever since the race was included in a book, “The World’s Toughest Endurance Challenges,” by Richard Hoad and Paul Moore, it’s had no trouble attracting plenty of interest from would-be competitors. “We fill up within two hours of opening registration,” said Krueger.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday

-8 -26

Saturday

-1 -32

Sunday

-9 -23

Monday

2 -20

Tuesday

-7 -27

| 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. |
|--------|----|-----|-------|-------|--------|----|-----|-------|-------|--------|----|-----|-------|-------|--------|----|-----|-------|------|--------|----|-----|-------|-------|
| 01/14 | 29 | 25 | 0.01 | 0.1" | 01/14 | 28 | 25 | 0.00 | | 01/14 | 28 | 23 | 0.01 | 0.1" | 01/14 | 25 | 7 | 0.04 | 0.2" | 01/14 | 28 | 23 | 0.00 | |
| 01/15 | 29 | 2 | 0.00 | | 01/15 | 28 | 2 | 0.00 | | 01/15 | 29 | 5 | 0.01 | 0.1" | 01/15 | 23 | 1 | 0.00 | | 01/15 | 28 | -1 | 0.00 | |
| 01/16 | 24 | -9 | 0.02 | 0.3" | 01/16 | 23 | -9 | 0.00 | | 01/16 | 23 | -9 | 0.00 | | 01/16 | 7 | -15 | 0.00 | | 01/16 | 23 | -13 | 0.01 | 0.2" |
| 01/17 | 11 | -13 | 0.00 | | 01/17 | 6 | -13 | 0.00 | | 01/17 | 4 | -11 | 0.00 | | 01/17 | 10 | -8 | 0.00 | | 01/17 | 8 | -4 | 0.00 | |
| 01/18 | 15 | -12 | 0.00 | | 01/18 | 11 | -12 | 0.00 | | 01/18 | 11 | -14 | 0.00 | | 01/18 | -8 | -24 | 0.00 | | 01/18 | 13 | -17 | 0.00 | |
| 01/19 | -4 | -33 | 0.00 | | 01/19 | -6 | -33 | 0.00 | | 01/19 | -8 | -36 | 0.00 | | 01/19 | -6 | -36 | 0.00 | | 01/19 | -6 | -37 | 0.00 | |
| 01/20 | -2 | -35 | 0.00 | | 01/20 | -5 | -35 | 0.00 | | 01/20 | -5 | -37 | 0.00 | | 01/20 | -2 | -35 | 0.00 | | 01/20 | -4 | -40 | 0.00 | |
| Totals | | | 0.20 | 39.6" | Totals | | | 0.26 | 31.5" | Totals | | | 0.25 | 40.7" | Totals | | | 0.24 | NA | Totals | | | 0.56 | 32.7" |

Hit the Trails!

Area Trail Conditions

Taconite Trail

Fair to Good Condition

2-4" base, 14-24" snow on the ground, Groomed

Arrowhead Trail

Fair to Good Condition

2-5" base, 14-24" snow on ground Groomed

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ORR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 10, 2018

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orr City Council was held Monday, December 10, 2018, at the Orr City Hall.

Mayor Joel Astleford called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited:

Present: Mayor Joel Astleford Councilor Tom Kennebeck Councilor Lloyd Scott Councilor Bruce Black Councilor Ericka Cote

Also present: Clerk/ Treasurer Cheri Carter; Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch; Maintenance Assistant Rocky Hoffman; Deputy Clerk Laura Manai; Liquor Store Manager Charles Nieman; Fire Chief Dallas Johnson; Ambulance Officers Jim and Leesa Gray; Stan Day; and Melissa Roach, The Timberjay.

No changes or additions were made to the agenda.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck, second by Lloyd Scott, to approve Consent Agenda consisting of Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 12, 2018; Minutes of Board of Canvass Meeting of November 12, 2018; Minutes of Special Meeting of November 28, 2018; and expenditures in the amount of \$40,585.27. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Stan Day of KBFT FM89.9 radio addressed the council regarding the radio station's availability to promote community events and other special events.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Lloyd Scott, to

approve Resolution 2018-15 Final Levy and 2019 Operating Budgets (General Fund, Airport, Ambulance, Fire, Liquor Store, Tourist Information Center, Water and Wastewater) which approves a 5% levy increase. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to approve an increase in the wastewater debt service to \$9.05 per month for each residence effective January 1, 2019. The change in fee is necessary to pay the USDA principal loan payment which increases by \$1,000 in 2019. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to approve increasing Deputy Clerk Laura Manai's 2019 annual salary to \$31,200.00. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The Airport Fund is showing a deficit balance. Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to borrow funds from the Wastewater (602) Fund to cover the deficit. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to approve Resolution 2018-16 Designating Polling Place. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The furnace in the Airport garage administration building has quit working. Rocky obtained three estimates to replace the furnace: Marty Yourczak - \$2,900; Arrowhead Plumbing, Heating & Refrigeration - \$3,500; and Iron Range Plumbing & Heating - \$3,600. Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to accept the low bid from Marty Yourczak. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck, second by Lloyd Scott, to approve Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance plan BlueAccess Gold \$1000 637 for key full-time employees for 2019. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to approve 2019 Renewal of Liquor License for Oveson's Pelican Lake Resort & Inn. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck, second by Ericka Cote, to approve 2019 Cigarette and 3.2 Licenses for Norman's One Stop and Pelican Bay Foods. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck, second by Lloyd Scott, to approve \$25.00 donation to Orr Area Volunteer Ambulance. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Chief Dallas Johnson has obtained three quotes for a heater for their Ranger: Five Season's Sports - \$1,279.99; Ray's Sport & Cycle - \$1,255.97; and Moose Lake Implement - \$1,090.00. Motion by Lloyd Scott, second by Tom Kennebeck, to approve quote from Five Season's Sports. The other two bids would require two trips at a greater distance adding extra time and mileage. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Liquor Store: Liquor Store Manager Charles "Chet" Nieman reported November sales were down compared to last November. The Snow City Festival events were a

success. The Liquor Store will be closed on Sundays until spring.

Water and Sewer: Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch reported they had one shut-off in November. One customer was found to have a usually high usage due to a malfunctioning toilet. The circulating pump in the water tower needs to be repaired before cold weather. The effluent flow meter flume will be installed in January. The skating rink is open.

Airport: Airport Manager Rocky Hoffman reported the fuel pump went out in the 2006 pickup. He is working with Iron Trail Motors on ordering a new pickup and plow. Fuel inventory is 1008 gallons of 100LL, and 1102 gallons of Jet A.

Ambulance: Finance Officer Jim Gray reported they have responded to 110 runs as of December 6, 2018. He reviewed the ambulance budget for 2018 and 2019. They will work with the Fire Department to get a cover for the Ranger where the gurney is located and to protect personnel from the elements. They will be looking into grant options to cover this cost. Some of the EMR's have expressed interest in further training in order to be an EMT.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Dallas Johnson reported they responded to the fire at Zup's in Cook. This resulted in some frozen valves on the fire truck. A couple of the firefighters are interested in attending cold water training in Virginia. The department's wild fire response equipment has been reviewed and

updated with the DNR.

Tourist Information Center: Has been quiet.

Comments from Visitors: None.

Comments from Mayor/ Council: None

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to adjourn. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joel R. Astleford, Mayor Cheri J. Carter, Clerk/ Treasurer Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 25, 2019

ORR CITY COUNCIL TRUTH-IN-TAXATION HEARING DECEMBER 10, 2018

The Truth-In-Taxation Hearing of the Orr City Council was held Monday, December 10, 2018, at the Orr City Hall. Mayor Joel Astleford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken. Present:

Mayor: Joel Astleford Councilor: Bruce Black Councilor: Ericka Cote Councilor: Tom Kennebeck Councilor: Lloyd Scott Also present: Clerk/ Treasurer Cheri Carter and Melissa Roach, Timberjay.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 2019 budget and final levy for 2018.

The City Council reviewed a five-year history of estimated and taxable market values for the city obtained from the St. Louis County Auditor. City staff were able to trim expenses to propose a 5% increase in the 2019 levy. Revenues from the Orr Municipal Liquor Store will also be used to help offset costs for the Water, Wastewater, Airport and Tourist Information Center. The effect of a 3% and 5% increase to property owners in the city was received from the St. Louis County Auditor's Office and distributed to council members. A correction to the Mayor's wages was noted to reflect annual wages should be \$1,920.00.

The principal payment for the

USDA loan for improvements to wastewater infrastructure increased by \$1,000. To cover the cost of the loan increase, the debt service fee charged to residents would need to be increased from \$8.55 to \$9.05 per month for each resident.

The effects of GASBY 67 and 68 as to PERA liability, and how it affects the city's financial statements was discussed. This is an unknown factor and final numbers will not be known until the 2018 city audit.

Comments from Visitors: None in attendance Comments from Mayor and Council: None

There being no visitors or citizens in attendance, motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, that the Truth-in-Taxation Hearing be adjourned. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Hearing adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joel R. Astleford, Mayor Cheri J. Carter, Clerk/Treasurer Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 25, 2019

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NOTICE OF VACANCY ST. LOUIS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The St. Louis County Board of Commissioners will be appointing a member to a three-year term on the St. Louis County Civil Service Commission. The Civil Service Commission oversees the administration of the County's merit system of employment by approving and enforcing rules, hearing appeals and complaints. Applicants cannot hold or be a candidate for public office, may not hold any public employment, or hold a position in a political party within two years immediately preceding appointment, and must be a resident of St. Louis County. There are usually two (2) meetings scheduled per month (1:30 pm-2:00 pm on Mondays). At least four meetings per year are scheduled in Range cities. Periodic hearings may be significantly longer. Contact James R. Gottschald, St. Louis County Human Resources Director at 218-725-5066 or gottschaldj@stlouiscountymn.gov.

Persons interested in serving on this commission should submit an application to: Phil Chapman, Deputy County Auditor, St. Louis County Courthouse, Room 214, 100 North 5th Avenue West, Duluth, MN 55802 no later than February 15, 2019. To apply online, go to www.stlouiscountymn.gov/clerk and click "Application for Citizen Advisory Committee".

Applications are also available in the County Auditor's Office in the Duluth Courthouse and the Northland Office Building in Virginia, and in the Ely Government Services Building, or by emailing chapmanp@stlouiscountymn.gov or calling 218-726-2385.

NANCY NILSEN, COUNTY AUDITOR By: Phil Chapman, Deputy Auditor

Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 25, 2019

EMPLOYMENT

Engineering Aide Trainee (Temp) Apply by 2/1/19 Heavy Equipment Mechanic - Virginia Apply by 2/8/19 Highway Laborer (Temp) Apply by 2/4/19 www.stlouiscountymn.gov or call 218-726-2422 Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 1/25

International Wolf Center Wolflink Marketing Coordinator The International Wolf Center is seeking applicants for the position of Wolflink Marketing Coordinator. This position will market and promote education programs to past and prospective schools. The ideal candidate will have strong sales and organizational skills as well as oral and written communication skills. To apply, submit a cover letter and resume to careers@wolf.org or stop by the International Wolf Center (located just east of Ely on Highway 169) to pick up an application. Part-time position with hourly wage DOQ & E. For job description, please visit: www.wolf.org 1396 Highway 169 • Ely, Minnesota 2/1

Bearville Township Board of Supervisors Meeting Dates for 2019

The Bearville Town Board of Supervisors will hold their monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Bearville Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public.

Bearville Township - Board of Audit Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

The Bearville Township Board of Audit will be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bearville Town Hall. This meeting will consist of auditing the books for the year ending December 31, 2018 and preparing a budget and proposed levies to submit to the Annual Town Meeting.

Kathy Cressy, Bearville Township Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 25, 2019

EMPLOYMENT



Office and Facility Manager

The International Wolf Center is seeking applicants for the full-time position of Office and Facility Manager at the Ely Interpretive Center. This position will reconcile financial transactions daily, assist the retail department in processing online orders, ensure secure, safe and clean operations of the grounds and facility, and perform various administrative duties.

The ideal candidate will have strong organizational and problem solving skills, administrative office experience, professional attitude, ability to create and manipulate spreadsheets and excellent written communication skills. To apply, submit a cover letter and resume to careers@wolf.org. Wage DOE. For job description, please visit: www.wolf.org 1396 Highway 169, Ely, Minnesota 2/15

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES Vermilion



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218-753-1246

www.vermilioncountry.org

1 Enterprise Dr., Tower, MN 55790

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦♦ Moderate ♦♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS


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

AUTOMOTIVE

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365-3132

HAIR CARE

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

HOSPICE

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

LICENSE BUREAU

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

REAL ESTATE

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

FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT- for rent in Orr. Call Dennis at Bayview Apartments, 218-780-0200. tfn

STORAGE

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

SNOW REMOVAL


VERMILION SNOW MANAGEMENT- Serving the entire Lake Vermilion area. Roads, Driveways & Sidewalks. Free estimates, insured. tj@vermilionsnowmanagement.com or 218-290-0966. Online at vermilionsnowmanagement.com. tfn

WANTED

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

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

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SUPPORT GROUPS

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

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH DRUGS, give yourself a break. There is a way out with the help of other recovering addicts in Narcotics Anonymous. We have been there. For meeting or other information call 218-728-3199. (Narcotics Anonymous is a non-profit organization.)

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

CREDIT REPAIR SCAMS- "Credit problems? No problem!" No way. A poor credit history takes time to repair, no matter what anybody claims. The Federal Trade Commission says no company can remove accurate or timely information from your credit report. Learn more about managing credit and debt at ftc.gov/credit. A message from The Timberjay and the FTC.

HELP WANTED

HOUSEKEEPING HELP NEEDED AT PIKE BAY LODGE- Part-time. Start immediately. Call Jay at 218-753-2430. tfn

HELP WANTED- Handyman or person with construction background to help dismantle a log cabin in March and April. Compensation negotiable. Please call 612-325-4839. 2/15v

PART-TIME CLASSROOM ASSISTANT position working with preschool children in a Head Start Classroom in Ely. Please apply at www.aeo.org careers tab. AA/EOE. 12/13

DOG GROOMING



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(behind Jeanne's Cards & Gifts)



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Eileen Kronmiller
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Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

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

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www.shamrocklanding.com

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

ORR AA meets Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Orr.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
1 Shred
6 To another country
12 Buster Brown's dog
16 Mexican article
19 University of Maine's city
20 News anchor Katie
21 Arduous task
22 Not be idle
23 Discoverer of Uranus ... and "The Office" co-star
26 Spoil
27 "Orinoco Flow" singer
28 Sea, to Luc
29 Buenos —
30 Commanded
31 PCs on planes, often
33 Long-range German gun of WWI ... and "Apollo 13" Oscar nominee
37 Letter #3
38 Bern's river
39 To the extent that
40 1975 Wimbledon winner ... and "Shape of You" singer
47 German article
48 U.S. architect I.M.
49 Pet treaters
50 Slaughter with a bat
52 Abnormal plant swelling
56 Schindler with a list
58 Deputy of an envoy ... and old CBS variety show host
63 Ballpark gate
64 Explorer Hernando de —
65 Rose color
66 Klee output
67 Bistro bills
68 Olay product ... and "My Cup Runneth Over" singer
73 Sheriff Andy Taylor's tyke
74 Coach Parseghian
75 — polloi
76 "T.N.T." rock band
77 Game venue
78 Officer played by Phil Silvers ... and 1970s-'80s New York City mayor
84 2006 Sacha Baron Cohen film
85 Nobelist Arafat
86 Celine of song
87 Many a repo
89 Poetic form
90 Holiday drink
92 Left-leaning slant ... and "Lou Grant" star
97 "Hips Don't Lie" singer
101 — Grey
102 Special span
103 Large, hooded snake ... and "60 Minutes" reporter for 26 years
107 Cited as evidence
111 Ship sailing past sirens
112 "— Less Ordinary"
113 Suffix with 66-Across
114 Liquefy
115 Rolodex no.
116 Money from investments ... and Reagan cabineteteer
121 Previous to
122 Jib holder
123 "No clue"
124 Whoop it up
125 Berlin-to-Prague dir.
126 "— girl!" ("All right!")
127 Unboastful
128 Pastoral verse
- DOWN**
1 Disk at the end of a spur
2 "Three Sisters" sister
3 61-Down producer
4 Open, as a shutter
5 Luau paste
6 Peaks
7 Nobelist Niels
8 Long to undo
9 NHL's Bobby
10 "— for Alibi"
11 1983 Mr. T comedy
12 "— is human ..."
13 Bays, e.g.
14 Detective, slangily
15 Suffix with priest
16 Hedy of film
17 National park in Maine
18 Italicize, e.g.
24 Electrical current unit
25 Move quickly
30 Soccer star Chastain
32 Body of work
33 "Harrumph!"
34 Rage
35 "Oh wow!"
36 Off course
38 Birthplace of St. Francis
40 Desertion of one's faith
41 Highway pull-off
42 Polynesian-themed lounges
43 Quad bike, e.g.
44 Classic car
45 Actress Blyth
46 Turndowns
51 "Of course!"
53 1996 role for Madonna
54 Steeping sauce
55 Snacker on termites
57 Capone and Unser
59 Dupe
60 Plus more: Abbr.
61 Reef stuff
62 Guitar pioneer Paul
68 "— wise guy, eh?"
69 Caring
70 Martin Luther opponent Johann
71 Hoopla
72 Actress Mitzi
73 Gold, in Italy
75 Daring
77 On deck, say
79 Tree with fan-shaped leaves
80 Up to, in ads
81 Young male, in hip-hop
82 Having five sharps
83 Central point
88 Joined with
91 React to, as a bad pun
93 Moray, e.g.
94 "Norma —"
95 Suffix with compliment
96 Fried quickly
97 Glides on ice
98 Job opening fillers
99 He directed "Life of Pi"
100 Most adept
104 Gaucho rope
105 Mali's cont.
106 Kin of khaki
107 Natty tie
108 "Vette, e.g.
109 Atelier tripod
110 Reflect (on)
113 Rural hotels
116 Thurman of "Prime"
117 Tokyo, once
118 Fizzling thing
119 Opal finish?
120 Hosp. scan

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

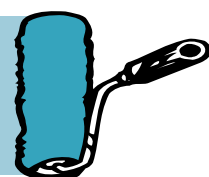
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| 97 | 98 | 99 | | | | 100 | | | | 101 | | | | | 102 | | | | | | |
| 103 | | | | | | | 104 | 105 | 106 | | | | | | 107 | | | | 108 | 109 | 110 |
| 111 | | | | | 112 | | | | | | | | | 113 | | | | 114 | | | |
| 115 | | | | | 116 | | | | | | 117 | 118 | 119 | | | | 120 | | | | |
| 121 | | | | | 122 | | | | | 123 | | | | | | | 124 | | | | |
| 125 | | | | | 126 | | | | | 127 | | | | | | | 128 | | | | |

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Answers

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& Hwy 5. **MLS#136114**

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MLS#135118

Orr-\$65,000 40 acres of excellent hunting land.
MLS#135390

Orr-\$24,900 27.28 acres on the Orr/Buyck Road with
state lands on 3 sides. **MLS#135457**

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PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No.
69VI-PR-18-201
Notice and Order for Hearing on
Petition for Descent of Property

Estate of:
Beatrice Elaine Edeen
aka Beatrice E. Edeen
aka Beatrice Edeen,
Decedent

A Petition for Determination of
Descent has been filed with this
Court. The Petition represents
that the Decedent died more than
three years ago, leaving prop-
erty in Minnesota and requests
the probate of Decedent's last
Will (if any), and the descent of

such property be determined and
assigned by this Court to the per-
sons entitled to the property.

Any objections to the Petition must
be filed with the Court prior to
or raised at the hearing. If prop-
er, and no objections are filed
or raised, the Petition may be
granted.

IT IS ORDERED and Notice is
further given, that the Petition will
be heard on February 13, 2019, at
9:30 a.m., by this Court at 300 5th
Ave. South Virginia, Minnesota.
1. Notice shall be given to all inter-
ested persons (MINN. STAT. §
524.1-401) and persons who have
filed a demand for notice pursuant
to Minnesota Statutes section
524.3-204.
2. Notice shall be given by publish-
ing this Notice and Order as pro-
vided by law and by mailing a copy

of this Notice and Order at least 14
days prior to the hearing date.

Dated: December 27, 2018

BY THE COURT
Robert C. Friday
Judge of District Court

Amy Turnquist/
Court Administrator
Debra Thorstensen/Deputy

Attorney for Petitioner
Angela E. Sipila
Sipila Law Office LLC
412 1st Street South, Suite 1
Virginia, MN, 55792
Attorney License No: 024501X
Telephone: (218) 741-5000
FAX: (218) 741-5000
Email: ange@sipilaw.com

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18 & 25, 2019