Inside:
Maple syrup time... See /1B
Is your home firewise... See /3B
Walleye numbers dip... See /4B





**COUNTY SCHOOLS** 

# Legal action sought against contractors

ARI, Johnson Controls, Kraus-Anderson fail to repond to school district concerns

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook/Orr Editor

VIRGINIA— Nearly eight years after the construction of the North Woods and South Ridge schools, the St. Louis County School District may pursue legal action against Johnson Controls International, Kraus-Anderson and Architectural Resources, Inc., the three companies that designed or oversaw the work on the projects.

The two new schools,

built at a total cost of about \$60 million, were part of a controversial district-wide restructuring plan adopted nearly a decade ago.

At Tuesday's school board study session, Superintendent Reggie Engebritson told board members she'll be seeking authorization to obtain legal counsel to seek redress of a long list of deficiencies in the construction of the two buildings.

Engebritson told the board that inspections of the schools



last summer yielded structural issues at the facilities, but she said representatives from JCI, Kraus-Anderson, and ARI had not responded in the manner the district expected.

"Nothing has gone anywhere," Engebritson said.

Engebritson said reporting on the issues by the *Timberjay* 

See...ISD 2142 pg. 9

The concrete floor has settled as much as six inches at the athletic concessions building at North Woods School. This is just one of many building concerns at North Woods and South Ridge schools

in ISD 2142. photo by M. Helmberger CITY OF TOWER

# Cash crunch

Audit: Surpluses spent to cover project deficits

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER Managing Editor

TOWER— The city of Tower is facing a significant cash flow crunch that won't be easy to repair. That was the upshot of the city's audit report presented by representatives of Walker, Giroux, and Hahne before a large crowd at the Herbert Lamppa Civic Center on Monday.

While the city's financial status appears relatively strong on paper, most of the city's cash surpluses have been spent to cover operating deficits in a number of project accounts, according to Devin Cegler, who presented the city's

See...TOWER pg. 10

ELY SCHOOLS

# Use it or lose it

ISD 696 up against deadline for state school safety grant

by KEITH VANDERVORT Elv Editor

ELY – As the Ely School District considers a campus building renovation project that could cost as much as \$13 million, the clock is ticking on a state-funded secure schools grant that the district is hoping to use for the project.

School District officials were successful in securing about \$500,000 in funds that are earmarked specifically for constructing a new safe and secure entrance for the Industrial Arts building on the school campus.

The district's renovation consultant, Katie Hildenbrand of Architectural Resources Inc. (ARI) told school board members Monday night that they'll need to submit construction bids to state officials by June 30 to meet final qualification for the funding.

The state grant award served as the beginning of the conversation surrounding the multi-million dollar campus renovation project. While a community

See...ELY pg. 11

# MORE THAN A PETTING ZOO

# Down on the FARM



Cook's Country Connection opens May 3 for fifth season

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook/Orr Editor

COOK - When Lois Pajari lost her store, the Cook Dollar Barn, in 2013, the question of what to do next lingered on her mind.

"My sister said I already had a petting zoo. Now I just needed to make money from it," Pajari said. "We talked about different ways to do this, from wedding nights, to music, to vendor shows."

The idea wasn't new. Local schools had asked several times to visit the farm, even when Pajari was still running her store. In 2013, Pajari finally said yes.

"As I watched the school bus come down the driveway, I thought, 'it would be nice to find a way to make a living from this," she said. One month later, her store burned to the ground.

Cook's Country Connection officially opened the following year and since then what started out as a petting zoo idea has transformed the Pajari

See... **FARM** pg. 11



Lois Pajari holds a newborn mini horse at her Cook's Country Connection. George the pig, top, likes to nap. photos by M. White

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

#### Last class for Winter Writers on April 13

COOK- The last Winter Writers Class at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery will be Saturday, April 13 from 1-3 p.m.

The writing group is voluntarily orchestrated by Dr. Ellie Larmouth, retired college professor. All individuals who enjoy writing are invited to attend and engage in writing activities with the camaraderie and support of other writers.

The Summer Writers Group will begin with an "Open Mic" session on Tuesday, June 11 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Writers will have the chance to share their personal and published writing with the community as part of NWFA's "Spring Art Expo," an annual event scheduled with Cook businesses taking place for 23 days from June 5 to 28.

Mark your calendars with the Summer Writers Group Tuesday dates: June 25, July 9, July 23 and Aug. 13.

#### Care Partners Annual Swedish Meatball Dinner, April 24

VIRGINIA- Care Partners is hosting its 11th Annual Swedish Meatball Dinner on Wednesday, April 24 from 3 - 6 p.m., or until gone, at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 306 2nd St. S in Virginia.

Tickets are available at the door and cost \$9 per person; children under age five eat free. Take-out and curbside service are also available. All proceeds will directly benefit local individuals and families facing cancer or a life-limiting illness. For more information, call 218-404-1411.

The meal will be prepared by Holy Spirit Catholic Church and Eveleth KSKJ Lodge 59. KSKJ Life will match funds raised.

#### May is Mental Health Month- Resources Avaia

REGIONAL- During May, Mental Health Month, NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and dozens of other organizations are involved in community education about mental illnesses, including advocacy for effective treatments that are availa-ble and that people can and do recover. NAMI Minnesota offers over 500 free educa-tional classes and presentations statewide each year, along with help in navigating the mental health system. NAMI has more than 70 free support groups for people living with a mental illness and their families. To reach NAMI Minnesota, call 651-645-2948 or go to namimn.

FEEDING THE FUTURE

# 11th Annual Iron Range Earth Fest to be held April 12 and 13 in Mt. Iron

MT. IRON- The 11th Annual Iron Range Earth Fest will take place Friday and Saturday, April 12 and 13. The event will be spread throughout the Highway 169 Corridor in Mountain Iron including the Mountain Iron Community Center, Messiah Lutheran Church, Merritt Elementary School, and Northeast Service Cooperative.

Friday night's kick-off will feature a choice of two presentations including "Beginning Restoration Agriculture in USDA Zone 3a" where Mark Shepherd, a well-known agriculture expert dedicated to teaching people how to grow food in harmony with nature, will focus on our cold-weather gardeners. Attendees who want to learn more about local clean energy efforts can go to "The Power of Minnesota" documentary presented by the Clean Energy Resource Teams. Both events begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 12 at Messiah Lutheran Church.

The Earth Fest main event will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's theme is "Feeding the Future," continuing the conversation and actions to boost the local food system. Restoration agriculture expert Mark Shepherd will give the keynote address from 1:30-2:30 p.m. titled "Restoring the Iron Range Farmland to Feed Ourselves." You can also attend free classes about growing hops, growing flowers in the northland, saving seeds, and growing and selling vegetables in cold climates. There will be other free classes about solar energy,



A young visitor to Earthfest last year checks out his "wingspan" at the booth set up by the Ely Field Naturalists. file photo

forest fire ecology, sustainable hunting, hospice care and more.

Environmentally-friendly inventions and projects concocted by local students at the Green Innovators Expo will be on display at Merritt Elementary School. There will be a silent auction that funds sustainability projects across the Iron Range. Families and children can look forward to snuggling with and learning about farm animals from Mr. Ed's Farm and Cook's Country Connection, try their hand at indoor archery, and free play

with chalk, bubbles, and other indoor and outdoor activities.

The entire event is free and open to the public. There will be live radio broadcasts, dozens and dozens of local exhibitors and vendors, a delicious lunch offered by Natural Harvest Food Co-op, and much, much more crammed into this annual event

Visit www.irpsmn.org/earthfest for more information.

Lorrie

Janatopoulus

Teresa Kittridge

(left) will speak

about women

and leadership

(far left) and

#### WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP

# **Northern Progressives meet April 17**

COOK- Lorrie Janatopoulus of Eveleth and Teresa Kittridge of Marcell will be the featured speakers at a community conversation about Women in Leadership at the Northern Progressives meeting on Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Crescent Bar and Grill just north of Cook.

The evening's discussion will focus on the current status of women's leadership in Northeastern Minnesota and what is needed for rural women to claim their places as political leaders and directors of public policy in our communities.

Janatopoulos was a 2016 Bush Foundation Leadership Fellow. She has a Master's in Public Affairs, a Bachelor's in Behavioral Arts and Sciences with a concentration in Management, a graduate level certificate in Dialogue, Deliberation and Public Engagement, and an Executive Certificate in Public Leadership from Harvard's Kennedy School. Janatopoulos has decades of experience working with local, regional, and statewide nonprofits and public entities. She has spent her career creating pathways for people who are economically and/or socially challenged, and others at the margins of the dominant



culture. As a white woman, she strongly values questioning her world-view through an equity lens. Janatopoulos's personal story is steeped in lived experience and appreciation for the value that "being different" brings to community.

Kittridge is the founder of 100 Rural Women, which models her life's work of serving women in rural places to better connect and build networks, support civic engagement, and encourage leadership. Kittridge served for 20 years as a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives and later built the Washington, D.C. office of the Rural Policy Research Institute, serving as its Director of National Policy



at the Northern Progressives meeting on April 17 in Cook.

Programs, Vice President, and Chief Operating Officer. She served as an executive for Coughlan Companies and was founder and president of Minnesota Renewable Energy Marketplace. Kittridge

holds a M.A. in Organizational Leadership and a B.A. in Business Administration. The meeting is open to the public. The Crescent is located just north of Cook at 9257 E Olson Rd. Attendees may choose

to come early and order from the menu. For more information, contact Leah Rogne at 218-787-2212 or leah.rogne@gmail.com.





# **Council dismisses complaint by Altenburg**

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER — The city council here, on Monday, dismissed an outstanding misconduct complaint filed by Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg against Mayor Orlyn Kringstad.

Council members Rachel Beldo and Steve Abrahamson voted in favor of dismissing the complaint, filed back in January, while Kringstad and council member Brooke Anderson abstained. Kevin Fitton, who had brought the issue to the council initially, along with a list of other complaints he had written, did not attend Monday's meeting.

In the complaint, Altenburg claimed that Kringstad had called him "sexist" during an informal meeting with Beldo and

City Clerk grievance decision questioned as unfair

Anderson in late 2018, before he and Beldo were sworn in on the council.

Fitton, who sits on the council's human relations committee, said he had spoken with Anderson after receiving the written complaint and that Anderson told him that the accusations and substance of the meeting were correct.

But at Monday's meeting, Beldo finally spoke up on the issue and forcefully refuted the accusations Altenburg had made.

"I recall it was more of a social call to get to know one another," said Beldo of the meeting between herself, Anderson, and Kringstad. "Being well aware of the open meeting law, and not being a seated council member, I felt there was no impropriety," she said.

Beldo said she was not calling anyone untruthful, alluding to the comments made by Anderson to Fitton. "I don't recall anything so derogatory being said, that would affect someone...none of it struck me so strongly that night that it would raise concerns."

Beldo said the issue had been going on for a while, and that she had wanted to stay out of it.

"But at this point, as the third-party present, I do not recall anything improper being said. I suggest we dismiss the complaint."

Beldo then motioned to do so, and was quickly seconded

by Abrahamson, prompting the vote to dismiss.

# Keith's union grievance remedy challenged

The council also spent time discussing how to deal with a Teamsters union grievance from City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith that was designed to bring a halt to an investigation of allegations of misconduct against Keith.

Altenburg and Anderson, who both serve on the grievance committee, had drafted a response to the union's complaint. In it, they upheld Keith's grievance and accepted the union's proposed remedy to cease any further investigation of the clerk's conduct, includ-

ing the apparent falsification of city records. The remedy would also prohibit Kringstad from having any future oversight of the clerk and would require the full council to submit a letter of apology to Keith.

Altenburg and Anderson made their decision and submitted their proposed remedy to the union without any input from the full city council, or even from Steve Abrahamson, the third member of the committee, who said he was unaware that Altenburg and Anderson were meeting to draft the response.

The complaint alleged that Kringstad had conducted an investigation of Keith without permission of the council as a whole, results which he provided to the council in a closed session

See COUNCIL...pg. 5

#### INNOVATION

# NRRI hopes to replace plastic with recycled paper



NRRI materials specialist Victor Krause tests the new paper tray product in the lab. submitted

by JUNE BRENEMAN
Natural Resources Research Institute

ivaturar resources research histitute

DULUTH—Researchers at the Natural Resources Research Institute are hoping that one waste stream—excessive paper waste—can provide a solution for another pollution problem: single use plastic. And, hopefully, make Minnesota the manufacturing and distribution hub for this new product.

Stadiums and airlines, in particular, are considering how to reduce the plastics in their food service. They need a biodegradable food tray that can be heated in an oven and that will also stand up to wet,

# Research could spark new industry in northern Minnesota

greasy foods

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is funding NRRI's research to address this industry need through their Recycling Market Development program.

NRRI Bioeconomy Initiative Director Eric Singsaas is working to turn recycled paper pulp into biodegradable food trays that will hold up to a greasy chili cheese dog. Current "cardboard" products on the market are either leaky or they're coated with plastic which keeps them from composting.

"Our dream would be that

the tray and packaging and food are all compostable, going into one bin," said Singsaas. "Stadiums and airports would have their own industrial compost stations on site."

Singsaas is developing his product from a design that is already being marketed. An inventor in Israel patented a heat and grease resistant, compostable food tray using a sugar cane harvest byproduct. Joseph Siani, Founder of W-Cycle, is working with NRRI to develop the same product out of locally-sourced recycled paper, opening new markets for the pulp industry

and reducing single use plastic pollution. Verso Corporation's Duluth paper mill is supplying recycled pulp for product trials.

Once the product is developed, Siani hopes to set up a national manufacturing and distribution center for the products here in Minnesota. He already has a lot of traction for his sugar cane product in Europe and Australia.

"Our innovative patent

"Our innovative patent is the first ever eco-friendly and compostable, single use packaging solution," said Siani. "Ihave been researching

See RESEARCH...pg. 5





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# Saturday, April 13 · 4-7 p.m. Elks Club · 220 N 5th Ave, Virginia

Justin is undergoing treatment for an incurable brain tumor at the Mayo Clinic. There will be Team Grotberg t-shirts and bandannas available to buy and pick up your pre-ordered shirts!

Spaghetti: \$10/ T-Shirt: \$12/ Bandanna: \$7/ Silent Auction items

# See you there! Spread the word!

If you cannot make it to the event, you can donate on Justin's GoFundMe page!

https://www.gofundme.com/justin-grotberg-medical-fundraiser Or drop off a donation at any office of the Embarrass-Vermillion Credit Union: Justin Grotberg account

To make a donation for the silent auction, contact Alyssa (Jacka) Schwanke at: ajschwanke@gmail.com or text to 218-830-1033



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# OPINION

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# Editorial

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

# **State employment**

Relocating government jobs could significantly boost rural Minnesota

Gov. Tim Walz has rightly made boosting the economic prospects of rural Minnesota a key part of his One Minnesota agenda.

Major investment in rural broadband, which is high on the governor's agenda, is certainly one way to provide new economic opportunity in non-metro parts of the state. His plan to boost local government aid and education funding will also yield benefits for rural Minnesota.

But here's one more thing that should be on the governor's agenda: Spreading more of the state workforce outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The state of Minnesota is an enormous employer, with a permanent workforce that averages about 35,000 people. Right now, about 21,000 of those employees, or about 61 percent, work in the seven-county metro area. That leaves just over 13,000 jobs spread out across the rest of Minnesota, about a quarter of those with the Department of Natural Resources.

These are good jobs, that pay a very livable wage and come with a strong benefits package. In other words, they are the kinds of jobs that are desperately needed in rural Minnesota. These are the kinds of jobs that would provide a significant and stable economic boost to communities all across the state, including here in northeastern Minnesota.

Clearly, many state jobs will always remain in the Twin Cities, since many state workers directly serve metro area residents. But there are many state jobs that are located in the Twin Cities today mostly because that's just the way things were done in the past. Yet there are thousands of state workers who don't necessarily work directly with the public. There are accountants, planners, IT workers, managers and supervisors, media specialists, attorneys, and dozens of other positions that could well be accomplished anywhere in the state with a decent Internet connection.

Relocating state jobs like this would provide many advantages for the state and its workforce.

➤ Home prices are often significantly lower outside the metro, meaning state workers would likely spend less on housing.

➤ Many state workers would likely want to relocate to smaller, safer, and less-congested communities if given the opportunity.

➤ Renting or buying commercial office space to house state workers in small towns around Minnesota could well be significantly cheaper, saving state dollars.

The rural workforce is typically extremely reliable and hard-working. The Revenue Center in Ely is an excellent example.

> The creation of several dozen state jobs in a small community would have an enormous impact on the local economy, improving local tax bases, boosting traffic to local businesses and creating demand for additional housing in some cases. Rural parts of the state need these jobs. The metro area has jobs in abundance. Its economy wouldn't even notice the change.

There are many other advantages, but perhaps one of the most significant is that it would substantially benefit rural parts of Minnesota at virtually no cost. This wouldn't involve creating new state jobs, simply relocating some of the existing ones, possibly to less costly accommodations. This could actually save the state money.

How many jobs are we talking about? That's a question that would require some research to accurately answer. Gov. Walz could propose a study of the state workforce which could offer recommendations on which government jobs could most effectively be relocated outside the metro area.

If, let's say, such a study found that 20 percent of state jobs currently located in the Twin Cities metro area could be effectively relocated to non-metro parts of the state. That's 4,200 stable, good-paying jobs with attractive benefits. Target those jobs to parts of the state, like the Iron Range, that have typically struggled economically, and you have the makings of an economic policy that would have a real and long-term impact.

We appreciate Gov. Walz's stated commitment to rural Minnesota. Bringing more state jobs to rural Minnesota is a great way to walk that talk.



# Letters from Readers

# You are not alone in your concern for our country's future

Dear Marshall,

I am writing to you this early Thursday morning as I sip my coffee and watch the dawn slip into the Minneapolis sky outside my kitchen window. I woke this morning reflecting on the editorial you wrote in the March 29 Timberjay – your editorial asking "Where are honor and integrity in America?"

I want to begin with, it is in you and the people who work with you to put out, each week, an amazing newspaper filled with thoughtful, well-researched articles that truly cover the news and details of the communities intermixed with the larger picture of the state and country that we also live in and cannot ethically ignore.

I am writing to thank you for your commitment to the endeavor of journalism, to the words you ponder and hone and share each week - be it a report of a local meeting, a cameo of a neighbor, the success of a student, the present and future of our water, our wildlife and our human life as we address the intensity and far reaching ramifications of the copper-nickel mining companies.

And you keep at it each week, and you share the stories of the birds, the flowers, the deer, and you write about and show the faces of kids on the front pages of both sections as they learn, and achieve, and experi-

ence joy and challenge in it all. I am neither a Pollyanna nor a cynic, but I, too, can visit despair and I did as I read your editorial, and I was also lifted. So, I write to you today just because I want to let you know that you are not alone. There are others as I know you mentioned, others you know. But there are also the random others like myself who get up each morning and ponder what I can do today within my reach to live in and to support the American ideals I, too, was raised with, believed in and still do, and created within them a life in which I could support true ideals and encourage others to do so as well.

So, I write to thank you. My partner, David, our dog, Barnie, and I have a place outside of Babbitt where we are moving permanently this year. I hope when that happens, I will have the opportunity to meet you, to shake your hand, to thankyou in person. In the mean time I am sending you this letter.

**Ruth Katz Minneapolis** 

# We can't abandon the fight to protect Lake Superior's watershed

I read with great interest Bob Tammen's letter to the editor in the recent Timberjay. Having met Bob a time or two in my decade or so involvement with the copper sulfide mine controversy, I was glad to hear that he thinks as I do about Tom Landwehr's new position with the Friends group. Personally, knowing and having interacted with many of Tom's new boosters, whom I think highly of, I was still perplexed and mostly angry about his new position.

Simply put: If there is anybody who has carried more water for PolyMet in particular and to a lesser degree. Twin Metals, I'm not exactly sure who it might be. The USFS shirked its responsibility for many, many years as far as enforcing their own regulations, to the point that long time employees who knew better claimed to be neutral, at various infomercials where I ran across them. They were certainly unwilling or more likely afraid to state the truth as they knew it about copper sulfide mining. While their captain firmly turned their ship around there was one person who never wavered in his support of copper sulfide mining, the recent DNR commissioner Tom Landwehr. Even after Gov. Mark Dayton was finally persuaded to change his stance, Tom Landwehr was unwavering in his insistence that this was inevitable and practically ordained by the state constitution. He said as much

in an MPR interview shortly after being named to his post in the Dayton administration. Since then all the rules, requirements, guarantees and financial sureties have all been molded to fit PolyMet's ability to move forward with a financially unviable project that is doomed to failure of every kind.

While I know and respect both Becky Rom and Steve Piragis, to whom we owe a lot, I beg to differ with their endorsement of Tom Landwehr. Both Bob Tammen (who never has been proven wrong) and Paula Maccabee are dead on. Abandoning the fight to save the Lake Superior watershed to save the BWCAW is a betrayal of all we should collectively stand for. What little is left of the great North Woods of my youth (aged 67 now) should be preserved from heavy industrial development based on shortterm extraction with all the proceeds going to Chile. Oh. and one more thing, with the increasing automation sweeping the mining industry, the jobs will be nowhere what's promised, much less union.

Both of these projects need to be stopped dead in their tracks and held to the highest and most stringent standards that are applicable. Ely's future lies elsewhere.

> Mark Wendt Stillwater

Where the North Country Sounds Off!

# We welcome your letters

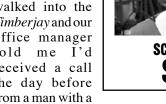
The Timberjay encourages letters to the editor. You can submit letters by mail at PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790, or email letters to marshall@timberjay.com.

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

# An old flame recently came a'calling

On press day, nobody expects to receive a phone call from an estranged lover.

L a s t Wednesday, I walked into the Timberjay and our office manager told me I'd received a call the day before from a man with a



pleasant voice who wondered if Lynn O'Hara from Ely worked

**SCARLET LYNN** 

there. She told him, "Yes she does and if you subscribed to our paper you'd

be aware from her columns that she has changed her name to Scarlet Stone, and you could read about the new chapter of her life in Soudan." She told him I would be in the office the

I wondered who was "troll-

cooking and smoking pot. I figured the other exes are either dead or "in the know" on my whereabouts and what-ups! The phone call came in just before lunch, with five other sets of ears in the room (including Loki, the dog). I was hungry and ready to commune with my leftovers from Taco Tuesday;

ing" my way and after about five

seconds made a silent guess.

It had to be "D.T." from the

Hayward Lakes area...a hip-

pie-carpenter-thing with inter-

ests in hydroponic gardening,

Loki was too, but I took the call with a wry twist on my lips and an eyebrow raised.

He identified himself. I said, "I thought it may be you calling."

I hadn't talked to D.T. for a few years and had no immediate reason to be rude. While my tacos beckoned from the other side of the mouse pad, he said, "The reason I had to call was to let you know about a couple things." (Ya, what a line I thought.) He said, "First, is that our neighbor from down the road died." (Well come on, I

thought, I barely knew the guy.) He rambled on about that for a time, we conversed, and then he added, "The next thing I had to tell you was this guy that used to live east of Winton moved down here and said he knew you. He called you BIG RED.'

He chuckled as if getting in a virgin-usage fat joke. I said, "Yup, BIG RED was a nickname from Ely." I then made the mistake of offering the tidbit that my hair wasn't RED anymore,

See OLD FLAME...pg. 5

# Letters from Readers

# Thanks so much for the recognition

When I first met Jackpine Bob Cary in 1998 I was thoroughly enthralled with his buoyant spirit, and I was wonderfully welcomed to Ely. This past Tuesday evening, I was completely surprised, humbled, and pleased to be honored by the Chamber of Commerce at the 'Smile, You're in Ely' dinner by being presented with the Jackpine Bob Cary Community Spirit Award. Bob Cary set an example that will likely never be equaled but that we can all strive for - I join excellent company with past recipients Mike Hillman, Anne Swenson, Tom Coombe, and Sarah Guy-Levar.

I've always been a "glass half full, 'Field of Dreams' if-you-build-it they-will-come" kind of guy, and I find working with organizations within our town so rewarding.

My current efforts to promote Ely include serving on several boards and com-

mittees, and fundraising for worthy causes. They all serve the purpose of improving our already-great community. As I said in accepting the award, "We may have taken a couple of hits recently with the closing of some businesses, but I believe that this next decade will be one of the most exciting in Ely's history." We will see the new addition to the hospital, the expansion of the pharmacy, a potential new recreation center, and we will be presented with an opportunity to vote for a renovation project at our schools. With the advent of high(er) speed Internet I foresee three or four new call centers sprouting up in our industrial park with 40-50 new good-paying jobs in each for folks with families to grow in Ely. That is why I always ask every family I meet in my shop "When are you moving to Ely? We need more kids in our schools!" Bob Cary asked that same question of people for years, including myself.

It doesn't appear that Tanner Ott and crews are slowing down

in restoring and renovating a variety of buildings downtown. Having owned or been part of the Ely Family Shoe Store, Timber Ridge Trading Company, cheering on my kids opening Insula Restaurant, and opening POTLUCK Kitchenware last June, I have a couple more ideas ready to go. I cannot wait to build in the old Tanner Hospital building...what a gem in the heart But none of us work in

a vacuum. None of the good things I have helped with such as being a founding member of the North American Bear Center, the Northern Lights 5K Glow Run, the Ely Winter Festival Kubb Tournament, new choir robes, a marimba for the band room, and additional funds for the Boundary Waters Choral Festival would have happened without the combined efforts of a great number of enthused volunteers. Please keep working, participating, and giving when you can. You are why we have the "best small town in America". We are so blessed to live in this community. So again, I appreciate the recognition and the award, and I accept it on behalf of all who volunteer their time and effort in promoting Ely. Don't forget to "SMILE, you're

David Wigdahl

# Thanks to all who shared their stories

The True Stories from the Edge season finale on March 21 turned out over 50 people, more great stories, delicious cookies, and coffee from Crapola. Thanks to everyone who attended this The theme for March was

"It's Mine: Tales of Ownership". People have really interesting stuff! One person managed to legally acquire a real wolf skull, but it had to be cleaned by cadaver beetles in a lab before he could give it as a gift to his wife. Another person bought a brand-new motor-home so she wouldn't have to worry about repairing a used model. Turns out

the new one was a real "lemon" with loose nuts and bolts. The bathroom plumbing and contents fell off in a parking lot! It's now for sale (in Phoenix).

Can you own a valley in northern Utah? When you live there in your car for six months, it does feel like home. One storyteller brought his treasured tuba to show us, and another told us fond memories of his first car. Another person talked about special fishing rods that were nearly lost on a portage but were later snapped in half in a slamming screen door. Several people talked about the most important thing we all own: our life experiences, how they change us, and how we can pass our lessons on to future generations.

We send out a heartfelt thank you to every courageous and entertaining person who got up in front of new friends and old, to tell us a story. We hope to be back next winter for more "True Stories from the Edge"!

> Julie Nester and **Terry Cooper**

# **OLD FLAME**...Continued from page 4

so of course he wanted to know what color my hair was. "Oh this is turning SO stupid and I feel like a sixteen year old," I thought! It started feeling like a

phone-sex foreplay session in the newsroom! It was creeping me out, so I asked him how his wife was. He said they were getting a divorce and commented it was the fourth time of filing.Hmmmm,Ithought.

He'd heard from mutual local friends in Wisconsin about Bill and told me what a nice man I'd married. I agreed and then put my "stiletto" down... 'Well I gotta go...we're on DEADLINE."

All of us at the paper LOVE to say that on press day when we don't feel like talking to someone! They immediately get a vision of us chewing our fingernails with an alarm clock nearby...rattling down the minutes, and they easily

I'm not one to hold on to anger and resentment unless I think about something and stir up the ashes.. which is what happened

when that phone call came in. He now has become the launchpad for my column.

I'd met D.T. through an ad in the Duluth News Tribune Dateline section back in 2000 when I was living in near-poverty in Chisholm. He and I started this long distance relationship and after a year we moved me outta Chisholm with a U-Haul.

I enjoyed my experiences in the Hayward area for the next couple of years. I got a job as Director of Underwriting for WOJB radio, the nationally-known public radio station located on the Lac Courte Oreilles (prounounced La Coota Ray) Reservation.

I made friends, my son was in a nice daycare, and D.T. and I were officially engaged. Relationships go this way or that and you cannot always predict an outcome. Things soured, and Keaton and I moved into town and rented a furnished place. It was a time of flux. D.T. decided to join a friend in Alaska to work a construction job trip north.

At that point I returned to his place out near Moose Lake to get out of paying rent and to caretake his place and the dog. Her name was Ohbe, as in "Oh be quiet"...and I loved her. In late June, my

younger brother from Marine-on-St.-Croix died from a pancreatic infection after years of taking HIV medications. I was devastated, and decided to move back to Ely to be near my mother, who had a summer home on Burntside Lake.

D.T. was still in Alaska and didn't want me to leave and made my life hell with threatening phone calls. Compassion fell very short. He said he'd have friends put chains across his driveway to keep me from taking my stuff out.

In my emotional state I felt like a caged wild animal. I feared he'd fly back from Alaska. I rushed to move all my stuff into a friend's garage as a temporary holding spot and injured my rotator cuff in doing so. Meanwhile my a long time at his lack of that summer and made the family and I were dealing compassion for me and the

with my brother's death and emptying out his big two-story house in Marine during the long hot summer. D.T. continued to make my life incredibly stressful until I was able to finally move north to Ely in August.

I landed on my feet, as I always seem to do, and got a job at the International Wolf Center as Assistant Retail Director. I lived at the lake with mom for the fall until I found a house to rent. It was a comfort to be back in northeastern Minnesota, where my roots were, with my mom and son.

Over the course of that fall, D.T. returned from Alaska and tried to convince me to move back to Wisconsin. At one point he drove to Ely in a rage to get back the \$700 ring we had special-made by a jeweler in Hayward.

I liked the piece of jewelry from an artsy perspective, but not what it represented and gave it back....actually THREW it back! I was angry for fear he added to my life. I'd hear from him occasionally, generally when he was separated from his now...wife.

My intention was to go forward, not backward... but it's easier to say than to do when our emotions take over. Fear of the unknown can keep us from making needed changes. There's fear of not having money, not getting help with child care, taking children from a parent or loved one if you go, fear of religious damnation, and there is mind control and fear of bodily harm. You lose both yourself and a more positive path.

In my life, there have been a few strong women, "survivors" who said things that were simple and profound. Over the years I steep myself with the truths their words carried. "When your cup finally runneth over...you'll know it." "Your relationship with your child is separate from its other parent or guardian." "Don't borrow trouble fretting about things that may or may not happen." "Live for the

day." and "Follow your gut instincts." All so true. We creatures need safety net words like these that keep us from going over

I'm very interested in moving FORWARD. At age sixty I don't want to relearn the same lessons in life. At the same time, I recognize behaviors in myself that need addressing so that I am not causing anyone else grief (topics for other columns). If D.T. should ever call

me again I will tell him I've gone forward..not simply that I've moved on because forward is a strong direction, and I will ask him to please not call again.

Other forward updates include success with new projects, my walking program and a happy, quite-independent son! Until next time, don't set the shovels down because Mother Nature has brought us a walluping spring snowstorm to contend with.

# **RESEARCH...**Continued from page 3

this product since 2003 with the goal to make a material that is 100 percent compostable and can withstand temperatures from the oven to the freezer."

Singsaas admits that reformulating the sugar cane product to recycled paper pulp is challenging, but societal demand is generating research funding to

move this along.

A trial formulation was pressed into trays that are being sent to the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. There, a Compostability Certification Lab will test the product against a variety of technical

standards. The goal is to develop the trays with the maximum possible percent of recycled content.

"I've been trying to work in this area for a long time, but now people are making plastics into a high-profile issue," said Singsaas. "I feel like the world is finally catching up to what I've been wanting

# **COUNCIL...**Continued from page 3

in late January. But the Timberjay has confirmed that Kringstad conducted the bulk of his examination as a private citizen, before he was sworn into office, and had no need for council authorization.

Kringstad's investigation primarily entailed the review of public records, including city minutes and an official roster of commission and committee terms, which revealed systematic alterations. Upon taking office, Kringstad consulted with City Attorney Andy Peterson on how to properly present his concerns to the council and contends that he followed the attorney's guidance precisely, presenting the concerns as part of a "per-

formance review." But Keith's union representative challenged that portrayal and claimed the closed session was really to consider allegations, ostensibly providing part of the justification for the grievance.

Kringstad had told the grievance committee that he was acting on the advice of the city attorney but said that Altenburg and Anderson chose to ignore that information in their decision on the grievance. He also noted that Altenburg had filed his own complaint against the him, suggesting he was not impartial in the matter.

Some in the audience also raised such concerns.

'You are a city employee," said Richard Hanson, a former city council member, "You don't consider it a conflict of interest?" Steve Wilson noted that Keith is Altenburg's "boss".

The grievance committee had voted 2-1 on March 14, with Abrahamson voting against, to uphold the grievance in full, but had deferred writing a remedy until they could obtain legal advice from the city

attorney or an outside

counsel. After hearing that

the city attorney was refusing to advise on the matter, Altenburg and Anderson opted to proceed without legal counsel.

Abrahamson said he was disturbed that he wasn't aware of the second committee meeting.

"I wanted to have an attorney there to answer questions," he said. Abrahamson had raised concerns about whether or not the committee could actually require the council to halt an investigation into employee misconduct allegations.

"There is so much personality conflict in this," Abrahamson said. "It is hard to see this remedy as a fair one...I want to feel in the end it is fair to both parties.'

Kringstad said he categorically rejects the proposed remedy, which the union has already accepted."The findings are

incorrect," said Kringstad. Beldo expressed concerns with the process the grievance committee followed and the members involved on the committee and questioned whether it could be binding on the council. Keith noted that the city, in past cases, had let the grievance committee remedy be binding.

Altenburg said the decision of the committee was based city policy. "It is not personal because it could not be," he said.

But at several points during the March 14 meeting, Abrahamson had questioned Altenburg's interpretation of the law

and the facts of the case. Kringstad again noted that his actions were based on advice given by the city attorney, but Peterson, who attended Monday's meeting, remained silent on the issue.

Details of what occurred during the closed meeting have not yet been made public, but Keith's union representative, Erik

Skoog, claimed in a sub-

sequent public session

that *Timberjay* reporting (which was independently conducted) on the clerk mirrored the information presented by Kringstad in the closed meeting. Timberjay reporting documented numerous instances where city records had been changed without council approval, in order to maintain Keith allies in key positions.

The issue of whether or not the grievance committee can bind the council to a decision such as this is still uncertain. Keith said her union attorney, along with advice from the League of Minnesota Cities, affirms this interpretation, but a query from the Timberjay to the League yielded a less conclusive response. League general counsel Patricia Beety, wrote:

"On Monday, March 26, Tower City Clerk Linda Keith sent us a copy of the current labor agreement between the city and MN Teamsters Public and Law Enforcement Employees'

Union, Local No. 320. The question Ms. Keith posed was limited to how the contract applies when a grievance is resolved at the Grievance Committee level...no opinion or information was provided with respect to any question outside of this narrow inquiry into the plain language of the applicable labor contract." Beety went on to

recommend that anything beyond that question would best be addressed by the city attorney. Peterson, however,

has refused to provide the city with legal advice on the question, citing relationships with the various parties involved. A motion by

Abrahamson, seconded by Beldo, to contact an outside attorney for advice on this issue passed 2-1 with Anderson voting against and Kringstad abstaining. The council then voted the same way to have Beldo contact an outside attorney.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

# "Your Story As Art"

# class held at NWFA, **April 20**

COOK- The next class by local artist Kris Musto, "Your Story As Art," will be Saturday, April 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 plus membership.

Participants can register through nwfamn.org, by calling Alberta Whitenack at 218-666-2153, or Shawna Kishel at 218-780-6510. The gallery is located at 210 S River St. in Cook and has over 40 artists exhibiting continuously.

### **Exhibit your art work** in Cook, June 5 to 28

COOK- Grab this opportunity to exhibit your artwork or host an art exhibit at a business in Cook or at the NWFA Gallery during the 9th Annual Spring Art Expo, June 5 - 28. Registration deadline is Friday, April 12.

To register, go to www. nwfamn.org or pick up a registration form at the NWFA Gallery, 210 S River Street in Cook. NWFA is a non-profit membership organization created nine years ago by volunteers and completely managed by volunteers.

#### **Northern Red Hat Belles to meet on** Thursday. April 25

TOWER- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet on Thursday, April 25 at 12 noon at Benchwarmer's in Tower. The group will order off the menu. Please RSVP by Monday, April 22 to Delores at 218-753-5051.

#### **Movie night at St. James, April 14**

TOWER- Stop in at St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower for a movie night on Sunday, April 14 at 6 p.m. "God Bless the Broken Road" tells the inspirational story of a young mother who loses her husband in Afghanistan and struggles to raise their young daughter in his absence. The film focuses on the importance of faith, friends, and family, while paying tribute to those who serve in the United States military. [PG]

#### **Learn about "Hats** from eras gone by" at the TS Civic Club meeting on April 17

TOWER- Members the Tower Soudan Civic Club will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, April 17 at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center in Tower. The speaker for this month will be Patty Norrgard of Cook. Her presentation for the evening is on antique hats. You will see many different hats from "eras gone by." Patty has been collecting a variety of antiques for years and will share her passion and a little history for this particular collection. Everyone in the community and surrounding area is welcome to this meeting. Coffee an' to follow the speaker.

#### **Estate planning class** set for May 22

TOWER- Local attorney, Kelly Klun, from the Klun Law Office will lead you through key factors to drafting and personalizing wills and trusts. preparing probate documents, creating documents for long term health care, drafting durable power of attorney, and preparing health care directives. Class will be held on Wednesday, May 22 in the Tower-Soudan Elementary School library at 4 p.m. You must pre-register so we can plan accordingly for class space and materials. Please text or call Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If no answer, please leave a message, with how to spell your name, the class you are interested in, and its date.

#### **Scholarships available** from Virgie Hegg

REGIONAL- Each year Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners (VHHP) gives out two high school scholarships and one college scholarship each in the amount of \$1,000. Applicants must be pursuing a career in a medical field such as nursing, physician assistant, dental, or EMT. High school students from the Cook, Nett Lake, Orr, Tower, and Soudan school attendance areas may apply. Any student with an address that falls in one of the listed areas

Applications are due to VHHP postmarked by Mon-

Grade 11

Carolyn Desilets

Jolie Langevin

Shelby Nelson

Lara Poderzay

Dillon Gorsma

Oskar Koivisto

Willa Koivisto

Phoebe Morgan

James Zupancich

Audrey Anderson

Alexia Lightfeather

Jason Skube

Grade 10

Grade 9



# **Chimpy's Family Fun Night** on Tuesday, **April 16 at TS Elementary**

TOWER- Chimpy's Family Fun Night will take place on Tuesday, April 16. Kids and their adults can have fun with rolling globes, tightrope walking, spinning plates, a bounce house, and more at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School Gym and Flex Room from 3 -4:15 p.m. Food will be provided. Parents are encouraged to attend. Activities are available for pre-school and above. All participants need to fill out a registration form before participation.

day, April 15. Applications can be obtained from the North Woods High School counselor's office, by contacting program director Becca Bundy at 218-780-5423, or by emailing vhhpdirector@gmail.com.

High school and college recipients will be notified by mail in May. The college scholarship is mailed to recipients in mid-June and high school recipients will receive their scholarship after successfully completing one semester of college and mailing a transcript to VHHP.

#### Free smoke detectors for **Vermilion Lake Township residents**

**VERMILION** TWP- The Vermilion Lake Fire Department has smoke detectors that department members will install in township residents' homes or cabins, free of charge. If interested, please call Sarah Schmidt at 218-750-2524 or Jake Schmidt at 218-750-1024 to set up an appoint-

All township residents are reminded to check their smoke detectors on a regular basis, and replace batteries as need-

### **Passing the Family Cabin on to the Next Generation class set** for April 24

TOWER-If your goal is to pass on the family cabin to the next generation, planning ahead is crucial. Together, a local attorney, Kelly Klun, from the Klun Law Office, and you can determine how the cabin will best fit into the family's future. A cabin trust is just one estate planning tool that can be utilized to help maintain and pass on the family hideaway. Learn about the specific trust provisions that could provide future instruction to your family on important issues such as taxes, maintenance, insurance, ownership and a potential sale. Learn about the preparation of an estate plan and how it should be thought of as a priceless preventative tool. Learn the process of taking the next step of developing an estate plan that protects both your family and your private hideaway. This free class will be held on Wednesday, April 24 in the Tower-Soudan Elementary School library at 4 p.m. You must pre-register so we can plan accordingly for class space and materials. Please call or text Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If no answer, please leave a message, with how to spell your name, the

class you are interested in, and the date of the class.

### **Defensive driving four**hour classes set for **May 1, June 13**

SOUDAN- The Defensive Driving 4-Hour Refresher will be held on Wednesday, May 1, or Thursday, June 13 at the Soudan Fire Hall from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The four-hour refresher course is offered for drivers 55 years of age and older who have previously completed an eight-hour beginner's course and who need to re-certify to continue receiving a discount on their car insurance. Dana Waldron is the instructor for the class offered under AARP. Class fee is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Payment is payable to the instructor on the day of class. You must pre-register so we can plan accordingly for class space and materials. Please text or call Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If no answer, please leave a message with your name and spelling, phone number and the class you are interested in.

# **Northeast Range Third Quarter Honor Roll**

Erin Backe

Reichensperger

Mariah DeJoode

Aubree Gerlovich

Heidi Houghton

Ruth Morgan

**Brett Porisch** 

Carl Sundblad

Jennie Nelson

Hannah

Grade 8

Grade 7

**B Honor Roll** 

Grade 12

### A Honor Roll

Grade 12 Chloe Aase Jacob Biork Taina Koivisto Kellsie Konstenius Chelsea Larson Maija Maki Justice Porisch Mersadies Stordahl

# Cook **VFW** Open Daily at Noon **CLOSED on TUESDAYS**

**Happy Hour** Daily 4-6 p.m. All Beer & Drinks

Bar Menu & Pizza Available

**Event Rentals** Welcome

218-780-6709 **Pull-Tabs Sold Daily** Lic. 00390

Sunday FREE Pool

Thursday Bingo

Hamburger Special

Take-Out 666-0500

Early Bird 6 p.m. Progressive Prizes

Friday 4:30-7 p.m.

STOP N' SHOP

APRIL 13 • 10 AM-3 PM North Woods School Commons

Olson Road, Hwy 53 (about 6 miles north of Cook)





Support the Class of 2022



Grade 11 Makaya Bodas Robert Daugherty Kayla Johnson

Casey Zahnow

Grade 10 Anne Barich Christopher Ferguson Niisa Honkola Ariel Kalinowski Kaleb Kappes-Bliss Sadie Theel Bianca Urman Jacob Vernlund

Ethan Zaitz Grade 9 Rylee Dusich Landyn Houghton Joscelyn LaSart Thia Lossing Markus Maki Natalie Nelmark

Rylan Poppenhagen

Trinity Warlof

Grade 8 Conner Berhow Olivia Bjork Zoey Cameron

Kaya Sawyer

Calvin Winger

Rachael Kratz Tori Sawyer Alice Wolter

Jonathan Zaitz

Grade 7 Natalie Backe Abby Koivisto Allie Larson Hailey Lindquist Mikko Maki Ruby Milton

Wesley Sandy

THANK YOU 阿 阿 阿 阿 阿 过过过过过

The family of Rick Tomsich extends it heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported us during the loss of our youngest brother, Rick.

We appreciated the numerous cards, flowers, and gifts of remembrance, and those who attended his memorial service. Your many acts of kindness and sympathy continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of sorrow.

Thank you to Fr. Nick, the ladies and men of St. Martin's who served the luncheon, and to Mary Beth Reller for the beautiful music.

**Subscribe Today • 218-753-2950** 

# Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 20 at the Civic Center in Tower



# Don't be late, the egg hunt begins at 11 a.m. sharp!

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is once again sponsoring the Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20 at 11 a.m. at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower. Participants should plan to be there by 10:45

a.m. to get ready. The egg hunt will start right at 11 a.m. and it only takes the eager children a few minutes to collect the hundreds and hundreds of eggs that will be placed outdoors. Each egg has a little prize or a ticket to collect a

larger prize from the prize table. All kids age infant to sixth grade are welcome to play. There will be prizes, special raffles, and lunch

#### EASTER WEEK SERVICES

#### St. Martin's Lenten Schedule

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church is happy to announce their schedule of Lenten activities.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed Friday evenings during Lent at 5:30 p.m. A fish dinner will be served after the stations.

The Women's Bible Study continues through Lent, meeting on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

In addition to the Women's Bible Study, Father Nick will be leading a Bible Study on Friday mornings at 8:45 a.m. This Bible Study is open to everyone.

# Holy week schedule for St. Martin's, St. Mary's, and Holy Cross Catholic

TOWER- Monday, April 15 Chrism Mass at Cathedral of Our Lady in Duluth at 5:30 p.m. If you are planning to attend please let Father Nick or your parish office

Holy Thursday, April 18 at St. Mary's in Cook at 6 p.m.

Good Friday, April 19 at Holy

Cross in Orr at 3 p.m. and St. Martin's in Tower at 6:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 20 at St. Mary's in Cook at 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 21 at Holy Cross in Orr at 8 a.m. and St. Martin's in Tower at 11 a.m.

## **Easter services at** St. Paul's in Soudan

SOUDAN- Palm Sunday Service will be held on April 14 at 8:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan.

Good Friday Service is a joint service at St. James Presbyterian in Tower at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday Service is at 8:30 a.m. at St. Paul's.

All are welcome to attend.

#### St. James Presbyterian **Church of Tower Holy Week Schedule**

TOWER- Palm Sunday, April 14- Worship at 10 a.m., "Gateway to Change" based on Matthew 21:1-19. The choir will sing "Entry into Jerusalem" and Kathy Siskar will sing "The Psalms" accompanied by Ellie Larmouth.

Maundy Thursday, April 18 - Communion and pot-luck at 6 p.m., "The Last Passover."

Good Friday, April 19 - Ecumenical service at 7 p.m., "The Centurion at the Feet of Jesus,"

based on Mark 15:33-39. St. James Choir will sing "Into Your Hand" and Kathy Siskar will sing "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" accompanied by Ellie

Easter Sunday, April 21 - Worship at 10 a.m., "Victory in Jesus," based on 1 Corinthians 15:33-57. The choir will sing "Easter Declaration" and "Arise, Arise." Kathy Siskar will sing "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" accompanied by Ellie Larmouth and Special Music by Sonia Connell and Jay Carlsgaard. The service will be followed by Easter Brunch; everyone is invited to join.

#### **Immanuel Lutheran Holy Week schedule**

TOWER- Immanuel Lutheran will have their Maundy Thursday worship with Holy Communion on Thursday, April 18 at Immanuel at 6:30 p.m. This year the Ecumenical Service hosted by the Tower-Soudan Ministerial will be a Good Friday worship instead of an evening Palm Sunday worship. Good Friday will be hosted by St. James Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m. Easter morning worship will be at 10 a.m. as usual at Immanuel.

# Letters from Readers

# The Need for

It is said that the one Christian Dogma that can be truly verified simply by human experience is that of Original Sin. We all know that there is a fundamental brokenness to human existence. There is evil, suffering, and the tendency to sin. And we have an innate instinct that it shouldn't be that way. The Christian claim is that the only remedy for that brokenness is the radical self-sacrifice of the Godman Jesus of Nazareth. That the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ fixes and heals that fundamental brokenness. It's a mending that has already taken place and is taking place, but that will only be fully realized at the end of time.

God then invites us to be a part of the 'New

Heavens and a New Earth', but this is a free invitation. We don't have to accept the invitation; he won't force us to. The acceptance of the invitation demands a total commitment on our part as Jesus has made a total commitment to us. It demands repenting from our sins and living a life immersed in the sacraments, which Jesus gives us as the instruments for bestowing his graces and blessings upon us. It de-

mands choosing to live the good life he offers us— in order to prepare ourselves for the coming judgment.

Don't just through life. Take your life and existence seriously. Consider the Christian claim, whether it is true or not. Because if it is, it demands your full assent!

> **Father Nick Nelson** St. Martin's Catholic Church, **Tower**

# Bookmobile Schedule

### Wednesday, April 17; May 8, 28; June 19

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

Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club 11:00-11:30 a.m. Greenwood Town Hall Soudan Fire Hall Tower Civic Center Embarrass, Four Corners

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

Soudan Canister Expanded hours year-round 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

For info: 1-800-450-9278

**Fransfer** station

### **Hwy. 77 Canister**

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

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

#### **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 walkins 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-

#### Week of April 15

Monday-Country Sausage Gravy in a Bread Bowl

Tuesday- Tater Tot Hot Dish, Dinner Roll Wednesday-

gne, Dinner Roll Thursday- Hand-Pattied Hamburger on a Whole Grain Bun

Friday- No School

# **Neek of April 15**

# Monday

TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower,

April 12, 2019 7

**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 April 16.

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

#### Wednesday

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

#### Thursday

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

Vermilion Country School Board- Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org.



**Read the news** from all three **Timberjay editions** each week

timberjay.com

# the TIMBERJAY

The Tower-Soudan Timberjay and Cook-Orr Timberjay are published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-

365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website at www.timberjay.com.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

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# ∟ıbrarıes

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

Babbitt library

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

#### Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous AA - 7 p.m. Mondays, First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St., Ely

WOMEN'S AA - Noon Mondays, St. Anthony Church basement, Ely BABBITT AA - 7 p.m.

Tuesdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church. AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's

Catholic Church in Ely. For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend.

### BABBITT AL-ANON

- Thursdays, 7 p.m. at Woodland Presbyterian Church.

CO-DEPENDENTS' 12-step support group, noon Fridays, St.

Anthony's Catholic Church, Ely. ELY FOOD SHELF -

Third Wednesday each month, 15 W. Conan St.

ADULT BASIC **EDUCATION GED** - Study materials

and pre-test available. Tower by appointment. Call 365-3359, 827-3232, or 1-800-662-5711.

# **Tuesday Group**

ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at the Grand Ely Lodge.

April 16 - Martin Kubik - Update on the PowWow Trail

April 23 Byongchan Yoon -Visions and Plans For the Ely Korean Center

# Ely Free Clinic

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 information, call 218-365-5678, or visit their website, www.elycommunityhealth.org.

#### **Play Smear at Senior Center**

ELY - Smear tournaments are held the first and third Mondays at the Ely Senior Center, 27 S. 1st Ave E, starting at 6 p.m.

There is a \$5 entry fee, plus 25 cents per set.

# Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



still waiting for sun unpredictability

underground cooking

# ELY - The annual

Ely Editor

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Community Resource art auction fundraising event will be held Friday, April 12 at Amici's Event Center. Doors open at 5

An almost-complete list of auction items is listed below:

-Artful experiences -Massages by Pebble Spa, First Avenue Massage, Dave Hunsche, The Evergreen Cottage, and Jessie Brooks, Fishing Trip with Mike Heiman, Slovenian dinner by the Slovenian Union, Scandinavian Smorrebrod by BJ and Tom Kobierski, Dinner for 4 by Deb Campbell and Deb Zupancich, Party entrée for 4 by Carol Orban, Tickets to the Minnesota Orchestra, Twins Baseball, Science Museum, Stages Theatre, Wilderness Golf;

-Handmade furniture - bench/coffee table from Jeff Kemmer, inlaid table and doll beds by Ted Goldbuff, coffee table from Connie Stocks, and refurbished vintage table by Roberta Childers, stained glass window by Rosemary Shepherd and John Bowe;

-Paintings and prints by Sarah Guy Levar, Dafne Caruso, Nancy Scheibe, Val Beale, Ann Schuler Santo, Shaun Chosa, Linda Lenich, Andy Messerschmidt, Polly Carlson Voiles, Ruth Pengal, Wendy Rouse, Jackpine Bob Cary;

ELY COMMUNITY RESOURCE

**ECR Annual Art Auction** 

A Celebration of Artful Living in Ely

Some of the items featured at the Ely Community Resource Art Auction this year include a white spruce bench/coffee table by Jeff Kemmer, birch bark basket by Sarah Mahlick Wahls, hewn log birdhouse by Donald Hoover, watercolor owls by Val Beale, unique wood box by Arnie Markl, watercolor of a young deer by Linda Lenich, black ash doll bed by Ted Golbuff with cushion and pillow made by Wende Nelson, covered pottery jar by Wade Jeske-Pharr, woven blanket by Nina VanGelder, and waterproof cross-body bag by Tara Boerst. photo by K. Vandervort

-Photography by Chris Kidd, Brett Ross, Steve Voiles, Jim Brandenburg;

-Baskets by Sarah Mahlick Wahls and Andrea Bailey;

-Fiber Art - Raanu weaving by Muff Schumacher, quilt from the 2019 Washington School first-grade class with help from Kelly Chick, Laurel Poppler, and Shirley Britton; quilting by Dorothy Sand, Debbie Erzar, Autumn Cole, Nancy Andreae, and Grace Lutheran Quilters, bags from Tara Boerst, gypsy bandanas from Beth Ohlhauser, unique knitting from Jackie Carlson, crocheting by Deb Edwards, sewing by Marisa Haraldson and Wende Nelson, wool mittens knitted by Nancy Piragis, amazing woven items from Nina VanGelder, unique clothing by Nancy Keranen, busy bag by Emma Bissonett Peterson, a Northwind wool jacket by Wintergreen Designs, any mukluks you choose at Steger Mukluks;

-Pottery by Chris Koivisto, Wade Jeske Pharr, Linda Trapkus, Sandy Brandley;

-Interesting items birdhouses by Scott Swanson and Donald Hoover, hand-felted wool Hudson Bay blanket conversation piece by Mary Jo and Jeff Karasti, unique repurposed windows by Courtney Field, handmade soaps by Deb Erdmann and Meg Devine;

- Ely Eateries donated gift certificates for the Tour of Ely raffle.

Bennett, \*Ana Bercher,

Nils DeRemee, Andrew

Eilrich, \*Dylan Fenske,

\*Apolonia Homer,

Sarah Isbell, Savannah

Kaercher, Joshua Larson,

\*Finn Liesching, \*Henry

Johnson, \*McCartney

Matthys, Eric Mattila,

\*Erika Mattson, \*Jenna

Merhar, Kjetil Midttun,

\*Nathan Nettifee,

\*Luke Olson, \*Raif

Olson, Eric Omerza,

Joshua Pohlman, Seann

Prigge, Abigail Rabe,

Winter Sainio, \*James

Schwinghamer, Selina

\*Brooke Pasmick,

Dunn, \*Kalyssa

# the TIMBERJAY

The Ely Timberjay is published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website: www.timberjay.com.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

Publisher General Manager Ely Editor Cook/Orr Editor Staff Writer Office Manager Graphics Ad Sales

Marshall Helmberger Jodi Summit Keith Vandervort Marcus White Stephanie Ukkola M. M. White Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney

## Official Newspaper:

City of Ely, City of Orr, Townships of Bearville, Breitung, Crane Lake, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, Lake Vermilion Resort Association, Lake Vermilion Area Chamber of Commerce, Ely Chamber of Commerce, Laurentian Chamber of Commerce.

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# NORTH AMERICAN BEAR CENTER



# **Happy Birthday**, **Dr. Lynn Rogers**

North American Bear Center founder Dr. Lynn Rogers turned 80 years old on Tuesday, Apri 9. Out of his 80 years of life, Dr. Rogers has dedicated 50-plus of them to studying black bears. He's used his research to bring the truth about bears to the world, and plans on continuing to do so for many years to come. Happy Birthday, Lynn! submitted photo

# Elv Memorial School

Ouarter 3 Honor Roll 2018-2019

\* Denotes 3.5 GPA or above

**Grade 6:** Evelyn Cavalier, \*Caid Chittum, Max Cochran, \*Isabella Davis, \*Carena Debeltz, \*Anna Dunn, Dylan Durkin, \*Margaret Fetterer, Annabelle Henry, Rena Johnston, \*Senja Kess, \*Rylee Larsen, Anna Larson, Morgan Lassi, \*Maija Mattson, \*Wyatt Mattson, Alex Merriman, \*Janae Murphy, Carmen Nelson, Eli Olson, \*Lillian Rechichi, \*Lauren Rehbein, \*Garrett Rohr, \*Ava Sundell, \*Clare Thomas. Grade 7: \*Chase

Anderson \*Esther Anderson, Colton Bramley, \*Lily Dirks, \*Kiarstin Eaton, Samuel Favet, \*Bryce Ferdig, \*Thomas Homer, \*Abigail Johnson, \*Samantha Kvistad, \*Grace LaTourell, Brielle Lindland, \*Gavin Marshall, Braydin

Mosher, \*Ailie Petrzilka,

\*Samuel Prijatel, \*Deegan Richards. \*Isabelle Schiltz, Rose Mary Schlosser, \*Ava Skustad, Leo Stalmer, \*Robert Towley, \*Sara Visser.

Grade 8: William Bach, \*Joseph Bianco, Charlize Carlson, Bennett Cavalier, \*Jacob Cochran, Ashton Cook, \*Katherine Coughlin, \*Rachel Coughlin, \*Margaret Dammann, \*Zoe Devine, \*Sydney Durkin, \*Courtney
Eilrich, \*Natasha
Fulkrod, \*Taylor Gibney,
\*Gunnar Hart, Jackson Hegman, \*Phoebe Helms, \*Madeline Kallberg, Logan Loe, Gabriel Mann, \*Morgan McClelland, \*Sean Ogburn, \*Cedar Ohlhauser, \*Elizabeth Omerza, \*Madeline Perry, \*Madison Rohr, \*Juliet Stouffer, \*Grace Sundell, Lillian Tedrick,

\*Audrey Thomas, \*Kelly Thompson. Grade 9: \*Bryce

Fairchild, \*Charly

Flom, Joseph Foster,

Janeksela, \*Micah Larson, \*Sidney Marshall, \*Annikka Mattson, Willow Ohlhauser, \*Cora Olson, \*Lauren Olson, \*Gabriel Pointer, \*Gracie Pointer, \*Abigail Rehbein, \*Zachary Robbins, Chase Sandberg, \*Katrina Seliskar, \*Harry Simons, \*Kellen

Thomas, Jacob Towley,

Karissa Vanvickle,

\*Ande Visser.

\*Jon Hakala, \*Drayke

Hanninen, Matthew

Grade 10: \*Riley Bishop, \*McKenna Coughlin, Harrison Dammann, \*William Davies, \*Grace Erickson, \*Jasper Johnston, \*Cameron Kienitz, \*Brock LaTourell, \*Sophie Montana, \*Katie Pinckney, \*Amelia Pluth, Margaret Renner, \*Sydni Richards, Madelyne Roderick, \*Jonah Schwamm, \*Julia

Schwinghamer, \*Abigail

Vollom, Elsie Vollom,

Grade 11: Elissia

Thompson, Brynn

Davis Walsh.

Grade 12: Jessica Anderson, \*Charles Dammann, \*Lida Dodge, \*Maarja Faltesek, Morgan Folz, Zachary Hiller, \*Madelene Johnson, Jeremiah Kaercher, \*Adam Knuutti, Nicholas Mattila, \*Trevor Mattson, \*Tim Moskalyk, Alex Motes, \*Gabriella Omerza, \*Shane Spangler, \*Lucy

Stouffer

#### ELY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER



# Ely health clinic benefits from 'Women Who Care'

# Fundraising group has raised close to \$40,000 for area non-profits

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

ELY - In one hour on a recent Sunday afternoon the 100+ Women Who Care organization raised close to \$7,000 for the Ely Community Health Center.

According to organizer Chris Chandler, by joining together and donating a significant sum at one time, the fundraising group makes it possible for the selected charity to be able to provide services

and programs they may otherwise be unable to An awards ceremony

was held last Friday to present the funds to the Elv Community Health Clinic. Director Sara Jue said the health clinic provides basic, non-emergency care to anyone who needs it. The clinic is located in the AFU building and volunteer medical professionals are available every Monday from 5:30-7 p.m.

"We won't turn anyone away," Jue said. The need for their services continues to expand. They used to provide care once a month but expanded to once a week. "We could easily fill another day each week," she said.

The Community Health Clinic will be hosting a dental care event, Jue said, on Thursday, April 25, beginning at 5 p.m. "We continue to look for ways to expand our services," she said. "We are considering hosting a weight-management clinic and more events for different topics."

In the last two years, 100+ElyWomenWhoCare has raised over \$37,000 for five Ely-area charities, including Northern Lakes Arts Association, Ely Community Resource, Northwoods Partners, Northern Lights Clubhouse, and Ely Community Health Center.

The group gathers twice a year to nominate, discuss and vote on which non-profit group to benefit At their last event, in October 2018, 100+ Ely

Representatives from the Ely Community Health Center were presented almost \$7,000 in collected funds last week from the 100+ Women Who Care organization. photo by K. Vandervort

women joined together and voted to contribute more than \$7,800 to Northern Lights Clubhouse.

Chandler said last Friday that \$6,780 has been raised so far for the community health clinic, but she continues to receive donations from individuals and/or teams who could not attend the

nominating event.

Donations can be made directly to the Ely Community Health Center and mailed to 100+ Ely Women Who Care, PO Box 216, Ely, MN 55731.

For more information, go to 100ElyWomenWhoCare. org.

### SUPPORTING THE ARTS



Suzanne O'Davis recreated the sound and vibe of a 1970's Carole King concert experience recently at Washington School Auditorium in Ely . She played the entire Tapestry album, plus many other significant songs penned by Carole King. Peter Mueller, guitar and vocals, and Cody Alan, sax, flute and vocals, joined her on stage in Ely on the last night of the Canadian trio's winter tour in the United States. "I really like to have fun and talk with the audience about the history of the songs," O'Davis said. photos by K. Vandervort





Instructor Paula McKenzie's class will focus on Walk for water on April 22

ELY - The Ely Key Club is hosting its third annual "Walk for Water" event on Monday, April 22, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Trezona Trail.

to provide safe, clean drinking water to those who do not have that luxury. Did you know that waterborne diseases kill more children every single year than AIDS, malaria, and all world violence combined? Or that women and children spend an average of six to eight hours a day to fetch water over an average distance of 3.75 miles? When we provide a community with safe, clean drinking water, disease rates drop up to 88 percent virtually overnight.

Their goal is to create a community awareness of the global water crisis. The Thirst Project raises money

# News In Brief

# Ely Food Shelf will be open April 17

ELY - The Ely Area Food Shelf, located at 15 West Conan St, will be open on Wednesday, April 17, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Shopping assistance is available from 4-6 p.m.

Donate online at their website, elyareafoodshelf.org, or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 786, Ely

For more information, call 218-235-8527.

### Minnesota Poets meet in Ely

ELY - The League of Minnesota Poets (LOMP) will hold their 2019 Spring Conference on April 26-28 at the Grand Ely Lodge. This event is hosted by Story Portage, the Ely Chapter of the League.

The keynote speaker for the conference is poet, writer, teacher, and former Duluth Poet Laureate Sheila Packa. In addition, Packa will be conducting a workshop after her address. Pre-conference begins at 1 p.m. on Friday, April 26, and includes a poetry reading and book signing at Northern Grounds at 7 p.m.

The registration fee is \$60 for LOMP members, \$65 for non-members, and there's a \$10 discount for registration by April 16. Full information is available at the LOMP website at https://www. mnpoets.org/.

# Have coffee with a cop

ELY – Join members of the Ely Police Department at the Front Porch Coffee and Tea Co. on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for Coffee with a Cop. The program was started as a community-police

initiative to build relationships between law enforcement and the community they serve. "This event will provide a way to meet a police officer from the Ely Police Department in an informal and relaxed setting, said Chief John Lahtonen. Feel free to stop by, grab a cup of coffee and have

a chat with the police officer, who will have discussion topics on hand for those who just want to listen.

#### Dog obedience class begins May 7 ELY - Want a better best friend? Want a dog

that is truly a part of your family, well-mannered and welcome in your community? Beginner Obedience is

Registration is now open for the spring dog obedience class offered by Ely Community Education. Sign up at elyclasses.com.

Obedience training is one of the best things one can do for their dog/puppy and themselves. Share a connection between you and your dog and have fun.

positive reinforcement for both participants and their The class begins on Monday, May 7, and runs for

eight weeks from 6-7 p.m. at the Ely Ice Arena, located on the Ely School campus. The class fee is \$120.

# www.timberjay.com

# Holy Week schedule for Holy Cross, St. Martin's and St. Mary's parishes

Monday, April 15

Chrism Mass - Cathedral of Our Lady Duluth - 5:30 p.m.

(If you are planning to attend – please let Fr Nick or your parish office know)

**HOLY THURSDAY, April 18** St. Mary's (Cook) - 6 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 19** Holy Cross (Orr) - 3 p.m.St. Martin's (Tower) -6:30 p.m.

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 20** St. Mary's (Cook) – 8:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 21** 

Holy Cross (Orr) - 8 a.m. St. Martin's (Tower) – 11 a.m.

#### Cook residents after Zup's fire COOK - Registrations are being taken here for a grocery delivery service following the fire

Grocery delivery services offered to

at Zup's Grocery. The program, offered by the AEOA, is for seniors 60 years of age or older. Resgistrations will be taken over the phone by calling the agency at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 6899.

# **Bookmobile schedule**

Visit your library on wheels, the Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile.

**April 25, May 16** 

Nett Lake - Community Center 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Crane Lake - Rang-Station 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon

Orr – Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 2:30 p.m.

Kabetogama - Town

Hall 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.

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

# **Email your community** notices to editor@timberjay.com

#### MSHSL ART SHOWCASE



Four students from North Woods walked away with top honors at this year's high school league art showcase. Kristen Cook won Best in Show for mixed media, Kiana Sargent won Best in Show for drawing, Emily Benoit won Best in Show for both ceramics and printmaking, and Jordyn Nelson won Best in Show for ceramics. The awards were handed out on Monday at North Woods. photo by R. Betterley

#### PRAIRIE FIRE



Co-Director Bryan Farthing (left) performs with North Woods students. photo by M. White

# Theatre troup enchants at North Woods

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP - Dozens of students took to the stage here last week to perform "Beauty and the Beast" with the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre.

The production was a week-long effort to introduce students at North Woods to the various skills needed to perform and produce a musical.

"We meet the kids on Monday and by Friday there is a full musical performance with props

nine yards," Co-Director Mikhayla Clausen said. "On Monday and Tuesday we teach them everything they need to know. On Wednesday we start co-directing and building the show together. That's when we figure out where everyone needs to be."

sound, lights, the whole

The production is an ensemble with students in every grade and skill level having a role to play.

Clausen and her co-director, Bryan Farthing, oversee the work while also playing roles

themselves to keep the kids on track in front of the audience. This year's play was

a take on Beauty and the Beast. Farthing said the Prairie Fire version is much closer to the original French version published in the 1700s than to the Disney version most are accustomed to.

The importance of the program to Farthing is not the actual production, but what the students gain from being part of the show.

"Kids get confi-

dence," he said. "In a day and age when people are behind screens, public speaking is going out of style. Even if they don't want to do theater longterm, it's got so many applications in life. I've had kids come up to me years later and say they were able to conduct themselves better in interviews or meetings because of the theater experience."

The show ran for two shows on Friday, a matinee for students followed by an evening performance for parents.

NWFA members and \$55

-780-6510 or Alberta at

firms registration. Mail

to NWFA, PO Box 44,

son presents a Day Long

Acrylic Painting Class

on Saturday, May 18, 9

a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Cook

ite photos to enter this fun

fundraiser! Cash prizes!

Best Shot" - Adult and

student submissions ac-

May 24. Reception: May

24, 5-7 p.m. Fee \$10 per

photo. Students may sub-

mit up to three photos at

cepted until April 27.

Community Center.

Call Shawna at 218

Fee payment con-

➤ Artist Adam Swan-

➤ Select your favor-

Photo Contest "Your

Exhibit: May 1 -

➤ Spring Art Expo

for non-members.

Cook, MN 55723.

218-666-2153.

# Community Notices

STOP N' SHOP

APRIL 13 • 10 AM-3 PM

North Woods School Commons

Olson Road, Hwy 53

(about 6 miles north of Cook)

VENDORS

CONCESSIONS

Raffles

Support the Class of 2022

### **Your story as art**

COOK - Your story matters, so who is this class for? Any person at least 12 years old who wants to play. Artists looking for inspiration. Writers wanting a new perspective on their story and poets with ideas. Humans who need a break from the daily grind. Makers seeking community. The curious. The intimidated. The open-minded.

Join us at the NWFA Gallery in Cook on Saturday, April 20 from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Be guided in creating a visual representation of your story. Use drawing, collage, paint and paper provided (or other materials you bring) to create a finished art piece on canvas, board or paper. This class transcends just the technique of 'how to' draw, paint, etc, by diving into concept, symbolism,

representation and metaphor in a fun and stressfree environment!

We will spend some time developing our stories and experimenting with materials. Then we continue to learn about composition, visual symbols, drawing, surface treatment, and current artists who are using sto-What is 'My Story'?

"Story" may be a memory, fiction, dream, story, idea, poem, opinion, struggle, victory, comedy, tragedy, etc. We can work with anything! A check confirms the

registration for each class. \$40 for NWFA members, or \$55 for non-members for each class plus an additional \$5 supply fee payable on the day of class (minimum of 10 students, maximum of

Need more info? Contact Kris at kmusto@ mcad.edu or 612-325-

Register through nwfamn.org@gmail.com or by calling Alberta Whitenack at 218-666-2153 or Shawna Kishel at 218-780-6510. Checks written to NWFA can be dropped off at the NWFA Gallery in Cook or mailed to NWFA, PO Box 44, Cook, MN 55723.

# **Virgie Hegg invites** scholarship applicants

REGIONAL - Each year VHHP gives out two high school scholarships and one college scholarship each in the amount of \$1,000. Applicants must be pursuing a career in the medical field such as nursing, physician assistant, dental, EMT etc. High school students from the Cook, Nett Lake, Orr, Tower and Soudan school atten-

dance area may apply. If

you live in one of these

attendance areas, you

don't have to be going to that school, just have an address that falls in one of the listed areas. Any previous scholarship recipients now in college are encouraged to apply for the college scholarship as well as any other college student who lives in the same attendance

Applications are due to VHHP postmarked by Monday April 15. Applications can be obtained from the North Woods High School counselor's office or by contacting program director Becca Bundy at 218-780-5423 or vhhpdirector@gmail.

High school and college recipients will be notified by mail in May. to VHHP.

NWFA

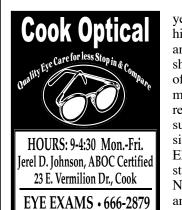
2019 - Calling all artists who want to exhibit and businesses to host an exhibit from June 5 to 28. Businesses and artists are listed in brochures and publicity. ➤Open Studio Art –

**Spring Events at** 

COOK - Preregis-

ter for these classes. The

fee for classes is \$40 for



Call for Appointment

with Dr. Jensen, Optometrist

The college scholarship is mailed to the recipient in mid-June and high school recipients will receive their scholarship after successfully completing one semester of college and mailing a transcript

a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Every Saturday from 9

NEWS FROM THE LAKE

# The Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



April showers bring May flowers! At least the precipitation we have received lately has been of the rain variety, not the snow mix we got in early April. Hopefully, the flowers are not too far behind.

for Pat Prayers Froemming, originally from Hibbing and now living in South Carolina, in his recent diagnosis of lymphoma. He is undergoing chemotherapy at this time. His wife is Kaylee, Zelda Bruns' granddaughter, who lived in Orr several years ago. Cards or words of encouragement may be sent to 227 Santa Ana Way, Duncan, S.C. 29334.

It was good to see "Grandma" Marge Rutchasky in attendance last Saturday night for the end-of-the-year dinner and gathering of those in the weekly NFL football pool. Winners were rewarded, but everyone and their guests were treated to a delicious potluck meal. There was much good-natured ribbing and fellowship shared as well. Sharpen up your pencils and pay attention to the pro-team signings as next year is another year!

A successful "surprise" birthday party occurred last Saturday at Trail's End for Jeff Sokoloski. Family and friends were present to wish Jeff a very happy decade-turning birthday. Which decade???? Rumors are that it was the one with a 5 and a 0! Many happy years more, Jeff.

Did you celebrate

Snowman Burning Day? This annual event that takes place on March 20 is a traditional celebration among American and Swiss peoples, and it marks the end to winter and the change of seasons from winter to spring. Many small family-oriented gatherings and even large celebrations occur that include

the burning of snowmen

in effigy. Who knew? if this is what's needed, let's move the event to January 20!

Locals are getting ready for spring fishing, resort opening, and another summer of cabin-dwellers and tourists flooding into our community. After our "long winter's nap", everyone is eager to wake up and get in the summer groove. Hopefully, our businesses will have a "banner" year.

Another eagerly awaited event is the rebuilding of Zup's in The building has been demolished; now we are waiting for the "rising from the ashes" to begin! We await progress—grocery shopping has been a bit more of an effort for us and the word is that the new Zup's will be even more convenient and have many more offerings available.

Local schools are beginning their spring sports season and pro baseball has started. The New York Yankees have won more titles than any other franchise in base-Forty-four Yankee players and eleven Yankee managers have

been inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, and the Yankees are the second-highestued sports franchise in the U.S. and fifth in the world. Just think that the love for "America's past-time" begins with tee-ball, little league teams, high school and college play all over the nation. Could it be that the future Lou Gehrig or Babe Ruth is in training right now?

Cases of measles are on the rise-get your children vaccinated. The measles shots are made from an attenuated (greatly reduced in potency) virus and will not cause your children to get measles. There also has not been any correlation found with autism. There is a better than 95 percent success rate for those vaccinated; they will not get measles or the serious effects from having the disease.

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!

# Briefly

# **Orr City Council**



At the Orr City Council on Monday evening, **Mayor Joel Astleford presented Maintenance** Supervisor Paul Koch with a certificate of appreciation from the Minnesota Department of Health in recognition of his running of the city's wastwater treatment plant. The city also recieved a donation of \$200 to the ambulance service and approved minutes from the past month. Chet Nieman reported a slow month for sales at the Orr Muni. photo by M. White

#### **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.

# **Easter Egg Hunt**



COOK - The Lions Club here will have their annual Easter Egg Hunt next Saturday, April 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Cook Community Center. Kids up to the age of 10 are welcome to participate with prizes being given to the top four girls and boys, who will each win a new bike. Food, games and Easter baskets will also be available.

# **GRIZZLY UPDATE**

# Meet Mr. Jon Scherf

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

This week we head into the high school social studies department to learn a little bit more about Mr. Jon Scherf. Some of our teachers, such as Mr. Scherf, are a little bit more elusive, but I know where to find them!

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

Mr. S: Born in Coon Rapids. We moved to Grand Rapids in 1973 because my parents didn't want their kids traveling out of the neighborhood and being bussed too far away for school. I graduated from Grand Rapids High School in 1989. My 30-year class reunion is coming up this summer. I attended Itasca Community College and Bemidji State University.

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

Mr. S: I really liked all of my elementary teachers while attending Murphy Elementary School. My favorite teachers were Ms. Lamont, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Hannu, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Randall, Mr. Christensen and Mrs. Downing Mr. V: What charac-

teristics did these teachers have that were important to you? Mr. S: This was

a small neighborhood school and they were more like your favorite aunt or uncle in the way that they looked after their students. Middle



**VUKMANICH** 

School was a blur but I do remember my favorite teacher, Mr. Sommerville. He was just nutty enough to make learning Mr. V: What do you

teach at North Woods? Mr. S: High School Social Studies

Mr. V: Why did you choose teaching as a pro-

Mr. S: As I mentioned before, school to

me felt like an extension of family and even through the tough times I truly felt it was where I belonged. I refer to my younger self as a "glue kid". I was friends with all different kinds of kids with all different backgrounds and hobbies. So I assume I fit somewhere in the middle and made friends with almost everybody.

hobbies? Mr. S: Typical dad hobbies of hunting, fishing and sometimes golf. I have volunteered a lot for local youth sports as

a hockey and baseball

Mr. V: What are your



**SCHERF** 

coach.

V: What is something you really like about North Woods? Mr. S: It still feels

like family, only now I hope to be the nutty uncle that makes learning

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

Mr. S: I am currently going back to school to attain enough credits to continue teaching CEP history courses here at NWHS. (CEP is "College in Schools." Students receive college credit for a class taken in a high-school setting. Recent law changes require that high school teachers have a Master's Degree in the CEP subject they teach, or a Master's in Education plus 18 credits in the exact subject they are going to teach under CEP.) Mr. V: What is

is what I love about Min-

nesota but winter can

Subscribe

something you love about northern MN? Mr. S: I would typically say the four seasons (218)753-2950

quit anytime now please!

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

vidual has special talents. The trick to surviving high school is learning what they are and being brave enough to share

Mr. V: Do you have a favorite saying or ex-

Mr. S: My son would probably say it's "There ya go thinking again." Which is what I would say when someone says something silly before thinking it all the way through. Mr. V: What do you

hope that your students will remember you for?

Mr. S: First, I hope they still see that "glue kid" who wants to get to know all kids no matter what their background and hobbies. Secondly, I hope they they trust me enough to share those talents before they move on after high school. Thank you Mr.

Scherf for giving us some insight into what makes you who you are! Go Grizzlies,

> Your Principal, John Vukmanich

# Today

# the TIMBERIAY

The Cook-Orr Timberjay is published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950] and Box 718, Ely, MN

55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website: www.timberjay.com.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Cook/Orr, Tower/Soudan, and

Publisher General Manager Staff Writers

Ely Editor

Cook/Orr Editor Office Manager Graphics/Ad Sales/ Staff Writer Ad Sales/Sports

Marshall Helmberger Jodi Summit Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola Keith Vandervort Marcus White M. M. White

Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney

#### Official Newspaper: City of Orr, City of Ely, Townships of Bear-

ville, Crane Lake, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association,

Lake Vermilion Resort Association, Lake Vermilion Area Chamber of Commerce, Orr Chamber of Commerce, Ely Chamber of Commerce.

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### Lyme Discussion Group meets April 18

VIRGINIA- A Lyme Disease discussion group will meet on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Natural Harvest Food Co-op, 732 4th St. N in Virginia.

Join others for a discussion on education, prevention, and possible treatments of Lyme Disease and the multiple tick-borne illnesses that have become epidemic in this region. Learn how Lyme mimics many auto immune disorders such as MS, Chronic Fatigue, Lupus, Parkinson's, ALS, Fibromyalgia, Neuropsychiatric Disorders, and more.

This group is in no way affiliated with or receiving monetary gains from Natural Harvest Food Co-op. The group will be led by Mike Keenan and Gina Empey, who are thankful to be using the co-op's classroom to educate the community. For questions, email Lvlymegroup@outlook.com. Keenan and Empey are not medical professionals but citizens who would like to share experiences with treatments that have helped them and others.

#### "The Road to Salvation, Are We Enough?" at Mesabi UU, April 14 VIRGINIA- Rev. Suzanne Wasilczuk will

present "The Road to Salvation, Are We Enough?" at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church on Sunday, April 14 at 10:30 a.m. The building is handicap accessible and located at 230 7th St. S in Virginia.

"In our tradition, salvation is understood as wholeness and health. In seeking wholeness, we are attempting to complete our life before death ends it," said Parker Palmer who suggests that a primary problem in our age is people living divided lives. Revealing, claiming, and nurturing our hidden wholeness is our life's work, the path to salvation in this life.

# Learn to grow heirloom varieties and save seeds, MSHS Spring meeting, April 27 at Giants Ridge

BIWABIK- The Embarrass Regional Flower and Garden Club will host the Eighth District Minnesota State Horticultural Society Spring Meeting with guest speaker Jackie Clay-Atkinson, homesteading expert, presenting "Growing Heirloom Varieties and Saving Seeds." The meeting will be at The Lodge at Giants Ridge, 6329 Wynne Creek Drive in Biwabik on Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Jackie Clay-Atkinson and her husband Will live off-the-grid on a diverse homestead in Angora along with their cattle, goats, chickens, turkeys, and horses. They also grow a large variety of heirloom vegetables and specialize in saving seeds from year to year. Clay-Atkinson will present tips and tricks to growing these cherished varieties and how to save your own heirloom favorites. Clay-Atkinson regularly write for "Backwoods Home" magazine and recently began publishing an heirloom seed catalogue, "Seed Treasurers." She will bring knowledge of how to raise tasty and beautiful crops, as well as seed samples. Wear your special spring or gardening hat and win a prize.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. followed by an Eighth District MSHS business meeting at 10 a.m. Lunch is at noon and Clay-Atkinson's program begins at 1 p.m. You need not be a member of MSHS to attend the program.

MSHS to attend the program.

Cost is \$25 for the event, lunch, and refresh-

ments. The event is hosted by the Embarrass Regional Flower and Garden Club. **Registration must be made by Monday, April 15.** To register, contact Linda Cox at 218-984-3002 or at lakesideenterprises@frontiernet.net.

#### HONORING VOLUNTEERS



Heart of Gold volunteers honored

Northwoods Partners 2019 Heart of Gold recipients (from left) Candy Schindele, Joyce Favet, and Denise Norman. submitted photo

ELY- Northwoods Partners honored three volunteers, this month, as recipients of the 2019 Heart of Gold award.

Candy Schindele goes above and beyond her paid position at Northwoods Partners. She volunteers countless hours and always with a great attitude. She is one of the most encouraging people I know and always has a smile and a kind word for everyone. She may be an employee of Northwoods Partners, but she still gives of her time, her talents, and her love in so many ways. We are blessed to have her on the team!

Joyce Favet has been a volun-

teer and donor for our organization for over six years. She provides numerous long-distance rides as well as local transportation. She continually goes over and beyond for the people she serves. She's always willing to make that extra stop or enjoy time visiting over lunch with her ride participant. She treats everyone like family. She is always eager to help and give. She is truly a blessing to our community and our organization.

Denise Norman has supported the work of NP in numerous ways. She is a board member and has been a valuable Fundraising committee member and Outreach chair. She has walked numerous miles putting up signs and flyers for events and program information. She's always jumping in and helping where needed. She serves many individuals in our community by providing rides to errands, church and social outings. We have been very grateful to have her on our board.

Northwoods Partners would like to thank all their amazing volunteers, not only those mentioned above by name, but all the wonderful men and women who proudly volunteer for Northwoods Partners. They are all a blessing to our community and our organization.

# **Emergency Kits Drive for local schools now underway**

REGIONAL- Help equip St. Louis County School District class-rooms with emergency preparedness kits from April 8 - 30. The following items are being collected: standard sized notebooks, standard size clipboards, black permanent markers, rolls of duct tape, standard size scissors, hand sanitizer, band-aids,

rolls of gauze, rolls of medical tape, 4x4 gauze, rubber gloves for medical use, CPR masks, toilet paper, small boxes of Kleenex, sports whistles, standard size rolls of flagging. This drive is sponsored by American Bank and the United Way of Northeastern MN. Drop off your donations at American Bank in Cook or Orr.

Cook American Bank is located at 128 Hwy. 53 SE and is open Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Orr's American Bank is located at 4539 Hwy. 53 and is open Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Obituaries and Death Notices

### Carolyn F. Sarazin

Carolyn F. Orville Sarazin, 84, of Virginia, formerly a longtime resident of Babbitt, died on Monday, April 8, 2019, at her home with family by her side. Visitation will be from 10:30 a.m. until the 11 a.m. memorial service on Monday, April 15 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Babbitt. Fr. Brandon Moravitz will officiate. Inurnment will be in the Babbitt Cemetery at a later date. Family services are provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her husband, Bill; children, Tim (Tammy) Sarazin of Tomahawk, Wis., and Dawn (Rock) Chamberlin of Babbitt; sister, Jeanne Moorhead of Chandler, Ariz.; grandchildren, Erica Sarazin, Willie Sarazin, Mike Sarazin, Todd (Natalie) Sarazin, Shela (Dan) Parola, Tony (Devin) Chamberlin and Jake (Ketti) Chamberlin; great-grandchildren, Tiegan, Evan, Alex, Austyn, Ezra, Avryl, Bodi and Esme; and many extended family and friends.

### Rodney A. Maki

Rodney "Rod" Alan Maki, 69, of Embarrass, died on Wednesday, April 3,2019, at his home surrounded by family. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 13 at Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava Funeral Home in Aurora. Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, April 12 at the funeral home and will continue for one hour prior to the service. Military honors will be

accorded by the Aurora-Hoyt Lakes Color Guard. Interment will be in the Embarrass Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Sarah Marie; daughters, Angie (Jeff) Miller, Stacy (Troy) Davidson and Sherry (Jerry) Maki; grandchildren, Travis Erickson, Shauna Sampson, Chayce Sampson, Eric Erickson, McKenzie Sampson, Ethan Erickson, Dylan Maki, Cole Maki, Blayze Davidson, Kaiden Maki and Ava Redetzke; great-grandchildren, Ryan, Keagan, Kael and Landyn; sister, Doris (Roger) Moberg; brothers, Rico (Hazel), Glenn (Doreen), Kenneth and David (Veronica) Maki; and numerous nieces and nephews.

# Meet & Greet

STOP IN TO FRANDSEN BANK ON **THURSDAY, APRIL 18**, TO MEET OUR NEW STAFF!

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# Council hosts dozens at most recent meeting, moved to civic center

Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- Eightyeight-year-old Jack Burgess, of Tower, had never attended a Tower City Council meeting before. Not once, he said. But he and his wife Carol were among the 60-plus people who gathered at the Herbert Lamppa Civic Center for this week's meeting, which included a presentation by the city auditors on the 2018 audit report (see related story on

"I really appreciate the extra hassle it took to have the meeting down here," said Mayor Orlyn Kringstad. City Clerk/ Treasurer Linda Keith had objected to moving the council meeting from city hall, but the only hiccup in the entire evening was the fact that the mayor had forgotten to bring his gavel. The first hour-anda-half of the meeting were spent on the audit report, and then after a short break (with coffee and cookies provided), the rest of the meeting got underway.

The city did adopt a new public input policy,

which is simpler than the policy presented at last month's meeting. Anyone wishing to give public comment will be asked to place their name on a sign-up sheet prior to the start of the meeting. Speakers will be recognized in the order their names appear and will be limited to three minutes. Speakers who bring written remarks are asked to bring 10 copies, or else bring one copy to city hall prior to the meeting and have the clerk's office make copies. Speakers shall be civil and may be declared out-of-order by the mayor if not.

Mary Shedd asked that the city post the meeting agenda on the city website prior to the meeting. She also asked the city to advertise for openings on city committees and commissions, noting there appear to be many residents and community members interested in city affairs.

Diane Meehan had a question about funds from the Miss Tower-Soudan account that were supposed to be transferred to the Fourth of July account. Keith said that the money was still set aside, and the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board, which now oversees the Fourth of July, needed to present invoices to the city and they would be paid from that account. The account currently has almost \$7,500 in funds. Keith explained the city cannot simply transfer those funds to the events board but needs to pay it out on actual invoices.

Steve Wilson once again addressed the council asking them to move beyond the current complaints against the mayor and focus on building up the town instead of tearing it down.

The council received a thank you note from an ambulance patient, singling out Steve Alwtenburg, Dean Dowden, and Tammie Ellison for the care they provided during a recent emergency call.

The council received a letter from the Minnesota Department of Health stating that testing of the city's water supply showed of Trihalomethane (THM) and Halocetic Acids (HAA5) had both tested below the allowable levels. In the past several

years, the city water has exceeded these levels. These contaminants are formed as byproducts of the water treatment disinfection process. The city will continue to monitor the city water supply for these contaminants. A copy of the report is available at city hall for review.

### Other business

In other business, the council:

➤ Went into closed session at the close of the meeting, around 8:30 p.m., with attorney Andy Peterson, to discuss employee misconduct allegations relating to the city clerk/treasurer. When the meeting reopened, the council voted to table the issues under discussion for further review.

➤ Heard from city engineer Matt Bolf that the harbor plat is still not finalized but the city has made progess in gathering the information required by St. Louis County to complete the document. A finalized plat is required before the Tower Harbor Shores development group can start sales on the town home project.

Keith gave a financial report noting the city has approximately \$303,000 in savings and CDs, although most of that money is legally earmarked for equipment replacement or pensions. The current bank statement shows \$134,987 in cash available in the general fund.

➤ Authorized the purchase of new accounting software for the city to replace the 2004 software currently in use. Keith reported the current software cannot be updated and the city is having numerous issues with data being lost (though noted that everything is always backed up). The cost of the new software is \$7,279 which will come from the city's reserve fund. The software is based on Quickbooks but was developed for use by small cities, and includes the ability to do payroll, utility billing, generate reports, and other needed functions. The purchase includes converting the city's data to the new program, as well as five hours of support time a

➤ Voted to increase the hourly rate for paid-

month.

on-call staff from \$11 to \$11.50 per hour.

➤ Approved a request from Kringstad to attend the Cities on the Lake training offered by the MinnesotaLeague of Cities in Duluth. The cost is \$295 plus mileage. The council discussed the importance of such trainings and the networking opportunities provided. The council tabled a request from Kringstad to give him a set monthly amount of spending authority of up to \$500 per month for things like conferences and travel expenses. The council also discussed mileage reimbursement policy and whether or not travel needs to be approved in advance by the clerk.

➤ The city's Local Board of Appeal and Equalization is set for Tuesday, May 7 from 6

The next council meeting will be held on Monday, April 29 at 5:30 p.m. at Tower City Hall (instead of April 22).

# **ISD 2142...**Continued from page 1.

had heightened public awareness of the problems at the schools and that she's been getting questions from the public about how the district intends to respond.

Last June, the Timberjay reported building inspections had yielded sagging floors which have led to distorted walls and doorways. In some cases, walls were resting on roof trusses, such as in the South Ridge music room.

"Basically, if that roof truss wasn't there, we would have had major failure, which would have shut that school down for some time," former facilities director Tony Buccanero told the board during a study session last year. "It's a brand-new school and we shouldn't have this happening."

Business Manager Kim Johnson said the problems at the two campuses were not the fault of the district.

"It's only been seven years and this shouldn't be happening," she said. "It's either design, structure or testing failure."

Uneven settling of sidewalks and parking lots have also proven to be a problem, according to school officials. That's led to substantial cracking of sidewalks at entrances, or potential tripping hazards from uneven sections of sidewalk. The concessions facility at the North Woods School has also faced dramatically uneven settling of the facility's concrete floor, which has distorted some of the fixtures inside

the building. Questions over sub-standard work on the

schools have lingered for years and led to a threeyear legal fight between JCI and the *Timberjay* newspaper over access to the architectural contract that JCI signed with ARI for design of the two schools. The state's Supreme Court, in a controversial decision, sided with JCI on the issue, but the state Legislature promptly superseded the court's decision by unanimously approving what is now known as the "Timberjay law," which clarifies that such contracts are accessible to the public.

### Budget adjustments

in other dusiness

session, Johnson offered changes to the 2018-2019 budget for the district after revenues came in about \$6.9 million above what was expected. Revenues are now projected at \$44.6 million for the year, over the \$37.6 million originally

Johnson said a boost in student enrollment across the district yielded an additional \$411,000 to the general fund. Bond sales made up the largest increase, providing \$6.5 million.

increase The in revenue has been directed to increasing full-time-equivalent positions in the district. Other monies have been allocated to Indian Ed at Tuesday's working programs and purchasing of new vehicles for the

In other business, the school board:

➤ Heard a presentation from Kristi Berlin about class scheduling for next year.

➤ Heard an update from Board Member Chris Koivisto about the project to update the Northeast Range football field. He said an updated sign for the field was in the works and that he wanted a new roof on the field's press box.

# **NEED AN EXTENSION?**

Individual Income Taxes are due April 15. Visit IRS.gov for a filing extension. Or stop by our office. We can help.

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**10** April 12, 2019 TIMBERJAY Newspapers

# **TOWER**...Continued from page 1

audit for 2018.

City officials have managed to keep the bills paid mostly by tapping the city's ambulance account, which had built up a nearly \$900,000 surplus over the past several years. On paper, the city shows a \$1.1 million balance in its general fund, according to the audit, with \$883,000 of that sitting in the ambulance account.

The city's ambulance service had historically generated large profits of about \$100,000 annually, which helped to provide a cash cushion for the city. Yet the cash in the ambulance fund has mostly been spent for various projects, according to Ceglar, leaving a total of \$238,000 in actual cash.

Adding to the cash concern is the previous council's decision, last December, to order a fourth ambulance, at a total cost of \$250,000. The city currently has three ambulances, only two of which are maintained in operation.

Ceglar noted that the city's audit reports have raised concerns about the sizable project deficits for several years. Yet previous councils asked few, if any, questions about the auditor's concerns. This was the first time that the auditors addressed the city's actual cash balances. Audit manager Greg Knutson noted that a number of city projects, including street repairs, airport projects, and the harbor renaissance, have all generated sizable deficits that have been covered by borrowing from the city's general fund, which includes the ambulance account. But that piggy bank, which was comprised primarily of the ambulance fund, is

now running dry. "That's basically the crux of the problem," said



The city's latest audit report and financial situation were discussed. photo by J. Summit

"What do we need to do to get the cash balances back in order?" asked Mayor Orlyn Kringstad.

"That is the million-dollar question," responded Knutson.

The city would appear to have few options. A suggestion to bond was quickly shot down, as not addressing the problem and possibly worsening the situation. The other primary alternative would be a levy increase, but given the city's current tax base, the city would need double-digit increases in its levy for a number of years to make a dent in the project fund deficits, which total \$665,000. Each one-percent increase in the city's levy raises only about \$3,500.

The city has quietly been selling off land, which has generated about \$215,000 in revenue to the general fund over the past four years (see more on this issue in next week's Timberjay).

The city does have significant remaining land holdings but sales of land can take years to accomplish. In 2018, however, land sales did provide \$60,544 in city revenue, offsetting some of the budget problems.

City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith argued that she largely inherited the city's financial situation when she took over as clerk in 2013, saying that the city had about \$950,000 in project deficits at the time. She said the city has made some progress toward whittling down that debt since then. "The only one that has been increasing is the harbor project," she

The audit reports that the city also spent more than it took in this year. Total general fund revenues for 2018 were \$1.59 million, while expenditures totaled \$1.72 million for a deficit of \$130,000. At the same time, the city's general fund balance, on paper, increased from \$807,569 in 2017 to \$1.135 million in 2018. But that increase reflects \$500,000 in revenue received from a bond issuance to pay for a sewer extension to the campground. Without that bonding, the city's general fund balance would have declined to

As part of their annual report, the auditors also provided their management letter, which typically raises issues of concern as well as findings of errors or irregularities and recommendations for improving the city's financial controls.

This year's list was longer than most, with a total of 16 separate items listed by the auditors. Among them was a recommendation to establish a special fund outside of the general fund for the ambulance service, in order to improve transparency. That would also likely require council action before money could be transferred from the ambulance fund to cover expenses in other city operations.

Such a change would also likely ease concerns from residents of neighboring townships, who contribute on a per capita basis to the city's ambulance equipment fund. More than a dozen residents of the townships turned out at Monday's meeting to express concerns that the funds they contribute could be used for city operational costs. But Ceglar confirmed that those funds are segregated and remained available for ambulance purchases as of the end of last year. As of Dec. 31, 2018, the cash balance in that account totaled \$125,990. An updated financial report produced by Keith shows \$148,490 in that account as of the end of February. That would leave the city to cover the remaining \$101,500 of the ambulance cost.

In other issues, the auditors:

➤ Noted the discrepancies between the city's roster of terms for members of committees and commissions and previous minutes and recommended that the council review the changes annually and document any changes.

➤ Noted a general lack of financial reporting oversight in the city and recommended that the council update its procedures to maintain proper controls. The auditors also recommended that the council look seriously as ways to improve the segregation of financial duties to provide a better check on operations. They also recommended reviewing disbursements, receipts, bank statements, and financial reports on an ongoing basis.

➤ Noted several relatively minor errors in vouchers or payments to employees or contractors.

➤ Noted an apparent lack of city council approval for continued interest-only payments on the TEDA loan to the town home project and that the legal paperwork on the transfer of that loan, late in 2018, from Tower Vision 2025 to Tower Harbor Shores was not completed until March of 2019. "We suggest the city contact their attorney to resolve any conflicts related to this matter," states the report. The auditors also suggested the city, Mayor Kringstad, and the city attorney review agreements related to Kringstad's divestment from Tower Harbor Shores

➤ Noted that an invoice submitted for reimbursement for a TEDA loan did not provide sufficient detail to determine if it was an allowable cost and recommended obtaining additional documenta-

to ensure that no conflict

of interest exists.

➤ Noted that the water and sewer enterprise funds continue to run deficits, although they are lower than past years. In 2017, the deficits in the funds totaled nearly \$50,000, but a rate increase trimmed that amount to \$37,000.

Noted that some storefront loan recipients have not been paying their loans in a timely manner and that the city should be accruing interest and determining a course of action for those delinquent loans.

➤ Noted that audit adjustments and requested reports were not provided to the auditors in a timely manner and recommended that the city provide information to the auditors promptly.

➤ Noted that the city transferred funds from an ambulance savings account to checking without city council authorization.



# Saturday, April 13 • 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Mtn. Iron Community Center • Merritt Elementary School **Messiah Lutheran Church • Northeast Service Cooperative** 

**Speaker Schedule, Friday, April 12** (at Messiah Lutheran Church Sanctuary) 6:00 p.m. Mark Shepard "Beginning Restoration Agriculture in USDA Zone 3a" 6:00 p.m. "The Power of Minnesota" documentary Joel Haskard Clean Energy Resource Teams

Speaker Schedule, Saturday, April 13 (at Northeast Services Coop Building)

9:30-10:30am -Hop Farming for Brewing – Larry Johnson

End of Life/Hospice Care - Dr. Keith Peterson Is Hunting Sustainable? - Jim DeVries "The Power of Minnesota" - Movie Documentary with Joel Haskard

Community Solar Garden: Grand Rapids first, who's next? What we've learned - Itasca Clean Energy Team

10:45-11:45am Seed Saving - George and Robin Pliml Arrowhead Grown Initiative - Kelsey Gantzer Flower Gardening Q&A - Lee Iverson and panel "The Power of Minnesota" - Movie Documentary with Joel Haskard

Let's Do Rooftop Solar; Join the Iron Range Solar Co-op – Virginia Rutter, Solar United Neighbors Noon-1pm

Forest Fire Ecology and Fire Safety Tips - Gloria Erickson & Lane Johnson I was finally able to grow it Now what do I do? Marketing for small producers - Kelly Dahl Vegetable Gardening in very cold environments Q&A - Chuck Neil and panel

"The Power of Minnesota" - Movie Documentary with Joel Haskard Overburden/Overlook Iron Range Collaborative Art Project - Shanai Matteson

1:30 p.m. Keynote address Mark Shepard Restoring Iron Range Farmland to Feed Ourselves

2:30 p.m. Mark Shepard Roundtable with area farmers and growers Live Music in lunch area: 11a.m. - Noon Sara Softich & Friends; 12:15 -1:15 p.m. - Eli Bissonett



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Lunch included with this free business development opportunity. Advanced registration required. To register contact fun@ely.org or call 365-6123.

Business development provided by the Ely Chamber of Commerce and City of Ely through a generous grant from the Blandin Foundation.





# **FARM...**Continued from page 1

farm into a local attraction bringing in concerts, students, mental health workers, and day campers.

For this summer, three concerts are planned along with the now annual tradition of weekly farm yoga sessions every Thursday. Vendors will be

around to do shows in the big red barn with hot food being served.

"We cram a lot in to the summer," Pajari said. "Last year we did our first camp, it was the highlight

of the summer. We dissect eggs and get the scoop on poop."

Kids also get to go rock hunting in a gravel pit and spend time with the farm's goats, cows, chickens, pigs and many more animals. With the success of

last year's single camp single, Pajari said this year there would be three opportunities for area kids to come out to the farm.

It's not just area children who learn at the farm. For the second year, students from the Vermilion Community College veterinary technician program will be doing sections of their lab work there.

"It has been a really good learning experience for the students and good help for me," Pajari said. "Having them onboard has been amazing."

With the diversity of the animals at the Cook's Country Connection, Pajari said the students get to work with a variety of species, learning how to give vaccinations among other simple medical pro-

The farm has even been opened to Lutheran Social Services and Range Mental Health to bring clients to experience the farm as part of their programming to help mental health patients in the region.

And for those who could benefit from the animals in a therapeutic environment but can't make it to Cook, such as nursing home patients, Pajari said she takes the animals on the road.

Pajari said all of these programs continue to expand.

"We just try and book events for all ages," she said. "It's a chance to unplug and go outside." Visitors to the farm are

encouraged to look at the website, www.cookcountryconnection.com, and look for event listings on the farm's Facebook page.

For those who can't make it to the farm, a select

number of events are also planned around the region, including Duluth. Pajari said to watch for Facebook postings on when those will happen.

Pajari added its unlikely the fun will stop anytime

soon out at her family farm.

"Everything has changed," she said. "When I look at the early pictures, it's just constantly in motion. I don't know if it will ever stop."

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

task force is focusing on a three-building project that will likely require taxpayer approval for a bonding referendum, the state safety grant, along with other potential funding sources, has the potential to peel away some of the required borrowing for the project.

"The chances of us getting a whole new school are not very great," said board chair Ray Marsnik. "We're stuck with the fact that we are going to have to start on some renovations to our buildings.'

Hildenbrand said the original intent in developing the renovation plan was to use the state grant as part of a larger project that would likely entail additional bonding and a referendum. Now, she said, some creative planning will be necessary to meet the timeline. "Our original news was that we had until 2021 to have the (grant) money spent, but we have to have bids completed by the end of June," she said. Actual construction is not required right away,

Schoolboardmembers were presented with three options for constructing the Industrial Arts secure entrance. All three concepts would tie into a larger renovation project that includes providing an enclosed link and a single school-day-access secured entrance between the three buildings.

The three options varied in price, at \$500,000, \$1.4 million, and \$1.8 million.

"Ultimately that first phase of construction could be easily tied into the overall renovation project once the referendum is passed. If the referendum did not pass, we could simply look at completing the building link project,'

she said. Most school board members, as well as the two school principals, saw the wisdom in moving forward with the third option and bidding the "first phase" of the renovation project to link the buildings and construct a

secure entrance and office.

The third option, at \$1.8 million, would link the Industrial Arts and the Washington school buildings, but the Memorial building link could easily be incorporated into the plan if a bonding referendum failed. All linked entrances would incorporate mandated ADA access. A new office at the secure school-day entrance would also include a school nurse area. The project also includes the demolition of the former boiler plant

Hildenbrand asserted that while the state school safety grant requires the bidding to be completed by the end of June, any construction could be held until spring of 2020. "By that time, the school district has the opportunity

building.

to pass, or not, a bonding referendum," she said. "You just need bids, you don't necessarily have to

award it until later." School Board member James Pointer was opposed to the district spending any more money on the secured entrance concept beyond the \$500,000 in state school safety grant funds. He maintained his opposition to using the safety grant as part of the overall renovation project.

"I just don't like any of this," Pointer said.

Superintendent Kevin Abrahamson said the district is not obligated to take the \$500,000 grant. "We don't have to do any of this. I can call the state tomorrow and tell them we don't want it."

Hildenbrand added, "There are multiple school districts waiting in line to get this money if you don't want to spend it."

Pointer contended that in addition to all of the renovation concept options, the safety grant options, "just muddy the waters" with the general public.

"That is the process that you are going through," Hildenbrand responded. "It is a process. You can't just come in with one plan. You don't have a final plan. There is plenty of time to tweak this."

When asked for their opinions, principals Anne Oelke and Megan Anderson indicated their preference for \$1.8 million plan. "This is the safest option for our students,'

Oelke said. Board member Heidi Mann said she was in favor of taking full advantage of the \$500,000 safety grant, "and move forward in good faith for the community to renovate and secure these buildings and balance that with (referendum) money we may get."

Board member Tom Omerza agreed, "We need to push this project forward. This is a stepping stone for the larger project. We connect two buildings now and not three, and this is just one step in making things better for the kids and the people who work here.

"The number-one priority is connecting the buildings," stated Marsnik

The board voted 5-1, with Pointer opposed, to develop bidding specifications in order to meet the June 30 deadline.

#### Other business In other business, the

school board: ➤ Discussed the

timeline required for a voter-approved bonding referendum this fall and may consider funding options for an anticipated community task force building renovation project recommendation at a study session on

Tuesday, April 16. ➤ Hired John Mills for the part-time bus driver

position (three hours per day, five days per week).

➤ Accepted the resignation of Gail Peters from the bus driver position, effective May 3, 2019.

➤ Approved the following volunteer coaches, Naomi Isbell, Tayler Banks, and Adrianna Wittrup for softball, and Kahsha Hyde for girls

➤ Adapted are solution supporting the Iron Range Schools Collaboration.

➤ Discussed staff and student activity passes

with the athletic director and will consider and/or act on a recommendation next month.



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Todd grew up on the Iron Range, spending time on Lake Vermilion and the Virginia area. He is a graduate of Tower-Soudan High School and the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Todd has resided in the Eveleth area for the last 18 years. In his spare time, he enjoys watching his daughter Ellie and son Ryan in their various sporting events.

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# orth Country

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ALL THINGS MAPLE

# Weather makes for a 'sappy' year

Soudan maple syrup producer sees record sap runoff on Birch Point

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL - It was not Mother Nature playing an April Fools Day joke on John Lindquist when he collected 144 gallons of sap from his sugar maple trees on Birch Point on April 1.

"We had never gotten over 80 gallons of sap in one day," Lindquist said. "This year the trees went nuts. The perfect storm of weather has been absolutely the best."

That "perfect storm" entails temperatures that fall below freezing at night but warm into the upper-30s or 40s during the day. It's those variations in temperature that make the maple sap run.

So far this year, the area has seen several continuous days where the oscillation has been perfect and that's been a boon to maple syrup producers in

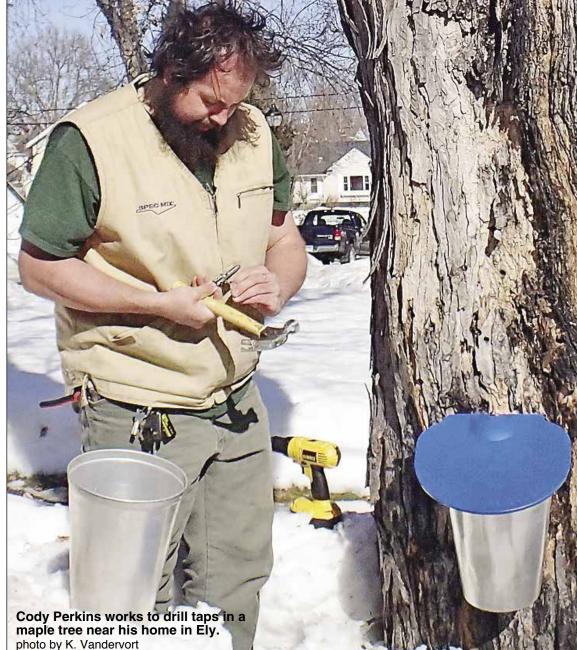
In Ely, Cody Perkins was just tapping his trees two weeks ago.

"I'm not quite sure how much he will get," Perkins said. "I tapped eight trees. I got a gallon out of the same eight a few years ago. At the moment, we're just watching.'

Perkins is no stranger to the art of maple syrup, having grown up in Bennington County,

In a typical year on Birch Point, John and his wife, Denise, collect about 700 gallons of sap from about 200 maple tree taps on Birch Point. This year, the trees on Birch Point are set to deliver over a thousand gallons if the temperatures stay stable through the end of this weekend.

John and Denise then transport the sap to their home near Soudan where they maintain the "sugar shack," filled with knick-knacks to keep them company, while they stand watch over their boilers for up to 18 hours a day.



Denise starts the fire between 6 and 7 a.m. and John puts the last batch of wood in before bed at mid-"It doesn't

matter how many trees you have, it's how many taps you have," John said as he stirred the latest batch during Monday's rainy

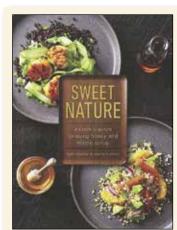
weather. "A tree should be 9-10 inches across to have one tap. When they get 12 inches across, you can get

24 for four." He added he never sugar content.

Above: Maple syrup is strained into a filter. Right: John Lindquist stands over a steaming boiler to check the progress of 2, 18 inches for three, and his syrup. Syrup is méasured by its photos by M. White

See SYRUP...pg. 2B





Need some help deciding what to cook with your maple syrup and honey? Check out this book:

Having trouble deciding what to cook with the maple Syrup you've either collected or bought this year at market?

The University of Minnesota Press has published a book celbrating both the sugary syrup along with its year-round counterpart, honey.

The book is full of easy recipes and fun ideas for food both savory and sweet.

Every meal time is covered in the book from breakfast to dinner to snacks and salads and everything in between.

The book is authored by Beth Dooley with photographs provided by Mette Nielsen.

Dooley is a James Beard Award-winning author of many cookbooks including "Savoring the Seasons of the Heartland" and "The Birchwood Cafe Cookbook".

Nielsen has photographs featured in many books and magazines. She is a gardener in her spare time and collaborated with Dooley on previous books.

The book is filled with 216 pages of information and is available for purchase for \$24.95 from the UofM Press.

Go to www.upress.umn. edu for more information and locations where the book can be purchased.

It is set for release on April

**ART & BUSINESS** 

# The artist and the taxman: CPA explains the business of creativity

by KEITH VANDERVORT

ELY - Art in the North Country enhances more than just the area's quality of life— it's also an increasingly significant economic driver for the region. And artists here at the

end of the road recently considered the entrepreneurial nature of their craft when they gathered to learn from a local certified public accountant about the business side of being

CPA Chuck Zeugner



explained that artists may be creative solely for their own enjoyment, or they may want to make a profit so that they can support themselves. "Artists wanting to earn money from their art need to recognize that their art is

a business," he said.

According to Zeugner, the first step in organizing the business side of art is to separate the business from the personal. "If possible, open a business bank account, keep records of income and expenses, An art gala in Ely. file photo

and if you have a creative space in your home, keep it separate from your living space," he said. "Being businesslike does not diminish the creative process. However, in the eyes of the IRS (Internal

Revenue Service), if you are not trying to operate like a business, then you are operating like a hobby." Operating like a business will help artists keep tabs on expenses. Business

expenses are the costs

of carrying on a trade or

business.

Artists generally have two types of expenses. The first is the cost of producing their art. "A painter might have expenses such as canvas or paint. Artists purchase some of these materials in large quantities and then turn them into their finished art," he said. "This means that some of those items are kept in inventory."

The second type of expense includes the general and administrative costs of running a business. These expenses could include rent or auto expenses, utilities, telephone, supplies, and See ART...pg. 2B

more. Many artists also have equipment costs. "Some artists, especially those who are transitioning toward art as business, do not account for these expenses," Zeugner said. "This might be especially important when it comes time to prepare tax

Another important consideration for artists is pricing their work. Artists make money by selling their creations. "Buyers will purchase a piece of art because of how it looks or makes them feel.



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GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

# Greenwood delays vote on ambulance subsidy by John Summit increase, it would be nice Joanne Bassing noted positive. people's taxes," Rodgers changes to the fire delays to the fire de

T C 1 F1'

Tower-Boudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP- The Greenwood Town Board, at their Tuesday meeting, declined to vote on a new threeyear ambulance subsidy contract with the Tower Area Ambulance Service. The contract, which calls for almost doubling the per-capita ambulance subsidy rate, from the current \$15 per person to \$29.30 by 2022, goes into effect in 2020.

"Everybody else so far has okayed it," said Supervisor Larry Tahija, who sits on the Tower Area Ambulance Commission representing the township. But John Bassing said Vermilion Lake Township has also held off on approval of the new contract. The Breitung Town Board has yet to approve the contract, although residents did approve a 2020 levy that included the extra funding at the township's annual meeting last month. Bassing, a former

township supervisor, argued against moving ahead with the agreement without further information. Bassing questioned the financial operations of the ambulance department, and whether funds were being used to cash flow other city operations.

Treasurer Pam

Rodgers said while it can be fine to move money between general fund accounts, she would like to have a better idea of what it costs the city to run the ambulance service.

"My guess is it is very

expensive," she said. "But before you agree to a big increase, it would be nice to see what it is costing."

Bassing noted that all the profits from the ambulance service currently go to the city's general fund and are not shared with the townships who contribute to the subsidy.

"The ambulance service is not a standalone entity," noted Mike Ralston.

# Broadband planning

While the board had approved moving forward with a plan for a public computer station at the town hall last month, as part of a regional broadband initiative, Supervisor Byron Beihoffer questioned whether the township should continue at this time, citing the lack of a formal proposal with the Blandin Foundation.

The computer station would be part of a larger grant proposal to Blandin and would include other smaller projects in the Tower-Soudan area, explained Joanne Bassing, who has been working on the project as part of the broadband planning group. The township was not submitting a stand-alone grant request, she said.

Chairman Carmen

DeLuca said he had a

problem allowing the public to be in the town hall building using a computer. Clerk Sue Drobac said she thought having a computer for public use was a good idea, and she didn't mind the idea of monitoring it. Rodgers noted that the computer would be provided at no cost to the township, and

also approved of the idea.

that this was just the first step in the broadband project. The next stepsecuring financing for a feasibility study— is also underway. She noted that it was likely there would be as much as \$85 million provided by the state Legislature this year for increasing access to broadband in rural areas. Fiber optic cable is already in place in many parts of the township. The final step is connecting individual homes and businesses to

ship office computers.

Beihoffer motioned to take no further action on the project, but it died for lack of a second.

the cable. The Greenwood

Town Hall has fiber optic

cable running into the fire

hall at this time, but it isn't

yet connected to the town-

#### **Public input**

Marilyn Mueller, who served many years as the township's planning director, asked the town board to take time to listen when constituents have questions or concerns. She noted that the spouses of elected officials need to stay out of official township business.

"Mr. or Mrs. Spouse," she said, "your spouse was elected. You were not elected as their assistant."

Mueller urged township officials to treat each other with kindness.

"We expect the best from our township officials," she said. "We need to treat them with respect. I have had more than my fill of the bashing. It is time for it to end."

She urged board members to cultivate the

positive.

"Tonight has been a very good meeting," she said. "Let's see if we can keep this up."

The board failed to act on a proposal made at the annual meeting to move public input back to the front of the agenda. Currently, public input is allowed at the end of the meeting.

DeLuca noted that at

a recent Association of Townships meeting, it was suggested that townships not have any public input "because of stuff like this."

In other business, the

In other business, the town board:

- ➤ Heard that Tony Sikora will be recording video of the meetings and putting them on the lakevermilion.net website. Sikora has been placing video of the regular Tower City Council meetings online also and was asked by a resident to do the same for Greenwood. He noted they are unedited and that "they are not professional video recordings."
- ➤ Approved liquor license renewals for Gruben's, Vermilion Club, BayView, and Shamrock Landing. St. Louis County has the ultimate approval over the licenses.
- ➤ Will advertise for summer lawn mowing services.
- ➤ Donated \$100 to the Tower Cemetery Association. At the annual meeting, township residents had asked that a donation of \$500 be considered. Treasurer Pam Rodgers told the board that the Minnesota Association of Townships recommends that such donations be limited to \$100. "We are collecting

people's taxes," Rodgers said. "People should make their own donations." She added the decision was up to the board.

Approved spending

➤ Approved spending authority of up to \$1,000 a month for the fire chief, clerk, and maintenance supervisor.

➤ Did not comment

on many of the suggestions that were voted on by residents at the annual meeting, including that all supervisors attend training, that board members give the reason for their vote after voting, that the township send a letter to St. Louis County to pave Breezy Point Rd., that the personnel policy be put into place, to research costs of putting in a well at the pavilion, and to create a list of volunteers for work at the town hall and grounds.

"These are just recommendations," said newly-elected Chair Carmen DeLuca. "We are the town board. We do what we think is best. People can recommend anything they want. That is why there are elections every year."

DeLuca noted that MAT recommends supervisors attend training every other year, and that Byron Beihoffer and DeLuca just attended a recent training session that was very informative.

Heard that the issue with 2019 minutes not be ing posted on the website had been resolved.

➤ Will have the clerk create a digitized copy of fire department training records (for state-mandated trainings like Firefighter I and II) for township records.

➤ Approved the first reading of some minor

changes to the fire department SOGs and POCs, and approved a new fire department/EMR member, David DeJoode, pending a background check and physical.

> Heard kudos for the

fire department and their members from Supervisor Mike Ralston, who noted it was nice to see the department roster growing when other area departments are having trouble recruiting members. DeLuca noted that 20 members had attended the last department meeting. The board heard that the computer in the fire department office was serviced and found to be full of multiple types of malware and hacking programs. Clerk Drobac said she is not sure who has been using the computer. Chief Fazio said that department officers do not use the computer, and instead are using their personal computers, and there was probably no need for the computer and it could be removed. ➤ Will be scheduling a

township cleanup day once the snow is melted.

Discussed the need of reading off correspondence received by the clerk. DeLuca said he had been advised that all correspondence does not need to be read, but should still be kept on file. Clerk Drobac noted that some of the correspondence did require action by the board.

➤ Approved a \$100 donation to Northwoods Partners.

➤ Accepted payment of \$8,000 for providing fire coverage to part of an unorganized township on Pine Island.

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

has more than four taps to a tree.

From sap to syrup takes the Lindquists about 24 to 26 hours-worth of boil time. It takes about 30 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.

The majority of the syrup goes to market in Ely and Tower, fetching \$10 a pint. Denise boils the sap further to make maple sugar candy for the couple's grandchildren.

The Lindquists will continue collecting sap until at least the beginning of next week, which is about when John expects the trees will start to bud.

"When buds on a sugar maple start to swell, the flavor changes," he said. "The sap turns yellow. The flavor is just lousy and rotten."

# A labor of memories

If you'd asked John and Denise several years ago if they'd sit in a shack on their property watching sap boil for 18 hours a day, they may have had a different answer.

The couple originally bought their Soudan property for deer hunting with the kids and grandkids in mind

"We really weren't into it then," John said.

As a child in Pine City, John had some experience with the sugary syrup after he began helping a local family tap their trees.

"We used a horse-drawn carriage to carry out sap," he said. "There was no science really and no regulation 50 years ago. It was old school science and art."

He'd have another round with maple syrup when he and his family moved to Mt. Iron and began a Cub Scout pack for their sons.

"We tapped trees to do something with the scouts," he said. "We cooked in our home; we made a few gallons."

The same family motivation keep Perkins going

when he taps the trees with his children in Ely.

"I want my kids to see it," he said. "My father does it, my grandfather did it, and their grandfathers did it. I hope that they can see that you can still make stuff, you don't have to go to the store to buy it."

For the Lindquists, the family would acquire property in Soudan and Birch Point. That's when they found out that friends Jim Macomber and Ann Flanagan were tapping trees next door on the point.

"We were out collecting and turned out they had the cabin right next to ours," John said. "They asked if we wanted to tap the trees."

Soon after the two families began tapping trees together, Jim was diagnosed with ALS, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. The diagnosis consolidated the two families' maple syrup operations into one, and John and Denise would eventually inherit much of Jim's boiling equipment

when he passed away.
In 2017, the Lindquists built a sugar shack on their property and while sap and syrup are the main affair, they've made the shack into one of memories, with Jim and Ann's old boiler, and a stove once used by

John's grandmother.

Pictures and other knick-knacks line the walls with memories and a cabinet stands ready to take in more family heirlooms.

John laughed as he stirred the boiler, noting that he can't even eat the sweet stuff he and his wife spend so much time making.

"I'm allergic to maple syrup," he said. "I eat it very sparingly. I love the flavor, but it doesn't like me."

The syrup from this spring will be available at markets in Ely and Tower when they open for the season later this year.

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

They may also purchase it because of what they think it says about them to own

or display it," he said.

Because of that, the price of a piece of art is based on the skill and even reputation of the artist. "Artists, however, must understand that the components of price include the materials and labor used to produce the work, plus some amount that represents the talent and

skill of the artist," Zeugner added. "This is important because many artists forget to include the materials and labor costs when they sell their work."

He offered two examples—framing and making note cards. Even simple frames are expensive, and the cost of printing cards can be surprisingly high. "Nevertheless, many artists forget these extra expenses when they sell

their work, and they sell their work for little more than it costs to produce," he said.

Artists also produce income by sharing their gifts and teaching others how to be creative. While most artists have some understanding of the value of their time while teaching, they often neglect the materials cost of classes.

"Teachers often

FIELDS LAW FIRM assume that the cost of materials for a class is simply the cost of the raw materials," Zeugner said. "Doing this ignores the cost of the time required to prepare the materials for use. For example, a jewelry maker may use precious metals and stones or beads and wires and cord in a class where students make earrings and necklaces. The instructor doesn't just

at the beginning of class. Instead, the instructor takes the time to assemble kits of materials and in some cases even does some of the preparation work in advance. The true materials cost is the cost of the raw materials plus the time to assemble the kits and even the packaging material. Not counting all of these other costs means that teachers may not be charging enough for

pile the items on a table

materials when they teach classes."

Artists hoping to earn money with their art should

money with their art should understand the business components of their work. "This includes keeping their business finances separate from their personal finances, keeping records, understanding expenses, and pricing their work properly. Then again, art is not always easy for accountants," he said.





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# **Spring Firewise Tips**

REGIONAL- Spring is approaching. Did you know spring, before green up, is our most vulnerable time for fire? Are you prepared?

It's scientific fact that a high percentage of homes lost in a wildfire are not burned by the wall of fire sweeping through an area but by the embers from that fire that will land, smolder, and ignite in a combustible area near or on a home. Embers can travel over a mile or more in a high wind situation.

Here is a top ten checklist to improve your structure's wildfire resiliency:

- ➤ Remove all dead vegetation, pine needles, and dried leaves from gutters, roof tops, and within 30 feet of your buildings.
- ➤ Move firewood piles 30 feet away from your
- ➤ Remove evergreen branches on or within at least 10 feet of your siding, deck, porch, roof,
- ➤ Within 30 feet of your buildings prune evergreen trees up to six to ten feet from the ground; for shorter trees, do not exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height. Thin or remove all small diameter balsam trees within 30 feet of all structures.
- ➤ Clear vegetation from under and around stationary propane tanks. Keep propane tanks full.
- ➤ Make sure your address sign is made out of reflective material and is clearly visible from all approaches to your property.
- ➤ Remove combustible materials from carports, crawl spaces, decks, and elevated porches. Place 1/8-inch metal screening between low-profile decks, porches, and crawl spaces to black embers and combustible materials from collecting underneath.
- ➤ Make sure eaves and soffit vents are also covered with 1/8-inch metal mesh and are in good condition to prevent embers from entering your building.
- ➤ Make sure the access to your property is cleared of trees and overhanging branches at a minimum of 14 feet wide and 14 feet high. This is for safe access for emergency vehicles.
- ➤ Within five feet of your structure have non-combustible materials or low flammable vegetation. Keep all grass and vegetation well-watered.

Check out the MN DNR Firewise website or call St. Louis County Firewise Coordinator Gloria Erickson at 218-365-0878 for more information.



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# **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### **ORR CITY COUNCIL** MINUTES OF **REGULAR MEETING** March 11, 2019

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orr City Council was held Monday, March 11, 2019, 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 Lloyd Scott Councilor Tom Kennebeck Councilor Ericka Cote

present: Also Treasurer Cheri Carter; Deputy Clerk, Laura Manai; Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch; Assistant Maintenance Rocky Hoffman; Ambulance Assistant Director, Leesa Gray; Ambulance Finance Officer Jim Gray; and Fire Chief. Dallas Johnson.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck. second by Bruce Black, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of February 11, 2019; and expenditures in the amount of \$75,094.40. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The Council discussed com-Public Hearing on whether to allow and/or regulate shortterm vacation rentals in the City. The majority of comments received were in support of Short-Term Vacation Rentals with some regulation. Motion by Ericka Cote, second by Tom Kennebeck, to support the concept of Short-Term Vacation Rentals pending approval of an Ordinance addressing some of the concerns raised at the Public Hearing. ordinance will also require rentals to be compliant with all other local, state and federal regulations. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Lloyd Scott, to approve mileage and reimbursement for Ambulance Personnel Bill and Donna Hoffer's attendance at Long Hot Summer EMT Conference. favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to approve Resolution 2019-01 Approving an Agreement for Transfer of Federal Airport Entitlement Funding to the

City of Fairmont. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck,

second by Lloyd Scott, to approve designation of North Star Credit Union as an authorized financial institution for the City of Orr; to designate Clerk/Treasurer Cheri Carter and Councilperson Ericka Cote as signatories on the account: and authorize transfer of \$186,000 from the ambulance savings account at American Bank to a ninemonth CD at the North Star Credit Union at 2.9% interest. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The council reviewed the Cash Fund Balance Report general checking account statements over the past 14 months. Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to transfer \$114,000 from the general checking account out of the Water and Sewer Funds (\$57,000 each fund) to chase a nine-month CD at the North Star Credit Union at 2.9% interest. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to approve St. Louis County's reclassification of Parcel 180-50-72 to non-conservation. The City of Orr is not interested in obtaining this 1.28 acre parcel of land. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

A request from the Orr Area Chamber of Commerce to waive the rental fee at the Community Center for its annual Easter "Eggstravaganza" was denied because an anonymous donor paid the rental fee.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck. second by Lloyd Scott, to approve purchase of four bar stools for the liquor store from Ryan's Rustic Railings at a cost of \$335.00 each. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Liquor Store: Liquor Store Manager Chet Nieman was not able to be present. The council reviewed his financial report and noted February sales were down. The neon sign on the front of the liquor store is not working.

Water and Sewer: Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch attended the Annual MRWA Conference and reported Itron will no longer support MV-RS software as of December 31, 2021. of the flow meter.

Airport: Airport Manager Rocky Hoffman reported an inventory of 1,049 gallons of Jet A, and 917 gallons of 100LL. The hose for the 100LL pump has been fixed. The Jet A fuel pump is still not working. The main computer board may need to be

Ambulance: Finance Officer Jim Grav reported they have responded to 16 calls this year to date. They currently have 10 EMTs and 6 EMRs on staff. Two of the EMRs are taking additional training to get their EMT certification. Parts had to be ordered from DSC Communications

to repair the power supply for the internal radio antenna at the ambulance garage. Ambulance personnel were able to receive radio calls but could not respond from the garage. Arrangements are being made to bring the 2016 rig to Minneapolis for its annual routine maintenance

Community Center: Mayor Astleford said they are still trying to fine tune heating

Fire Department: Fire Chief Dallas Johnson reported they are having their Firewise meeting with the Minnesota DNR on March 18th. He has completed all reporting requirements with the State of Minnesota. The fire department responded to call when it was -27 sustained damage as a result of freezing parts and other cold weather issues. A lot of maintenance was required to make repairs. They hope to hear from FEMA in the next week or two whether the grant for a new tender truck was approved. If it is denied, they will have to look at other options. An ice auger was purchased in the event they need to drill through the ice for water when responding

Tourist Information Center: Clerk Cheri Carter reported city staff has been ordering new brochures for 2019 and getting ready for spring

to a fire.

Comments from Council/

Tom Kennebeck Visitors: volunteered to help make repairs to the Bog Walk. He and Bruce Black will assess the condition of the Bog Walk when the snow melts. It will need to be pressure washed this year.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to adjourn All in favor. MOTIÓN CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 7:46

Respectfully submitted, Joel R. Astleford, Mayor Carter, Clerk/ Treasurer

Published in the Timberjay, April 12, 2019

# **OWN A PIECE OF ELY HISTORY**



The City of Ely is selling the wooden chairs from the basement of the Ely Community Center. They have the engraved "E" on the back.

\$15 ea

To reserve a chair or chairs, contact: Celia Domich, member of the Heritage Preservation Commission 218-235-8851 or celiadomich@frontier.com

> Purchase & pickup will be held from 10:00-6:00, Tuesday, April 30th

#### **EAGLES NEST TOWNSHP** MEETING CHANGE NOTICE

The next Eagles Nest Town Board meeting will be held on April 23, 2019, at 7 p.m. at the town hall (not on April 16 as originally scheduled).

Deb Siverhus, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, April 12, 2019

#### **CITY OF ELY** NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The City of Ely is calling for interested applicants to fill the following vacancies on the

> Ely Library Board 1- mid-term \*City of Ely Resident

fications by 4:30 p.m. on April 15, 2019 to the Ely City Clerk's Office, 209 E. Chapman Street, Ely, MN or email casey.velcheff@ ely.mn.us. Questions, please contact the Clerk-Treasurer's Office 218-226-5449 or Ely Library 218-365-5140.

Please remit a letter of interest and quali-

Casey Velcheff, Deputy Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, April 5 &12, 2019

### **LOCAL BOARD OF APPEAL & EQUALIZATION TOWN OF CRANE LAKE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Town of Crane Lake shall meet on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Crane Lake Chapel Fellowship Hall

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the town has been properly valued and classified by the assessor If you believe the value or classification of

your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board will review your assessments and may make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the county board of appeal and equalization.

> Jo Ann Pohlman, Clerk, Town of Crane Lake

Published in the Timberjay, April 5 & 12, 2019

# LOCAL BOARD OF APPEAL and EQUALIZATION for FIELD TOWNSHIP

St. Louis County, Minnesota will meet at the Field Town Hall, 1627 Highway 25 on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 from 11 a.m. - 12 noon.

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the town has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and also to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of

your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after conferring with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your local board of appeal and equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to your county board of appeal and equalization.

Pat Chapman, Clerk, Field Township

Published in the Timberjay, April 12, 2019

**4B** April 12, 2019 TIMBERJAY Newspapers



PLAN AHEAD FOR FALL HUNTING

# Fall bear permit applications due by Friday, May 3

REGIONAL—If you're planning to apply for a 2019 fall bear hunting permit, you'll need to do so by May 3.

Applications for bear hunting licenses are being accepted now through the Friday, May 3 deadline. You can apply wherever Minnesota hunting and fishing licenses are sold, online at mndnr.gov/buyalicense, or by telephone at Natural Resources will notify 888-665-4236.

A total of 3,400 licenses are available in 13 permit areas. Bear licenses cost \$44 for residents and \$230 for nonresidents, and there is a \$5 application fee. The 2019 season is open from Sunday, Sept. 1, through Sunday,

The Department of

lottery winners by June 1.

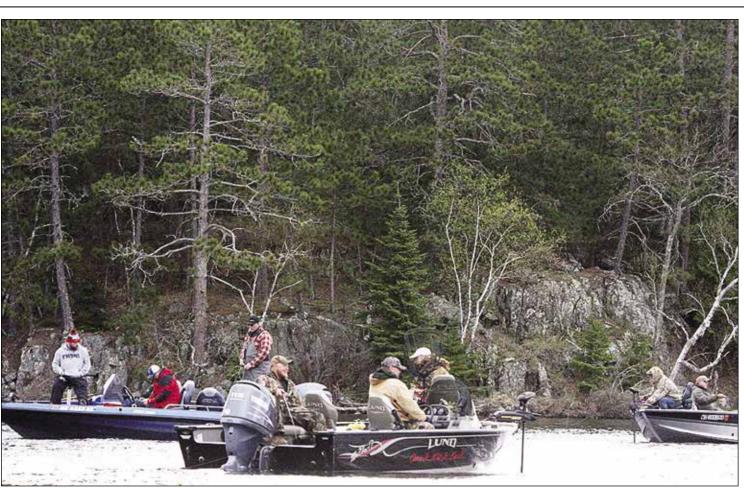
The deadline to purchase licenses awarded by lottery will be Thursday, Aug. 1. Any remaining unpurchased licenses will be available over the counter starting at noon on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

The DNR has set 2019 bear permit numbers for quota areas to allow bear population numbers to gradually increase and support a robust bear population.

Bear hunting information is available on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/ hunting/bear.

Right: A brown-phase black bear sidelit by evening M. Helmberger





LAKE VERMILION

# Walleye numbers dip

Fisheries managers say a strong 2018 year-class should boost numbers for next year

LAKE VERMILION-The effects of a couple seasons of heavy fishing pressure may be starting to show on the walleye population here, even as a strong 2018 year-class promises to boost prospects for later in the season and years ahead.

Annual test netting on Lake Vermilion showed a noticeable drop in walleye numbers in the lake's eastern basin, even as numbers on the west end held their own. Fisheries staff with the Department of Natural Resources conduct the test netting every fall and they typically report on their results in early April.

The latest results show that the DNR caught an average of 11.6 walleye per net, which is a significant drop from the 16 walleye per net recorded a year earlier. While last fall's catch rate would be considered outstanding for most Minnesota lakes, it was the third-lowest catch rate in the past 25 years for Vermilion and is below the 25th percentile for the lake historically.

The drop in the lake-wide average catch was due entirely to a sharp decline on the lake's east end, which saw its lowest numbers since 1994. Average walleye numbers are typically significantly higher on Vermilion's east end than in the west, although the average size is smaller in the east. This year, however, the average catch was nearly identical across the lake.

by Marshall Helmberger Above: Anglers may have to put in a bit more time this year to reach their limit of Lake Vermilion walleye.

> The smile season is right around the corner. The 2019 fishing opener is set for Saturday, May 11.

The average walleye catch in the east basin was 11.8 per net, while survey nets on the west end caught 11.3 fish on average, which is actually somewhat higher than the recent norm on that end of the lake.

"Fishing has been really good, but the human impact is there," said DNR large lake specialist Matt Hennen, in response to the survey results.

In some respects, the lower walleye count could be a sign that the DNR's recent narrowing of the protected slot has had the intended effect— allowing anglers to harvest more Lake Vermilion walleye. Previous surveys had shown that the slot limit had helped build up a sizable inventory of larger walleye and the recent decision to loosen the slot was designed to boost the harvest of those fish.

Hennen remains optimistic that the dip in walleye numbers is short-term, reflecting a couple different factors, including a weak 2017 year-class, which is reflected in lower numbers of walleyes on the small end of the "eater" range. Meanwhile, the average catch of walleye over 14 inches was still running above average on the lake, helped in large measure by very strong



numbers of walleye over 14 inches on the west end.

"The numbers on west Vermilion are looking really good," said Hennen. "There are lots of 14-20-inch fish over there."

Not everyone is convinced that the walleye decline is as abrupt on the east end as the DNR netting suggests. Longtime guide Cliff Wagenbach notes that the winter bite was exceptional this year, which usually bodes well for the following year's open water bite.

And even Hennen notes that the netting on Vermilion's east end coincided with the arrival of a strong cold front, which often reduces fish activity for a day or two and could have reduced the total catch. Biologists note that such surveys are inherently subject to variability depending on a variety of factors.

While the 2017 year-class looks relatively weak, Hennen

said the fall electrofishing results showed very strong numbers of young-of-the-year walleye, with the highest catch rate since 2007. The young walleye averaged 5.4 inches, which was near the long-term average for growth. Assuming that the 2018 yearclass continues at least average growth, some of the larger fish are likely to be of harvest size by late this summer or fall. That's particularly likely on the west end of the lake, where walleye growth rates tend to be higher.

If the number of eater-sized walleye is slight reduced this year, anglers are likely to turn to jumbo perch as a replacement. "The numbers of jumbo perch have just exploded," said Vermilion fishing guide Rob Bryers. "This past fall, it was not uncommon to bring in fourto-six jumbo perch a day, many in the 12-13-inch range."

See **VERMILION...**pg. 5B

# **Outdoors briefly**

# Hear an update on Powwow **Trail progress**

ELY- Martin Kubik will offer an update on efforts to restore the Powwow Trail as part of a Tuesday Group presentation on April 16. The event gets underway at noon at the Grand Ely Lodge.

Kubik, a lifelong wilderness trails advocate, will talk about how volunteers, in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service and Duluth-based Frost River are working to restore the historic hiking trail, which was ravaged by the Pagami Creek fire in 2011. Emerging from ashes, this trail is now being restored amidst a vigorous regenerating jack pine forest.

Kubik is affiliated with the Boundary Waters Advisory Committee, a grass roots nonprofit that has worked since the Pagami Creek fire to restore the once-popular Powwow Trail. Although the path was initially cleared by the Forest Service crews after the fire, the USFS ceased maintenance and thousands of trees fell across the path while a vigorous growth of jack pines has obliterated the trail, making it impassable.

"Volunteers worked hard and cleared 25 miles of the trail in the 2017-2018 season," said Kubik. "The Forest Service has provided help by clearing portages and providing canoes for the interior crews. And Kawishiwi Lodge has provided bunkhouse space and parking, making it easier for work crews traveling to portions of the trail from Lake Three."

Organizers recruited more than 80 volunteers last season and hope for an additional 20 for planned work trips this May that they hope will allow them to have the loop trail reopened for the first time since 2016.

Kubik's presentation will include slides from almost every year after the fire, showing the progress of the forest's recovery. Once reopened, the Powwow Trail will provide an excellent opportunity for viewing post-fire ecology as young jack pines resemble thick green carpet-like cover in the emerging forest, now five to eight feet tall.



from NOAA weather

# As snow melts, ticks will be out

by Gina Empey

Tower area Lyme support group

As our thoughts turn to spending time outdoors this spring, we need to remember that ticks are also ready for a meal after a long winter's nap.

This year is expected to be one of the worst years for ticks on record— and that means we can expect to see more tick-borne illness, like Lyme disease.

So, are we going to let ticks ruin our spring? No way!

We can protect ourselves and our pets with a few tips. There are natural recipes for tick repellents: Mix 10 drops of tea tree oil with two cups vinegar and one cup distilled water in a spray bottle.

Repel makes a plantbased lemon eucalyptus spray, or clothing can be treated with permethrin to detour ticks. Keep in mind that pets may carry ticks into your home even if you treat your pets. This is how I was infected ten years ago. It may be beneficial to put your clothes in the dryer after outdoor activities and to do tick checks regularly.

Be especially cautious in areas near bird feeders since they attract mice and small rodents which can carry nymph ticks.

If you're bitten by a tick, take care to remove it properly. Get under the body of the tick with a tweezer or tick remover and pull straight out. Never squeeze the belly of the tick, which could cause the infection to be released into the bite area.

There are many people suffering needless pain and other symptoms from a bacteria that causes invisible inflammation that does not show up on testing. There are remedies that can help.

You can learn more at a Lyme support group that was recently formed in Tower. If you are interested in attending, contact Gina Empey at lvlymegroup@ outlook.com.

#### **Outdoors** in brief

# DNR seeks comment on a variety of hunting topics

REGIONAL —

Hunters, wildlife watchers, landowners and interested groups can provide their thoughts about deer populations, proposed hunting and trapping season changes, including expanding the youth deer hunting season across the state, allowing smaller-gauged shotguns for wild turkey hunting, and various changes related to the harvest of fisher, pine marten and bobcat.

Anyone can provide input to the Department of Natural Resources through Sunday, April 21, online at mndnr.gov/ input/wildlife-input.html, in writing or by email. Background information on each change is provided online. The questions are for an informal, non-representative survey of DNR stakeholders.

"Every year we consider various changes to our hunting seasons based on suggestions we receive from the public or staff, and we begin the process to evaluate potential biological or social impacts of those proposed changes," said Leslie McInenly, DNR wildlife populations program manager. "The survey responses will help inform us as we make decisions on these issues."

The DNR also is seeking public input on deer populations and observations from the 2018 deer hunting season. The DNR will use this input to inform regulations for the 2019 hunting

season, said Barb Keller, DNR big game program supervisor.

# **Comment sought** on OHV access in Togo Rec Area

TOGO - The Department of Natural Resources is seeking comments on a proposal to revise the rules governing off-highway vehicle access to certain portions of the Togo Forest Recreation Area in the George Washington State Forest in northeastern Itasca County.

Currently, OHVs must be trailered in and out of the forest recreation area. This proposal will allow campers with OHVs to unload their OHVs at the campsites within the forest recreation area and access the recreational trails within the state forest, including the Thistledew ATV Trail. OHV access to the recreational trails will be limited to existing roadways and campsites.

The DNR will accept written comments until 4:30 p.m., May 3. Comments may be submitted:

Via email to: guy. lunz@state.mn.us.

Via regular mail to: Guy Lunz, area supervisor, Parks and Trails Division, Minnesota DNR, 1201 East Highway 2, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

The DNR will also hold a public meeting from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 18 at the Side Lake Community Center, 7485 McCarthy Beach Road, Side Lake.

For information, visit mndnr.gov/input/ mgmtplans/ohv/plans or call Guy Lunz, 218-328-

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# LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST













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Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Towe	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
04/01	36	18	0.02	0.4"	04/01	36	13	0.00		04/01	35	15	0.00		04/01	37	25	0.00		04/01	39	19	0.00	
04/02	37	27	0.00		04/02	37	25	0.00		04/02	38	26	0.00		04/02	37	21	0.00		04/02	38	11	0.00	
04/03	36	14	0.19	1.3"	04/03	36	13	0.16	0.1"	04/03	36	14	0.31	1.5"	04/03	36	16	0.07	0.2"	04/03	37	15	0.18	1.2"
04/04	38	10	0.00		04/04	37	9	0.00		04/04	36	8	0.00		04/04	45	10	0.00		04/04	38	11	0.00	
04/05	40	10	0.00		04/05	40	10	0.00		04/05	44	8	0.00		04/05	41	32	0.00		04/05	43	28	0.00	
04/06	44	33	0.03		04/06	48	32	0.00		04/06	42	33	0.01		04/06	48	34	0.00		04/06	43	34	0.00	
04/07	48	37	0.00		04/07	43	35	0.00		04/07	48	35	0.00		04/07	45	37	0.00		04/07	49	38	0.04	
Totals			2.68	74.3"	Totals			2.95	59.8"	Totals			2.97	67.6".	Totals			1.59	NA	Totals			2.39	64.6"

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

The DNR test netting bears that out, with an average catch rate of 24.9 perch per net, the highest catch rate since 2014. The above-average catch rate of perch over nine inches "will likely provide harvest opportunity," according to the DNR survey report.

Meanwhile, smallmouth bass are becoming a steadily-increasing part of the Lake Vermilion fishery. Fall electrofishing tallied a total of 75 fish an hour, the highest ever observed on Lake Vermilion. The high lake-wide average was driven largely by the extraordinary

numbers of smallies found on the west end, where the DNR tallied a total of 145 fish per hour. That compares to the historic average over 48.5 bass per hour. The harvest on the east end, at 40 fish per hour, was slightly above the long-term



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-1,250 Customer Cash

-750\* Ford Credit Cash

-500 Retail Bonus Cash

-3,874 FOH DISC

EcoBoost.

-750 Bonus Cash -500 Select Inventory Cash

-750 Special PKG Bonus Cash -1,000 Matching Down Cash -1,000 \*\*\*\* GM/RAM Truck Conquest

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Sport Appearance PKG. \$46,550 MSRP

- -2,000 STX App DISC -750\* Ford Credit Cash -500 Retail Bonus Cash
- -750 Bonus Cash
- -1,000 Special PKG Cash -1,000 Matching Down Cash
- -1,000 \*\*\*\* GM/RAM Truck Conquest -2,873 FOH DISC



\$36.677

# **2019 ESCAPE SE 4X4**

# EcoBoost, Back Up Camera

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- -500 Retail Bonus Cash -1000 Matching Down Cash
- -1,596 FOH DISC





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**2019 F150 XLT SPORT SUPER CAB 4X4** 

\$36,390 MSRP -1,500 Customer Cash -1,000 Retail Bonus Cash

-1,000 Matching Down Cash -2,028 FOH DISC



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# 2019 EXPLORER XLT 4X4

3.5 L V-6, Voice Activated Navigation Food Safe & Smart PKG, **Blind Spot System** 

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- -500 Select Bonus Cash -1,000 Matching Down Cash -2.808 FOH DISC



# -4,521 FOH DISC

# Navigation, 3.5L, EcoBoost, Blind Spot System

\$66,180 MSRP -2,250 Customer Cash -1.250\* Ford Credit Cash -2,000\*\* Retail Conquest Cash



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#23441

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\$12,994

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## Aluminum Wheels, Auto. **Electronic Temp Control**

\$17.810 MSRP -2,500 Customer Cash -500 Select Inventory Cash -1,000\*\* Retail Conquest Cash -811 FOH DISC

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**2016 MKC AWD** 



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# **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### ORR CITY COUNCIL **MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING** OF MARCH 11, 2019

A Public Hearing was held on Monday, March 11, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Orr City Hall regarding short-term vacation rentals in the City of Orr. Roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

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

The purpose of the Public

Hearing was to solicit public comment and input on whether or not to allow short-term vacation rentals in the City of Orr. If short-term vacations rentals are allowed, should they be regulated and what should the regulations be.

Mayor Astleford read written comments from property owners and testimony was taken from citizens in attendance. Eight persons attended the public meeting.

Heather Fealy commented she owns an AirBnB in Leiding Township and has not had any problem with renters. She stated it is a good way to promote the

area and local businesses

John Hess, North Country Inn, felt it would hurt his business and was against allowing short-term vacation

The majority of the comments received were in favor allowing short-term vacation rentals with comments being mixed regarding regulation. Vacation rentals should be subject to the City of Orr Lodging Tax Ordinance.

Mayor Astleford stated he does not like to discourage new business or tell people how they should run their business, but felt any new

business should follow all government regulations as to the nature of their business.

Motion by Bruce Black. second by Ericka Cote, to Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted, Joel R. Astleford, Mayor Cheri J. Carter, Clerk/ Treasurer

Published in the Timberjay, April 12, 2019

#### CITY OF ELY Advertisement for Quotes

The City of Ely is requesting quotes for the construction of a kiosk for maps and information at the Ely Cemetery. Details and specifications for this work can be viewed at Ely City Hall or requested by email: elyod@ ely.mn.us. The City reserves the right to reject any and all quotes and to award the work in the best interest of the City. Quotes are due at Ely City Hall

Harold R Langowski Clerk/Treasurer

by 2 pm Tuesday April 16th.

Published in the Timberjay, April 5 &12, 2019

#### CITY OF ELY Advertisement for Quotes

The City of Ely is requesting quotes for the construction of a mountain bike skills trail at Hidden Valley. The project will be partially funded by an IRRRB grant and prevailing wage requirements must be followed. To be eligible to quote this project you must have past experience in the design, development and construction of single-track mountain bike trails. Please provide a list of past projects and references with your quote. The City reserves the right to reject any and all quotes and to award the work in the best interest of the City. To get additional information

concerning the project email: Quotes elyod@ely.mn.us. are due at Ely City Hall by 2 pm Tuesday April 16th.

Harold R Langowski Clerk/Treasurer

Published in the Timberjay, April 5 & 12, 2019



# **EMPLOYMENT**

# **HELP WANTED**

Under New Management

# The Landing

❖ Cooks ❖ Bartenders Waitresses/Waiters

Cleaning Staff Dishwashers

# **Opening Soon!**

Call Mark at 763-370-0707

# MOOSEBIRDS

on Lake Vermilion

Come Join Our Team

Call Matt at 763-370-0624

or pick up an application at the Landing starting on April 13

#### PART-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT/ **BOOKKEEPER**

Must be well organized, efficient, and upbeat. Knowledge of Quickbooks, Word, and Excel a plus. Customer service experience preferred. Call Docks on Wheels to schedule an interview, 218-365-6210. 4/26c

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ISD 707** Nett Lake, Minnesota

#### **Day-Shift Custodian/ Bus Driver**

Qualifications: Valid MN Driver's License; Must be eligible for School Bus Endorsement; High School Degree or equiviliant; Ability to operative small equipment i.e. floor scrubber, lawn mower, snowblower etc.; Ability to pass criminal back ground check; Able to pass Pre-employment physical and drug test; Able to work a flexible work schedule

Duties: General Cleaning-mopping, dusting, vacuuming, trash removal, etc.; Building maintenance-will be expected to assist in minor repairs, snow removal, grounds keeping.; Assist in handling of school supplies; ansport students AM and PM bus routes; Other duties as assigned.

Rate of Pay: Custodian \$15.69, Bus Driver \$20.10/hr

**Terms of Contract:** 

Custodian 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM, Monday-

Friday- 32.5 hrs/wk. Bus Driver 6:00 - 8:00 AM and 3:00 - 5:00

PM, Monday-Friday, 20hrs/wk Note: Hours may vary based on the seasons or district's needs.

**Applications Due:** 

3:00 PM on May 3, 2019 13090 Westley Superintendent's Office, Drive, Nett Lake, MN 55772

Published in the Timberjay, April 12, 19, 26, 2019



#### **Solid Waste Worker** Intermediate/Solid Waste Worker II

Apply by 04/12/2019

www.stlouiscountymn.gov or call 218-726-2422

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 4/12



# **Part-Time Retail Associate**

The International Wolf Center has openings for seasonal part-time retail and admissions positions, 16-32 hours per week. Must be able to work in a fun, fast-paced environment, work weekends, evenings and have excellent customer service 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 Hwy 169) to pick up an application.

For additional information, call Jackie at 218-365-4695 Ext 126

**Experienced AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN** Full-time, M-F, benefits. Contact Lee Phillips. Waschke Family Chevrolet in Cook, 126 N Hwy 53, PO Box 549, Cook, MN 55723; 218-666-5901 or 800-238-4545. tfn

#### **POSITION OPENING - ISD No. 696 ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS** Temporary Bus Driver/Class III

5 hrs/day; 5 days/week, student contact days

Qualifications: Minnesota Class D driver's license, Type II Vehicle Driver's Training required, must have good driving record, pre-employment drug test required; \$18/hr. Background check required.

**Start date:** April 3, 2019. Contact Tim Leeson, Transportation/Facilities Director at 365-6166 ext. 1747 with questions.

Application available at www.ely.k12.mn.us, or on the bulletin board, 2nd floor of the Memorial building; return application to: ISD No. 696, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731. Application deadline: April 15, 2019. 4/12

#### **Help Wanted** MOTIVATED EMPLOYEES FOR **ESTABLISHED LOCAL BUSINESS**

Must be reliable and a team player. Must enjoy working outdoors and be able to lift 50 pounds for a majority of the day. Duties could be delivery and assembly of boat lifts and docks, or welding, painting, and decking. Call in person to schedule an interview, 218-365-6210. This is an opportunity for a fun and enjoyable season at Docks on Wheels. Compensation based on qualifications. 4/26c

#### **POSITION OPENING** ISD No. 696 ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 1.0 FTE Media Generalist

Salary and fringes as per Master Agreement Between ISD No. 696 and the Ely Education Association and School Board policy. Include district application, resume', official transcripts, letters of recommendation and current Minnesota teaching license; background check required.

oplication available at www.ely.k12.mn.us. click on District then on Job Openings, then Application for Employment in Licensed Position or at the General Office, 2nd floor of the Memorial Building; return materials to: ISD No. 696, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731. Application deadline: May 31, 2019. 4/19



#### Ely Chamber of Commerce Seasonal Staff **Position**

The Ely Chamber of Commerce has a great opportunity for an individual seeking seasonal work (15-20 hours per week). This part-time position requires computer and interpersonal communication skills, and a flexible work schedule that will include week-The selected individual will provide support to area businesses, visitors and co-workers in a team environment. The position does require lifting up to 35 pounds. For more details, please contact the Chamber office at 218-365-6123 or director@ely. org. Office is located at 1600 E. Sheridan Street, Ely. 4/12

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# **HELP WANTED**

**Tower Area Ambulance Service** Now taking applications

**EMR** and **EMT** paid on call staff needed for Monday - Friday shifts

Application contains pertinent job information

Please submit questions and applications to: ambulance@cityoftower.com

> Pick up an application at City Hall, 602 Main Street, 2nd Floor 4/19



# **OPEN POSITIONS**

Care Center

PT RN or LPN (\$4,000 sign-on bonus) PT Nursing Assistant (\$1,500 sign-on bonus) Casual Restorative Nursing Assistant

Imaging
3 Full Time Radiologic Tech Casual Radiologic Tech (weekends only)

Environmental Services

Part-Time Housekeeper 1 Full-Time Housekeeper

Casual Housekeeper & Laundry Aide

<u>Dietary</u> 1 Part-Time Dietary Aide/Cook

<u>Hospital</u> FT Utilization Review Coordinator (Current RN or LPN required)
Temporary PT Registered Nurse

www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/ More Info? Contact Human Resources 218-666-6220 humanresources@cookhospital.org The Cook Hospital & Care Center offers competitive pay and benefits

# 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**



**NAPA PARTS** CENTER. INC. 45 E. Chapman Street

> **ELY** 365-3132

# **Langevin Auto** & Truck Repair

Full Service Auto Repair & Garage



#### HAIR CARE

218-749-0751

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**

LICENSE COOK AREA BUREAU- -221 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

#### **RENTAL** WANTED

LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME. Easy going, very responsible Ely-area senior family wants to rent unfurnished country or lake view home. Long-term. Within 15 (+) miles of Ely. No smoking, drinking, or parties. Will care for and protect your property with proven skills to provide normal repairs/maintenance

### 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



- PUMPS WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

1-800-662-5700 Spring Park Rd. Mt. Iron, MN 55768

753-29<u>5</u>0 to subscribe to the Timberjay!



#### **BUILDING SERVICES**

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- Superior Quality Plank Paneling
- Trim
- One-Of-A-Kind Moldings • Industrial Lumber

218-744-1788 8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Woodland Presbyterian Church, Acacia Blvd. and Central Drive

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH DRUGS, give yourself a break. There 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 any-one 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 Federal 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.



# 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

### **MARINE**



# Centrally Located On Lake Vermilion

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#### **SUPPORT** MERCURY OUTBOARDS **GROUPS** Frank's Marine

SUPPORT GROUP-MS 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.

CO-DEPENDENTS

MEETING- Fridays at noon-St Anthony's Church Classroom 3-Use west side entrance. For more information go to coda.

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 toll-free 1-888-647-RAAN(7226).

MEETING in Ely! "New Ideas" WOMEN IN RÉCOVERY: 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.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**Vermilion Housing Corporation** 

currently is taking applications for

1 and 2 bedroom apartments in

Tower and Soudan.

**RENT SUBSIDY AVAILABLE** 

CALL 218-753-6111

Please leave your name and address

and application form will be sent.

3

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### **MARINE** 4655 Moccasin Point Rd

**MOCCASIN POINT** 

Lake Vermilion 218-753-3319 Storage, Boat Rentals,

Service/Repairs/Sales Mechanic on Duty moccasinpointmarine.com

**SYAMAHA** 



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118 Riddle's

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docks, trailers and accessories timbuktumarine.com



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- fun vacation

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Subscribe Today (218) 753-2950

#### **Super** Crossword 13 Pasta sauce 62 Rock singer 117 Jar coverer 48 Conical

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Sales & Service, Orr, Mn 55771

Lund, Spartan Trailers, Ercoa Pontoons.

Call 218-757-3150

- ritual immersion
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  - (1957 hit) 40 Trial balloon

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- **44** "O Sole —" (Italian song)
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**53** Stir in, e.g. 54 "You don't say!"

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- **97** more 59 Hauling (greater than
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Cabin rentals

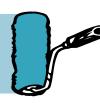
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20 and 30 yard **Roll-off Boxes** for cleanup, demo & garbage



Servicing the Iron Range Area & North **UDOVICH GARBAGE** & ROLL-OFF SERVICE

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#### **Licensed Septic Design** & Installation

- ◆ Complete Site & Building Preparation
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P.O. Box 539 • Cook MN 55723 Phone (218)666-3174 Fax (218)742-9392

**Sharon Maronick** Office Manager/Closing Specialist

www.netitle.com

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Cook, MN 55723

Sheldon Sandberg, Owner

Cell: 218-780-7153

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- Garages
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# PINE PANELING ON SALE!

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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



Phone/Fax: 218.666.5344 Hours: Mon. Fri: 7-5, Sat: 8-12 eric@cookbuildingcenter.com

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218-753-2230

302 Main St., Tower, MN M-F: 8 AM-5 PM; Sat: 8 AM-Noon

# **REAL ESTATE**

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218-741-8532





Exquisite family estate. Half-log siding, 5 BR, 5 BA, 2 stone fireplaces, beautiful deck, boathouse and much more. A must see! \$1,450,000 #134298 RURAL COOK 2 BR, 1 BA home on 120

acres. Wood interior, large living areas, gas fireplace. Pond and creek on property. End-of-road seclusion. Adjoins public lands. Solar powered. \$249,000



MLS ENLINE STREET #135909 - LAKE VERMILION-PRICE REDUCED!

**36056 LAKE VERMILION-WAKEMUP BAY** 3 BR

2 BA year-round home w/100 ft lksh. 3-stall detached

garage, storage shed at lake. \$469,000



# Lake Country 218-757-3233

www.TheLakeCountry.com

Crane Lake-\$99,000 5.5 wooded acres-Rollick Creek on Crane Lake. Boat-access. MLS#136424

Pelican Lake-\$149,500 1.62 acre peninsula and 840 ft of lakeshore. MLS#136679

Orr-\$40,000 40 wooded acres near Pelican Lake. MLS#136680

Elephant Lake, Orr-\$130,000 A-frame cabin with 2 BRs

Crane Lake-\$128,900 Boat-access cabin, 1 BR with loft, new septic and great views! MLS#136575

# FOR SALE BY OWNER 2184 Passi Rd. Burntside Lake

1,725 sq. ft., 4 BR, 3 BA cabin/home, new 2-car garage, 200+ ft of gentle sloping shoreline, sauna w/ double bed and toilet on the shore, 2 slip boathouse w/ electric lifts, classic Larson boat w/ 75 hp motor, canoe. 2011 updated sewer mound system, and much more.

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# FOR SALE BY OWNER 2180 Passi Rd. Burntside Lake

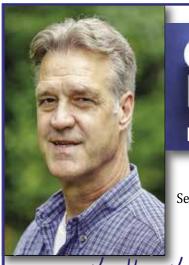
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