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the TIMBERJAY



VOL. 30, ISSUE 41 October 18, 2019

\$1.00

TOWERGATE

Former Tower mayor pleads guilty to misconduct

Yet Josh Carlson made false statement under oath in acknowledging his guilt

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

VIRGINIA— Former Tower Mayor Josh Carlson has pleaded guilty to engaging in official misconduct when he removed *Timberjay* publisher Marshall Helmberger from his position as president of the Tower Economic Development Authority in January 2018.

Carlson made his plea in the Sixth District Court in Virginia on Wednesday as part of a plea deal reached with county prosecutors. The judge issued a stay of adjudication, which means Carlson's conviction won't be immediately entered into the record and could be cleared away if he remains law-abiding for the next year. He was required to pay a \$50 fine.

The St. Louis County Attorney's Office had charged Carlson along with former Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith over the removal of Helmberger, which came in apparent retaliation for unflattering news coverage and editorials questioning decision-making by city officials.

But Carlson cited a different rationale in the Virginia courtroom

last Wednesday. Carlson's attorney, Jon Rice of Hibbing, led the former mayor through a brief recitation of what was supposed to be a factual accounting of events, but instead prompted his client to make a false statement to the court over the reasons behind Helmberger's removal.

See...TOWER pg. 9



Josh Carlson

ST. LOUIS COUNTY



Open for service

David M. Skelton Transportation Building opens in Cook

by E. M. SCHULTZ
Staff Writer

COOK - A large group turned out to support the opening of the new St. Louis County Government Services Center and the David M. Skelton

St. Louis County Public Works Director James Foldesi, right, presents a building sign to long-time public works supervisor, David Skelton, left, at the new county transportation building dedication ceremony on Tuesday in Cook. photo by E.M. Schultz

Transportation Building, in Cook, on Tuesday, Oct. 15. Commissioner Keith Nelson opened the event by

welcoming everyone before turning the microphone over to Commissioner Paul McDonald.

"Wow, is all I can say," McDonald stated, looking

See...COOK pg. 12

POLITICS

DFL forum highlights top issues

by LEAH ROGNE
Contributing Writer

ELY - Unity and civility were key themes at Democratic Values in Action: A Northern Minnesota Issues Forum held at Vermilion Community College on Oct. 12. Over 80 area residents came out for an afternoon packed with presentations focusing on economic inequality, healthcare, and climate change.

The event was sponsored by the North of the Divide DFL and the Outreach Committee of St. Louis County DFL Third District Organizing Unit and was the first in a series of forums planned for the area.

"We need to be having these conversations all over Minnesota and the country," said State DFL Chair Ken Martin, who opened the event.

Martin outlined the three requirements for a responsible democracy: good ideas, grassroots movements to support those ideas, and engagement in electoral politics.

"If people are cynical and don't vote, the same people stay in power. If more people participate, we have better government," Martin said.

See...DFL pg. 12



Ken Martin

GONE TOO SOON

So, who was Hans Smith?

Hundreds turn out for Ely memorial service

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY - Hans Smith was just 55 years old when he died last month while working on a tree that had

fallen on a house during a storm near Eagles Nest Lake. He may not have realized it, but he left his mark on every single person he met.

See...HANS pg. 11

A standing-room-only crowd filled the Hidden Valley Ski Chalet last Saturday afternoon to honor the life of Hans Smith, of Ely.

photo by K. Vandervort



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Finnish Americans to meet Nov. 5

HIBBING- Finnish Americans and Friends will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 4010 9th Ave. West in Hibbing (across from the cinema). The program features David Kess discussing the interactions between various ethnic groups that came to settle on the Iron Range in the early 20th century. Kess, of Ely, is a retired educator who knows a great deal about our area's history. Coffee and refreshments will follow the presentation; everyone is welcome!

Child singers needed for December holiday concert in Ely

REGIONAL- The Ely Area (Babbitt and Tower included) Christmas Choir Cantata includes a piece for child singers age 11 and under. If your child would be interested and excited to sing and perform in front of a large audience, half-hour rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning Oct. 30 at Grace Lutheran Church, 301 E Conan St. in Ely. The performance will be on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. No church affiliation is necessary.

Adult singers rehearse from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and additional adult voices are welcome to join through Oct. 30. Free licensed daycare is provided on site for singers with children. Come and spread the joy of the Christmas season. Call Patti at 218-929-3214 with questions.

Greenwood to host roundtable on telephone and internet issues

GREENWOOD TWP- The Greenwood Town Board is hosting a public roundtable meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 5:30 p.m. at the Greenwood Town Hall. Residents are asked to come to talk about current telephone and internet issues, as well as discuss possibilities for the future. Various service providers have been invited to take part in the meeting, and there will be a question and answer period. Call the township office at 218-753-2231 with any questions.

Biimadziwin: The Good Life, at Mesabi Unitarian on Sunday

VIRGINIA- Rebecca Gawboy, of Tower, is the guest speaker at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church on Sunday, Oct. 20. Her topic is Biimadziwin: The Good Life: finding the spiritual path, fostering and adopting children, and raising them in their own culture.

Mesabi Unitarian is located at 230 7th Street S in Virginia. Service time is 10:30 a.m. The building is handicap accessible.

Bands of The Swing Era at NWFA jazz listening session on Oct. 28

COOK- On Monday, Oct. 28, Jazz at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery will begin at 7 p.m. at 210 S River St. next to Dream Weaver Salon in Cook. Bill Conger's jazz listening sessions are an exploration into the appreciation of a true American musical art form. This session will cover the history of the bands of the Swing Era of the 1930's.

These sessions lead the participants to an enhanced listening experience by giving the listener tools that will unlock an understanding and appreciation of jazz (and other music types). Sessions will be based on listening and discussion, with an overview of resources available for self-directed exploration of jazz.

Bill Conger, of Cook, once led a Jazz Appreciation class at Coe College and has been a fan of jazz for many decades. This is a learn-how-to-listen session, not a learn-how-to-play session, so all are qualified and welcome to attend.

Jazz at NWFA Gallery is offered free of charge by Cook's own non-profit arts organization. Find more information on NWFA, inspiring, nurturing and celebrating the arts, at nwfam.org.

PIATIGORSKY FOUNDATION

Piatigorsky Foundation sponsors concerts in Cook on Oct. 27 & 28

Piatigorsky Foundation believes music is "a necessity, not a luxury"

COOK- Again this year, extraordinarily talented musicians from the Piatigorsky Foundation will be showing off and engaging folks with concert and music history in Cook, on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 210 1st Ave. NE. The performing artists are pianist Nicholas Shaneyfelt and tenor Kelly W. Burns. This is a freewill offering opportunity sponsored by Northwoods Friends of the Arts.

Shaneyfelt and Burns will also perform a free concert for students and parents at North Woods School on Monday, Oct. 28 at 1:30 p.m.

Piatigorsky Foundation musicians are chosen for their artistry and ability to engage audiences through lively discussion. In performances that are both entertaining and informative, the artists share anecdotes and insights into the music they will perform.

Pianist Dr. Nicholas Shaneyfelt, originally from Knightstown, Ind., is Visiting Assistant Professor of Music in Collaborative Piano at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Dr. Shaneyfelt recently completed his first summer on the faculty of the International Music Festival of the Adriatic, a summer festival for instrumentalists, vocalists, and composers in Duino, Italy.

Tenor Kelly W. Burns is an active performer of musical theater, recital, opera and concert works throughout North America, singing historic music spanning over 400 years. He has sung with opera companies and orchestras. Among his stage



Pianist Nicholas Shaneyfelt (left) and tenor Kelly W. Burns will perform at First Baptist Church in Cook on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m., and at North Woods School, in a performance for students and their parents, on Monday, Oct. 28 at 1:30 p.m.

credits are roles from Mozart's Don Giovanni, Così fan tutte, and The Magic Flute, Donizetti's The Elixir of Love, Sondheim's Sweeney Todd and A Little Night Music, Rodgers & Hammerstein's Carousel. From the concert repertoire. Songs by North American and European composers form the basis of Kelly's recital repertoire, and his interest in new music has led to World and American premieres of songs and chamber works by several living composers.

The Piatigorsky Foundation is dedicated to making live classical music an integral part of everyday life for communities throughout the United States. Gregor Piatigorsky, the renowned Russian cellist for

whom the organization is named, believed that music is not a luxury for an elite few, but a necessity of life for all.

NWFA is honored and thankful to welcome these musicians and the Piatigorsky Foundation once again to Cook. Operating support is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage funds. NWFA is also thankful for contributions made for these concerts by the Cook Timberwolves Snowmobile Club and the Cook Lions Club.

ORR

Orr seeking new attorney, discussing neighborhood crime

by E. M. SCHULTZ
Staff Writer

ORR - The city council here will be searching for a new city attorney now that their previous attorney, Andrew Peterson, has been appointed as a judge to the Sixth District Court. Peterson's current firm, Virginia-based Cope and Peterson, doesn't have another attorney available to serve Orr, which means the city will be looking for a new law firm. Area firms are being given until Nov. 5 to present proposals to the city.

The council also discussed whether or not they should implement a policy statement regarding tampering with and theft of water and wastewater services. The current ordinance states that authorized personnel are the only ones allowed to make changes to a water or sewer hookup. There are concerns, however, that the language is too vague. Damage has been caused by

citizens turning off their own water at the curb stop, and the council hopes that a clarified policy will help put an end to this. The council will continue discussing this issue at the next meeting to ensure that the language is as clear as possible.

The council also discussed concerns regarding neighborhood crime. One attendee alerted the council to the growth of crime on the lake, saying it appeared that a boat had recently disappeared from a neighbor's house. Concerned citizens, as well as the council, would like to see more deputies in the area. At this time, there is only one deputy who covers the Orr and Cook areas. A meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. at the Orr Community Center (Old Legion) to further discuss forming a neighborhood crime watch.

In other business, the council:
➤ Approved a request from a citizen for a one-time adjustment to a water/sewage bill. The bill was

unusually high due to a broken water spigot.

➤ Approved the vacation of an alley in the Lake End Addition to the city of Orr. The council held a public hearing prior to the meeting to receive input on this issue, but no one came forward to speak.

➤ Approved the purchase of a new computer for Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch. All computers must be updated to Windows 10 by the end of the year.

➤ Approved a resolution authorizing the city of Orr to apply for and accept funds from the IRRRB for grant writing services. Nancy Larson will prepare a grant to the MnDNR Regional Trails Program for the bog walk.

➤ Approved a request for a Conditional Use Permit on Suliin Road to allow the use of a gravel pit. A public hearing regarding this permit will be scheduled at the next meeting.



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CITY OF ELY

Trash talk boils before new contract is OK'd

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — Council members here approved a trash collection contract on Tuesday, but not without some drama in the council chambers.

Ultimately, the council agreed to authorize the city attorney to present a four-year residential, and one-year commercial waste collection contract, as agreed on earlier this month to G-Men Environmental Services for consideration. Upon approval by G-Men, the new contract will take effect on Nov. 1.

Council member Angela Campbell used the issue to fan the flames of her contentious relationship with Mayor Chuck Novak. Quoting city codes, she stated that the mayor's powers are no greater than any other council member, except as presiding officer at council meetings, "and other minor duties."

Citing the specific waste collection and disposal ordinance, Campbell stressed that the "city shall provide for collection and disposal of all refuse in a sanitary manner to ensure health, safety and general welfare of its residents."

She asserted that 50 percent of city residents do not use the licensed waste collection service as authorized by the city, and demanded that those residents, including herself, that do not use G-Men and instead opt to haul their own garbage to the St. Louis County transfer station, be provided pickup service by the city of Ely.

"What is important to know is that our charter is out of date," Campbell said.

Mayor Chuck Novak took exception to her allegation. "I beg your pardon," he said.

Campbell pushed on. "Under this ordinance, the city is still required to serve those tax-paying citizens (who decide

not to use the licensed service) to take care of their garbage," she said.

Novak questioned Campbell's assertion that 50 percent of city residents do not use G-Men.

"I do not have that information from G-Men," Campbell said "I am stating that to make a point and as an opportunity to express my concerns about this ordinance."

Novak admitted that the city code may not have been updated when the city changed from alley garbage pickup for all residents by city employees.

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski reminded Campbell and the rest of the council that the city does provide a garbage service. "It is voluntary and not mandatory," he said. "A mandatory system, I believe, was here at one time, where all residents paid part of their property taxes to include garbage service. We do provide a garbage service in this

city. Residents have the option to participate in that service."

Campbell pushed on. "I believe this code is outdated."

"I believe it is, too," Novak said.

"But we still have to go by the code. This is mandatory. This is law," Campbell responded. "For those people who do not choose G-Men, we still are responsible to pick up their garbage."

The city attorney was absent from the meeting to offer her legal opinion. Campbell admitted that she did not discuss the matter with the city's legal counsel.

Novak tried a different approach. "The (city code) interpretation of 'providing pick up' does not say that it has to be the Public Works Department or a city employee," he said. "We provide the opportunity for trash collection. And every resident has that option."

"That not how I understand

it," Campbell said.

Council member Heidi Omerza, clearly frustrated, asked, "What is your point, Angela?" Before Campbell could answer, Omerza called for the question, or the vote on the motion to accept the G-Men contracts.

Novak interjected as Campbell kept talking. "The question was called and is not debatable," he said. He cut her off again, citing Robert's Rules.

Campbell interrupted yet again, and Novak responded by slamming down the gavel with vigor. Clearly agitated, Novak emphasized, "When someone calls the question, all debate ceases. If there is support, we vote, if not we will continue."

Council member Jerome Debeltz supported Omerza's motion to call the question. Her motion was defeated. Debate

See COUNCIL...pg. 5

MINING AND WATER QUALITY

Judges appear skeptical in Minntac permit case

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — The continued seepage of highly-contaminated water from the Minntac tailings basin into a tributary of the Pike River proved a main topic of oral arguments last month as a three-judge panel of the Minnesota Court of Appeals heard from lawyers for U.S. Steel, environmental groups, the Fond du Lac Band, and the state's Pollution Control Agency over the future of a newly-issued wastewater discharge permit for the massive taconite mining operation.

The court is expected to

decide, later this year, whether to throw out the NPDES permit that the MPCA issued to U.S. Steel last December. Both U.S. Steel and environmental groups want the permit tossed, albeit for different reasons, and sent back to the MPCA for further deliberation.

The issues raised during more than an hour and a half of back and forth legal argument were varied and often technical, but the judges signaled they're sympathetic to the case laid out by Water Legacy and the Fond du Lac Band. Water Legacy attorney Paula Maccabee and Fond du Lac's lawyer, Sara Van

Norman, argued that Minntac's new permit violates state law and the Clean Water Act for its failure to address water quality violations stemming from sub-surface seepage affecting the Sand River. The Sand River is a tributary of the Pike River, which flows into Lake Vermilion.

The water that seeps from the 8,000-acre three-story high tailings pile is high in sulfate, specific conductance, bicarbonates, and hardness, according to test data and attorney Van Norman argued it has devastated a formerly abundant wild rice crop that grew in two lakes, known the Twin Lakes, located

about a mile downstream of the tailings pile.

"The vast unlined tailings basin has been leaking polluted water for decades," said Van Norman during the oral arguments. "That is not in dispute. The MPCA has failed to act."

Attorney for the MPCA, Stacey Person, challenged that, noting that the agency had required U.S. Steel several years ago to install a seepage collection and return system, or SCRS, to halt the flow of contaminated surface water from the tailings into the Sand River. The MPCA cited the existence of that system, which was designed

to serve as a catch basin, as justifying their decision not to impose water quality standards or testing requirements on discharges on that end of the tailings pile. Person argued that the new permit expressly prohibits seepage from the SCRS.

But Van Norman and Maccabee pushed back, noting that the metal sheet lining installed to contain seepage on the east side of the tailings pile only extends 15 feet into the ground and still allows significant amounts of water to seep underneath and into

See ARGUMENTS...pg. 5

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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

Democracy teeters

Trump says he's above the law.
It's a constitutional crisis.

The journey from democracy to dictatorship involves many steps. Some are small, others are large, but few in the last 243 years of American history have had the potential to be as consequential as the Trump administration's decision earlier this month to prevent Congress from obtaining documents or calling witnesses related to their ongoing impeachment inquiry.

Instead, President Trump and his enablers in the White House have made the astonishing argument that he is, simply put, above the law and that he, on his own determination, can violate his oath of office by refusing to submit to the clear language of the U.S. Constitution.

While Americans have argued since the nation's founding about the meaning of some of the language in our founding document, when it comes to the matter of impeachment of the President, the language could not be clearer. Article I, Section 2.5 of the Constitution states: "The House of Representatives shall chuse (archaic) their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment."

That power is not circumscribed in any way, and certainly the President, of all people, is not authorized to determine when his or her impeachment is appropriate. That is a determination that is the sole province of the Congress. And for the past 243 years, whenever Congress has begun an impeachment inquiry, Presidents have submitted to the process that Congress has determined. In the case of Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton, Congress called administration officials to testify under oath. While Presidents have fought impeachment in the political sphere, every previous President subjected to the oversight of Congress has ultimately upheld their oath of office, however painful it might have been.

The Trump White House, in its eight-page letter to Congress, asserts that the process established by the House of Representatives is somehow unconstitutional, but the "arguments" have been derided as embarrassing, at best, by virtually every legal scholar in America.

In truth, the White House has made the decision to openly and aggressively obstruct an oversight mechanism that was explicitly authorized by the founding fathers in the Constitution.

For the Trump White House to purport that there is insufficient evidence upon which to base an impeachment investigation is dishonest on its face. We already know, because President Trump has acknowledged as much, that he made payments to porn stars to keep them from

speaking out ahead of the 2016 presidential election, a violation, at minimum, of campaign finance laws. Special counsel Robert Mueller referred ten separate instances of what he saw as potential obstruction of justice regarding his investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

We know that Trump has directed millions of dollars in government funds to his own golf courses and hotels, from which he profits directly.

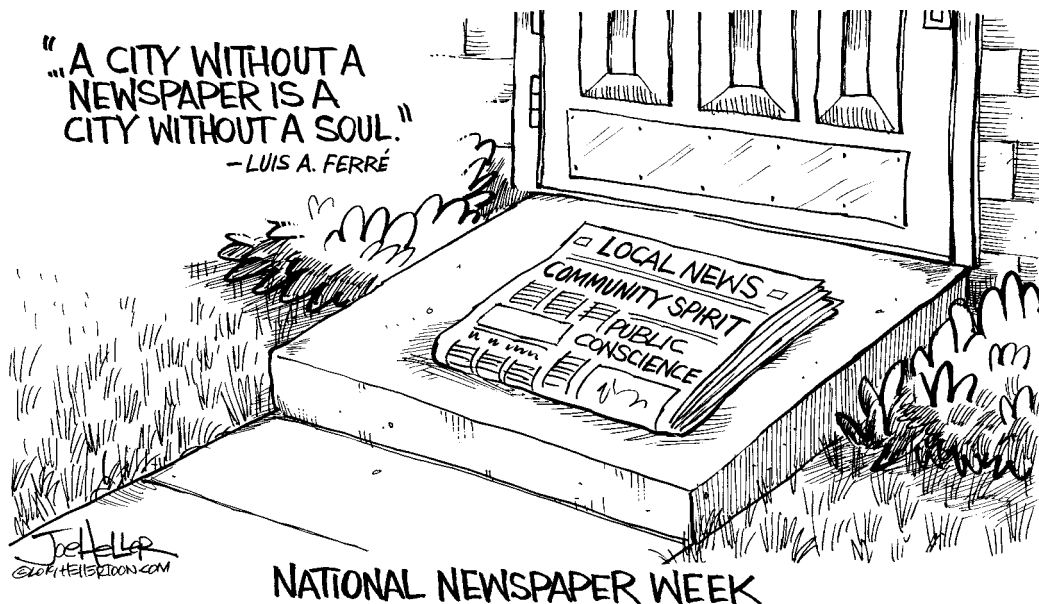
And now, we have the uncontroverted allegation that President Trump used a purportedly congratulatory phone call to the new Ukrainian president to solicit his aid in digging up dirt on political opponent Joe Biden and Biden's son Hunter. While the Trump White House denies it, the rough transcript released by the White House unambiguously confirms that Trump solicited political help from a foreign government, violating both his oath of office and campaign finance laws. We've since learned that two close political allies of Trump's were arrested last week as they were fleeing the country after federal investigators charged them in a scheme to illegally funnel \$340,000 in mostly Russian and Ukrainian money into one of Trump's political action committees. Trump, who now claims he doesn't know the two men, invited both to a private dinner at the White House last May as reward for their illegal donation. It appears there is no limit to the lies and the rot that surround our current president.

The question now is: Will the checks and balances put in place by our founding fathers hold off America's descent into dictatorship? Does the Constitution still have relevance with a rogue president whose own supporters openly thrill at his defiance of our founding documents?

Trump argues that he is above the law, immune to prosecution or accountability, and that he can use the influence and funding of foreign powers in a desperate attempt to hold onto his office and the absolute power he argues comes with it.

Our country is, indeed, far from perfect. The wealthy and powerful have far too much influence over both parties in Washington and it has diminished the life experience of the vast majority of Americans for decades. But is the solution to destroy American democracy in the furtherance of the interests of the most corrupt individual and business organization that has ever infected the White House?

That's the question that Trump's supporters, enablers in the White House, and the U.S. Senate ultimately must answer. Their response will be telling.



NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK

Letters from Readers

The government's recession fighting tools are limited

The U.S. government has developed two approaches to combat recessions: monetary policy and fiscal policy, each with questionable degrees of effectiveness.

Monetary policy is controlled by the politically independent Federal Reserve (Fed) that governs the size and growth of a nation's money supply that in turn determines the level of interest rates. In anticipation of a recession, the Fed lowers interest rates for the purpose of encouraging corporations and individuals to borrow low-cost money. The expenditure of these borrowed funds stimulates economic growth.

Despite the Fed's independence, the administration, notwithstanding its boasts of a current strong economy, is endeavoring to persuade the Fed to "lower interest rates to zero or less." Lowering interest rates to fend off an economic decline is not necessarily beneficial nor effective. Low and negative interest rates are detrimental to people's savings, pension funds, life insurance companies, endowments and future Social Security payouts. These organizations rely on interest income to meet their current and future payment obligations

to their beneficiaries.

When individuals or corporations are fearful of the prospects for a recession, they are prone to reduce expenditures, notwithstanding availability of financing with low interest rates. As a result, governmental monetary policy has limited impact. Some economists liken monetary interest reduction to pushing on a string to get results. Moreover, there is no evidence that lowered interest rates have stimulated the economies of eleven countries that currently have an aggregate total of \$17 trillion of negative interest rates securities outstanding.

Fiscal policy is another mechanism employed by the government to deal with a recession. The policy, controlled by Congress, can make adjustments to lower taxes and/or increases in government expenditures. Unlike monetary policy, it is highly political, with 536 lawmakers having a say over what the fiscal policy should be. It is a costly method to counter a recession that results in increases of the national debt.

The degree and selection of specific changes in the tax code and diversity of uses and amount for expenditures makes fiscal policy difficult and time consuming to get a consensus resolution. Where and how the money is spent requires allocation pertaining to geographic locations and designation of

facilities such as roads, schools, housing, communications, national parks, climate change needs, to mention just a few of the competing needs. The stimulation to the economy results from an expansion in the number of jobs and from the increases in the manufacturing of materials and equipment.

Gerry Snyder
Ely

Tower News needs to correct its reporting

I would like to address the article written by Anthony Sikora.

In the Oct. 11 *Tower News* he basically wrote – The Greenwood Township Board passed a motion to approve the appointment of the new deputy treasurer.

This is incorrect – the board has no approval of appointment of a deputy treasurer. According to statute only the treasurer has the right to appoint a deputy.

I also found several other discrepancies in last month's Greenwood Township meeting coverage by Mr. Sikora. One of which was that he wrote that I, the town clerk, am against the appointment of a clerk or treasurer. I am not and did not say such.

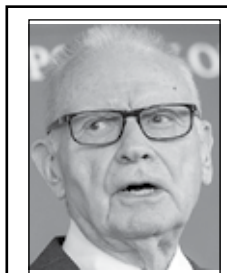
Please, Mr. Sikora, report what you hear – not what you think you hear.

Sue Drobac
Greenwood Twp

COMMENTARY

We should continue to be a nation of immigrants

I was talking with a friend the other day about immigration. It's one of the most divisive issues of our time, and we, too, found ourselves divided. "Our country is full," he quoted President Trump, who said this back in April. Let's improve the



LEE HAMILTON

country with the people we already have, my friend added.

I had a quote, too, and it's one I still believe in. You'll find it on the Statue of Liberty. "From her beacon-hand/Glows world-wide welcome," it reads. And then, of course,

your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

I welcome new immigrants and want this country to set aside the nationalistic appeals and racial prejudice that often accompany calls for restrictions. And I believe firmly that immigration makes us stronger as a nation and represents the best of what we stand for. This country is a defender of indi-

See HAMILTON...pg. 5

Saying goodbye to a dear friend and companion

As I slowly awaken, Tobie curls up across my chest, covering my heart, purring. Paco nestles under my right arm, his big, soft, furry body inviting attention.

It feels like they are trying to fill in the space that Freddie left behind two days ago. Realistically, cats are seldom motivated by



BETTY FIRTH

single intentions, except when food is on their minds, but now they greedily demand and absorb my attention that was in short supply when Freddie was moving toward his death. Do they know he's gone? How could they not notice when he's been in their lives for all the years they've been

in mine. Freddie witnessed the birth of Paco, Zeeba, and their two litter mates with detached interest, while Ollie, a long-haired bundle of love with a Buddha-like personality that I had at the time, hovered with concern and later filled in as caregiver, curling up with the kittens, giving mother cat a break. After Ollie died, I adopted Tobie, an affectionate and very vocal orange tabby who had been abandoned at the vet's, thinking he and Freddie could be buddies. I was so wrong. Freddie resented the intrusion of a new, adult cat,

and made no bones about it. I didn't witness actual fighting, but they both showed up with chunks out of their faces, each costing \$250 to repair. Later fights were limited to sound effects and tumbleweeds of fur flying, but still little evidence of brotherly love.

It took years for some level of acceptance that probably only happened because Freddie grew older, slowed down, and conserved his energy by doing no more than growling ominously. It was enough to warn Tobie,

who is generally a timid being and generous with his affection. However, even he has his limits, like most of us, and he'd be sneaky, lashing out when it seemed like he was going to passively take the scolding, rolling Freddie over in a threatening but harmless tumble.

Freddie was slender with both tabby and aristocratic Abyssinian characteristics, the most delicate of my pride, but with a commanding presence.

See GOODBYE...pg. 5

Letters from Readers

Let's build an ethical, resilient economy

In times of crisis, when the economic structures that are a part of our daily lives stop operating, lapses in our cognitions arise. We become confused, not being able to understand how the economy works for us. This leaves us open to those who would use fear to divide and conquer us. To prevent this, we must first bring rationality and credible hope, grounded in astute vision and strategy.

We must develop an emerging egalitarian democratic economy to replace our current extractive economy, structured for financial extraction by the elite and the One Percent. Long ago, society democratized government, but the founders of our country never intended to democratize the economy.

We live under a non-democratic system of laws that pretends to operate as a democratic republic while it enshrines and cravenly legalizes a hierar-

chy of the rich. Men who all came from the privileged class met in secret to overturn the Articles of Confederation, the first Constitution of the United States. They were motivated by their economic self-interest to construct a type of government that would protect their wealth against "an excess of democracy," as Alexander Hamilton called it. Those wealthy men did not agree with the liberating agenda of the common people who risked their lives to repel the unjust chains of the British Empire.

It was land and property that became the first species of the privileged. The founders did not try to establish a monarchy, but instead made wealth the king. These selfish men altered the triumvirate of Enlightenment era rights, listed as "life, liberty and property," replacing "property" with "the pursuit of happiness." The aspirations of "we the people," were disregarded by the wealthy Federalists who wrote the current U.S. Constitution.

They enthroned wealth as the repository of the right to govern.

Today, it is long overdue that we organize an economy that moves us beyond the binary choice of corporate capitalism versus state socialism, into new forms of economic vibrancy.

A new democratic economy is about finishing the economic work begun by our founders in the realm of politics.

We must rid ourselves of the capital bias of the extractive economy that has favored the few. This capital bias has been advanced by the political policy of lower taxes on capital gains than on labor income, big bank bailouts, but not for home owners, or tax breaks given to monopoly corporations that force locally-owned companies out of business.

The amoral design of the extractive economy is at the root of all our current multiplying problems. The financial elites' growth mania has brought its wealth to usurp democracy and overpower the planet's resilience.

Senator Elizabeth Warren's Accountable Capitalism Act is a needed idea to create economic democracy. Her act proposes that all corporations with more than \$1 billion in revenue be required to obtain new federal corporate charters with expanded fiduciary obligations. Corporations would then be required to adhere to the interests of their workers and communities, as well as the stockholders.

The Green New Deal proposed by U.S. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez would create a massive new public works program to move to 100 percent renewable energy in ten years and would create millions of jobs and bring about societal policy changes to greatly alleviate inequality and advance shared prosperity as well as sustainability.

These kinds of progressive policies begin to address the basic rot of the current economic culture. They go far beyond the typical tax-and-spend transfer policies, which today are being

decimated by tax cuts and austerity. We must go beyond the regulatory structure now being destroyed under the barrage of deregulation, privatization and evisceration of government. These approaches can bring about a much-needed profound movement away from the cancerous extractive economy due to nearly 40 years of failed supply-side economics, to a truly egalitarian democratic economy for all.

The work of employee-owned companies, investing with community impact, public banking, economic development with racial justice, local purchasing by community institutions, and much more is being done all over the world.

Building an economic democracy is about redesigning our companies, investments, economic development, employment, purchasing and banking, so that our economy operates in an altruistic fashion designed to serve the common good for all.

Tim Duff
Tonka Bay, Minn.

HAMILTON...Continued from page 4

individual rights, a beacon of tolerance and equality, and a champion of the notion that offering opportunity to all who live here — regardless of national origin — yields the innovation and hard work that drive our economy and culture.

I could take up the rest of this commentary just listing the immigrants who have enriched the United States, from Levi Strauss, Irving Berlin, and Albert Einstein to Liz Claiborne, Gloria Estefan, Yo Yo Ma, and Patrick Ewing. But it's not just names you'd recognize. I have a clear memory from my time in Washington, D.C., of watching people who'd immigrated literally build the city: its stormwa-

ter system, its metro lines, the refurbished Union Station. The same is true in any big city you care to visit in this country — and in our fields and orchards, our hotels and hospitals, our factories, our schools, our startups, our military forces, our movie studios... You get the idea.

Now, I agree that we can't let everyone into the U.S. who wants to come. We simply don't have the resources. But that's a far cry from saying that we're full, or that we're facing an immigrant "invasion," or that large numbers of immigrants are "stealing" jobs from Americans. There's very little evidence to support any of those claims.

Instead, I'd argue that immigration is an opportunity for the country. One of the first votes I cast in Congress was for the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, which prohibited discrimination against immigrants on the basis of their nationality. Instead, it gave preference to professionals, people with skills the country needed, and relatives of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.

That same principle is valid today. We have to use immigration to meet our needs, especially in the labor market. Every month for the last year and a half, the U.S. economy has had more job openings than

people looking for work. And in a twist from what you'd expect, it's not the higher-end jobs that face the most acute shortages. It's healthcare, hotel, and restaurant workers who are in the highest demand. In an array of categories, from retail to food processing to landscaping, we don't have the low-skilled laborers we need. The need for scientists, researchers, computer programmers and other knowledge workers hasn't abated, either. Nor has the need for workers with skills that won't soon be replaced by automation.

There was a time when both political parties in this country largely supported immigration. Not unani-

mously, of course, but they favored immigration in the national interest. I don't know if those days are over for good; I hope not. Because there is simply no question that this country has been made stronger by its immigrants, and there is no reason to think that will change.

So while I'm not arguing that we should throw open our doors to all comers, we should lean toward openness, recognizing that we have limits and constraints that demand building immigration policy around a principle. And what should that be? That immigration is a powerful tool for meeting our needs, strengthening our labor markets, bol-

stering our pool of talent, and remaining a beacon to those everywhere who believe that their own hard work, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit can build their own lives and contribute to the communities around them.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

GOODBYE...Continued from page 4

When freed from the house, he would strike gracefully and purposefully away, as if on a mission, disappearing around the neighbor's garage. Sometimes I was reminded of a Gary Larson cartoon with the title "When Irish setters go to work" that showed an Irish setter on his hind feet in coat and tie, carrying a brief case, saying to his doggy wife, "I'm going to go run around in circles and pretend there's something in my head." Freddie gave the impression that he was very clear about where he was going and that he had important work to do, always taking the same path, like a commuter in his daily routine. American

writer Roxanne Amberson said, "In the middle of a world that has always been bit mad, a cat walks with confidence."

I never did find out exactly where he went, although I don't think he usually went too far. Did he curl up and sleep in a patch of sun? Did he hunt mice in the overgrown empty lot, patiently waiting, listening for telltale (telltale?) sounds of movement. Once he stayed out overnight, ignoring my calls, and was not back in the morning. Worried, I canvassed the neighborhood with flyers, meeting neighbors for the first time on the next street up who knew who Freddie was and appreciated his

successful mousing.

Some people dislike cats, even despise and fear them, as if a shrieking feline had once leapt from a tree onto their head, digging in their claws. Ailurophobia refers to the persistent, irrational fear of cats that has provided fodder for cat-hating cartoons, books, T-shirts, etc. Perhaps this fear is buried in DNA, harking back to the times of saber-toothed tigers, but I have always benefitted from ailurophilia, an inordinate love of cats. I've snuck them into hospitals to visit friends and attempted to keep one in my freshman dorm, so reluctant was I to live catless. (I was busted

and the kitten evicted.) P.J. Wodehouse, English 19th century humorist, said, "The real objection to the great majority of cats is their insufferable air of superiority."

Some people are just "dog people," preferring the adoring, slobbering devotion of co-dependent canines, often constant car or truck companions. I've also housed and loved many dogs, a variety of adoptees who ambled into my life. I've enjoyed their antics and companionship, but cats do offer a different type of relationship. Although my cats will usually come when called, with the promise of food, it is clearly still their choice

on their time line. They hold leashes in disdain, can walk on their own without a lifeline, thank you very much. An occasional cat has padded along with me on my walks, uninvited, as if to say, "Dogs. Humpff. Anyone can do this." But when you need a warm body on a cold winter night, they're there, increasing the R-factor. So really, cat owners ought to get credit for energy-saving, based on how many cats they have.

Freddie was really not remarkable in any way, except for his sweet nature and his beautiful, slender, tawny body and sensuous, gliding stride, bringing to mind the female lions on

the hunt in the Serengeti. He didn't do amazing tricks or strive to amuse, but he was an affectionate companion for 19 years. How do you quantify that? Much as I exhort them to help out with chores around the house, they are quite satisfied to accept my gifts of nutritious food and a warm house without any sense of obligation.

There are over 96 million cats in the U.S., and let's face it: we all think our own pets are the cats' pajamas, quirks, misbehavior, and all. Freddie brought his quiet affection to me with few demands beyond food and the occasional vet visit for repairs. He is missed.

ARGUMENTS...Continued from page 3

adjacent surface waters. They cited studies by both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission that indicated that contamination levels are virtually identical in water found on either side of the metal lining that is supposed to contain seepage, suggesting a direction connection between the waters. "Water is flowing under, over, and around these catch basin walls and some of it never reports to the catch basin," Van Norman

told the judges.

Attorney Person argued that the MPCA is only required to regulate discharges to surface water, questioned whether contaminated water was seeping under the liner and, even if it was, whether it would be subject to regulation as surface water.

But the judges expressed their doubts and questioned the basis for the MPCA's position. "If there isn't substantial evidence that the SCRS is working adequately, there would seem to be an arbitrary

decision not supported by substantial evidence," said the panel's presiding judge Jeanne Cochrane. A second judge zeroed in on the point as well. "Where is it in the record, that supports what the MPCA is saying regarding surface water seepage. I think that is critical for our decision."

MPCA's Person said she would try to provide citations but was unable to do so during her allotted time to speak.

The second judge weighed in again. "The question is whether the

explanations you have provided are arbitrary and capricious based on whether they are supported by the factual record and I think as to the surface water, that is the question that Judge Cochrane has nailed on the head. Speaking for myself, and not the panel, I have my doubts."

U.S. Steel attorney Jeremy Greenhouse argued that the MPCA was not allowed to enforce the state's strict sulfate standard on any discharge from the tailings pile because

the Legislature had prohibited it from doing so. It's unclear, however, how that argument might play into the judges' decision.

Legal standard

While courts generally defer to agency decisions, they can and will overrule agency officials if their decisions are deemed "arbitrary and capricious" and not based on sufficient evidence. In this case, if the judges determine that there is inadequate evidence to support the MPCA's position that the SCRS has resolved all of the

seepage on the east side of the tailings pile, they could well rule that the MPCA failed to issue a permit that is in compliance with state and federal water quality requirements. Such a decision could overturn the permit and send the matter to the MPCA to either produce additional evidence to support its decision, or to revise the permit to require compliance with water quality standards downstream of the SCRS.

The court has until Dec. 9 to issue its ruling.

COUNCIL...Continued from page 3

continued.

Council member Paul Kess, looking to diffuse the situation, agreed that Campbell made her point that the city code may have been outdated for a long time. "We can't fix

that tonight. I think our intent is to get a sanitation contract in place by the end of the month, and have the Sanitation Committee look at all these things, including updating the garbage ordinance."

The motion to approve the four-year residential and one-year commercial garbage pickup contract passed by unanimous vote.

Other business

In other action, the council:

► Set a Truth in Taxation public hearing for Tuesday, Nov. 26 at 6 p.m.

► Approved a note and mortgage for a residential rehab loan for Kim Eldevik at 6 W Conan St.

► Approved the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony on Nov. 30 and approved any in-kind services necessary for the event.

► Approved an Understanding of Services

agreement with the city's auditor, Walker, Giroux and Hahne for next year.

► Approved a resolution creating a Census 2020 Complete Count Committee.

VERMILION LAKE ASSOCIATION

A new home, a new life, a new volunteer for LVA

My name is Penny Jackson and I grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota, the middle child in a family of five. Dad, Mom, older brother and a younger sister. Life was always an adventure. Playing in the fenced yard or traveling around the block to see friends.



**Penny Jackson
VLA Volunteer**

For almost 20 years prior to an early retirement, I worked in a very large suburban church as their Office Ministry Coordinator. I was the first person you would meet when walking through the door or calling on the phone. My job also included the publishing of many

printed forms, bulletins, brochures, newsletters etc. I feel my biggest accomplishment in this position was to start writing and using my communication skills to inform others.

One day, out of the blue, my husband asked me if I would share his life-long dream. That dream was to build a log cabin on Lake Vermilion. I immediately said, "yes, this could be my dream also." Even as I said yes, there was a list of unanswered questions and thoughts running through my mind. "What about our family and friends? It was a long drive to Tower and Lake Vermilion. I did like the area the few times we visited. But to move and start a new life? I won't know anyone. Will I be able to make new friends?" The answer to all my questions was "YES." Many opportunities and friendships were just waiting for me.

While waiting for our log home to be completed on Pike Bay, I read a

notice in both local newspapers that rehearsals for the Community Christmas Concert would be taking place at the Tower-Soudan School. I love to sing, and my husband knew how important it was to me, so we got in the car and he drove me almost four hours so I could attend the first rehearsal. Each week that I showed up I met more and more people. Through these new friends many doors to volunteering opportunities became available and many more friendships were made.

It has been about two years since we moved into our cabin on beautiful Lake Vermilion. I have truly loved every minute of it. The sunsets over the lake. The call of the loons. The many wild birds and animals that walk or fly by our home each day. The heavy snow that turns balsam limbs into beautiful lacy snowscapes. And let's not forget the magic and music of the lake as it gives up its ice for Springtime.

I trusted my husband, not only with my heart, but also with my life. We made the right move and have made many new friends by volunteering. By just showing up and giving of yourself, new friendships will be made. This makes life worth living.

Looking for something to do? Want to make some lifelong friends? Try volunteering for the Vermilion Lake Association. They have plenty of opportunities available or develop your own like I did with my writing. It's easy, just contact Pat Michaelson, Volunteer Program Leader at plmichaelson@gmail.com or check out the website at <https://www.vermilionlake-association.org>.

TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY

Bingo, books, and fun with Chimpy during Fall Pride Night



Tower-Soudan Elementary School hosted Fall Pride Night on Oct. 3. Students played bingo and winners received a certificate for a free book at the Scholastic Book Fair, Chimpy had lots of help making balloon animals, and even the littlest kids got a chance to try out their circus skills.

photos by J. Summit



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
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Sunday FREE Pool

Thursday Bingo
Early Bird 6 p.m.
Progressive Prizes

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

Take-Out 666-0500

Embarrass Vermillion FCU is doing our 4th Annual Blanket Drive Project with all donations going to Gillette Childrens specialty healthcare in St. Paul.

October 1st - December 1st

Blanket material requirements:
New fabric/Yarn must be used, single or double sided flannel blankets, knitted & crocheted blankets, quilts with light batting, knitted & crocheted blankets and fleece tie - blankets - a favorite of the patients.

Common sizes: (approximate)
Infant/toddlers - 1.5 yards x 1.5 yards = 54"x54"
Pre teen/teen/adult - 2 yards x 1.5 yards - 75"x54"

Blankets may be dropped off at any of our 3 branches Embarrass, Tower or Aurora before November 29th, so we may deliver them before the end of the year.

Vendors needed for Tower Holiday Craft Show set for Saturday, Dec. 7

TOWER- The Tower Holiday Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. Tables are \$20 each (limit two 8-ft. tables per vendor) and must be reserved and paid for in advance. Checks can be made out to Friends of VCS and mailed to Vermilion County School, PO Box 629, Tower, MN 55790 or can be dropped off at the charter school or at the Timberjay office in Tower. For more information, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

Estate Planning 101 classes set for Oct. 23 and Nov. 13 in Tower

TOWER- Local attorney, Kelly Klun, from the Klun Law Office in Ely will lead a free class to take you through key factors to drafting and personalizing wills and trusts, preparing probate documents, creating documents for long term health care, drafting a durable power of attorney, and preparing health care directives. Classes will be held Oct. 23 and Nov. 13 in the library at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School at 4 p.m. You must pre-register. Please text or call Leone Graf to pre-register at 218-343-3744. If no answer, please leave a message with your phone number.

HALLOWEEN FUN



Trick-or-treat on Tower's Main Street on Thursday, Oct. 31

TOWER- Area children are invited to trick-or-treat on Main Street after school on Thursday, Oct. 31 starting at 3 p.m. Participating businesses will have signs on their doors welcoming children.

Any participating business that did not get a sign can pick one up at the Timberjay office.

Tower Fire Department hosting children's Halloween Party, Oct. 31

TOWER- Area children and their families are invited to the Community Halloween Party sponsored by the Tower Fire Department. The party will be held on Thursday, Oct. 31 from 4-6 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. The event is free and all area families are welcome.

Vermilion Senior Living hosting Halloween Party

TOWER- Vermilion Senior Living invites everyone to a Halloween Party on Thursday, Oct. 31 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. Come and enjoy fun activities and games including face painting, poke a pumpkin, and more! All ages are welcome to attend this free event. Halloween candy, snacks and punch provided. Make sure to wear a costume to celebrate with our lovely residents.

Week of Oct. 21

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

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

Tuesday
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Nov. 19.

Greenwood Fire Dept.- Meetings on the first (business meeting) and third (drill) Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

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

Breitung Town Board- 12 noon on Oct. 23. Meeting location TBA.

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.

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



COMMUNITY EVENTS

St. James movie night on Sunday, Oct. 20

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is hosting a free movie night on Sunday, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. "October Baby" features poignant performances and genuine emotion to illuminate this inspiring coming-of-age story about self-discovery and the healing power of forgiveness. Newcomer Rachel Hendrix stars as Hannah, a college student whose world is shattered when she discovers her parents have kept a life-changing secret from her that will force her to question who she truly is. [PG-13]

Sellers Auction set for Saturday, Oct. 26 in Tower

TOWER- Sellers Auction, of Superior, Wis., will be holding a live auction at the Tower Civic Center on Saturday, Oct. 26 starting at 11 a.m. The auction is being sponsored by UBetcha Antiques and Uniques of Tower, and the event will feature handpicked items from the dealers and vendors who work with the shop.

Items will be available to view Friday evening, said Ubetcha owner Victoria Meloche, and then again prior to the auction start on Saturday.

"There will be hundreds of items auctioned off," she said, "Antiques, collectibles, and fine junk, including some box lots."

Meloche is hoping that live auction action will attract both buyers and also those just interested in watching. Buyers will register and receive their auction number prior to the auction start.

"This is something that has been missing on the Range," she said. "If it goes well, we will look at doing consignment auctions."

Meloche said they will be posting updates on items to be offered at the auction on the Ubetcha Antiques facebook page.

Movie to be shown at St. Martin's on Oct. 27

TOWER- On Sunday, Oct. 27, St. Martin's Catholic Church

Red Hats to meet Thursday, Oct. 24



Bayview Bar and Grill
The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet at noon on Thursday, Oct. 24 at Sulu's in Tower. Reservations must be made by Friday, Oct. 18 with Barb Rinne at 753-2091 or Kay Hanson at 218-248-0198. Red Hats are pictured above at a meeting this summer. submitted photo

will be showing the movie "Unplanned," at 2 p.m. in the Social Hall. All are invited, at no charge.

"Unplanned" is the true story of Abby Johnson. Abby just wanted to help women. She believed in a women's right to choose, and as one of the youngest Planned Parenthood directors in the nation, she was involved in upward of 22,000 abortions...Until the day she saw something that changed everything, which led Abby to become one of the most ardent pro-life advocates in America.

If you are unable to attend the showing on Oct. 27, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cook will be showing the movie on Monday, Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Get your tickets now for TSAA Fall Auction on Thursday, Nov. 7

TOWER- Tickets are now available for the Tower-Soudan Athletic Association Fall Auction on Thursday, Nov. 7 at the Wilderness at Fortune Bay. Tickets are \$25, and must be paid in advance. Payment can be dropped off at the Timberjay office in Tower, or mailed to TSAA, c/o The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790.

This once-a-year event fea-

tures an appetizer buffet, live and silent auctions, karaoke, and many games and raffles. While the event is known as a "ladies" night, men are also welcome to attend. A cash bar is available.

We are also looking for donations of prizes for the games and auctions. Hand-crafted items, gift baskets, wine and spirits, and gift certificates are needed. Please consider donating items, gift certificates, or baskets that can be used for the silent auction.

All the funds raised go to youth activities in Tower-Soudan. This is the group's only fundraiser each year, so please consider helping out this important community event. In the last two years, TSAA has donated over \$8,500 in the community, including: Tower-Soudan Little League and Junior Legion baseball, T-S Elementary Ely Marathon entry fees, Tower-Soudan Elementary Track and Field Day, community family events at Vermilion Country School, athletics and choir fees at VCS, and more.

Transfer station

Soudan Canister

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

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Hwy. 77 Canister

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

Recycling canisters available at the canister site when open.
For info: 1-800-450-9278

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, Oct. 23; Nov. 13; Dec. 4

Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club	11:00-11:30 a.m.
Greenwood Town Hall	12:00-12:30 p.m.
Soudan Fire Hall	1:45-3:00 p.m.
Tower Civic Center	3:15-4:15 p.m.
Embarrass, Four Corners	5:15-6:00 p.m.

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

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.

Publisher	Marshall Helmberger
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Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
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Graphics/Ad Sales	Scarlet Lynn Stone
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Official Newspaper:
City of Orr, City of Ely, Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, Crane Lake, ISD 707.

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

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

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

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

Moving? Questions about your subscription? Call the Tower office at (218) 753-2950.

Libraries

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

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

Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous
AA - 7 p.m. Mondays,
and 7:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, 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.
**Oct. 22 - Meet New
Elyites**

Game night
ELY - Smear tour-
naments are held the first
and third Mondays, and
cribbage tournaments
are held the second and
fourth 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.

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

Breathing Out
by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



most colorful fall
beauty suspending one's breath
moving toward white

GET OUTDOORS

Ely bird watchers flock for Big Sit

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY—Volunteers from
the Ely Field Naturalists
played the role of Boreal
Birdometers last Sunday
as registered participants in
the Big Sit. The Big Sit, an
annual, international, non-
competitive birding event
hosted by Bird Watcher's
Digest and founded by the
New Haven, Conn., Bird
Club, is like a Big Day or
a bird-a-thon in that the
object is to tally as many
bird species as can be seen
or heard within 24 hours.

Ely participants shared
in counting the number of
bird species that could be
seen on the south shore of
Shagawa Lake. "It seemed
very much like an October
day with snow falling at 7
a.m. and also at 5 p.m.,"
said Bill Tefft "The tem-
perature hovered between
30 and 40 degrees and the
north wind coming off the
lake produced a dramatic
display of rapidly moving
clouds that made some of
the most interesting fall
weather we have ever seen
on an Ely Big Sit day."

"This is the time of
year and the kind of count
that allows for time to
observe and consider the
activities of all the birds
and other wildlife that are
seen from this one 17-foot
in diameter circle over the
course of the day," he said.
Black-capped chicka-
dees came throughout the
day to feed on the seeds that
were put out. Red-breasted
nuthatches joined them in
the afternoon hours. Dark-
eyed juncos were the only
sparrow-like birds and they
stayed close to cover
feeding on seeds along the
edge of the parking lot,
Tefft reported.

He added, "American
crows were very vocal and
active early in the morning
and a large group of more
than fifty crows moved
across the length of Sandy
Point headed south in mid-
morning. Common ravens
were occasionally heard and
seen flying over. One ruby-
crowned kinglet was seen a



Eileen Schantz-Hansen and Bill Tefft braved a cold wind early Sunday morning as they searched for birds at the Shagawa Lake boat landing.
photo by K. Vandervort

couple of times searching
for insects along the densely
wooded shoreline."

Possibly the same two
common loons were close
by or at a distance in the
center portion of the lake
seeking food throughout
the day and making low
hoots and a louder call
when a bald eagle flew
over, according to Tefft.
"Both adult and immature
bald eagles were seen
flying over-head."

At one point, the sky
cleared in the early after-
noon and two bald eagles
and three red-tailed hawks
found a rising thermal of
warmer air that lifted them
high above the observers
before they lost the lift and
streamed south in a contin-
uation of their migration.

"One of the earliest
visitors that came down
the access road toward the
parking lot and boat launch
was a small black bear that
was likely less than a year
old," he said. "It seemed
uncertain of where it was
going but when it got

a whiff of the food that
existed for birds it decided
to come closer and investi-
gate. But being charged by
a shouting human changed
its mind and it scurried off
and never came back."

One hermit thrush
made appearances only
occasionally during the
day to feed on the fruit of
grape woodbine that was
growing on trees in the
bayside thicket. "A lot of
the blue jay migration
has already occurred but
a very few were seen and
heard. Maybe these will be
some that stay up north all
winter," Tefft added.

One downy wood-
pecker was heard and seen
in its efforts to extract
some food from a tree.
The second mammal of
the day was a gray squir-
rel that made a very brief
appearance. The last bird
species of the day was two
ring-billed gulls that
flew across the lake late
in the day.

Ten Ely Field
Naturalist members assist-

ed during the day and the
list of fourteen species was
a record for the fewest
during any of Ely's Big
Sits. "In addition to the
bird counters, there was
the usual flow of people to
the Shagawa Lake public
access to take pictures,
go duck hunting in the
morning hours, fish that
area of the lake in the
afternoon, bring the family
out on the boat docks, walk
dogs, and gather with us to
discuss a range of topics,"
he said.

Certainly, the most
unexpected bird seen was
brought in by the duck
hunters. "Not only the
hunters, but also every-
one else was interested
in seeing this long-tailed
duck that is a northern
breeding species among
the sea ducks, usually seen
in fall and winter farther
south along the coasts,
Great Lakes and other large
northern lakes," Tefft said.
"Thanks to all who were
able to join us on this very
interesting day of events."



the TIMBERJAY

The Ely Timberjay is pub-
lished 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@timber-
jay.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	Marshall Helmberger
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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
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Commerce.

Subscriptions Available:
St. Louis County: \$37 year Elsewhere:
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Please specify Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr or Ely
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NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or
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GONE FISHIN'



Raynee Crawford-Thronson, 2076 North Drive, Ely, was fishing on Miners Lake this summer when she caught this smallmouth bass.
submitted photos



Danny Romano, 9, of Minneapolis, caught a chunky 10-inch rock bass while fishing with his dad and brother on White Iron in the channel. He was fishing with a Berkley crank bait.



Steve Brousseau, 338 4th Ave., Ely, scored a hefty walleye from the depths of Little Long Lake.



Ann Cukurova, 429 S. Kawishiwi Rd., Babbitt, caught a trophy-worthy northern pike while fishing Birch Lake during the fishing opener in May.

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

FALL CHOIR CONCERT



The Ely Memorial School presented the Fall Choir Concert Monday night at Washington Auditorium. Choir Director Michael Rouse and the Elementary Impromptu Choir, above, sang "Puff the Magic Dragon," and other favorites. The Memorial High School Choir opened their set with "Something Told the Wild Geese." The Middle School Choir and the school's combined choirs also presented selections. The Elementary Winter Concert is set for Dec. 18, the School Band Winter Choir will be held Dec. 19. photos by K. Vandervort



OUR COMMUNITY

'Keep Warm' project returns to VCC

ELY – The 6th annual "Keep Warm" program at Vermilion Community College is under way and in need of community help. "Keep Warm" provides boots, coats, gloves, hats and other items to VCC students unprepared for the winter months here in Ely.

"Last year, we provided 60 students with a "KW package," and had over 200 coats donated by local people to keep students warm," said

organizer Dayna Mase. "We estimate that over the past five years, 200 students have received boots, and over 700 coats."

This year, eight Ely-area churches are helping in collecting coats and financial assistance to purchase items, including Grace Lutheran Church, LedgeRock Community Church, First Presbyterian Church, Ely Gospel Tabernacle Church, United Methodist Church, St.

Anthony's Catholic Church, Oasis International Church, and St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

"Ely Surplus gives us a generous discount and we purchase boots, gloves, hats and gaiters from them," Mase added.

Distribution at VCC will begin on Thursday, Oct. 24, 2:30-3:30 p.m., and continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays thru Thursday, Nov. 21.

DAV vehicle program launched in Ely next week

ELY – The Disabled Veterans of America organization is launching a new transportation service here for ambulatory veterans through the Twin Ports DAV Clinic and will present a vehicle to the VA Clinic on Monday, Oct. 21.

According to Daniel Welsand, transportation coordinator at the Twin Ports Clinic, located in Superior, Wis., the program provides transportation to ambulatory veterans in northeast Minnesota, helping them get to their Veterans Administration-approved appointments. "We are a volunteer program and are always in need of new volunteer drivers in all our areas," he said. The DAV of Minnesota currently has 30-plus vehicles strategically placed in Minnesota communities.

2018 by the numbers:
 > 1,479,064 miles driven by volunteer drivers in 2018
 > 28,775 veterans transported to VA-approved appointments
 > 67,963 hours invested by volunteers transporting veterans

DAV of MN STATE

2018 by the numbers:
 > 4,147 veterans transported to VA-approved appointments
 > 6,186 hours invested by volunteers transporting veterans

The vehicle presentation will take place at the St. Louis County Commissioner Office, 320 Miners Drive, with County Commissioner Paul McDonald.



Ely Kiwanis Club receives award

The Ely Kiwanis Club was recently awarded a "Distinguished Club Award" from Kiwanis International. Club president Zeke Smith, left, received the award from Cal Saari, retired district lieutenant governor. submitted photo

News In Brief

Christmas singers wanted

ELY – Singers are wanted for the Ely Area Christmas Choir Cantata. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church 301 E Conan St. Child care will be provided.

The performance date is at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8 at Washington Auditorium, 600 E Harvey St.

For more information, call Patti at 218-929-3214, or Donna at 218-365-6320.

Take a Haunted Hayride

ELY - Join the Ely Watercolor Association for a Halloween Haunted Hayride thru the woods at Silver Rapids Lodge on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 25-26, beginning at 6 p.m.

Family-friendly rides will be available from 6-8 p.m. Ride at your own risk from 8-11 p.m.

Admission is just \$5 and free hot chocolate will be available.

Happy Days to host Halloween party

ELY - Happy Days Preschool is hosting a Halloween Costume Contest on Friday, Nov. 1 at the Grand Ely Lodge. The fundraising event, for children pre-K through fifth grade, will be held from 5-8 p.m.

Happy Days, a private, self-funded preschool for children three to five years of age, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in December.

"Part of the success of the preschool depends on the contributions from local businesses and sponsors who generously donate various educational items and monetary donations," said board member Zoe Lampman.

Costume contest judging will begin at 7 p.m. During the contest, there will be door prizes with carnival-style games, such as "Witch-Hat Ring Toss," "Feed the Ghost," "Monster Grab," "Pick-a-Duck," and more.

Crafting activities will also be available to include; rock painting, pumpkin decorating, and make a monster. The best deal for game participation will be \$5 for 10 tickets.

All proceeds will benefit Happy Days Preschool, which strives to provide quality and hands-on education for its students. "Come on out and enjoy this fun family event," Lampman said.

Free flu shots available in Ely

ELY – Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is providing free flu shots again this year. Community flu shot clinics, held at a variety of locations, continue through the middle of November.

New this year, according to EBCH officials, high-dose vaccination will be available for patients 65 and older with the presentation of a Medicare insurance card. These vaccinations will still be provided at no cost to the patient. Limited supplies available.

The flu shot clinic schedule includes:

ELY-BLOOMENSON HOSPITAL

>Wednesday, Oct. 30 - 2-6 p.m.

>Thursday, Nov. 7 – 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

BUSINESS WELLNESS DAYS

>Local businesses can schedule an appointment by calling 365-8739 and they will come to an Ely-area place of business with free flu shots on Wednesday, Oct. 23 and Thursday, Oct. 24, by appointment

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

>Tuesday, Nov. 12 - 3:30-7 p.m. at Washington Elementary School

>Thursday, Nov. 14 -3:30 - 7 p.m. at Ely Memorial High School

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.

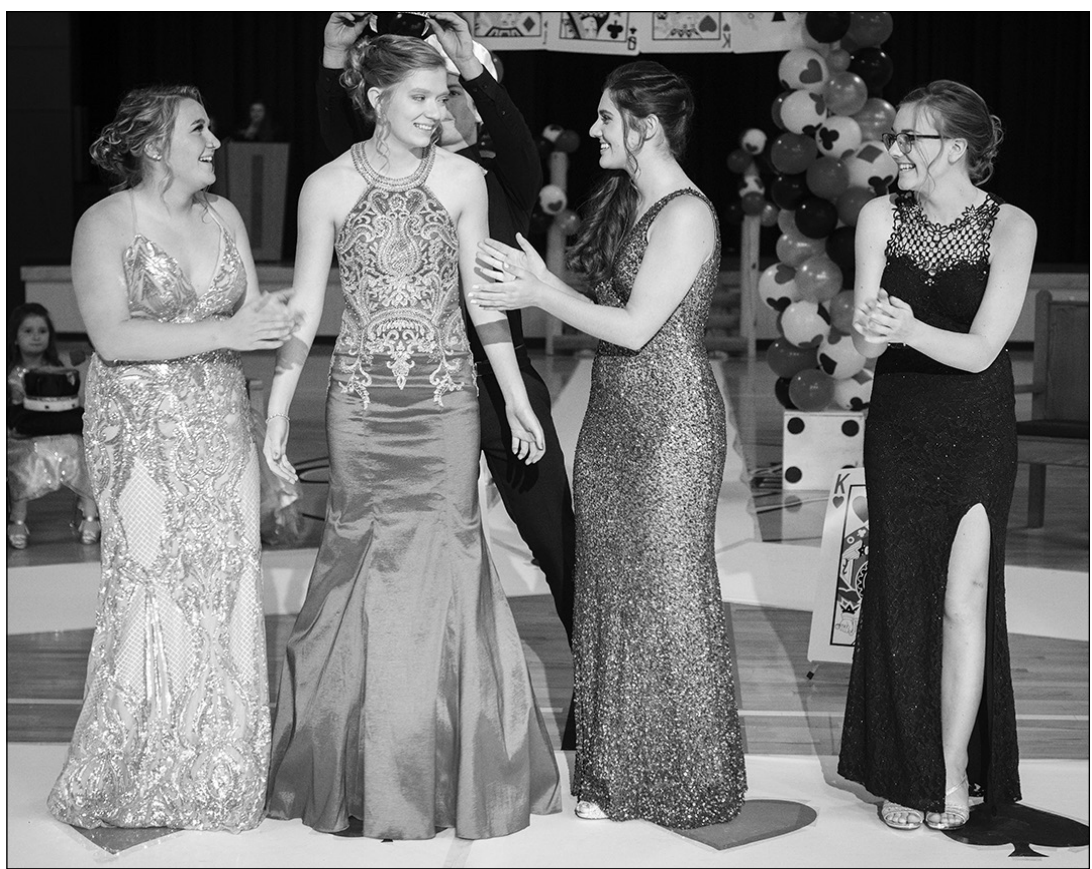
NORTH WOODS SCHOOL



The 2019 Fall Homecoming Royal Court: Back (from left) Steven Sopoci, Josh Copeland, Ian Olson, Tyler Kehoe, Daniel Crockett, Brian Whiteman and Prince Clayton Janssen. Middle: Angeline Lilya, Abby Koch, Brynn Simpson, Connor Anderson, King Trevor Morrison, Queen Karlyn Pierce, Carter Smith, Katrina Chapman, Kayla Tschida, Kennedy Wardas, Princess Coley Olson. Front: Shay Wilcox and Della Isham. photos by C. Stone

Right: Crowning Queen Karlyn Pierce

Below: Crowning King Trevor Morrison



Cook-Orr Calendar

Rosemaling class with Linda Freeman Oct. 29

COOK- Linda Freeman will be leading a class on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery at 6 p.m. titled "Rosemaling: Focus on Stroke". The gallery is located on 210 S River St. next to Dream Weaver Salon/Spa.

Linda Freeman is a Cook artist who is called Pastor Linda at the Covenant Church. Linda was one of the original volunteers who created NWFA Gallery in 2010. She also recently organized the "Art for Fun" class at the Covenant Church in Cook.

Pre-register for this class by calling Alberta at 218-666-2153. The fee for the class is \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. The annual membership fee for NWFA is \$25. Registrations will also be taken by mail or at NWFA Gallery. The NWFA website is www.nwfamn.org.

Cook Seniors to meet on Nov. 6

COOK- The Cook Senior Citizens will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 1 p.m. in the senior citizens room at the Pioneer Apartments (use the front entry) at 131 5th St. SE.

The meeting will include news about the group, plans for having card games, and other activities. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. The group is not just for seniors!

Local author Sandra Butalla to speak and sign books at the Cook Public Library

COOK- Former Cook resident and teacher, Sandra Butalla, will be at the Cook Library at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Butalla is the author of three books: *The Man Who Fell to Earth*—the amazing true story of World War II flyboy Robert Givens and his harrowing fall from a B-17 at 20,000 feet over the North Sea; *Warbirds in the Cloak of Darkness*, which tells the incredible true story of American airman Robert Holmstrom and the highly-dangerous top-secret missions he flew for the OSS during World War II; and her latest, *We Are Not Invisible*, in which twenty-six women veterans from varied branches of the service share the enlightening stories of their lives before, during, and after their military service.

Butalla will be discussing her new book during the Oct. 22 program. Copies of all three books will be available for purchase following the program.

Sandra Butalla's books are also available at Amazon.com, Barnes&Noble.com, HellgatePress.com and at the Jack Butalla Agency, 114 Chestnut St. in Virginia.

October is Fiber Arts Month at the Cook Public Library

COOK- We've expanded Quilt Month to include all Fiber Arts!

Come to the library all month long to see local fiber art pieces, including quilting, knitting, crocheting, embroidery, weaving, spinning, and felting. Fiber-art themed books for all ages will be available for check out. Each check out earns a chance to win one of several prizes. The Friends of the Cook Public Library are sponsoring a ticket raffle for a chance to win a beautifully hand-embroidered wool wall hanging, donated by a local artist.

A special event in October is the Fiber Arts Tea on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 5 p.m.

Woodcarving group meets Thursdays

COOK- The NWFA woodcarving group will meet on Thursdays at the gallery from 6 to 8 p.m. Dates are Oct. 24; Nov. 7, 21; Dec. 5, 12, and 19. The curious and carving beginners of all ages are encouraged to attend and share this learning experience together. Call Howard Hilshorst for more information at 218-741-7941.

Open Studio Art at NWFA Gallery on Saturdays

COOK- On Sat-

Make A Cool and Creative "Viking"



COOK- Registration is required for this cool needle-felting class at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook on Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The creative class will be taught by Susan Archbold (from the Range Print Shop and General Store) at NWFA Gallery at 210 S. River St., next to Dream Weaver Salon.

The "Viking" kit costs \$20 paid to the instructor (at the time of the class). The class requires pre-registration which costs \$10 for NWFA members and \$20 for non-members. NWFA membership is \$25 per year. Call Alberta Whitenack at 218-666-2153. You may also register for the class at the Gallery.

Find more information at www.nwfamn.org or write to nwfamn.org@gmail.com.

urdays, artists meet at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook to enjoy working on their art from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. All artists and would-be artists are welcome to share the time and space on Saturdays.

Piatigorsky Foundation presents pianist and tenor in Bigfork

BIGFORK - The Piatigorsky Foundation is bringing tenor Kelly Burns and piano accompanist Nicholas Shaneyfelt to the Edge Center for the Arts in Bigfork on Friday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

The performance is part of the foundation's program to bring world

class music to smaller communities throughout America.

The pianists will also be performing in Cook on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

Borealis Bards present The Little Prince

INT'L FALLS- Borealis Bards, the inter-generational community theatre program of Backus Community Center, will produce *The Little Prince* as the second event of the Backus Performing Arts Series at the end of October.

The *Little Prince* is a drama by Rick Cummins and John Scoullar, based on the widely-read book by Antoine de Saint-Exupery. It is the magical tale of a world-weary avi-

ator who becomes stranded in the Sahara Desert where he meets the Little Prince, a little man from another planet. The Little Prince acts out for the Aviator his adventures with a lamplighter, a fox, and other beings he's met in the galaxy, and shares the insights he's learned from these encounters. In the end, both leave understanding how to laugh, cry and love again.

Performances will be at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 25 and 26, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27. Tickets are available at Backus and City Drug in the Falls, J&D Foods in Littlefork, Betty's in Fort Frances and at the door. Prices are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6 to 18, ages five and under are free.

NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

Vaping and e-cigarette use a growing problem



JOHN VUKMANICH

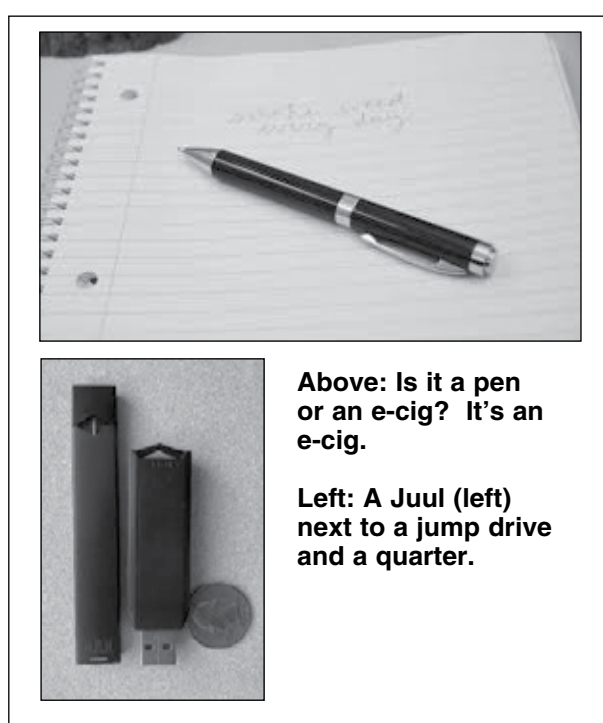
veys showed that 11-percent of 8th-graders and 16-percent of 9th-graders have used e-cigs. The most alarming statistic was among 11th-graders. The study showed that 26.4-percent, or one in four high school 11th-graders, have used e-cigs or vaping devices. The same study showed that traditional cigarette use among the same age groups was at 2-percent, 3-percent, and 5-percent. Students also shared that they are able to get the products from friends, shops, and on the internet. Nationwide, usage of these devices has risen from 7 million users in 2011 to 45 million users in 2019. (Source: Washington Post)

Some cities, including Duluth, have passed ordinances raising the age to purchase tobacco products to 21. This makes it at least a little more difficult for young people to purchase them. A big loophole, though, is the internet. Many of these products are sold through websites that do not have the capability to guarantee that a buyer is of age. Because internet commerce is con-

trolled by federal law, it is not something that is easy or fast to fix. The companies that manufacture these devices are now multi-million-dollar companies with financial clout. Some are backed financially or even owned by tobacco companies, such as Phillip Morris and R.J. Reynolds. Juul, the largest manufacturer of electronic cigarettes, is valued at roughly \$38 billion according to some analysts.

Electronic cigarettes are not just used for ingestion of nicotine, but also THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. Because products that contain THC are legal in some states, marketing on the internet or through illegal private-party sales is also an issue.

Electronic cigarettes are able to deliver much higher levels of nicotine through a concentrated liquid that is heated up and vaporized by the device. The liquid comes in many flavors, with the primary favorites being fruit, berry, and mint flavors. These flavors appeal to the palate of young people and mask the flavor of the chemicals con-



Above: Is it a pen or an e-cig? It's an e-cig.

Left: A Juul (left) next to a jump drive and a quarter.

tained in the liquid. Some vaping cartridge products are concentrated to produce the same amount of nicotine as four packs of regular cigarettes.

You may have heard that at least eighteen deaths nationwide have been attributed to e-cig use. In addition, 1,080 cases of lung disease have been attributed to e-cig usage. Doctors are still studying the causes of these illnesses and deaths, but it remains clear that something in

the chemicals used for vaping is causing lung function to deteriorate, eventually leading to the body having an inability to transfer oxygen from the lungs to the bloodstream. The FDA has warned all users of electronic cigarettes to stop use immediately until more information can be gathered regarding their side effects.

One of the biggest enforcement issues for schools is that unlike regular cigarettes, which are more difficult to conceal and even more difficult to use without detection, electronic cigarettes are easy to conceal and the vapor much more difficult to detect. Vaping devices come in pods, pens, and in the case of one of the most common brands, Juul, a jump drive.

What can we do as parents and educators? We need to talk with our kids about the potential dangers of use. Everyone knows that cigarettes are bad for you, but signs point to a different belief regarding e-cigs. Initial-

ly, they were marketed as a safe alternative to smoking and even as a way for smokers to "kick the habit." Seventy-five-percent of teens surveyed last year thought that using electronic cigarettes was not bad for you. The message that we have shared with kids at North Woods is that these devices are not safe. They can lead to nicotine addiction. They can lead to severe injury or death. Presenters to staff have explained in detail the concerns surrounding these products, and we are embedding information into our health classes so that our students are informed about the risks. Our school resource officer is another resource we are utilizing to work with kids regarding chemical use. As parents, it is important that you know what to look for. Modern vaping devices are easily concealed and you may not even notice one in plain sight. Be aware of different scents on your kids' clothing. Monitor your credit cards for strange purchases. Talk to your kids if their behavior or moods seem strange. Listen to your kids about their concerns, and encourage them to make good choices. We need to teach our kids that the temptation to participate in risky behavior will always be there, but they can make the best decisions for their own well-being. We will continue to work with our students, so they understand that using e-cigs is not a safe alternative to cigarettes. Ultimately, our goal is to keep our kids safe, accountable, and away from addiction.

Orr HS Class of 1969 celebrates 50th reunion



ORR- Thanks to Gloria "Corky" Hansen LeMere, Kathy Stevenson, Facebook Messenger, and word of mouth, the Orr High School Class of 1969 class reunion organized and met at The Dam in Orr on Sept. 27, 2019.

Memories, year-books and stories, with perhaps some lapses in memory, were shared by all.

Thank you to the new owners of The Dam and their staff who were very accommodating, friendly, and provided a great atmosphere and dinners for our group.

Pictured (from left): Karen Takkunun Lehto, Jerry Crane, Bernie Prepodnik, Rocky Lehto, Les Ollila, Jimmy Johnson Front Row: Ken Lehman, Kathy Stevenson, Janet O'Connell Autio,

Hazel Autio Appleby, Gloria Hansen LaMere, Ann Marie Krall Kolstad (12 classmates)

Absent: Gerald Klebofski, Gary Hooker, Carol Connor, Pam Hackey, Hannalore Crego, Linda Tibbetts Barto, Pam Foster, Wendy Nelson, Dan

Bragg, Steve Hensel (10 classmates)

Fondly Remembered Deceased: Karol Zagrebelny, Sandy King, Duane Palmer, Janet Whipple, Ed Town, William Whiteman, Frank Brenner (7 classmates)

Flu Clinics
Oct 21st
Nov 1st
7:30 - 4:30

Cook Medical
 20 Fifth St. SE
 218-666-5941
 High-Dose Shot Available!
 No Appointment Necessary
 Bring your Insurance Card, Photo ID, and Please Wear a Short-Sleeved Shirt

Bookmobile Schedule

Thursdays: Oct. 31; Nov. 21; Dec. 12

Nett Lake Community Center	9:30 - 1:15
Crane Lake Ranger Station	11:15 - 12:00
Orr Lake Country ReMax Bldg	1:45 - 2:30
Kabetogama Town Hall	3:15 - 3:45

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

the TIMBERJAY

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 Ely.

Publisher	Marshall Helmberger
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Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
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Official Newspaper:
 City of Orr, City of Ely, Townships of Bearville, 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.

Subscriptions Available:
 St. Louis County: \$37 year Elsewhere: \$52 year Online web-only \$29.95. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover. Please specify Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr or Ely edition.

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BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

Breitung planning to move back into town hall Oct. 25

by E. M. SCHULTZ
Staff Writer

Old mailboxes on sale for \$25; money raised to fund community room furniture

SOUDAN - Construction is going well on the township building rehab project, according to Breitung town board supervisors, who met on Thursday, Oct. 10. Lenci Construction predicted the building would be ready for move-in on Friday, Oct. 25. A handful of loose ends still need to be wrapped up, however, before that happens.

Most of these jobs are already in progress. There are plans to finish painting the fire hall, the plumbing is mostly done, office doors are on their way, desks were installed on Friday, and a new flag has been ordered for the post office. The only thing the council wasn't sure about was when the parking lot will be blacktopped. The post office is now open,

and the township is hoping to host an open house for the renovation project sometime in late November or early December. The council plans on setting a date at the next meeting, which will be held at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23.

Council members also discussed an issue regarding Puncher Point Road, which was brought to their attention by a few of the residents who attended the meeting. One attendee asked about the status of the removal of large boulders and rocks along the road, which she believed were a safety issue. The board agreed and informed her that the boulders would be removed prior to the first snowfall.

They said the property owner had been told to remove

the boulders, as well as the logs, sawhorses, and other unsightly and dangerous items, several weeks ago. Given that this has yet to happen, the council voted to send a blight letter to the owner, allowing 14 days for the items to be removed. If this does not happen, the township will remove the boulders and charge the property owner for the work.

Other business

In other business, the town board:

- Tabled the Tower ambulance subsidy agreement until they have more information available regarding the location of the current funds. The new agreement would see a 25-percent increase in Breitung's contributions each year, for the

next three years. The current three-year agreement includes one final payment in December before it expires at the end of the year.

- Tabled a payment to JPJ Engineering for the Lake Vermilion Park Drive north entrance.

- Changed the language of the facility use and rental rules and regulations for the township's community room. The new language no longer prohibits gambling, allows for longer rentals without approval by the board, and allows for the use of the room in sales and promotional events. The new language also lowered the price of rentals, as well as cleaning fees.

- Reviewed the applications for the Maintenance

Department Supervisor job and planned to set up an interview schedule at the next council meeting. The board received a total of seven applications.

- Voted to give residents a chance to buy their old mailboxes. The township won the mailboxes in a national bid for \$747 and will be selling them for \$25 to help recover the cost of the bid and to help raise funds for new tables and chairs. Three hundred mailboxes are available. The mailboxes will also be available for purchase for non-residents, so if you would like to reserve your specific number, you can call Lori Tomsich at 218-753-4220.

MPCA hosting meeting in Virginia on Nov. 12 to discuss proposed clean car standards

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL - The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will host a community meeting in Virginia next month to take public comments on the agency's intent to adopt clean car standards similar to those in 14 other states, including Colorado and Maine.

The meeting is set for 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at Miner's Memorial in Virginia. The meeting is one of six being

held around the state next month.

More than 60 percent of Americans now view climate change as a crisis or a serious problem, and a majority of Americans indicate they want action needs to be taken now to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases that contribute to climate change.

In Minnesota, transportation is now the largest emitter of these "greenhouse gases" and passenger vehicles are the largest source of carbon emissions within the sector.

Recently, Governor Tim Walz asked the MPCA to start the rulemaking process to adopt the Clean Cars Minnesota proposal to protect existing standards for reducing carbon emissions and other air pollutants and require manufacturers to deliver for sale in Minnesota more ultra-low and zero-emission electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids.

The MPCA will also be hosting a statewide webinar on November 4 from 12-1 p.m. To receive additional details on the upcoming Clean Cars Minnesota

webinar, please visit the Clean Cars Minnesota website (www.mn.gov/cleancars).

The community meeting announcement is part of the MPCA's official Request for Comments - the agency's legal notice of its intent to begin rulemaking - in the State Register. The Request for Comments period is 60 days, and the public is encouraged to submit written comments until 4:30 p.m. on December 6, 2019. MPCA welcomes all comments on the rule, including simply

stating whether or not the agency should adopt these standards and why.

The MPCA expects to issue the proposed clean car standards rule in early 2020, with final adoption expected December 2020.

More information about the rule, public meetings, and how to submit comments is on the MPCA website (mn.gov/cleancars).

Obituaries and Death Notices

Harold J. Baumgartner

Harold John Baumgartner, 86, of Cook, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, at the Littlefork Care Center. A Memorial Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 21 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook with visitation for one hour prior at the church. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

He is survived by his children, Lindy (Leo) Wilenius, Allan (Peggy) Baumgartner, Dan (Melissa) Baumgartner and Mary (Lyle) Larson; grandchildren, Joe (Megan) Baumgartner, Beth Wilenius, David (Kelsey) Wilenius, Sabrina (Will Long) Baumgartner,

Brock Baumgartner, Hannah (Jace) Junker, Garrett Larson and Breann Larson; eight great-grandchildren; brother, Jim (Pat) Baumgartner; sister, Lucille (Ron) Nelson; brothers- and sisters-in-law, Maxine Haas, Marian Haas, Ella Huckbody, Doris and Bruce Wussow, Irene Baumgartner and Dorothy Baumgartner.

Darlene M. Bach

Darlene "Dar" Marie Pucel Bach, 70, of Ely, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, in Duluth, surrounded by family. A celebration of life has been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely and will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19 with visitation for one hour

prior. A private family burial at the Ely Cemetery will follow.

She is survived by her daughter, Michelle (Dave) Milton; son, Brian Lindland; stepdaughter, Brenda (Jerome) Whiting; stepdaughter-in-law, Yvonne Bach; stepsons, William Bach and Bruce (Carrie) Bach; grandchildren, Lauren, Ryan, Brielle, Kristen, Phillip, Wayne, Nicole, Andrea, Marlayna, Brad, Willy and Braxton; nine great-grandchildren; niece, Debbie (Chris) Hedin; nephews, Darrell (Dolly) Salo and Terry Salo; a great-niece and a great-nephew; special friend, Rosemarie; and furry companion, Cruise.

Kathryn A. Mayasich

Kathryn A. Mayasich, 95, of Eveleth, died on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, at Waterview Woods Nursing Home in Eveleth. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 18 at Resurrection Catholic Church in Eveleth with visitation for one hour

prior at the church. The celebrant will be Fr. Michael Garry. Honorary pallbearers will be Kathryn's brothers. Burial will be in the Eveleth Cemetery. Arrangements are entrusted to Cron-Sheehy Funeral Home of Eveleth.

She is survived by her brothers, Joe (Lorraine) Mayasich of Shoreview, Edward (Jen) Mayasich of Lake Vermilion-Tower, Bernard Mayasich of Shoreview, Jim Mayasich and John Mayasich, both of Eveleth; numerous nieces, including special nieces, Cathy, Susie and Debra; nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Gary H. Blauert

Gary Herman Blauert, 76, of Babbitt, died peacefully on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2019, surrounded by his family after a three-year battle with complications of a blood disease. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 18 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Babbitt with visitation for one hour prior at the church. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home

of Ely.

He is survived by his wife, Linda De Shaw Blauert; son, John; daughter-in-law, Camille (Kinzer); grandchildren, James and Elizabeth; brother, Jimmy; sister-in-law, Oni; nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Frank G. Meyer

Frank Gerald Meyer, 47, of Makinen, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2019. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, Oct. 17 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cook. Arrangements were with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Floyd B. Olson

Floyd B. "Govie" Olson, 88, of Gilbert, formerly of Cook, died on Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019, at Spectrum Carefree Living in Virginia. Please join Govie's family on Saturday, Oct. 19 at the Elks Club in Virginia for a program and reception in his honor, beginning at 2 p.m. Arrangements are by Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava Funeral Home.

He is survived by his

wife, Betty and her daughter, Wendy (Jay) Brenk of Duluth; his children, John (Jane) Marconett of Sun City West, Ariz., Susan (Rick) Aune of Lake Vermilion-Cook, Robert (Renee') Marconett of Canyon, Arlyn Ferguson of Cook and Patti (Paula) Olson-Williams of Barnum; grandchildren, Rachel (Reid) Stanley, Brian Marconett, Zach (Rochelle) Marconett, Thomas (Monique) Aune, Matthew (Deana) Aune, Spencer (Stacy) Aune, Andrew (Nicke) Aune, Haley (Chris) Murphy, Corey (Kevin) Christofferson, Joey (Judy) Clarkson, Jamie (Raymond) Clarkson, Brandon (Whitney) Ferguson and Reuben Olson-Williams; 24 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; siblings, Marian Wickman of Blaine, Robert Olson of Aurora and Melvin Olson of Osseo; many special nephews and nieces; and a multitude of dear and loving friends.

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Read It Here

CITY OF COOK

Zup's market construction moving forward

by E. M. SCHULTZ
Staff Writer

COOK - The city council here voted on Thursday to award a construction bid to Utility Systems of America, or USA, for the first phase of the Zup's project. This part of the project

will involve infrastructure work, including the construction of a main water loop on the south side of Hwy. 53. A total of five bids were presented to John Jannick of JPJ Engineering and Ben Johnson of the DBS Group on Tuesday, Oct. 8, who then recommended

the bid from USA to the board.

Johnson stated that they intend to work on the Zup's project through the winter as much as possible, weather permitting. Once completed, the project should result in a building that is a foot higher and 1,000

square-feet larger than the previous one. There are also plans for a freshly paved parking lot that could potentially include a larger entrance at the west end, should the company choose to take the advice of some of the council members.

A second meeting will

be held on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 10 a.m. to acknowledge the awarding of a bid for the second part of the project, which will center around site development and improvement. Bids for this part of the project will be presented to Jannick and Johnson on Monday,

Oct. 28.

In other business, the council:

► Passed a resolution to correct a clerical error regarding the Old Muni's opening and closing times on Sundays. The Muni will now be allowed to open at 10 a.m. and must close by 1 a.m.

TOWER...Continued from page 1

Referencing Helmberger, Rice asked Carlson: "And at one point, you found out that he was making commitments for the city without contacting you as the mayor of the City of Tower, is that correct?"

"That is correct," said Carlson.

While neither Rice nor Carlson provided any context to the claim, it was an apparent reference to a grant to TEDA from the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board that was subsequently loaned to the developers of a town home project to which the city had committed financially. That grant and subsequent loan grew out of a meeting in late January 2017 between the developers, IRRRB officials, including Commissioner Mark Phillips, and Helmberger. City officials were made aware of the meeting and the possibility of a grant proposed by the IRRRB within days of the meeting and were regularly kept abreast through both written and verbal reports to the council of developments in advancing the grant.

Written TEDA reports to the city council detailing meetings in February, March, April, May, and June 2017, all made reference to ongoing work on the funding proposal. The city council, with Carlson present, unanimously approved a resolution in support of the funding at their Feb. 13, 2017 meeting. The council later approved the grant on May 22, 2017, according to official city minutes.

Carlson did not respond to a texted request for comment on his false statement to the court, which was made under oath. Carlson's attorney immediately hung up the phone when contacted

for this story. Rice has a checkered history as a lawyer. According to the *Duluth News-Tribune*, Rice was reprimanded by the Minnesota Supreme Court in 2012 and placed on two years of probation for providing incompetent legal representation and charging unreasonable fees.

Assistant St. Louis County Attorney Jessica Fralich, who was not present at the court hearing, said that Carlson's claim regarding Helmberger should have been stricken from the record. Even if it were true, she said, it doesn't mitigate Carlson's actions.

Under state law, a city council can only remove an appointed member of an economic development authority with just cause and must provide a hearing to give the member a chance to speak to any charges. The Tower City Council removed Helmberger from TEDA without stated cause, claiming that his term had expired. In fact, Helmberger had been appointed one year earlier to a three-year term that expired at the end of 2019, but the city's official roster of commission and committee terms was altered to disguise that fact. Keith is facing criminal charges of her own for altering that official document.

The city has also submitted a separate complaint to the county attorney's office over Keith's apparent destruction of a city laptop computer that she had in her possession when she was suspended from her position back in June of this year. When city officials asked her to return the computer, she stated that she had her son shoot the computer. She stated that she then ran the laptop over with her pickup truck and burned the remains in a fire.

If the value of the computer and the lost data is set over \$1,000, Keith could face felony charges for that incident. Assistant County Attorney Jessica Fralich said the county is still reviewing whether to file charges in that case.

Keith, who also appeared in court on Wednesday on the falsification of records charge, did not enter a plea. Instead, her attorney submitted a motion to dismiss for lack of probable cause, a motion that is relatively standard in such cases and typically not successful. That motion is scheduled for oral arguments in a Virginia courtroom on Friday, Oct. 25.

Carlson's claims

Unlike Keith, who refused to meet with county officers investigating her case, Carlson did speak to investigators and told them that he believed, based on information provided by Keith, that he had authority to remove Helmberger from TEDA with a simple motion. Carlson also indicated that Keith would have been the one who had altered the city's official roster of committee and

commission terms, since that was a document that she maintained.

The alteration of the document raises questions about what Carlson and Keith actually understood about their ability to remove Helmberger. While Carlson claimed he believed he had authority to remove Helmberger with a motion, he did imply during the Jan. 22, 2018 council meeting that Helmberger's term had expired, even though Carlson apparently knew that it had not.

Altering Helmberger's term on the city's commissions and committees roster, to make it appear that his term had expired, suggests that Keith, at a minimum, understood the requirement to provide due process before removing a TEDA member.

Emails, obtained through a search warrant in the case, suggest that Keith had lobbied Carlson for Helmberger's removal from TEDA, and that Carlson had

agreed to do so. That was confirmed in a Dec. 7, 2017, email from Keith to council member Kevin Fitton, in which Keith told Fitton, "The mayor says for Christmas this year he got me a present which is to take Marshall off of TEDA in January."

Carlson also misled investigators during his interview with them earlier this year. According to the criminal complaint, Carlson falsely told St. Louis County investigators that he had removed Helmberger for obtaining the grant from the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation without council approval, even though Carlson had voted with the rest of the council to approve the grant in May, 2017.

Former council member Fitton also spoke briefly to investigators, suggesting his belief that Helmberger had been removed for cause. Earlier this year, before his resignation from the council, Fitton had

claimed that Helmberger had been insubordinate on TEDA for contacting the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency over a wastewater discharge permit related to a sewer extension to the Hoodoo Point Campground. Fitton never indicated how that action, which was undertaken as part of Helmberger's newspaper reporting on the issue, was cause for removal from TEDA. Helmberger's contact with the MPCA had uncovered that city officials at the time had made a significant error on the permit, which required the city to submit a new application.

Fitton may have gotten closer to the truth in January of this year when he noted that Helmberger's actions and criticism of some city decisions had left council members upset with him. "He burned enough bridges with enough council members that we just said that 'enough is enough of that,'" said Fitton.

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CITY OF TOWER

New clerk-treasurer takes the reins at Tower City Hall

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- With only six days as city clerk-treasurer under her belt, Victoria Ranua introduced the council to a more formal and documented way to approach city business.

Taking a cue from much larger cities and counties, Ranua explained that council members will now be provided with much more information on agenda topics than in the past.

“For each agenda item, there is a background letter,” she said. “I think you will grow to like it.”

The background letter provides the source of the requested action, the details and history of the issue, cites applicable city ordinances or state statutes, calculates any impact to the city budget, and offers a staff recommendation. In the future, said Ranua, the background briefing papers will be sent to council members along with the agenda, at least three days in advance of the meeting, so council members will be fully informed when they actually meet.

The city’s former city clerk-treasurer Linda Keith had repeatedly rebuffed requests by the council to provide information in advance of city meetings.

The usefulness of such a method was apparent at a number of points during Tuesday’s meeting.

Ranua, who has experience with complicated planning and zoning issues, had a lengthy summary of developer Dave Rose’s request to have his conditional use permit considered by the city council, instead of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

“This application was denied on multiple points, starting in December 2015,” she said. In her opinion, she said, the commission had set a very high standard for accepting the application.

“I don’t know that he needs to meet all the criteria at the application stage,” she said. “It’s a gray area in the law.”

Ranua’s background sheet summarized the history of Rose’s interactions with the city, cited the relevant city ordinances, and discussed the roles

of the Board of Adjustment and council play in zoning matters.

Ranua recommended that the city council agree to review the CUP application.

Councilor Mary Shedd, who also serves on the Planning and Zoning Commission, said the commission was asking the council to bring in some professional expertise to help review and possibly rewrite portions of the city’s zoning ordinance relating to such development.

“We feel we are stuck trying to understand the legal stuff,” she said. “We need to step back and get some help.”

The council agreed to take up Rose’s request, and also agreed to bring in some professional support for both the council and Planning and Zoning on the issues involved.

American Tower lease request

The council reviewed a second offer from American Tower for a perpetual easement for cell phone towers on the Lee Mine hill.

American Tower is offering the city four options, a lump sum payment of \$289,918 or a variety of installment plans.

The city is currently receiving monthly payments of \$2,016 from American Tower. American Tower, in their letter to the city, said their carriers are demanding “better economics in order to continue to lease from American Tower.”

Ranua noted that the upfront payment would help the city with its current budget issues, such as the need to repay a loan from the League of Minnesota Cities. “Under normal circumstances I would recommend one of the longer-term plans,” she wrote. “However, given we have large expenses pending for which we may not have funds available to cover, the lump sum of \$289,918 offers a solution to this issue.”

Mayor Orlyn Kringstad said the lump sum would be a positive financial move for the city at this time. But other council members questioned if this was the best option since it was taking away the \$24,000 in annual



Ann Lamppa, left, outgoing Tower interim clerk-treasurer, and new clerk-treasurer Victoria Ranua, right, review the agenda prior to Tuesday’s council meeting. photo by J. Summit

revenue the city has come to depend on.

City engineer Matt Bolf asked if the city attorney had reviewed the contract and asked how it compared to what other cities were being paid.

“You need to find out the market rate,” Bolf said.

Ranua said the rates were higher than ones she had seen in the Twin Cities.

Bolf said he hadn’t seen the lump sum payment option very often.

Councilor Steve Abrahamson wondered if the perpetual easement was a good or bad option for the city.

“We should have our attorney review this. We are giving away a specific right.”

Abrahamson, who is a realtor, said it is hard to find good sites for cell phone towers.

“We really need to do our due diligence on this,” he said.

The vote on the motion to approve the lump sum payment failed.

The council then tabled the issue, and decided to get an attorney review, have the budget committee review the offers, and create a list of the positives and negatives of each option.

City budget prospects improving

Interim Clerk-Treasurer Ann Lamppa, whose last day on the job was Oct. 15, presented an updated 2020 budget to the council and highlighted the changes that had been made since last month. She recommended the council maintain the proposed ten-percent levy increase

approved in September. She added in several more revenue sources that had been overlooked, including \$8,760 in state fire aid, \$29,153 in a tax abatement bond, \$31,000 in increased Hoodoo Point revenue (fee increase approved last month), and \$13,500 in increased airport maintenance reimbursement aid.

On the expenditure side, the only major change was the loan repayment to the League of Minnesota Cities, and the salary cost for the Emergency Management Director position, which will be held by Jesse Anderson. She noted the city will be making the final payment on the fire engine loan in 2020. The expenditure budget now includes separate items to track the cost of the on-call ambulance quarters, on-call paid ambulance staff, and the volunteer on-call staff.

This updated budget shows \$118,965 in increased revenue and leaves the city with a fund reserve balance of \$46,643, which is still lower than the city’s historical average, but should be adequate according to Lamppa.

This budget will give the city greater clarity in expenses, and future expenses, Lamppa said.

“If we are fortunate enough to get all the LCCMR grant money, things will look much rosier at the start of 2021,” Lamppa said. “But we still really need to watch our spending.”

Lamppa said that Ranua will start working on a city cash flow budget, which had not been done in the past.

The city’s finance committee will review the budget before the council approves its final 2020 levy.

Tower Harbor Shores loan

TEDA member Marshall Helmberger spoke to the council under public input about the ongoing claims being advanced by Steve Altenburg.

“I had hoped this council could resolve some of the false allegations revolving around the TEDA loan,” he said. “But unfortunately, I don’t believe it is possible to do so since it has become clear that Mr. Altenburg is operating in bad faith, and has, at best, a limited understanding of how things actually work in government.”

Helmberger noted that all the council members had attended the last TEDA meeting and seen the presentation outlining the history of the loan.

“We addressed the false allegations that we knew about from Mr. Altenburg,” Helmberger said.

But now Altenburg had published an “entirely new list of imagined improprieties, in *The Tower News*.”

Helmberger said these last allegations, which claimed that Kringstad did not properly fill out an application form for the loan because some lines had “NA” on them, was also not based on facts.

“TEDA never authorized or created that application form,” he said. “There was zero requirement that such a form even be filled out....Neither TEDA, the IRRR, or the Tower City Council ever made such a requirement.”

Helmberger also stated that Altenburg’s claim that the loan was in default was not true.

“As soon as we debunk the latest false allegation, Mr. Altenburg invents new and even sillier ones,” Helmberger said.

Helmberger also repeated that Altenburg is not a whistleblower.

“He has absolutely no protection, and deserves no protection under the state whistleblower statutes,” he said. “Since those laws only protect people who make good faith complaints based on facts. When Altenburg or *The Tower News* claim otherwise, they are misrepresenting the truth.”

Other business

In other business, the council:

► Heard from grant manager Nancy Larson that the city is no longer seen as qualifying for

CDBG loans, due to results of the 2010 census. She said the city needs to conduct its own census, because the city definitely should qualify based on the percentage of residents that are low-to-moderate income. The city can develop its own survey and send it out with utility billing, she said. Larson will work with city hall on this project.

► Heard that the city did receive two demolition grants from IRRR, and a grant from Lake Country Power’s Operation Roundup to pay half the cost of a new stove for the civic center. Larson also updated the council on other grant projects.

► Awarded the bid for concrete work at the Lamppa Building to low-bidder Broten Construction, for \$42,300. The money will come from the IRRR loan for the initial construction of the building.

► Appointed Eagles Nest resident Nancy Salminen as the city’s alternate member on the Lake Vermilion Bike Trail joint powers board. No Tower resident expressed interest in serving in this position.

► On a 3-2 vote, with Abrahamson and Majerle voting against, the council approved setting a 10-year limit on any new seasonal campground leases. This will not impact any current seasonal site holder.

► Agreed to maintain the two storage rental units used by the fire department, and asked the fire department relief association to cover the cost of \$1,020 per year. The council also made a commitment to rebuilding the fire department garage, which will be used to house the third ambulance, as well as the equipment and other items in the storage units.

► Appointed Ranua to all the city committees and commissions on which interim clerk Ann Lamppa had been serving.

► Set city hall office hours at 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

► Discussed the idea of having a paid secretary (at \$50 per month) to take minutes and manage agendas for city committees that meet monthly or bimonthly. Ranua will also develop a standard model for the minutes.

► Approved having a Firefighter I/II combined class offered in Tower starting in December. The class will include online courses and testing, but there will be three or four hands-on all-day classes on Saturdays throughout the winter that will meet at the civic center.

► Approved a three-year contract for Forth of July fireworks at a cost of \$11,000 for 2020. This cost included a five-percent discount for entering into the contract, as well as a 15-percent discount for prepaying in December. The cost of the fireworks is paid by the Fire Department Relief Association, from revenues raised by charitable gambling and their Fourth of July beer tent.

► Approved a contract with Walker Giroux, the city’s current auditing firm, for services for the year 2019 at a cost of \$24,500.

Scenic Rivers Clinics

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(218) 666-5941

Cook Dental
12 S River Street
Open Monday - Friday
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Tower Medical and Dental
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GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

Township to vote on hired, versus elected, clerk and treasurer

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP- Greenwood voters will soon be deciding whether or not to keep both an elected clerk and an elected treasurer. The township has been considering switching these positions from elected roles to hired ones. The cost of such a move was not discussed at their Oct. 8 meeting, where the town board took the first step toward having this question placed on the ballot for the annual election in March.

Supervisor Mike Ralston told the board, "There is set language you need to use."

According to Ralston, he received the necessary wording from township attorney Mike Couri, though Clerk Sue Drobac found the wording confusing and asked to have it clarified. The township now needs to notify the county auditor to have the question placed on the official township ballot. The cost of this move was not discussed.

When this topic was discussed at last month's meeting, it appeared the consensus was to leave the positions as they are, since there were still residents interested in running for the offices.

At Tuesday's meeting, it seemed public opinion was still against the option to switch. Residents Lee Peterson and John Bassing both spoke in favor of having elected clerks and treasurers.

"In Greenwood Township four years ago," Bassing said, "the clerk had the support of four supervisors, who voted on

a contract for her...but she lost by a 2-1 margin in that election. You are taking away the rights of the people to choose. Tower is a good example. They would have had an easier time if the people were able to choose."

State law sets the process for townships switching from an elected clerk and/or treasurer to a hired employee. Although the town board would have authority over the employees, there would be duties that both would have to perform. The township is not considering combining the positions and hiring one individual as the clerk/treasurer, which would require an external audit each year. Township clerks and treasurers currently serve two-year terms.

Broadband and public computer

The town board set a public meeting for Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the issues of broadband internet and the lack of reliable phone service. The township plans to invite St. Louis County Commissioner Paul McDonald, State Rep. Rob Ecklund, and representatives from Frontier, AT&T, Verizon, CTC, and Paul Bunyan Communications to the meeting. This will be an opportunity for the public to discuss their current issues with phone and internet service, as well as their wishes and needs for the future. Input collected at this meeting will help with planning for broadband expansion in the near future.

Ralston asked the clerk and treasurer about

the status of a computer in the township office that was being used by the public.

"It came to my attention that we now have a public computer in the office," he said, "but the board never approved of that. We should have board approval."

Treasurer Pam Rodgers said the computer in question was an old office computer that had outdated operating system software and was barely usable. She also said the computer was on the office network and was not secure. When asked about the cost of updating this computer, Rodgers said it would be comparable to purchasing a new machine.

"It's not worth it," Rodgers stated.

The town board approved spending up to \$2,500 to purchase a new computer and software and to have it installed so it could safely be used by the public. The computer would not be on the office network and would not allow anyone to save data to it. The township settled on this amount by looking at an existing quote they had received from Mark Wilcox when they were considering a Blandin broadband grant.

Insurance

According to a recent insurance audit, there are a few gaps in the township's coverage. There are also new assets and equipment, such as picnic tables and tennis court fencing, that were not previously covered. The previous policy, through the Minnesota Association of Townships' Insurance Trust, or MATIT, cost the township \$11,605 and

will now see an increase of \$736. MATIT will also be covering 25 percent of the township's errors and omissions policy this year, which will hopefully increase to full coverage over the next four years. In the meantime, the township will maintain their coverage through Western World, though they intend to see if they qualify for a reduced rate.

OSHA visit

Fire Department Training Officer Rick Worringer told the board he had spent two days on site with inspectors from OSHA, who were responding to an anonymously-filed list of 17 complaints.

"There are some things we are going to have to buy," he noted, "like no-spark fuel cans."

Worringer also mentioned that hoses must be inspected annually and self-contained breathing apparatuses, or SCBA, and fire extinguishers must be inspected monthly. There are also rules for climbing on the fire trucks without safety harnesses. A lack of paperwork also appeared to be an issue in the department.

"We probably are going to get nailed for something," he said.

Worringer said the department will receive a DNR 50/50 grant for new turnout gear, life jackets, and SCBA masks. The department asked for town board support to apply for a grant to purchase a special washing machine system, which removes dangerous smoke and other particles from fire fighter clothing.

"Smoke particles are proven to be carcinogenic," said Worringer.

"This is a very important system."

The township's only cost for this system would be for installation and any needed electrical and plumbing work. The board noted that they will not need to install a ventilation system in the fire hall. The town board approved the request.

Worringer also reported that the fire department pension account is currently funded at 199 percent. Right now, the department pension is \$1,900 per year. When the department moved their pension to PERA, there was a five-year freeze on pension changes. He said that Chief Dave Fazio, who was not at the meeting, will be requesting the pension amount be increased to \$2,500 per year once the freeze period ends in 2021.

A motion by Chairman Carmen DeLuca to raise the pension amount to \$2,500 was not acted on. DeLuca noted that the board "used to try to give a raise every year." Ralston said he would like to see more data on the issue before the board takes any action.

Other business

In other business, the board:

► Signed a three-year contract with Vermilion Snow Management, which has worked for the township the past few years. Costs for snow removal depend on the size of the needed equipment and range from \$100/hour for the one-ton truck with a front plow to \$200/hour for the one-ton truck with a front and rear pull plow. Cost for snow blowing with a skid-steer is \$125/hour. The plowing rates

will go up \$25/hour in years two and three of the contract.

The township received two quotes for plowing, but the second business did not yet have insurance, which was a required part of the quote.

► Appointed Janelle Swenson as deputy treasurer, replacing Belinda Fazio. Rodgers said that Fazio's schedule was not flexible enough to allow her to be trained in. Rodgers will be out of town soon and Swenson is being trained to take her place as needed. Both the elected treasurer and clerk are allowed to select and train their own deputies, who take over when they are out of the area.

► Took no action on approving the new rates for the Tower Area Ambulance Service subsidy.

"There are some questions that have to be answered first," said Supervisor Larry Tahija, who sits on the TAAS board.

► Ralston clarified a statement made at a prior meeting that had been refuted by fire department member Jeff Maus.

"Our attorneys refer to treating the cases as litigation," Ralston said, "so as far as I'm concerned, we will use the word litigation until it is settled."

► The town board took no action on the question of having residents vote on requiring residents of the single township road, Birch Point Extension, to pay for brushing/maintenance costs.

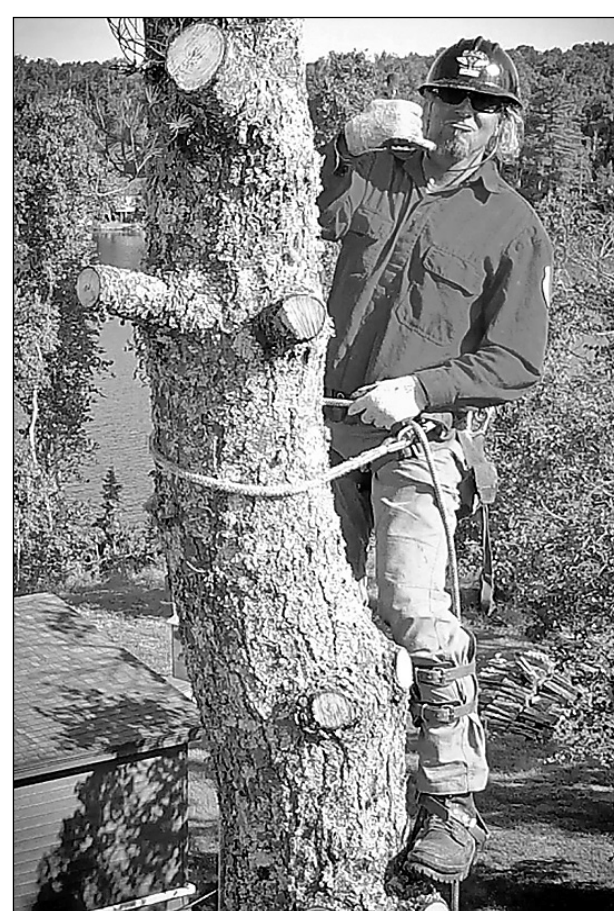
HANS...Continued from page 1

News of his death on the evening of Sept. 17 spread like wildfire in this community. Shock and sorrow followed. Happy memories weren't too far behind. Almost four weeks later, hundreds of those who were marked by Hans joined his family at Hidden Valley Ski Chalet for a memorial service on a chilly but sunny Saturday afternoon.

The gathering was very informal. "That's the way Hans would have wanted it," said flyers for the event that were posted around town. Vehicles with license plates from all over the country lined the narrow gravel road approaching the ski area buildings. The smell of a campfire, and a somber mood, filled the air. Small groups huddled together outside and spoke in hushed voices. Inside the doorway of the chalet, visitors were greeted with hot beverages and a bevy of bars and treats. They were asked to fill out a nametag.

Lots of hugs and tears were exchanged as friends of Hans mingled with each other and viewed displays of photographs revealing many old memories. Supporters made their way to the dwindling supply of seats. There were clearly way more people than chairs to sit on. Up at the front of the hall a video screen showed more memories and video clips. Old smoke jumper parachutes and other equipment were on display.

Precisely at 2 p.m., a loud whistle pierced the



Hans Smith died last month while cleaning up a tree felled by a storm. A memorial service was held last Saturday at Hidden Valley Ski Chalet in Ely. submitted photo

air, signifying the start of the service. Barb Cary Hall played a song on her guitar. People quickly grabbed an open seat and sat quietly to listen. The rest of the room was standing room only.

"What a tribute," said Paul Smith, Hans's father who lives in Ely. "Some of you have come a long way. We really appreciate it."

Hans is also survived by his wife, Traci, and their son, Rowan; stepchildren, Bryce of Hong Kong, Alexis of Australia, and Jacob of Kona, Hawaii; brother, Erik of Ely and Zhuhai, China. Hans was

preceded in death by his mother, Patricia Donnick, in 2014.

"A little saying, we've had on our stairway for years, refers to Hans, as well as his brother Erik: 'The best gifts that we could give to them were our roots and wings.'" Paul added, "You never will be completely at home again because part of your heart will always be elsewhere. That is the price you pay for the richness of knowing and loving people in more than one place."

According to his obituary, Hans and his brother

Erik grew up in Ely and spent their youth canoeing, cross-country skiing the lakes, and backpacking various mountains out West. Starting at 17, Hans worked for several years as a cowboy on ranches in Montana and Nebraska. He worked at various fire jobs on the Superior National Forest before becoming a smokejumper for ten years in Montana at Missoula and West Yellowstone. Then he transferred to Alaska for several years of fire duties at Tok and McGrath. He finally returned to Ely to open his own tree-trimming and removal business, while continuing to work on national fire overhead teams in the Western states.

Hans lived a life of adventure, and spent many winters traveling with friends and family to places like Mexico, Belize, Honduras, Guatemala, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Bali, Korea, China, Laos, Thailand, India and Hawaii. At various times in his life he was an avid canoeist, backpacker, back-country skier, rock climber, moose hunter, and both outrigger canoeist and surfer in Hawaii.

Paul introduced several people who shared stories about Hans. Many smokejumpers and firefighters talked of the professionalism, courageousness and leadership Hans brought to every incident he was involved in.

Aaron Chick, of Ely, named Hans as his best friend. "I have lots

of stories, from moose hunting to a bar fight in Hudson Bay," Chick said. "Hans was probably the best and the worst canoe paddler I've ever met. He would stand up in the boat at the top of a set (of river rapids) to get a better look. You just don't do that."

Sarah Levar, of Ely, sobbed her way through a special memory of Hans. She heard the news of Hans's passing as she and her husband were on the way to their oldest daughter's wedding. "Hearing that news was instantly sharp and deep," she said. "In 1986, in the former Cranberry's Bar, Hans struck up a conversation with an old friend from school and introduced me to a devastatingly handsome man."

Sarah didn't think much of it at the time, but a few weeks later, she saw Hans's friend again and he asked her on a date. "I accepted," Sarah said, "but there was a significant problem. I had no idea what his name was. I desperately tried to reach Hans, but he didn't get back to me in time, so I went on a date with a man whose name I did not know."

She said that Hans finally reached her and was concerned for her. "That's just the kind of guy Hans was," Sarah said. "I got through the date, learned the guy's name (Andy Levar) and after 32 years we are still together."

She added, "Hans always had an admiration for our path together, and we admired his life path. If

I saw Hans today, I could hear him say, 'Pretty nice day, eh?' It would be nicer if you here, Hans, but it is a pretty nice day."

Dave Anderson grew up with Hans and they were part of the class of 1982 at Ely High School. "From Kindergarten in 1969 to graduation, I was Paul McCartney to his John Lennon," he said.

Anderson, now a weatherman for a Duluth TV station, told of Hans's mischievous streak. "He coerced me into doing things that I am still ashamed of today," he said. "He had a magnetic personality in school. I can still see him in Kindergarten watching in amazement at the other kids finger-painting. He was drawn to the arts."

He also had a tendency to get into trouble, recalled Anderson. "In sixth grade, he was caught chewing gum," he said. "The teacher asked Hans what he had in his mouth. 'Teeth?' was his answer."

He formed a street gang in town. "About the only thing we did was start a garbage can fire," he said. "He gave everyone a nickname. We called Hans 'Skipper' for his tendency to regularly skip school."

A fellow smokejumper, Steve Reed, one leg of a trio of friends with Timo Rova and Hans, concluded, "He was larger than life. He lived every day to the max."

COOK...Continued from page 1

around the new facility. He then spoke about the services that the new building will bring to the area and praised it as the "best public works facility north of St. Paul."

State Sen. Tom Bakk, DFL-Cook, and state Rep. Robert Ecklund, DFL-I-Falls, also spoke at the event. They both thanked the hardworking men and women who helped get the project done, as well as public employees who will now conduct their business at the new facility. Bakk touched briefly on the role Rep. Tom Rukavina played in getting the project off the ground.

Former County Commissioner Mike Forsman spoke next, praising both the appearance of the building and the decision to name the building after his mentor, David Skelton, a longtime county public works

supervisor. "It's an absolutely gorgeous building." Public Works Director James Foldesi then gave a brief rundown of the project. He said the Ashawa Road was an ideal location for the facility, which combines the Linden Grove and Cook facilities into one. According to Foldesi, combining the facilities will better serve the communities by improving efficiency, opening up commercial property, and helping keep employees healthy and safe.

Foldesi then introduced the man of the hour, Dave Skelton, stating, "His leadership is still having an impact on how the county does business today."

Skelton thanked everyone for their support, saying it was "truly an honor, to say the least."

The county board



From left, James Foldesi, Dave Skelton, Mike Forsman, Paul McDonald, Keith Nelson, Mike Jugovich and Aaron Kelly participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday at the new St. Louis County Transportation Building named in honor of Skelton, a retired public works supervisor. photo by E.M. Schultz

then presented Skelton with a framed copy of the resolution that had given the new building its name, as well as a sign bearing the official name. Skelton unfurled a banner to make it all official before turning the microphone over to the Chair of the Transportation Committee,

Commissioner Mike Jugovich. The event wrapped up with a ribbon cutting performed by McDonald, Jugovich, Foldesi, Forsman, and Skelton. The Government Services Center and David M. Skelton Transportation Building were originally

set to open sometime in 2020 but were completed ahead of schedule. The facility sits on a 60-acre site and holds offices for employees from several departments, including Public Health and Human Services, and Land and Minerals. The transportation building itself is

an 82,000 square-foot building that will be used for vehicle storage and mechanics. It houses 28 public works employees, who cover nearly 2,000 square miles of service area. The entire facility cost \$24 million to complete.

DFL...Continued from page 1

According to Martin, voter turnout fell in the 2016 election, especially among segments of the population who had usually been reliable Democratic voters.

"Ten percent of formerly consistent Democratic voters stayed home in 2016," he said.

Climate Change: Most Critical Issue of Our Time

Presenter Dr. Barbara Jones, of Ely, talked of the many ways that climate change is likely to impact northern Minnesota. Jones, a retired physicist from the University of California, San Diego, presented data showing the acceleration of global temperatures from a baseline recorded between 1850 and 1900. The data showed the temperatures beginning to rise gradually in 1910, then more rapidly around 1980.

According to Jones, climate change is hastening the spread of diseases like West Nile virus and Lyme disease to the north, and is likely to result in a loss in bird species, including the common loon.

Jones spoke about a series of new bills aimed at addressing the impact of climate change, that were passed in the Minnesota House during last year's session but failed in the Republican-controlled Minnesota Senate. These proposals included a plan to put solar panels on K-12 school roofs and in state parks, as well as the purchase of electric buses for Metro Transit.

Jones said that changes need to take place on both a societal and global level. She stated that this includes developed nations providing increased support to developing nations. She then ended with a list of actions that individuals can take "right now" to help quell the impacts of climate change. This list included having fewer children, installing solar and wind power, avoiding flying when possible, and increasing efficiency in homes.

"Talk to your family, friends, church, neighbors about climate change," Jones said. "Lobby your political reps for good regional and national policies."



Minnesota Nurses Association Executive Director Rose Roach points to the comparative costs of healthcare in the U.S. versus other countries during a DFL issues forum last Saturday at Vermilion Community College in Ely. photo by L. Rogne

Patients Over Profits

Rose Roach, Executive Director of the Minnesota Nurses Association said nurses are finished trying to "tweak the edges" when it comes to healthcare.

"It's time to have a healthcare system that focuses on the patient, not profit," Roach said.

She argued that employers as well as employees are being "ripped off" by the high administrative costs involved in the current health insurance system.

"It's a tool used in class warfare," she stated. "The corporations are stealing our wealth through increases in the cost of health insurance."

Roach pointed out that life expectancy in the United States has dropped three years in a row due to cost barriers including under-insurance, high deductibles and co-pays, lack of coverage of out-of-network care, and the need for prior authorization of care. People are rationing drugs because of cost, and the working poor are depending on Medicaid.

Roach also spoke about the social determinants of health that need to be addressed, saying, "Poverty, racism, immigration status, and lack of access to affordable housing all drive health outcomes."

According to Roach, the Minnesota Nurses Association favors a universal single-payer

system. Conversion to this plan would include a transition period that would set aside money for individuals currently working in the private insurance industry. Roach also believes there is a need to protect the current Affordable Care Act and that it would be beneficial to build on it and further it.

"It will take political will and political courage to fulfill the goal of a healthcare system that focuses on patients over profit," said Roach.

Gilded Age Levels of Inequality

World Bank economist Kris Hallberg, of Ely, was next on the agenda, and she provided a well-documented case for the existence of an increased gap between the rich and poor, both in the United States and abroad.

Hallberg demonstrated that the lower levels of inequality that had persisted in the United States since 1940 started to rise in 1980. They then grew until they exceeded the level they were at prior to the Great Depression until reaching the height of the "Gilded Age" of the late 19th Century.

According to Hallberg, wage inequality has continued to increase, with a widening gap between college graduates and those with only a high school education. Whereas several decades ago a cardiologist would only earn four times the wages of a nurse, the same

physician would now earn at least seven times the wages of a nurse.

Hallberg made a distinction between one's actual level of income and the level of inequality in a society. Poverty levels in most of the world have decreased markedly in recent decades, but the unequal distribution of income and wealth has increased. And the levels of inequality in wealth, or the assets that a person holds, have increased more rapidly than wage inequality.

Hallberg claims the reasons for increasing inequality include increasingly regressive income taxes, financial sector deregulation, increasing displacement of workers by technology, global-

ization, and the decline of labor unions.

"In the 1950s, one-third of workers were in a labor union and now it's only eleven percent," said Hallberg. "Forty percent of public sector workers today are unionized, but only five percent of private sector workers."

According to Hallberg, there are important consequences to the high level of inequality we're experiencing today, including polarization, social fragmentation, a loss of confidence in institutions, and a lack of social cohesion. She claims the pattern of the distribution of inequality has contributed to an increasing sense of people living in separate worlds.

"Median household income in Democratic districts has gone up while median income has gone down in Republican districts," Hallberg stated.

She also mentioned that there is a big divide between urban versus rural districts, educated versus less-educated districts, and diverse versus more homogeneous districts.

Hallberg suggested a return to a more progressive tax structure as a way to narrow the income gap.

"We can return to a marginal rate of seventy percent without creating a disincentive to work," she said.

Hallberg also pointed out the need for policies that focus on the poor and middle class. She believes

policies such as affordable healthcare, lifelong education, sharing of capital through profit sharing for employees, or a universal basic income would give members of the lower and middle classes an opportunity to rise in today's economy.

"With a universal basic income, people can use the money to move to a place for a better job or to get an education," Hallberg said. "And we could reduce some social safety net programs to pay for it."

More Issues Forums to Come

The topics addressed at the issues forum were identified as priorities through a series of local listening sessions held last winter by local DFL party officials.

North of the Divide is in the process of bringing recommendations for winning strategies for the 2020 election to the attention of various DFL party structures. Members of the group have begun going door to door, talking with neighbors, and encouraging them to take part in the electoral process.

The next meeting of North of the Divide DFL will take place on Thursday, Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Sulu's Espresso Café in Tower.

For more information, contact Leah Rogne, DFL03 Board Member at leah.rogne@gmail.com or 218-787-2212.



SPORTS

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CROSS COUNTRY

Another solid outing for Ely

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**
Ely Editor

PROCTOR – The Ely boys cross country team finished in third place and the girls team took sixth place

Left: Ely junior runner Emmett Faltesek closes in on the finish line during competition in International Falls last week.

photo by A. Olson

Tuesday in the final regular season meet of the year. The team's top boys runner, Luke Olson, posted a time of 16:30 for third place. Zoe Devine came in 16th with a time of 20:50.3, to pace the girls team.

"The boys team did great coming in third to Cloquet AA and Staples-Motley who is not in our Section," she said. "Luke had his best

time this year along with Ethan, Harry, and Joey. The others were close to their best, despite a muddy rainy course, like all season."

Ely boys runners, with place and time, included: Emmett Faltesek, 16th, 17:40.5; Jasper Johnson, 18th, 17:41.7; Gabriel Pointer, 35th, 18:17.3; Ethan Bremmer, 62nd, 18:51.4; Dylan Fenske, 71st, 19:07.5;

Harry Simons, 92nd, 19:33.7; Joey Bianco, 97th, 19:40.6; Raif Olson, 113th, 20:12.7; Nate Nettifee, 124th, 20:21.0; Jon Hakala, 140th, 20:37.1; Leo Stalmer, 143rd, 20:39.8; Bryce Fairchild, 216th, 22:11.3; and Henry Matthys, 304th, 29:00.9.

Ely girls runners, with place and time, included:

See **RUNNERS...pg. 2B**

FOOTBALL

Grizzlies rout East Central, 40-0

North Woods turns opponents' multiple miscues into scoring opportunities

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP – The Grizzlies took advantage of their opportunities here last Friday as they racked up their second and biggest win of the season, against East Central. For North Woods, it was an outstanding showing in what was likely the Grizzlies final home game of the season.

After heavy rain, followed by snow, field conditions were rough. "It was a mud fest," said Grizzlies Head Coach John Jirik. But the conditions appeared to work to the advantage of the Grizzlies, who scooped up four East Central fumbles and three interceptions enroute to a 40-0 win.

"The key to the game was the turnover differential," said Jirik. "Our players did a fantastic job of eliminating turnovers and taking advantage of East Central's turnovers."

Senior Nathan Crain put North Woods on the board in the first quarter after he picked up a loose East Central ball and ran it in for six. Crain took it in again minutes later, this time on a handoff up the middle. Sophomore T.J. Chiabotti, who rushed for 151 yards on the day, followed up with two more touchdowns ahead of the break, to leave the Grizzlies up 24-0.

Chiabotti added another six in the third quarter, and the two-point conversion put the Grizzlies up 32-0.



Sophomore Jake Panichi put the icing on the cake with a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

For the second game in a row, the Grizzlies demonstrated their rushing prowess, as they racked up 326 yards of total offense, 304 of it on the ground. In addition to Chiabotti, junior running back Austin Sokoloski racked up 69 yards on seven carries. Crain added 52 yards on seven carries, including a

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



Above: North Woods senior running back Nathan Crain takes a handoff from quarterback Zach Cheney during last Friday's contest with East Central.

Left: East Central defenders bring down quarterback Cheney as mud and water fly from the soaked field.

photos by C. Stone

FOOTBALL

Wolves fall to Cherry

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**
Ely Editor

MT. IRON – The loss of Timberwolves' standout senior running back Dalton Schreffler put some new Ely faces in the offensive limelight, and freshman Jason Kerntz and sophomore Mason Davis made the most of their increased workload even as Ely fell 52-22 to Cherry this past Friday.

"Schreffler was our feature back," said Coach Cory Lassi, "and we changed things up on offense to get the ball to more guys." Schreffler suffered a broken leg in the team's Oct. 4 match-up with Northeast Range and is out for the season.

Ely and Cherry met on the new Mt. Iron-Buhl football field, and while the Wolves showed spark at times, they couldn't keep pace with the Tigers' potent offense.

Cherry put the first points on the board, after Ely's opening possession fizzled, leaving the Tigers up 6-0.

But Ely took the lead on their next possession, as Kerntz broke free for a

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

VOLLEYBALL

North Woods finishes strong

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP – Revenge is sweet, and the Grizzlies caught the taste in their regular season finale here with South Ridge, on

Left: North Woods senior Karlyn Pierce goes up for a kill. photos by C. Stone

Tuesday, as they dropped the Panthers in their tracks in straight sets, 25-16, 25-21, and 25-18.

"We lost to them in a recent tournament, so we knew we had to play hard to win," said North Woods Head Coach Kandi Olson.

The Grizzlies have played with more consistency in recent weeks, and

head into the postseason atop a five-game winning streak. "This year, our girls keep growing throughout every practice and game," said Olson. "They grow as players and their team bond is growing. That's exactly how you want to go into tournaments."

See **VBALL...pg. 2B**

Ely dumps SB to set new win record

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

SILVER BAY – The Timberwolves finished the regular volleyball season in typical form on Tuesday, easily beating their opponents in straight sets. In this case, it was Silver Bay on the chopping block as Ely finished the season at

23-3, downing the Mariners 25-15, 25-10, and 25-22.

It was the most regular season wins in Ely volleyball history, and the Wolves will now head into the Section 7A playoffs as the second seed in their sub-section, with home court advantage for the opening round. They're set to face the winner of the

match between the seventh and tenth seeds back on their own home court at Ely Memorial High School on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m.

That game is scheduled to be played after the *Timberjay's* Oct. 25 edition deadline, but readers can

See **ELY VBALL...pg. 2B**



Sports week

FOOTBALL

Playoffs games and seedings not yet set as of presstime.

VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday, Oct. 22

Ely hosts winner of play-in round, 7 p.m.

SWIMMING

Tuesday, Oct. 22

Northeast Range at Chisholm, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 24

Northeast Range vs multiple schools, 5 p.m. at Eveleth-Gilbert

CROSS COUNTRY

Thursday, Oct. 24

Sectional Meet at Cloquet, noon.

CROSS COUNTRY

Ely's Olson takes first at I-Falls invitational

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

INTERNATIONAL FALLS – The Ely boys cross country team took second place here on Tuesday, Oct. 8 at the International Fall Invite behind a first-place finish by Luke Olson. The girls team placed fourth,

with three runners finishing in the top 12. Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin was first in the boys competition with 45 points, followed by the Timberwolves with 70 points. Eleven teams competed, with Eveleth-Gilbert (114 points), International Falls (120 points), and Grand Rapids

(129 points) rounding out the top five. Olson posted a time of 17:03.60, 13 seconds ahead of Geno Uhrbom, of Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin. Other strong Ely finishers, with place and time, included: Jasper Johnston, 10th, 18:23.30; Emmett Faltesek, 15th, 18:40.40;

Gabriel Pointer, 18th, 19:03.80; Ethan Bremner, 26th, 19:53.50; Dylan Fenske, 29th, 20:00.80; Joey Bianco, 34th, 20:11.90; and Harry Simons, 36th, 20:21.20. Hibbing led in the girls competition with 57 points, followed by Mesabi East (82 points), International Falls (99 points), Ely (104 points) and

Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin (118 points). Zoe Devine took eighth place as an individual, with a time of 22:23.40. Other Ely girls finishers, with a strong place and time, included: Sydney Durkin, 11th, 22:47.50; and Phoebe Helms, 12th, 22:51.10.



VBALL...Continued from page 1B

The team, now 12-7 in conference play, has been plagued by injuries much of the season. They're now back at full strength, noted Olson.

North Woods put up solid stats in Tuesday's action. Senior Karlyn Pierce notched 12 kills and three blocks while classmate Coley Olson notched 13 kills. Senior Kayla Tschida posted seven kills and nine digs, while eighth-grader Tori Olson tallied nine digs. Sophomore setter Morgan Burnett posted 35 assists and three ace serves.

"Even though the girls had a tough game the previous night, they played with great energy and you could definitely feel the senior leadership out on the floor," said Olson.

In Monday night action in Chisholm, the Grizzlies

North Woods setter, sophomore Morgan Burnett, keeps her eye on the ball as she lines up another set assist.

photos by C. Stone

rebounded from a slow start to take control enroute to a 3-1 victory. "The first game, we struggled with focus," said Olson. "After that we really stepped it up and played some great volleyball. We had excellent defense which allowed us to have some great attacks throughout the night."

Coley Olson had a huge night, with 13 kills, 13 digs, and four ace serves. Karlyn Pierce added 15 kills, while Kayla Tschida added seven kills and 14 digs. Morgan Burnett posted 39 set assists and four ace serves while freshman Hannah Kinsey tallied seven kills.

ELY VBALL...Continued from page 1B

check the *Timberjay's* website at www.timberjay.com for timely game reports as area teams enter post-season play.

The Wolves head into the play-offs mostly back at full strength with the return of standout senior Brielle Kallberg, who missed several games recently with an ankle sprain. She's been back in action the past few games, and back in form, as she led the team with 11 kills and two ace serves on Tuesday at Silver Bay. Senior Erika Mattson added six kills and five digs, while

fellow senior Jenna Merhar posted eight kills and three blocks. Senior setter McCartney Kaercher tallied 28 assists and seven digs, while classmate Winter Sainio added four kills and two ace serves.

"The girls played well to wrap up the regular season," said Ely Head Coach Andrea Thomas.

The Wolves had little trouble on the road against Nashwauk-Keewatin last Thursday, crushing the Spartans 25-9, 25-9, and 25-15.

Junior McKenna Coughlin had a strong night, with nine kills and

five digs, while Mattson added nine kills. Merhar posted five kills and as many blocks, while Kallberg posted five kills and three blocks. Kaercher added 28 set assists and seven digs.

While Ely is showing real strength headed into the playoffs, they'll face serious competition from sub-section top-seed Greenway, and Carlton, the top seed in the south sub-section of Section 7A. Carlton hasn't lost a set since tournament action on Sept. 20.

GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

touchdown. Junior quarterback Zac Cheney completed two of seven passes for 22 yards.

Meanwhile, the Grizzlies held East Central to less than 100 yards of total offense. Panichi had a good day defensively with four tackles, including a sack, along with a fumble recovery. Freshman Anevay Goodsky-Spears notched three tackles, including a sack, while freshman Jared Chiabotti

notched two interceptions and Crain recovered two East Central fumbles.

The Grizzlies were set to wrap up their regular season on Wednesday evening at Chisholm, after the *Timberjay's* press time. They're expected to begin the playoffs, their first in 11-man competition, next Tuesday, most likely on the road. While the team has made considerable progress, Jirik said his team will be focusing on some fundamentals

in preparation for post-season. "We still need to improve in the penalty department," he said. "We have had too many penalties at crucial times. This week, the team will be focusing on the types of penalties that are hurting the team and how to lessen them. We will also work on improving our passing game, if the weather cooperates."

WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

54-yard scoring run. When Davis took in the conversion, Ely briefly led 8-6.

Cherry scored on their next possession, however, and never looked back. They scored again in the first quarter to take a 20-8 lead and added eight more early in the second quarter to pull away 28-8.

After that score, Kerntz, who had 88 yards on 13 carries for the night, took the ensuing kick-off 75 yards to the end zone to keep Ely in the game.

But the Tigers scored twice more before halftime and took a

44-14 lead into the locker room.

Cherry scored the only points in the third quarter, a 20-yard touchdown pass, to take a 52-14 lead.

On the first series of the fourth quarter, Ely quarterback Bryce Longwell scored on a one-yard keeper, with a conversion run by Davis to give the Wolves 22 points for the night.

Lassi noted that Schreffler's loss was evident on defense. "We were the most undisciplined of all season on our assignments," he said. "All nine men have a job to do. We stress that in practice all the time,

and will address that this week as we look to close out the regular season with a home win."

Kerntz led the Timberwolves with nine tackles. Davis and Josh Larson each had eight tackles.

Ely was set to finish the regular season Wednesday night, hosting Lake of the Woods, as the *Timberjay* went to press. Play-off seeding was to be announced on Thursday according to Lassi. "It looks like we could be the sixth seed and have a rematch with Cherry on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at Mt. Iron again," he said.

RUNNERS...Continued from page 1B

ed: Phoebe Helms, 28th, 21:423.5; Sydney Durkin, 37th, 22:02.8; Cora Olson, 53rd, 22:30.7; Sarah Isbell, 59th, 22:36.5; Brynn Vollum, 74th, 23:08.3; Laura Holmstrom, 84th, 23:30.7; Gracie Pointer, 96th, 24:11.0; Julia Schwinghamer, 104th, 24:17.5; Ana Bercher, 116th, 24:42.2; Juliet Stouffer, 126th, 25:00.1; Amelia Pluth, 131st, 25:09.1; Adrianna Bishop, 170th, 27:33.2; Elsie Vollom, 177th, 27:48.3; Isabelle Kelley, 208th, 31:34.5; and Sophia Montana, 209th, 31:38.5.

"Zoe and Phoebe were two seconds off their best times, with Cora one minute faster and Sarah 30 seconds faster," Dusich said. "Brynn had her best race, 1:30 minutes faster."

The Section 7A meet is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 24, at Cloquet. "It's tough trying to figure out who will run in Sections this year for both teams," Dusich said. "I can list nine runners but only seven

can run. The other two are alternates. The boys team has a chance probably for

second place to Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin if they all have super races."

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TRADITIONS

Interest in small game hunting dropping sharply

License sales down 32 percent over the past 18 years, part of a trend of declining interest among youth

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Just 67,765 grouse hunters went out last year in search of Minnesota's most popular game bird. That's according to an annual hunter survey conducted by the state's Department of Natural Resources. That's the fewest grouse hunters in the 40 years since the DNR started

conducting the survey and it's consistent with a trend being seen across the board for traditional outdoor pursuits, like hunting.

Hunting small game, like grouse, waterfowl, and rabbits, was once the way that most young people were introduced to the sport. "Small game hunting was traditionally the entry level for a lot of hunters," said Tom Rusch, Tower DNR

Area Wildlife Manager. "It's how they learned safe gun handling and other skills."

But far fewer people are hunting small game these days, and those who still do, tend to be older. "We're not seeing kids hunting much these days," said Rusch.

The sale of small game licenses in Minnesota illustrates the trend. As recently as 2000, hunters purchased about 330,000 small game

licenses in the state. Last year, it was just over 225,000, a 32-percent decline in just 18 years. The downward trend in license sales was modest up until 2013, when the bottom fell out.

The DNR, sportsmen's organizations and the Minnesota Legislature have tried to encourage more youth interest in hunting,

See **HUNTING**, pg. 5B



Outdoors in brief

Heading to the woods? Don't forget your blaze orange

REGIONAL— Planning to head out in the woods this weekend? You'll want to be sure you're wearing orange. While the regular firearms deer season doesn't get underway until Nov. 9, a special four-day firearms deer season for young people got underway a half-hour before sunrise on Thursday morning. The special season, which coincides with the annual MEA weekend for Minnesota schools, ends a half-hour after sunset on Sunday.

Young people ages 10-13 are required to hunt with an adult mentor, although hunters ages 14-17 will be able to hunt deer on their own this weekend.

Wearing blaze orange or blaze pink are the best ways to ensure that you're easily spotted when out in the woods. So, be sure to play it safe this weekend.

Stay safe when the water temps drop

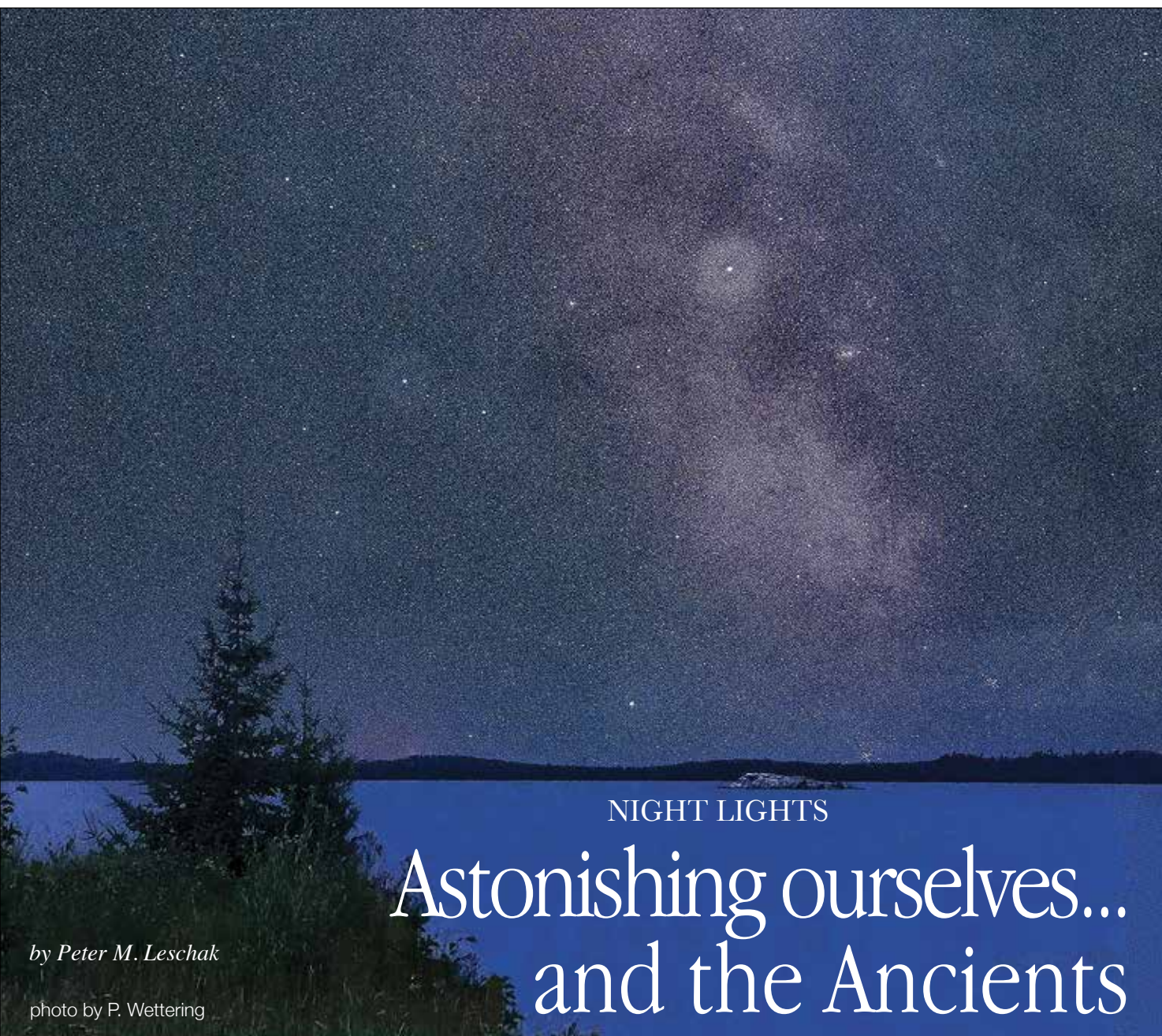
REGIONAL— As the leaves fall and the air temperature drops, thousands of Minnesotans—many of them anglers and hunters—will spend the next month or two out in the elements, chasing fish, scanning the sky for ducks, or waiting for the deer that will fill their freezers with venison.

For anyone whose fall plans include time on the water, be aware that this time of the year can be especially dangerous for anyone who recreates on the water because falls into cold lakes, ponds or rivers can incapacitate even strong swimmers.

While more boating-related accidents occur during the busy summer months, a higher percentage of them are fatal during the cold-water season and survival rates drop drastically, according to the Minnesota DNR.

Wearing a life jacket (foam is better than inflatable during the cold-water season) is the one action most likely to help people survive a fall into cold water. People can reduce the likelihood of a fall overboard by distributing weight evenly in the boat and abiding by the manufacturer's weight limits. Having a means of communication is important, too, as is making sure other people are aware of where you're going and when you plan to return.

Changes in weather that result in shifting winds and storms can also lead to a treacherous situation, so it's vital for anglers and hunters to keep an eye to the sky.



NIGHT LIGHTS

Astonishing ourselves... and the Ancients

by Peter M. Leschak

photo by P. Wattering

We dressed out the black bear on a slab of granite above Devil's Cascade. Two days before, its acorn-laced scat betrayed it: we surmised the bear was foraging among scrub oaks on a ridge northwest of Shell Lake. Mike prowled the shield rock until the bear reared up. He killed it with a single shot.

By the time the hide was stripped and the pungent muscle and fat wrapped in cheesecloth, the western horizon was an orange smudge. Two ravens held vigil in a nearby jack pine snag, coveting the viscera. The weather was warm for late September, and fearing for the integrity of the meat, we broke camp. It was dark when we shoved our canoes away from the Shell Lake campsite and paddled for the portage into Lower Pauness.

It was two days past the last-quarter moon, so the crescent wouldn't rise until after midnight. The bright star Arcturus was low in the west, over the portage, and I lined it up with the prow of my canoe. Its name means "bear guardian," because the star shadows the tail of the "the great bear," the constellation Ursa Major. A few evenings before, I'd drifted in the lake after dinner, and Arcturus cast a long, serpentine reflection in the water. As I gazed, a fireball—a

large meteor—slashed across the sky. It was bluish white, as brilliant as moonglow, and rocketed directly toward Arcturus. As it reached the "bear guardian," it exploded into three fragments. For an instant the star was bracketed

“The light was not in the hand of a human, but wavering through the forest canopy, forty feet in the air.

by celestial shrapnel, then the fireworks winked out. It seemed like an omen.

The portage out of Shell—216 rods—was our longest, and we hustled over it as quickly as darkness allowed. With two canoes, camping gear, rifles, and a hundred pounds of hide and meat, we made two trips. When we eased into the black water of Lower Pauness it was almost midnight. Our eyes were fully dark-adapted, and after rounding a point, I spotted a notch in the treeline a half-mile across the lake, indicating the forty-rod portage into

Upper Pauness. Mike was a few canoe lengths behind.

Suddenly, a dazzling point of white light burst into radiance high on the far shore. My first impression was that someone switched on a camp lantern. I was surprised. We'd seen no others in that tract of the Boundary Waters the entire trip, and it was late—in the night, and in the season. Besides, I recalled no campsite there. As I puzzled over that, the light began to weave through the treetops, slipping down the ridge toward our portage. We drew closer. The light was not in the hand of a human, but wavering through the forest canopy, forty feet in the air.

Stunned, I half-turned toward Mike. "Do you see that?"

He was staring. "Yes."

"What....?"

"I don't know."

With our canoes gunnel-to-gunnel, we watched the light—now more of an orb than a point—arrive above the portage, seem to hover momentarily, then vanish.

There's another portage from Lower to Upper Pauness, but it's beastly even in daylight, and we'd need to backtrack. Spooked, I considered it for a moment, but said nothing.

I hiked the forty rods first, canoe up on my shoulders, hairs up on the back of my neck. I was acutely conscious

of our grisly cargo. I thought about loading the Winchester, but didn't. By 2 a.m. we were up the Indian Sioux River and out of the wilderness. We drove down the Echo Trail in moonlight and silence.

I don't know what we saw that night thirty years ago. If Mike hadn't been there as a second witness, I might, by now, doubt I'd seen it at all. One person suggested ball lightning, but it was a clear night, and though ball lightning is not well understood, its manifestation is associated with thunderstorms. Someone else mentioned St. Elmo's fire, an electrical discharge from a pointed object—most commonly a ship mast or tall antenna, and sometimes trees—but it also requires thunderstorm activity, and tends to hover in one place.

The fact it was night, and we were in the company of a dead bear, and the mysterious light drifted precisely to our portage, all cast an eerie ambience. But there was something else.

Mike had encountered our quarry the day before while patrolling a ridge. The bear abruptly rose from a clump of oaks only fifty yards away. Startled, Mike slammed his rifle butt to his shoulder, and it slipped off the padded strap

See **NIGHT LIGHTS**, pg. 5B

HUNTING...Continued from page 4B

with special Take-a-Kid-Hunting days and special seasons like this weekend's four-day MEA weekend youth deer hunting season.

But the erosion in youth hunting appears to be continuing. The signs of the declining interest can be found locally, where regular firearm and hunter safety courses, which used to be a rite of passage for many kids in northern Minnesota, are disappearing. Rusch said classes that used to be held in places like Tower, Ely, and other small communities are rarely held anymore. And even larger communities, like Virginia, are cancelling classes due to limited interest.

The declining interest is also affecting conservation groups that used to draw active members from the hunting community. The Minnesota Waterfowl Association, just last month, announced it was folding due to their inability to attract interest from younger hunters.

Effects on habitat

For many people, an interest in hunting was the first step in getting them engaged in conservation efforts. Hunters have been the mainstay of groups like Ducks Unlimited, the Ruffed Grouse Society, and the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, which have raised millions of dollars over the years for habitat work.

Hunter license fees also pay for much of the wildlife habitat work undertaken by the DNR. Indeed, hunters generate

the largest portion of the funding that pays for managing wildlife and their habitats and the decline in small game licenses has translated into \$1 million less funding than the DNR received in the 1990s.

This estimated loss doesn't account for other hunting-related expenditures including gun and ammunition sales, visits to gas stations and restaurants, and stays at lodging facilities – all things that benefit local economies.

"This isn't just about having less money to do conservation work," said Nicole Davros, a farmland wildlife research supervisor for the DNR. "It's also a hit to our rural economies. Simply put, fewer hunters means fewer dollars into those small towns – whether it's fewer sandwiches and candy bars being sold, and ultimately fewer jobs and businesses being supported in these areas."

According to the DNR, many factors appear to be contributing to the decline in hunter interest, including competing activities, time constraints, limited access to hunting lands and changing relationships with the natural world. Amid the challenges, one effective way to recruit and retain hunters is to provide continued mentorship.

"The key is to continue to support and engage our new hunters," Davros said. "Don't just take a person out once. Keep asking them to hunt with you and provide continued support as they learn."

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday				Saturday				Sunday				Monday				Tuesday			
57 42				56 37				54 40				49 35				44 31			
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.
10/07	53	34	0.27	10/07	54	37	0.15	10/07	52	37	0.15	10/07	61	37	0.00	10/07	52	38	0.25
10/08	59	33	0.01	10/08	58	35	0.00	10/08	57	37	0.00	10/08	70	45	0.00	10/08	59	34	0.00
10/09	69	49	0.00	10/09	70	35	0.00	10/09	68	44	0.00	10/09	73	50	0.00	10/09	70	47	0.00
10/10	71	51	0.01	10/10	71	35	0.04	10/10	70	49	0.04	10/10	61	54	0.00	10/10	71	49	0.00
10/11	58	53	0.13	10/11	58	50	0.50	10/11	57	52	0.50	10/11	57	32	0.97	10/11	58	52	0.75
10/12	57	32	0.08	10/12	58	31	0.06	10/12	57	31	0.06	10/12	37	30	0.08	10/12	57	31	0.05
10/13	36	31	0.05	10/13	39	31	0.12	10/13	36	30	0.12	10/13	39	32	0.08	10/13	37	31	0.15
YTD Total 19.01				YTD Total 24.86				YTD Total 22.49				YTD Total NA 1.6"				YTD Total 26.29			

NIGHT LIGHTS...Continued from page 4B

of his pack. He re-shouldered the weapon, but was off balance, and fumbled with the safety catch, another split second lost. The bear had seen him. Its eyes locked onto his. Finally peering through his scope, Mike centered the crosshairs on its chest.

Two things happened – or seemed to happen – at once. Mike squeezed the trigger, and the bear fell to all fours and dashed off. Had he missed? He dropped the pack and cautiously advanced to where the bear had been, rifle at the ready. The ground was mostly bare rock, but he could see no blood. He circled and searched for over an hour, gradually working further out from the oaks. Nothing. No blood, no hair, no bits of bone. It was getting late, and he returned to camp. Over the fire, he told me the story, and my opinion was that the bear had escaped – a little older and wiser.

But Mike was not convinced, and the next day he returned to the ridge and found the bear, about 200 yards from where he'd shot it. Kneeling beside the body, knife in hand, he noticed something odd: the genitals were missing. Chewed off.

I couldn't help thinking about that as we crossed the dark portage where the light had been.

The entire episode lends itself to esoteric speculation, and it's easy to see how our pre-scientific ancestors could've viewed the world in terms

of a spirit realm, where unexplained or puzzling phenomena could be assigned magical authority.

A few days later I playfully concocted a story wherein a raven, seeking brute strength to augment its cleverness, ate the genitals of the bear and was transformed into the light we'd seen. As unwitting agents of the raven, we were presented the first glimpse of its new manifestation as it guided us to the midnight portage, where it could chortle in triumph over the bear meat in cheesecloth. We'd been on an archetypal quest to slay a monster and were seeking safe passage home. It was fun to spin the yarn, and it spurred me to look up a half-remembered quote from Albert Einstein: "The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science." And, he may've added, of religion. Our sense of awe before the unknown is one of the most potent human emotions.

Several years later, on a dark and transparent August night, I laid in our backyard and gazed at the Milky Way. From the bright star Altair in Aquila the Eagle, through the dense starfield of Cygnus the Swan, to Cassiopeia and Cepheus, I tried to take in the magnificence of our home galaxy, scratching at the unimaginable scale of time and distance.

Then a swiftly moving point

of light crossed my field of vision, like a racing star bolting the fold. A manmade satellite. I thought of the strange light we'd seen on Pauness, and how it stunned us – and how this satellite would've astonished and frightened an ancient observer: an unfixed star. An angel? A god? A demon?

But then, even more astonishing perhaps, it occurred to me that this now routine sight in the heavens – from a dark place you may see a dozen or more satellites in an hour – first appeared in my lifetime, just over sixty years ago. How rapidly we've altered the world and the sky, and how much we take for granted our instantaneous worldwide communication, GPS receivers, images of earth from space. All made possible by those lights streaking against the backdrop of the Milky Way, lights that were non-existent when I, and billions of others, were born.

As an avid amateur astronomer, I know that a majority of Americans, and perhaps a majority of humans on the planet, do not look much at the night sky. Our cities are fogged by electric mist, and we have other distractions after dark – mainly revolving around screens. But if it's wonder you want, and if you cherish mystery, the night sky rarely disappoints.

Peter M. Leshack is a well-known writer and author. He lives in Side Lake.



Memories of the Early Days

A fascinating look back at the early history of the Lake Vermilion area

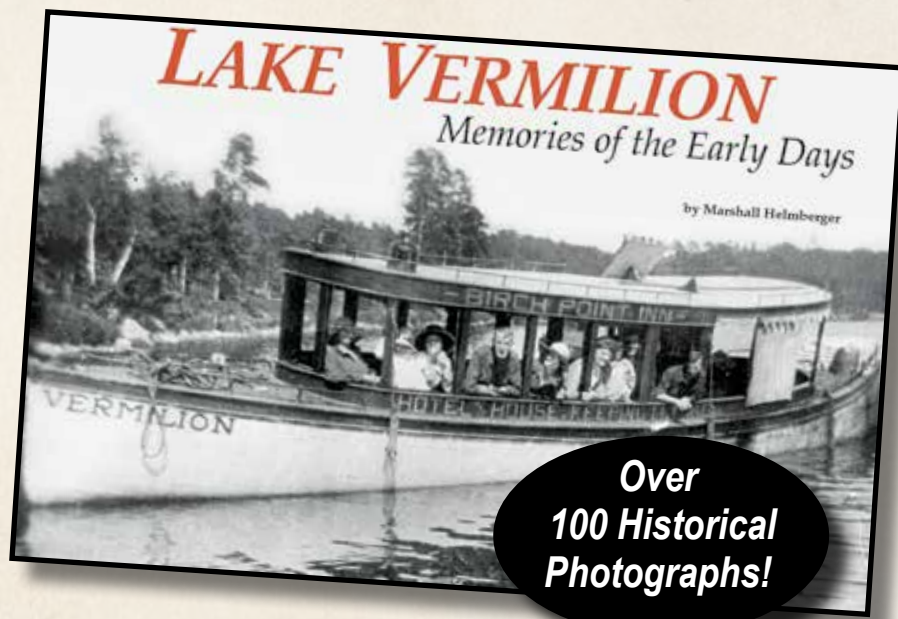
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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 707 NETT LAKE, STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the general election has been called and will be held in and for the Independent School District No. 707 (Nett Lake), State of Minnesota, on Tuesday, the 5th day of November 2019, for the purpose of electing one school board member to fill vacancy of term expiring the first Monday in January 2021. The ballot shall provide as follows:

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: 

**School Board Member
Vote for One**

- Shane Drift
- Edward C. Villebrun
- Write-in, if any

The polling place for this election and the precincts served by this polling place will be as follows:
NETT LAKE SCHOOL AT 13090 WESTLEY DRIVE, NETT LAKE, MN 55772

Any eligible voter residing in the school district may vote at said election at the polling place designated above for the precinct in which he or she resides. The polls for said election will open at 8:00 o'clock a.m. and will close at 8:00 o'clock p.m. on the date of said election.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this election. An unregistered individual may register to vote at the polling place on Election Day.

Dated: September 9, 2019

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
Malita Spears
School District Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, October 18 & 25, 2019

NOTICE OF TESTING OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 707 NETT LAKE, STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Independent School District No. 707 shall perform a public accuracy test of the optical scan voting system to be used in the District's November 5, 2019 special election. The test shall be conducted at 13090 Westley Drive, Nett Lake, Minnesota on October 21, 2019 at 9 o'clock a.m. Interested individuals are authorized to attend and observe. If you have any questions, please contact James Varichak, Superintendent.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
Malita Kleitschka-Spears, Clerk
Independent School District No. 707

Published in the Timberjay, October 18, 2019

NOTICE OF LOCATION WHERE BALLOTS WILL BE COUNTED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 707 NETT LAKE, STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the election judges for Independent School District No. 707 shall count the ballots cast by optical scan voting systems in the School District's November 5, 2019 special election at the following locations for the polling places specified.
Polling place: Nett Lake School Board Room.

Dated: September 9, 2019

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
Malita Kleitschka-Spears, Clerk
Independent School District No. 707

Published in the Timberjay, October 18, 2019

CITY OF ELY - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Hearing regarding Blight Compliance for 106 E Harvey St. on October 29, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Ely City Hall Council Chambers.

Harold R Langowski, , City Clerk/Treasurer

Published in the Ely Timberjay, October 18 & 25, 2019

EMPLOYMENT



OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

Adult Day Services

Part Time Adult Day Services Assistant
(Mon-Fri 9am-3pm/Wage starting at \$15.42/hr.)

Care Center

PT Nursing Assistant
(sign-on bonus- wage starting at \$15.42/hr.)
PT RN/LPN (sign-on bonus)

Imaging

Full Time Radiologic Tech
Full Time Imaging Manager (sign-on bonus)

Rehabilitation

FT Physical Therapist (sign-on bonus)

Hospital

Part Time Unit Clerk (HUC) (Wage starting at \$15.42/hr.- NA registry and/or EMT certification)

Dietary

Full and Part-Time Dietary Aide/Cook
(Wage starting at \$12.43/hr.)

Environmental Services

Full Time and Casual Housekeeper
(Wage starting at \$12.43/hr.)

TO APPLY:

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 including PERA retirement, health and Dental coverage, Life and LTD.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Affirmative Action Employer

EMPLOYMENT



District 1 Duluth/Virginia

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is seeking qualified individuals for the following positions:

- Permanent, Full-Time Transportation Associate – Roadway/Roadside Maintenance & Snow and Ice
 - o Ely Truck Station (1 position)
 - o Various Locations (see potential locations for future opportunities online)

Learn to perform road surface maintenance and snow and ice control activities to keep the roadways and roadsides safe, clear and in good repair. (Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL) permit with no air brake restriction at the time of hire. Must have the ability to upgrade to a Class A CDL with a tanker endorsement).

For job requirements and to apply online, go to <http://mn.gov/mmb/careers/>

Job ID 36266 – Permanent, Full-Time Transportation Associate (currently filling at the Ely Truck Station) – to be considered for the current opening, apply online through 10/29/19. This list will also be used for anticipated openings in the future.

MnDOT is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer with a strong commitment to workforce diversity.



POSITION OPENING - ISD No. 696 ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARAPROFESSIONAL

PLACE OF WORK: District; RATE OF PAY: \$16.08/hr.; HOURS: 6.5 hours/day, 5 days/week, student contact days; QUALIFICATIONS: AA Degree or two years of college required. Include district application and transcripts; background check required. Application (non-licensed) available at www.ely.k12.mn.us or in the District Office. Send materials to: ISD #696, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731. Deadline for application: Friday, October 25, 2019. 10/25

**Subscribe Today
(218) 753-2950
timberjay.com**

EMPLOYMENT

Engineering Technician (Hibbing) Apply by 10/18/19

www.stlouiscountymn.gov
or call 218-726-2422

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 10/18

POSITION OPENING-ISD 696 ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Junior High Girls Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 season

Stipend available. Application to include: district application form (available online at www.ely.k12.mn.us, click on District then on Job Openings or at the District Office), current resume; background check required. Return application to: ISD No. 696, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731. Contact Tom Coombe, Athletic Director, at 365-6166 ext. 1723 or tcoombe@ely.k12.mn.us with any questions. Application deadline: October 28, 2019. 10/25

Steger Mukluks Factory Hiring

We have one permanent, full-time production position open in the Stuffing and Lasting Dept.

Requirements: Eye for detail and good quality. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. Must have strong hands and arms. Must have valid driver's license. Will train.

For pay and benefit information please fill out an application at the Steger Mukluks Factory located at 100 Miners Drive, Ely, MN - Open 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

Equal Opportunity Employer tfn

Koochiching County Highway Department

FULL-TIME HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Heavy Equipment Operator- Silverdale, MN
Starting Pay: \$18.81

Normal Hours of Work: Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Essential Skills:

Three-years light to heavy construction maintenance equipment experience and a valid Minnesota CDL driver's license.

Core Benefits: PERA Retirement, Health Insurance, Vacation Leave, Sick Leave, and Holidays.

Applications and job description are available on the Koochiching County Website:
<http://www.co.koochiching.mn.us/203/Employment>.

Completed applications accompanied by resumes are to be returned to:

Koochiching County Human Resources
715 4th Street
International Falls, MN 56649.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Koochiching County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 4, 11, & 18, 2019

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



Call 753-2950
to place
yours now!

LOCAL DELIVERY DRIVER

Wanted: Local Delivery Driver for fuel oil and propane for the Ely/Tower/Virginia/Cook service area. Class B license required with 6 months driving experience in a similar sized delivery vehicle or tractor trailer. Must have or be willing to procure hazmat and tanker endorsements. Full-time, year-round position. Full benefits with medical. Apply to Edwards Oil, 820 Hoover Rd N, Virginia, MN; edwardsoilandpropane.com; or on the web at indeed.com. 10/25

Dental Hygienist Job Opportunity

Ely Family Dental is looking for a full-time dental hygienist to add to our team. Individual must be highly motivated, team player, detailed oriented and treat patients as if they were family. Perio background a plus. Full job description available upon request. We offer competitive benefits and pay. Questions, call 218-365-3565.

Please send your resume to
cchoppdentistry@gmail.com 10/18

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

Langevin Auto & Truck Repair
Full Service Auto Repair & Garage



Hours: 8 AM-5 PM M-F
2 Miles South of Tower
218-749-0751

NAPA PARTS CENTER, INC.
45 E. Chapman Street ELY
365-3132

DAY CARE

PJ's DAYCARE- Located in Soudan. Openings for ages infant to age 10. Hours 6am - 6pm. Paige Olson and Jesse Hinkel, operators. Licensed through the State of Minnesota. CPR and First Aid Certified. For more information, contact Paige Olson at 218-780-7217 or email paige-hinkel41@gmail.com.

HAIR CARE

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

HOSPICE

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

LICENSE BUREAU

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

REAL ESTATE

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

SNOW REMOVAL

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

HELP WANTED

SUBWAY IN ELY- Now hiring all shifts, part-time. Apply at the store or online at www.mysubwaycareer.com. 10/25

DOG GROOMING

Boundary Waters Dog Grooming
218-753-1228
305 Birch St, Tower
(behind Jeanne's Cards & Gifts)
Owner Eileen Kronmiller
Over 30 years experience!

Call **753-2950** to subscribe to the **Timberjay!**



BUILDING SERVICES

EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC
"Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home"
Superior Quality
• Plank Paneling
• Trim
• One-Of-A-Kind Moldings
• Industrial Lumber
218-744-1788
8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

WANTED

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

FOR SALE

MARATHON NON-METALLIC ELECTRIC WATER HEATER- that will NEVER rust. 50 gallon capacity. Super-insulated, energy saver. Same model currently sold by Home Depot for \$1,192 with lifetime warranty. Your price \$200. 218-984-3951 Embarrass.



FOR SALE- HONDA WX10TA PORTABLE 52 PSI WATER PUMP
Used once. \$275
Call 651-219-9745
or 651-698-5308 10/25

WILD GAME

GAME PROCESSING
Bear · Deer
Tower, MN · 218-290-6423

FUNERAL SERVICES

Range Funeral Home



Virginia 741-1481
Hibbing 263-3276
"Friends Helping Friends"

Answer

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

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

SHAMROCK LANDING
Centrally Located On Lake Vermilion
Covered Wet & Dry Boat Storage
Lease or Purchase Options
Marina • Mechanic on Duty
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24-Hour Fuel • Live Bait
4551 Bradley Road, Tower • 753-5457
www.shamrocklanding.com

ARONSON BOAT WORKS
LAKE VERMILION, TOWER
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169
NEW Fall Hours:
Mon-Sat: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Sun: 9 AM-4 PM
MERCURY LUND
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

Grubens MARINA & VILLAGE
• Boat launch, rental, store & repair
• Cabins for a great, fun vacation
See us at: www.grubens.com
Call us at: 218.753.5000
4296 Arrowhead Point Rd, Tower MN 55790

MOCASIN POINT MARINE

4655 Moccasin Point Rd Lake Vermilion
218-753-3319
Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales
Mechanic on Duty
moccasinpointmarine.com



SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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.

AA OPEN MEETING- Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Woodland Presbyterian Church, Acacia Blvd. and Central Drive in Babbitt.
MEETING in Ely! "New Ideas" WOMEN IN RECOVERY: 12 Steps. For women seeking help and hope to recover from any addiction: drugs, alcohol, food, gambling etc. Every Thursday noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Come join us! Q: 218-235-3581.

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

MARINE
Handberg's MARINA YAMAHA Evinrude
ALUMINUM WELDED POWER/VEEF GODFREY
Boats Family Fun! **218-993-2214**
Marina Services
Boat Sales & Repairs • Boat & Motor Rentals
RV Sites • Marina Slips • Boat Storage
Service Hours: M-Fri 8-5, Sat 8-4, Sun 9-3
No Mechanics on Sunday
Store
Ice Cream Cones • Clothing & Gifts • Gas & Bait
Store Open: 7 days a week 8 AM-7 PM

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7801 Oak Narrows Rd • Cook MN
Cabin rentals
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Convenience store
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Ranger PREMIER WEERES
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Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories
timbuktumarine.com

Read us online at timberjay.com
218-753-2950

Super Crossword

WHAT DO THEY ALL HAVE?

ACROSS
1 Designer
8 Put in cipher
14 Cocky walks
20 United, e.g.
21 In a Ziploc bag, e.g.
22 "The Gift of the Magi" writer
23 Zippers
25 Contacts, e.g.
26 Lotto variant
27 "... cup — cone?"
28 — kwon do (martial art)
29 "Taps" co-star
30 Data entry needs
35 Aftermaths
39 "Where are — now?"
40 Hinge (on)
41 Aunt, in Argentina
42 Fill with joy
43 Lay — thick
44 Fonda of film
45 Just know
46 Office cabinet items
49 Center of similes
50 Military chaplain
51 Cake level
52 Lamb bearer

DOWN
1 Wine barrel
2 Tick off
3 Bard's Ireland
4 "Battle Cry" actor Ray
5 Dead heat
6 Hoofing it
7 Replenishes the arsenal of
8 The "e" of i.e.
9 Born, in Brest
10 Hiking flasks
11 "Mrs." with a famous cow

ACROSS
53 Ireland's — Lingus
54 Last half of a typical golf course
59 Some aluminum recyclables
65 Hwy. number
66 Elbowed, say
67 A number of
68 Dictionary lookup
70 Affirm the truth of
71 Ammo for air rifles
72 Even one
73 "Take —!" ("Congrats!")
74 Big name in direct sales
77 "I got it!"
78 Chrome, Firefox and Safari
85 Shop
86 Lackluster
87 1990s Israeli president
88 Video's counterpart
89 Bardic tribute
90 — Field (Mr. Met's home)
91 Rhine feeder
92 Enrollments
94 Café crowd

DOWN
12 Bo of "10"
13 Masthead names, for short
14 Like sugar, but not oil, in water
15 1982 Richard Pryor film
16 — -car (airport service)
17 Not collated, e.g.
18 More stylish
19 Pt. of OS or GPS
24 Exhaust
29 Doglike carnivore
30 Symbol on a music score
31 Pronounce
32 Hammer-wielding god
33 Slate cleaner
34 Store event
35 Ump relative
36 Gridiron star
37 "My gal" of song
38 Off-roading vehicle, briefly
43 Brainstorm, in Brest
44 Chattered
45 Ludicrous comedies
47 Inflammation of the ear

DOWN
48 Flax product
50 Tick off
52 Holiday lead-ins
53 "Terrible" toddler time
54 Except for
55 Grayish hue
56 Grand — wine
57 Mortal — (video game series)
58 Lumpy, as fabric
59 Squarish, as a car
60 Stretch (out)
61 Mary of "Dodsworth"
62 Gallery stuff
63 Turner who led a revolt
64 — -mo replay
66 Punishment-related
69 Ball-shaped bloom
70 Truncated wd.
73 Red as —
74 Bow-wielding god
75 Was certain
76 One trying to pin a rival
77 Cowboy singer Gene
78 Arsenal array

DOWN
79 Pound the poet
80 Clowns
81 World lighter
82 College URL ending
83 Tear apart
84 Ship's call for help
86 Active by day
90 Singing King
91 Chief Hun
92 Cone, cube and sphere
93 Arched body part
95 Osprey claw
96 Like a well-pitched inning
97 How sashimi is eaten
101 Sermon conclusion?
102 Pronounced
103 Have — in one's bonnet
104 Brezhnev's fed.
105 Its cap. is Islamabad
106 Lean- (hovels)
107 1998 Angelina Jolie biopic
108 Certain NCO
109 Rush along

