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# the TIMBERJAY



VOL. 30, ISSUE 44 November 8, 2019

\$1<sup>00</sup>

COOK/ORR

## Community fights back against crime spree

Northern St. Louis Co. Crime Watch formed

by E. M. SCHULTZ  
Staff Writer

**EDITORIAL**  
Orr/Cook's crime spree  
Page 4

Residents filled the Orr Community Center for a meeting regarding recent crimes in the area. photo by E.M. Schultz

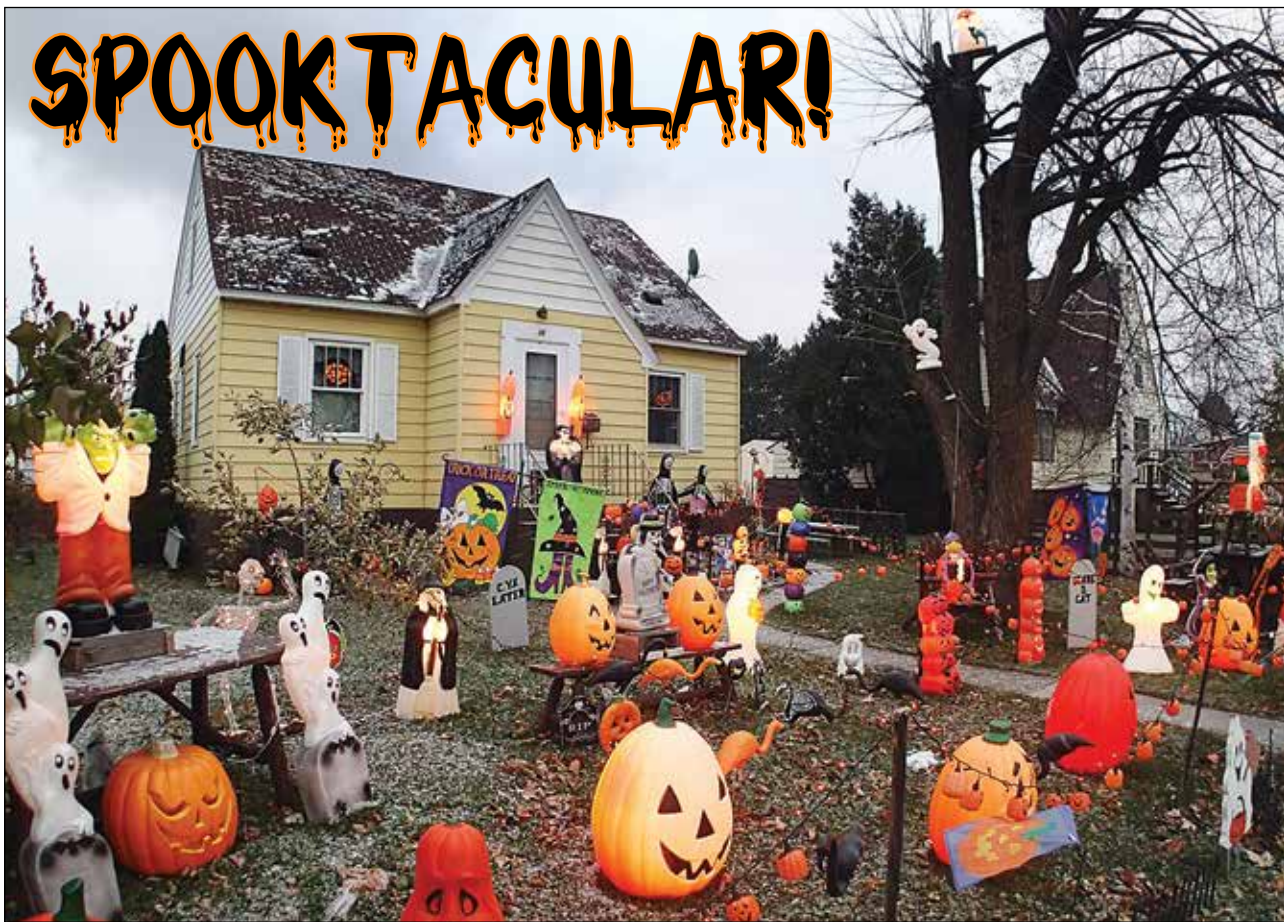


ORR – More than 100 residents from all over the Cook/Orr area turned out to form the Northern St. Louis County Crime Watch at a meeting in the community

center here on Oct. 30. The meeting was an opportunity for community members to voice questions, concerns,

and ideas regarding a rash of crimes in the area and to See...**CRIME** pg. 11

HALLOWEEN 2019



The owners of this Eighth Street house in Ely, top, go all out for Halloween decorating. The Cook Lions Club hosted a Halloween party at the Community Center, above. Tower trick-or-treaters, right, included Isabel Nelson and Blake Pineo-Vogh. staff photos



PUBLIC SAFETY

## Ely councilors enforce blight rules against one of their own

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – With little discussion on Tuesday night, city council members here approved a resolution declaring a rental property owned by a fellow council member to be a blight to the community. Council member Paul Kess, who owns the property in question, abstained from the vote, while the six other members of the council voted for the resolution, which set specific dates for corrective action and provides for summary enforcement if the improvements are not completed in a timely manner.

Based on numerous complaints about the property at 106 E. Harvey St., the city's building official moved to enforce the city's blight ordinance this fall. Kess's appeal hearing last month failed to convince any council members that sufficient progress was being made on repairing the public hazard. A subsequent re-inspection of the property on Oct. 31 convinced building official Doug Whitney to move forward with the blight enforcement.

Whitney found:

- The property has been vacant for several years.
- The dwelling has suffered from dilapidation.
- The property has suffered from years of absence of any significant maintenance.
- The roofing is failed with holes and missing shingles.
- The siding and soffit has deteriorated or is missing.

See...**ELY** pg. 9

TOWER

## Work continues on Cultural Center

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

A cold wet fall has all but shut down the construction season here, but workers continue to make progress on the renovation of a historic church building that will house the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center. submitted photo

TOWER- Another wet, cold fall construction season has once again slowed exterior work on the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center located on Tower's main street.

Even so, LVCC Chair Mary Batinich is excited that workers are

again making progress in this years-long effort to give new life to the historic church building that will soon become the home of a wide range of cultural and community activities.

Batinich had hoped to have the building's exterior siding fully installed yet this year, but given the

See...**TOWER** pg. 11



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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Listen! What Do You Hear?

VIRGINIA – Reverend Suzanne Wasilczuk will present “Listen! What Do You Hear?” at the Mesabi Unitarian Church in Virginia on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 10:30 a.m. What do we hear? To what, or whom, do we truly listen? Our world is a jumble of sounds. How do we make room for silence, or the still, small voice within?

## Voyagers Wolf Project informational meeting on Nov. 20

MT. IRON – Thomas Gable will present information gathered from the University of Minnesota’s Voyagers Wolf Project on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Mt. Iron Community Center. Gable is currently the lead researcher of this project, which is being conducted in the Voyagers National Park. Members of any chapter of the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association or those wanting to join are welcome to attend. This event is sponsored by the MDHA Sturgeon River Chapter. For more information, call Doug at 218-741-3925.

## Purchase your ice candles by Nov. 15

EMBARRASS- With the change of the season, we are now thinking about the Embarrass Ice Candle Holiday Celebration. As in past years, they will be \$3 each. We will be selling ice candles until Nov. 15. If you plan to buy a candle in remembrance of a loved one, please let us know as soon as possible by stopping by the Clerk’s office or calling 218-984-2084. The Ice Candle and Holiday Gathering will be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Embarrass Cemetery with Christmas goodies to follow at the Embarrass Town Hall located at 7503 Levander Road. Mark your calendars!

## The Biggest Little Farm showing at Comet Theater on Nov. 16

COOK - The Cook Area Farmers Market, Virginia Market Square, and the Arrowhead Regional Farm Bureau are proud to bring “The Biggest Little Farm” to the Comet Theater in Cook for a showing on Saturday, Nov. 16 at 5 p.m. Admission is free to the public, but seating is limited, so arrive early.

A testament to the immense complexity of nature, “The Biggest Little Farm” follows two dreamers and a dog on an odyssey to bring harmony to both their lives and the land. The film chronicles eight years of daunting work and outside idealism as John and Molly Chester attempt to create a utopia. When the farm’s ecosystem finally begins to reawaken, so does the Chesters’ hope. But as their plan to create perfect harmony takes a series of wild turns, they realize that to survive they will have to reach a far greater understanding of the intricacies and wisdom of nature and of life itself.

As we strive to regenerate a strong farming community to supply our neighbors with local foods, our area farmers markets, in cooperation with Arrowhead Grown and the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability, are making “The Biggest Little Farm” a reality in our communities.

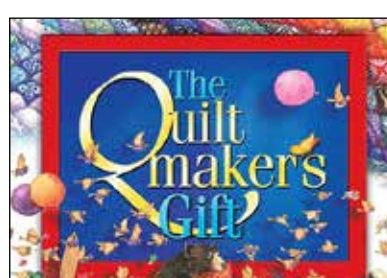
## Vendors needed for Tower Holiday Craft Show set for Saturday, Dec. 7

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 Country 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.

## HOLIDAY THEATER

# Quiltmaker’s Gift auditions set for Nov. 17-18; performances in January

ELY - Auditions for “The Quiltmaker’s Gift” will be held on Sunday, Nov. 17 from 3-5 p.m. and Monday, Nov. 18 from 6-8 p.m. in the basement of the First Lutheran Church in Ely. The show is a one-act play designed for a cast of ten and will serve as the inaugural theatrical event at the newly-restored State Theater. Not all parts will require singing, but you should still come prepared to read, sing, and learn simple dance steps. Performances for the show are scheduled to take



place on Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 25 and 26 at 2 p.m. There will also be a daytime dress rehearsal performance for students on Jan. 23.

Friends of the Library and the Ely Public Library, Ely Rotary Club, Ely Chamber of Commerce, Ely ISD 696 art department, Ely Community Resources Reading Pals, Ely Watercolor Club, Ely Folk School, Heart Of The Wood Quilters, and the Kiwanis Club of Ely are all a part of this production. For more information, call Play Director Laurie Kess at 218-349-7237 or Music Director Irene Hartfield at 218-235-6107.

## EMBARRASS

# ‘Homestead Holidays’ at the Nelimark Nov. 8 & 9, and again on Dec. 6 & 7

EMBARRASS – The Nelimark Homestead Museum has been redecorated for the holidays and will be open to the public on Friday, Nov. 8, Saturday, Nov. 9, Friday, Dec. 6, and Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Holiday baked goods and home-crafted gifts for all ages will be available. Stop by during one of the weekends to enjoy the company of others in the community and great conversation. Hyvaa Joulua!



# Mesabi Community Band Veterans Day Concert to be held on Thursday, Nov. 14

MT. IRON – The Mesabi Community Band will be performing “A Salute to Veterans” concert on Thursday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Merritt Elementary School auditorium in Mt. Iron. The concert, a favorite of the Iron Range community, will be a musical salute to veterans, featuring selections from musicals, marches, and light classical pieces. Plan to enjoy an evening of toe-tapping music.

Several members of the band are also veterans, including Director Paul Helfter, Larry Baker, Ron Maki, Steve Kniefel, Kirby Stross, Cam Jayson, and Mitchell Brewer. Colors will be presented by the Virginia Servicemen’s Club Color Guard. Refreshments will be served by Roadrunners Special Olympic Team. Admission for adults is \$5. Students under 18 are free.



**FREE ADMISSION, COMET THEATER, COOK, MN, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, at 5 P.M.**

## Scenic Rivers Clinics

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<p><b>Tower Medical and Dental</b> 415 N 2nd St, Suite 2 Former High School Building Open Monday - Friday</p>	

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## HIGHER EDUCATION

# Merger of five NHED colleges under consideration

## Vermilion Community College would become one of five campuses in new larger institution

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Enrollment at the five community colleges that make up the Northeast Higher Education District has fallen by a third in the past eight years, and that's prompting a closer look at how the schools will function in the future.

Internal discussions among a 25-member regional master academic planning committee, comprised of district administrators, faculty, and staff, have been ongoing for months and an initial decision on a possible restructuring is likely to be made in late November, according to Mike Raich, Interim President of NHED. That's a bit later

than originally planned, but Raich is now planning to meet with Minnesota State Colleges Chancellor Devinder Malhotra and the state's higher education board later this month to discuss ideas intended to respond to declining enrollment and to focus on improving educational opportunities for students.

Among the options under consideration is a proposal to merge the district's five colleges, each of which is separately accredited today, into a single accredited institution with five campuses. While the five colleges already work closely together on many aspects of their operations, Raich said the merger concept would provide more flexibility for students to

take needed coursework at multiple campuses, without having to deal with transfers, as is the case currently. The change could also reduce some duplication of services.

Right now, the plan, as outlined in a report issued in September, includes the following six "pillars" that make up the overall vision. Those pillars include:

► Academic programming, courses, and credits will be aligned on a district level.

► Signature programs at each campus will be preserved and grown to help attract students.

► Access for students will be increased through a proactive co-location of programs.

► Relationships with K-12 partners will be strengthened through programming.

► Diversity will be increased among faculty, staff, administration, and students.

► Global programs will be developed.

Earlier discussions had included the possibility of merging four of the schools and leaving Vermilion Community College as a stand-alone institution due to the distinct nature of the Ely-based school's student body. But Raich said that concept has since been shelved.

Raich was hesitant to talk in detail about how a merger of the five schools might take place, noting that any changes are likely to evolve over time. Even

if the merger is greenlighted by a smaller "president's cabinet" later this year, Raich noted that the process for approval of any final plan would likely take months and require buy-in from the chancellor and accrediting agencies. "Really, what we're talking about is something that will be a long process, where we probably wouldn't see any real changes for years," said Raich.

While the planning effort has been extensive, not everyone in the district is fully on board with the process. Some faculty have told the *Timberjay* they would like to see a more open process, with additional engagement from other faculty

See COLLEGES...pg. 5

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

# Ely ambulance service seeks donations for new home

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – The Ely Area Ambulance Service (EAAS) is seeking to raise as much as \$1.4 million to replenish their financial reserves and to help fund construction of a new ambulance garage.

According to EAAS Director Geoff Galaski, the EAAS has seen an increase in personnel costs resulting from the need to provide round-the-clock staff availability after Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital ceased employing EMTs in 2017. "This increase in operational costs has depleted our financial reserves," Galaski said in a fundraising push

launched recently on Facebook.

"As we continue to provide high quality part-time ALS (advanced life support) service to the Ely area communities, we are also seeking support as we need to build a facility to house our ambulances and staff in one location," he added.

The ambulance service will need to relocate as a result of the proposed expansion of the Ely hospital, which will utilize space currently taken up by the ambulance garage.

The city of Ely has donated land, located on the northeast corner of Pattison St. W and S Second Ave. W, to build a new facility.

Galaski said the current plan calls for a 5,940 sq. ft facility,

including 3,240 sq. ft. to house vehicles and 2,700 sq. ft. for offices and living quarters for the ambulance crew. "This will provide quicker response times as staff will be housed in the same building as the ambulances," said Galaski. "Currently we have no training or meeting space and space for the ambulances and supplies is inadequate."

At an estimated \$250-per-square-foot construction estimate, the cost of the building is currently estimated at \$1.4 million. Annual operational costs for the new facility are estimated at \$35,000.

"We are beginning to search for eligible grants for the project," Galaski said. "We also have a Facebook donation site on our

Ely Area Ambulance Facebook page, that has already generated close to \$2,000. And Ely Drop & Shop raised \$535.45 for us in the month of October. We welcome any and all donations for this much needed project."

The Ely Area Ambulance Service was formed as a not-for-profit corporation in 2008 after the Ely hospital ceased operation of their own ambulance service. Ely, Winton, and surrounding townships formed Ambulance Joint Powers Board to contribute tax dollars toward the service to ensure operation, according to Galaski.

The joint powers board contributes \$5.05 per person living in their respective communities of Ely, Fall Lake Township,

Morse Township and Winton. "That contribution of tax dollars amounted to just \$26,618 for 2018," Galaski said. "This represents only three percent of our total budget. We rely on patients and insurance companies to pay their bills for us to operate."

Galaski argues that the current ambulance garage conditions are primitive. "It has no water or sewer and the floor drains run into the ground," he said. "We have four stalls with one of them used as the executive director's office in a module room that floods annually due to freezing drain lines."

The garage was previously moved and pieced back together

See EAAS... pg. 5

**Floor to Ceiling's 16th Anniversary**  
*Home for the Holidays*  
*A sampling of local businesses and services offering you unique holiday decorating and gift ideas.*

Paparazzi Accessories · Debra Meyer  
Ruby Ribbon – comfortable camis and shapewear · Tasha Rostveit  
Ahhhh Massage · Susan Santi  
Kendall's Kreations · Kendall Barchus  
Homemade and Handmade · Vicki, Toni, Robyn, & Kathy  
Homemade Potica  
– an Iron Range tradition of deliciousness  
· Nancy Shusterich  
Young Living · Becca Bundy  
Mary Kay Cosmetics · Dawn Barchus  
Bath Treats by Sam/Color Street · Samantha Tveit  
Limelife by Alcone  
– professional, highly pigmented make-up  
· Brittany Udovich  
Pampered Chef · Tefany A. Smith  
Tastefully Simple/Clever Containers · Cindy Lee  
Thirty-one Gifts · Janie Filipovich  
Sugarspoon Cheesecake · Dawn Crandall  
Tupperware/Avon · Michelle Claviter-Tveit  
Norwex · Jolyn Techar  
MNorth Apparel & Gifts · Heather Ruotsalainen  
Michelle's Lemongrass Spa · Michelle Johnson  
The Amazing Grace Boutique · Chelsea Zubke  
Northern Ornamental Concrete and Décor  
· Len & Lu Gentilini  
123ABC CREATIONS  
– crafters couture · Kathy M. – Melissa M. – Shandelle B.

\*Raffles  
\*Project Displays  
\*Simple Demonstrations  
\*Take Home Information  
\*Items for Sale  
\*Register for Door Prizes  
\*Hot Dogs & Pop will be served from 11am-1pm

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# OPINION

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

## Editorial

### Orr-Cook's crime spree

Additional law enforcement resources needed to restore public safety

Folks in the Cook and Orr area are used to doing things for themselves. For years, they've always shown a willingness to roll up their sleeves and do what needs to be done to improve their communities. And they're doing it again with their efforts to form a community watch group to combat the epidemic of thefts and break-ins that is now plaguing the area.

It's a serious issue, as the turnout at this past week's organizational meeting of the watch group attests. When 100 people turn out for a meeting in Orr this time of year, you know there is major concern, one that has affected many dozens of families personally.

People are right to be upset over the losses they've suffered as a result of thefts or property damage, and it's understandable that many, if not most, people in the area fear they could be next.

That's why the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office should consider devoting more resources to this area, at least until the perpetrators of these crimes are brought to justice. There's no question that the sheriff's office has to prioritize the use of its limited resources. And when those resources are deployed based on population size, it's no surprise that the sparsely populated region centered around Orr sees comparatively fewer patrols.

Unfortunately, it is the sparsity of the population here that is making properties in the area particularly vulnerable. Many, if not most, of the homes and cabins targeted by criminals are relatively remote, often with no close neighbors. And with just a single deputy on duty at a time within an immense geographical area, criminals feel like they can act with relative impunity. An organized community watch can make a difference, but the investigative skills of the sheriff's

office are going to have to be part of the solution. Without the ability to investigate and lock up the perpetrators, a community watch is like playing whack-a-mole.

We recognize that resources are tight, but the situation in the Orr area, in particular, is crying out for some additional law enforcement resources, at least temporarily, to bring this latest crime spree under control.

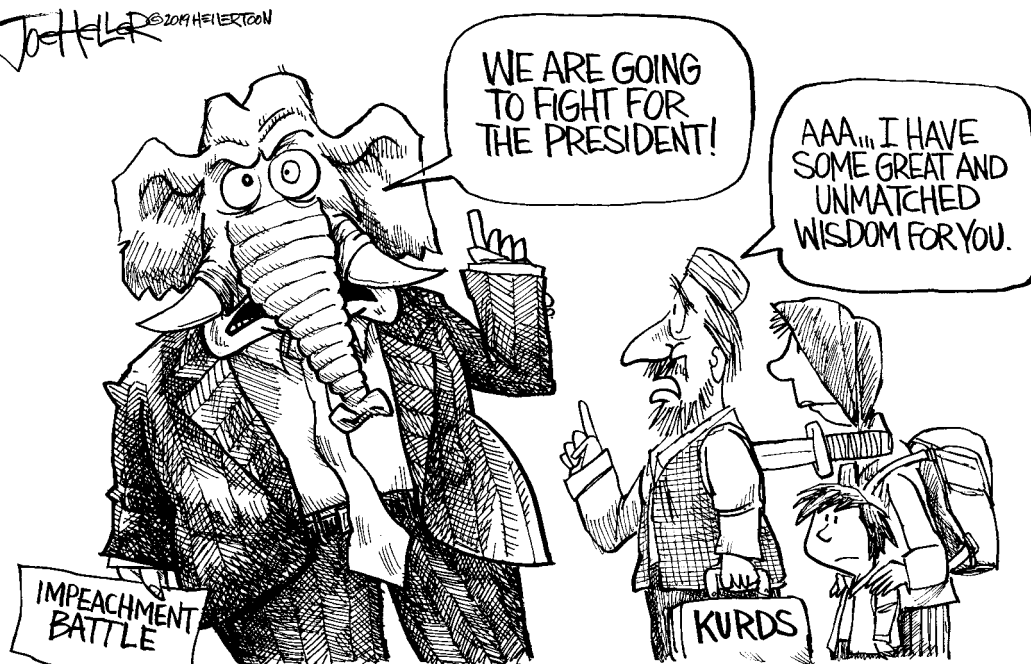
This is not to suggest that the current law enforcement personnel have been unresponsive. From most reports we've heard, the local deputies have been prompt to respond when alerted to ongoing incidents. As we've previously reported, arrests have been made and charges have been pressed against at least some of the criminals involved, and that's a credit both to the alertness of local residents as well as the responsiveness of local law enforcement.

It's only natural, however, that when a community is willing to step up its efforts to address an epidemic of property crime, they might expect to see a step-up in activity from local law enforcement. As area deputies suggested at last week's community watch meeting, they already believe they know the parties responsible for much of the criminal activity affecting the area. If so, it's time to devote the necessary investigative resources to generate the evidence needed to file charges and make them stick.

For folks in the North Country, the feeling that our area is safe is an important element in our overall quality of life. When criminals shatter that sense of security, residents have a right to expect they're not on their own.

It's time they had some extra help to bring the situation back under control.

Joe Heller © 2019 HEILBERTON



## Letters from Readers

### Political courage in the age of Trump

The news in recent weeks that Minnesota is one of a handful of states where the Republican Party has basically gutted the state primary system, making it virtually impossible for any other Republican to challenge Donald Trump, is frightening and disheartening, but, sadly, not surprising, considering the current state of the GOP.

State party chairwoman Jennifer Carnahan's sad response to widespread criticism just made matters worse. A letter writer in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, writing of this, finished by saying, "Vladimir Putin would be proud." Proud, indeed! As with the GOP at the national level, the Minnesota state GOP has likewise sold its soul to a conman, showing once again how truly rare political courage is these days. These people must not have mirrors in their homes.

Concerning the Ukraine debacle, another *Star Tribune* writer accuses the Democrats of "vindictiveness", in defense of the most vindictive, petty, small-minded individual to ever grace (or disgrace) the Oval Office, proof positive that those who continue to support Trump are just as delusional as he is. His "great and unmatched wisdom" notwithstanding, I fear that four more years of this shameless fraud will likely destroy American democracy as we know it.

Lynn Scott  
Soudan

### Copper mining companies facing legitimate pushback

All the time, I hear pro-copper-mining interests complaining that Twin Metals and PolyMet have suffered through "the most exhaustive environmental review process in the state's history."

But that's not true at all. What these mining interests are encountering is staunch and steady pushback from an increasingly educated popu-

lace against planned mining endeavors that have never failed to profoundly and permanently contaminate their environment. There is no moral or ethical reason to allow it.

So stop calling it what it isn't.

Duane Ellis Behrens  
Ely

### It's either Trump or socialism

Your choice is freedom or socialism. That's it. I've read over and over again in the *Timberjay* from the start: impeach our president. Gee, we actually have a president that has surpassed all. He is doing exactly what he said he would. He is representing we the people.

You get brainwashed if all you hear twenty-four hours a day is what the media, especially CNN, has to say. They get their marching orders and don't mention anything President Trump has done for our country, for us. According to them, he has three negatives: he's Christian, he's Republican, and he loves our country. He has made America great again, while battling everyone, from the news media to members of his own party.

When Trump ran for president, the media and others all thought it was a joke. It was a pretty good one. He had names for all those he was running against. I loved it. He knocked them all down. Suddenly, people weren't laughing anymore. Poor, poor Hillary still can't accept that she lost.

I'm tired of the bull-crap I hear from Trump haters. They're either brainwashed or just plain stupid. All we hear every day is impeachment nonsense. Impeachment is going nowhere. People aren't stupid. Democrats are losing supporters left and right. What are they doing for the people they represent? Nothing!

I'm defending our president one hundred percent. I predict he will take the state of Minnesota by a landslide. It could be a landslide in all the states. If you hate our president so much, just imagine where we'd be if the Democrats were running our

country.

At least now things are starting to come to the surface. Heads should be rolling from former President Obama all the way down. If you want socialism, you move. Leave us alone. Go, please go. In a very short time, you'll want to be back here.

It's simple: freedom or not. How hard is that to understand? America is great again, and I'm proud to be an American again.

Peggy Goodwin  
Aurora

### Hwy. 169 is too rough for 60 miles per hour

Raising the speed limit to 60 mph on Hwy. 169 was a bad decision. Now people will be driving 65-70 mph on this terrible road. It's so full of cracks and ruts that it's about as good and safe as an ATV trail. Before doing this, you'd think the state would have at least filled in all the ruts running lengthwise that disrupt your steering. I really worry about 169 because my wife and son travel it almost daily, along with many other people.

Maybe someone will be kind enough to invite the governor for a day of ice fishing at McKinley Park this winter, so he'll get first-hand experience on the 169 rumble strips we deal with from December to April.

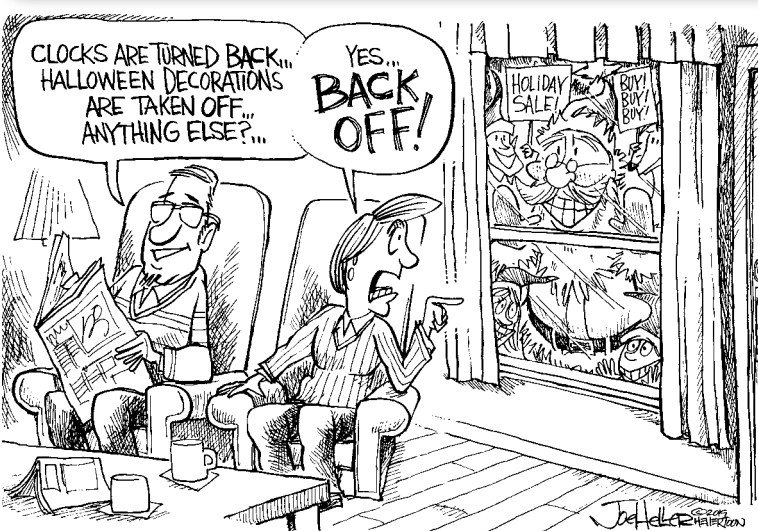
It's hard to believe how ridiculous it is that a busy highway like 169 is in such a deplorable state. There's no excuse for it. The state should either go back to 55 mph or else reconstruct it, pronto.

Daryl Lamppa  
Tower

### Thanks for the story about the memorial

We would like to thank the *Timberjay* and especially Keith Vandervort for his Oct. 18 article "So Who Was Hans Smith." It was an excellent article and photograph of Hans' Oct. 12 Memorial at Hidden Valley. It received a lot of well-deserved praise. So, thank you again, Keith!

Paul and Erik Smith  
Ely



## Think the political parties are all the same? Think again

Have you ever heard anyone say, "Oh, those politicians are all the same. There's no difference between the parties. They're all just out for themselves?"

Perhaps you've said it yourself, forgetting all that has been accomplished over the years to improve lives.



BETTY FIRTH

Many younger people may not understand the battles fought for the benefits we enjoy. The Democratic party brought you the weekend, and so much more, so sit back, relax, and take it all in.

- Social Security.
- Medicare and Medicaid.
- Affordable Care Act.

- Food safety.
- The New Deal.
- The Great Society.
- The Peace Corps.
- The Job Corps.
- Civil rights.
- Women's right to vote.
- The Voting Rights Act.
- The Equal Pay Act.
- Consumer protection.
- FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation).
- Banking and Wall Street regulations.
- SEC Federal Reserve

- Commission.
- Funding for science and medical research.
- The National Institute of Health.
- Support for free public education.
- Head Start.
- School lunch and breakfast programs.
- NLRB (National Labor Relations Board).
- The eight-hour work day and 40-hour work week.
- Overtime pay.

- Unemployment pay.
- Protection of the environment.
- Endangered Species Act.
- FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency).
- Veterans benefits.
- The GI Bill.
- The United Nations.
- The Marshall Plan.
- Vehicle safety requirements.
- Reduced emissions.
- Fuel economy standards.

See PARTIES...pg. 5

# Letters from Readers

## Time to assert the power of the people under the Constitution

WE THE PEOPLE are the first words in the preamble to our constitution. Historically, these words have been treated more as rhetorical style than real substance by the white male club of privilege, power and property who ruled this nation. Asserting the substance of people power in our social system is long

overdue.

**FORMAMOREPERFECT UNION** The struggle for democratic rights continues against the resistance of a wealthy patriarchy. Americans are awakening to the fact that gains in citizen rights are far too incremental and participation in economic democracy is a rare event. We have the capacity to enable every American to fulfill their potential.

**ESTABLISH JUSTICE** A two-tier system, one for the

rich and powerful and another for the ordinary and poor, does not qualify as just. The rule of law means that no one is above the law and that the law applies equally to all. Extreme economic inequality is recognized as the cause of many of our social ills.

**INSURE DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY** Over 100 lose their lives to gun violence in the U.S. daily and mass shootings are increasingly seen as domestic terrorism. Global warming, cyber warfare and corporate

capture awareness reveal the threat to health, safety and security, making every person vulnerable.

**PROVIDE FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE** Government shall protect the people against foreign threat, but having over 800 military bases in 80 plus countries deprives us of domestic needs. As "world cop," our resources are squandered by overextended military power to protect global corporate investments.

**PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE** We the people, not the privileged class, shall define the meaning of these words. Enlightened societies recognize health care as a human right. Until our basic needs are fulfilled, we cannot

**SECURE THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY TO OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY.**

**Harold Honkola Tower**

## PARTIES...Continued from page 4

►Federal loan programs.  
►Economic growth under Democratic Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt through Barack Obama.

Let's take a look at some of what the Trump administration has brought us so far. In spite of the fact the U.S. has been experiencing the second-longest economic expansion since the post-World War II boom, annual deficits (when Congress spends more than it takes in through tax revenues) are expected to average \$1.2 trillion over the next ten years or 4.4 percent of gross domestic product. The average for the last 50 years has been 2.9 percent. Public debt has increased \$2 trillion since Trump was elected, reaching the unprecedented level of over \$22 trillion (Statistics from the Congressional Budget Office, or CBO).

The Trump administration has been consistently hostile to the idea that all Americans have a right to a decent life, including health care. He practices double-speak reminiscent of the novel "1984." ("War is peace.

Freedom is slavery. Ignorance is strength.") In early October, he told a crowd of Florida seniors, "We'll always protect the Medicare benefits you earned and paid for," saying he would defend Medicare from the "socialist" Medicare-for-All proposal. In fact, the same day, he signed the "Executive Order on Protecting and Improving Medicare for Our Nation's Seniors" that aimed at increasing reimbursements closer to the levels paid in the commercial insurance market. Currently, Medicare reimbursements are 40-percent lower to physicians, and hospitals receive half to two-thirds of what they receive from private insurers. U.S. health care costs are the highest in the world, and the Medicare level of reimbursements reduces the inflated costs and profits. To increase reimbursements to mimic commercial insurance would send Part B premiums soaring and would bankrupt Medicare.

A second prong of so-called protection in that executive order is the

promotion of Medicare Advantage plans, flooding seniors with advertisements, seducing them with the offering of additional services while selecting the lowest-cost seniors out of the Medicare pool. One-third of all Medicare recipients use Medicare Advantage plans as compared to Medigap plans, many not realizing when they sign up that the plans restrict which doctors and hospitals patients can use. Some plans have improperly denied care in order to increase profits, so the older, sicker seniors are more likely to drop the plan. On top of that, Medicare Advantage plans have overcharged Medicare by \$30 billion in the last three years alone.

Let's review that list in the second paragraph once again. How many of those programs has the Trump administration taken aim at reducing or gutting? How is it that they can promote these draconian measures?

It's partly because a lot of people aren't paying attention or can't believe what's really happening. A policy of tax cuts,

intended to "starve the beast" as Republicans like to say, has been used since the Reagan administration. Trump's top economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, also a veteran of the Reagan administration, argued in a 1996 Wall Street Journal op-ed that "Tax cuts impose a restraint on the size of government. Tax cuts will starve the beast..." meaning that a frenzy of fear about deficits can be whipped up so the public thinks that cuts must be made in public programs with "...market solutions to the problems of Social Security, health care, education and the environment."

In a nutshell, the Trump administration would like to deregulate everything, gut Social Security, and privatize Medicare and many other public programs: public education, prisons, federal jobs, VA health care, air traffic control, roads and bridges, and public lands and national monuments. This, in spite of the fact that studies have shown that public-private partner-

ships (PPPs) are expensive and inefficient. A report by the Brookings Institution found that PPPs "have been dogged by contract design problems, waste, and unrealistic expectations." Contractors may cost two to three times more, with the profit going into corporate pockets and the costs landing on private citizens.

AFGS (American Federation of Government Employees) President J. David Cox Sr. said, "When we privatize, we're padding the pockets of CEOs and giving up key aspects of our democratic control. Our government exists for the common good, to make our lives better. We need to fully fund our government programs, not diverting public money to enrich millionaires and billionaires."

Jen Hofman, a young woman who wanted to make a difference, developed the Americans of Conscience Checklist (americansofconscience.com), a weekly online list highlighting current legislation, actions to take like writing elected

officials, suggestions for keeping inspired, and good news from around the country, such as that L.A. teachers opposed tax breaks for Exxon and work to strengthen funding for schools and that the Supreme Court upheld a block on the current president's asylum ban. Hofman said she learned the power of working together, saying that we celebrate the myth of the self-made man, "but even he had caring teachers, access to education, dependable roads, and (hopefully) a safe community in which to become his own success story. When we acknowledge our interconnectedness, we become stronger."

If the disrespect and hatred that Trump and his cronies spit out is appalling to you, I would encourage you to use your voice, your feet, and your money to work on those issues that matter to you. I think we all can find ways to help others, to trust others to help us, and together make a difference in our communities and our country.

## COLLEGES...Continued from page 3

and community stakeholders, and they worry that the final decision will ultimately be made by just a small handful of individuals. At least one member of the regional academic planning committee has also expressed concerns about the cost of consultants who have been involved in facilitating the discussions to date.

Raich defends the nature of the discussions and said such concerns are to be expected in any process designed to bring institutional change. "There has been input from many sources, that goes back through years of strategic planning. Input is taken a lot of different ways," he said.

Raich said any plan that is ultimately approved would require buy-in from faculty and students. "This is not something we can do in isolation," he said.

### Enrollment concerns

While Raich said planning for change has been centered on improving the student experience at the district's five colleges, he acknowledges that it is also an effort to respond to declining enrollment. As recently as 2011, nearly 4,500 students paid full-year tuition between the five community colleges, Itasca, Hibbing, Mesabi, Vermilion, and Rainy River. In 2019, that number has fallen below 3,000, a 33-percent decline in just eight years.

An increase in the number of high school students taking advantage of post-secondary option has boosted the number of concurrent students, but nowhere near enough to stem the enrollment slide.

The NHED schools aren't the only ones experiencing declining enrollment in Minnesota. In fact, enrollment in the entire Minnesota State College system has declined by 21 percent in the same time frame. Raich said state and community colleges tend to experience enrollment declines during periods of strong economic activity. Minnesota has experienced robust economic activity since at least 2013, which was

when the state finally saw employment fully recover from the effects of the 2008 Great Recession. In a strong job market, many young people opt to enter the labor market directly rather than pursue the kind of two-year degree program typically offered at community colleges.

Still, the decline in enrollment at NHED schools is outpacing the statewide trend, and that's a demographic problem that might be tougher to solve. While some parts of Minnesota are experiencing population growth, the northeastern Minnesota counties served by NHED are experiencing either stable or declining populations. That trend is being

fueled by the rapid aging of the existing population combined with minimal in-migration. It's a demographic pattern that's being experienced to varying degrees in many rural parts of Minnesota and the U.S. as a whole.

In the case of NHED, the enrollment declines are putting some of the schools at a critical point. Rainy River Community College, in International Falls, for example, currently has fewer than 100 students enrolled. Raich said the border country college has done a lot to structure itself for such a limited enrollment. And he notes that Rainy River isn't the only college in the region that is struggling.

"It's getting difficult at all our schools to be independent," he said.

While declining enrollment in any college system could be a sign that the course offerings aren't well-aligned with the local job market, Raich doesn't believe that's the case with NHED. The system has actually worked closely with employers in recent years to develop educational and training programs relevant to the workforce demands. "I think our colleges have done a good job of providing educational opportunities that reflect the area need," he said.

## EAAS...Continued from page 3

and has poor insulation and is not very heat efficient, he added. "It doesn't have enough room for storage or the ambulances themselves as we have to navigate within inches through the doors."

Due to staffing requirements, the EAAS must rent a house for staff to stay in while on duty. "This house is five blocks away from the ambulances, causing a slower response time," Galaski said.

### Other needs

Galaski also listed other needs of the EAAS.

►Lucas device (for automated chest compressions). "We currently have one, which was donated to us by the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital Foundation. We need two more so all of our ambulances have this valuable piece of equipment," he said. "The Lucas device provides consistent chest compressions as providers fatigue easily after two minutes of CPR." Cost for

two devices is \$32,000.

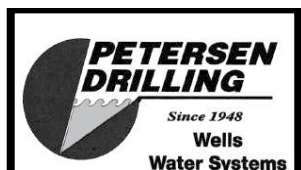
►Ambulance replacement. "We need to begin replacing our two 2012 ambulances as the mileage is close to 100,000 miles and we are getting to the eight-year mark next spring," Galaski said.

To cut costs, the EAAS is exploring a remount option for one of the ambulances as the patient module is in good condition, he said. The estimated cost is \$103,257.

"We are also exploring a van-style ambulance,

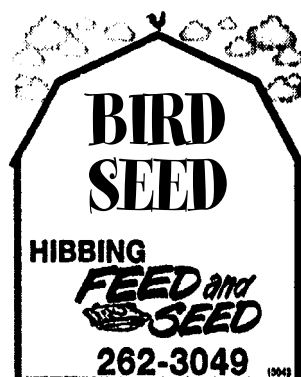
to be our primary transport ambulance to also cut costs," Galaski said. A current quote for a brand new Type II ambulance in this style is \$133,888.

"Both of these options total \$237,145, and that is about the cost of the purchase price of our 2017 ambulance," he said.



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HALLOWEEN FUN



Clockwise from top left: TS Elementary staff went trick-or-treating on Main Street. Eyeballs were on the menu at Vermilion Country School's spook-tacular Halloween lunch (also pictured below right) cooked up by Chef Cindy Pettinelli (at right) pictured with her grandson Jacob. Bottom left: Tower-Soudan Civic Club members dressed for the occasion as they served up dinner at the Tower Fire Department's children's party.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Tower-Soudan Elementary Veterans Day Program**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Elementary Veterans Day program will be held on Monday, Nov. 11 at 9 a.m. All area veterans and their families, along

with the public, are cordially invited to attend. The Vermilion Country School Choir, and the Tower-Soudan Elementary music students will be performing. Coffee and refreshments will be served after the program.

**Tower-Soudan Civic Club meets Wednesday, Nov. 20**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Civic Club will be meeting at the Tower Civic Center on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at

7 p.m. Penny Jackson will give a presentation on Barn Quilts. Please join us; visitors and new members are always welcome.

**Annual Ladies Christmas Luncheon at St. James on Tuesday, Dec. 17**

TOWER - St. James Presbyterian of Tower will host its annual Ladies Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 11 a.m. This a free event and all women of the commu-

nity are welcome.

**St. Paul's hosting this year's Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service**

SOUDAN- This year's Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 27 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**You're Invited ... to a Christmas Bazaar!**

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church is hosting their annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

We are very excited about this year's event. There is a lot going on. Right now, we have twelve private vendors participating. St. Martin's will have their "usual" tables- crafts, Christmas Elephant, and the Bucket Raffles. The Cookie Patch (last year named Cookie Walk) will return- featuring thirteen different types of cook-

ies; you will create your own cookie box. We will also be drawing for the winner of our Christmas Quilt.

Two children's events are planned- the Make-and-Take Table and the Christmas Shop. The Make-and-Take table will offer a variety of decorations that the children can make at no cost. The Christmas Shop is only for children - they can do their own Christmas shopping for family and friends.

As always, the St. Martin's Café will be open, featuring five different soups, plus caramel rolls, bars, coffee, and tea.

We hope that you will join us on Nov. 16. If you're not a bazaar shopper, you can still stop in for lunch.

**Community Thanksgiving Meal at St. James on Thursday, Nov. 28**

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church of Tower will again provide an annual community Thanksgiving Day meal, where all are welcome to enjoy the plenty of harvest. The meal will be served in the church fellowship hall, Thursday,

Nov. 28, at 1 p.m. Takeouts will be available beginning at 1:30 p.m. This meal is free of charge, but there will be a donation basket for anyone who wishes to contribute. Contact the church at 218-753-6005 to make a reservation and for any questions you may have. Happy Thanksgiving to all and "Bon Appetit."

**Movie Night at St. James on Sunday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m.**

TOWER- From Executive Producers Tim Tebow and Robby Tebow, "Run the Race" tells the story of two desperate brothers willing to sacrifice today for a better tomorrow. Reeling from his mother's death and his father's abandonment, Zach (Tanner Stine) finds glory on the football field, working to earn a college scholarship and the brothers' ticket out of town. But when a devastating injury puts Zach- and his dreams- on the sidelines, his brother David (Evan Hofer) laces up his track cleats to salvage their future and point Zach toward hope. [PG]

**Cook VFW**  
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**Happy Hour**  
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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**

**Christmas Bazaar**

**Saturday, November 16**  
10 AM - 1:30 PM  
St. Martin's Catholic Church • Tower

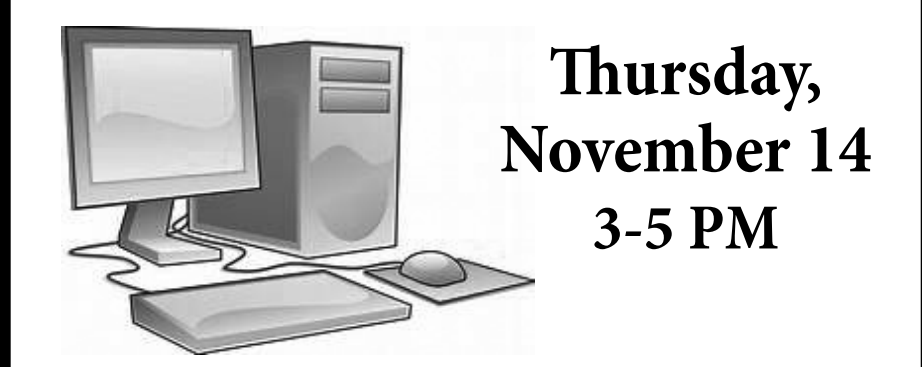
*Pampered Chef, Norwex, Cookie Patch, Custom Embroidery, Hand Crafts, Gift Wrapping, Christmas Cards, Wreaths, Recycled Sweater Mittens, Boiled Wool, Paper Crafts, Christmas "Elephant" Sale, Quilts, Homemade Soaps, Poticas*

**Just For Kids**  
Make & take Christmas decorations, Gift shop-for their Christmas shopping, Candy Canes

**Café**  
Various homemade soups, Assorted bars, Caramel rolls, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade-Bottomless Cups

**Bucket Raffles, Door Prizes, Quilt Raffle,**  
Drawing at 1:10 PM  
(need not be present to win)

**FREE COMPUTERS!**  
Courtesy of PCs for People  
at Vermilion Country School



**Thursday, November 14**  
3-5 PM

**YOU ARE ELIGIBLE IF...**

you receive or qualify for any of the following programs: MFIP, GA, SNAP, NAPS, WIC, Child Care Assistance, Head Start, Section 8, Public Housing, Energy Assistance, or your family income is 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

1 Enterprise Dr., Tower • 218-753-1246

**Toasty Toes Sock Drive**

**October 1st - October 31st**

Our mission is to help 120 local kids ranging anywhere from 0 - 17 years of age. **Infant to adult sizes are needed.** Socks may be dropped off at any of our 3 branch locations: Embarrass, Tower, or Aurora.

Embarrass Vermillion FCU is looking for your help in collecting new socks for the kids on our 4th Annual Angel Tree. Each child will receive new socks to go along with their gifts at Christmas time.

Please drop off your donation before October 31st, as we would love to have them ready to go for when the Angel Trees go up November 1st.

**Thank you in advance for your generosity!!!!**

TOWER EMBARRASS AURORA  
Embarrass Office: 218-753-3501  
Tower Office: 218-753-4311  
Aurora Office: 218-229-2948

NCUA  
AN EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Warm feet Happy Hearts

TOWER

# Tower household survey underway

Clerk scared up some responses while trick-or-treating with her son

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER — New city clerk-treasurer Victoria Ranua took advantage of Halloween last week to scare up responses for a city-wide survey that may allow taxpayers to benefit from federal funding to help reduce the cost of a new water main and water treatment facility.

City officials plan to request as much as \$350,000 from the Community Development Block Grant program, but as of today, the city does not qualify for the funding, which is earmarked for low- and moderate-income communities. Without the funding, the increase in utility fees could be downright frightening, according to Ranua. Should the city qualify for the CDBG funds, it could reduce the cost of water and sewer fees by about \$700 over the course of the debt repayment for planned upgrades.

While Tower almost certainly meets the income criteria to qualify for CDBG, inadequate responses from many in the community during the 2010 census, failed to fully document the level of need. The city is asking residents to return surveys which will be mailed out in the coming days requesting household income information. The surveys are identified only by utility account numbers and cannot be reviewed by city staff.

Instead, the surveys are re-



**Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Victoria Ranua started going door-to-door on Halloween, getting residents to fill out a household income survey to see if the city will qualify for CDBG grant funding for upcoming projects.** photo by M. HelMBERGER

viewed only by St. Louis County staff in order to determine if the city will qualify for the CDBG funds. Under the rules, at least 49 percent of the city's residents need to meet the definition of low- or moderate-income for the city to qualify. The deadline for applying for the

CDBG funds is in just three weeks, so the city is requesting that residents return their surveys promptly.

Anyone with questions can call Tower City Hall at 218-753-4070.

# Free computers available on Thursday, Nov. 14; PCs for People program through Blandin group

TOWER- The Blandin Broadband Group has free computers from the PCs for People program to give away on **Thursday, Nov. 14** from 3-5 p.m. at the Vermilion Country School. To be eligible for the free computer, you must receive or qualify for any one of the following programs: MFIP, GA,

SNAP, NAPS, WIC, Child Care Assistance, Head Start, Section 8 Housing, Energy Assistance, or have your family income at or below 200-percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

The computers will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis, but if demand exceeds sup-

ply, the group may be able to get additional computers.

The computers are refurbished desktops with monitors. The computers come with Windows 10. They include a computer mouse and all necessary cables.

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



### Dear Hearts,

November!!!!!!... NOVEMBER!!!!!!

How did it get to be November? I am still working on my tan...I have cukes to can and it's November!!!

I must have been high on tanning lotion or maybe had a bit of sunstroke.

It seemed as if I had just rolled over to do my back when school buses started to appear!

I knew these weren't practice runs, because they were full of rowdy kids,

I think school districts should weld the windows shut on those buses!

"Hey...is that Moby Dick or just a fat lady who needs a tan?"

"Wilbur, is that a snowbank this time of year...nope just an old woman. Wow is she white!"

"Well, kiddos there goes the cookies at Christmas! No, I don't care how bad the band uniforms are.... stuff your Christmas Cards!"

"TRICK OR TREAT... get off my porch and get a job!"

I was alerted to the holiday on the horizon by the plethora of cook-

ie recipes in the magazines and the arrival of all the catalogs offering pre-Christmas discounts!

If Christmas is a-coming it's COOKIE BAKING TIME, and that means getting down the cookbooks and paging through the recipe cards to find something unique and different...oh yes.... good, good, good!

I plan my Christmas baking like General Patton planning the invasion of Germany.

I have experienced the heartbreak that one feels when the cookie exchange is over, and it's packing up time and someone yells, "Who made these sugar cookies with the red and white sprinkles? They didn't sell! One has a bite out of it and the biter put it back on the tray. Must be one awful cookie!" The smart-mouth takes a huge bite...clutches her throat and pantomimes projectile vomiting!

This year, this year, things will be different...I HAVE PRIZE-WINNING RECIPES.

Like many of you, I have cookbooks! Cookbooks I haven't opened yet. Cookbooks still in the original packages! Cookbooks I haven't returned!

Hidden way in the back of my cookbook cupboard, I came across "To Dad With Love— Ethnic Recipes and Family Favorites," compiled by Mona Meittunen Abel.

Mona dedicates her book to her dad, her grandfather and to all the

men from Minnesota's Iron Range.

In addition to the recipes, she includes vignettes of life on the Range and all the people that make our home special!

*Boat: A hole in the water surrounded by wood into which one pours money!*

She must speak from experience!

If you are feeling rich or need to impress someone, try...

#### Champagne on Your Pontoon

1 package sugar-free red grapefruit mix added to 8 cups of cold water.

1 teaspoon sugar-free orange drink mix...Tang? Kool-Aid?

2 bottles of extra dry champagne...(cheap, cheap, cheap...note from moi!!)"

1 liter club soda Mix and head to the beach.

*"A husband is someone who, after taking out the trash, gives the impression that he just cleaned the whole house!"*

The beverage section also included medicinal hints...

#### Honey and Cider Vinegar Drink...good for what ails you.

2 tsps. of honey

2 tsps. of vinegar

Mix into 4 tsps. of water and drink before bed. (I don't think the Mayo Clinic should be worried!)

#### Gin and Raisins- an old English recipe

1 12-ounce package of golden raisins

3/4 cup of white gin

Boiling water

Pour boiling water over the raisins. Let set for one week...these keep indefinitely.

A footnote suggests this has a medicinal effect!

I haven't heard back from the Mayo Clinic.

*I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose-fitting clothes. If I HAD any loose-fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up for the class in the first place!!!!*

Growing up Lutheran, this was known as Funeral Spread! Mona calls it...

#### Old-Fashioned Ham Salad

One ring of bologna (oh, they still have rings?)

2 dill pickles

1 onion

Grind bologna, pickles, and onion in the meat grinder— fold in Miracle Whip, serve on bread.

*And the last bit of advice from my old friend... Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, worn out and proclaiming.... "Wow, what a ride!"*

That's all for this week... Ta Ta...

Ms. Vera Milion

### AEOA Senior Dining Menu

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

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

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

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

- Week of Nov. 11**  
 Monday: BBQ Riblet Sandwich, Corn  
 Tuesday: Mac & Cheese, Bread Stick, Green Beans  
 Wednesday: Hot Italian Sub Sandwich  
 Thursday: Santa Fe Wrap  
 Friday: Pig in a Blanket (Hot Dog), Baked Beans



### Week of Nov. 11

**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.

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. at the Civic Center on Nov. 12- Note change from regular meeting day.

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. at the Tower Hall on Nov. 12.

**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](http://vermilioncountry.org).

### the TIMBERJAY

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

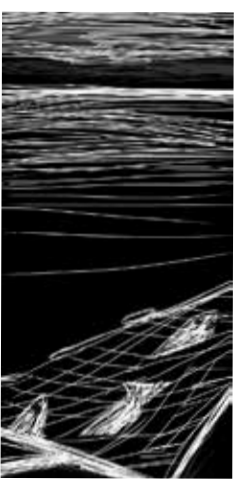
**Babbitt library**  
 Monday Noon-6 pm  
 Tuesday Noon-6 pm  
 Wednesday Noon-6 pm  
 Thursday Noon-6 pm  
 Friday Noon-5 pm  
 Phone: 827-3345

**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.  
**Nov. 12** - Maureen Reed - Ranked Choice Voting

**Game night**  
 ELY - Smear tournaments 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 information, call 218-365-5678, or visit their website, www.elycommunityhealth.org.

**Breathing Out**  
 by Cecilia Rolando © 2019  
  
 on the gray water handling disappearing nets the big lake provides

THINK SNOW  
**Artists sought for 2020 Ely ArtWalk**

ELY - The 2020 Ely ArtWalk is just around the corner. Held from Feb. 6-16, this annual affair will once again be part of the Ely Winter Festival.



The Ely ArtWalk will take place Feb. 6-16. As many as 45 downtown businesses participate each year. submitted photo

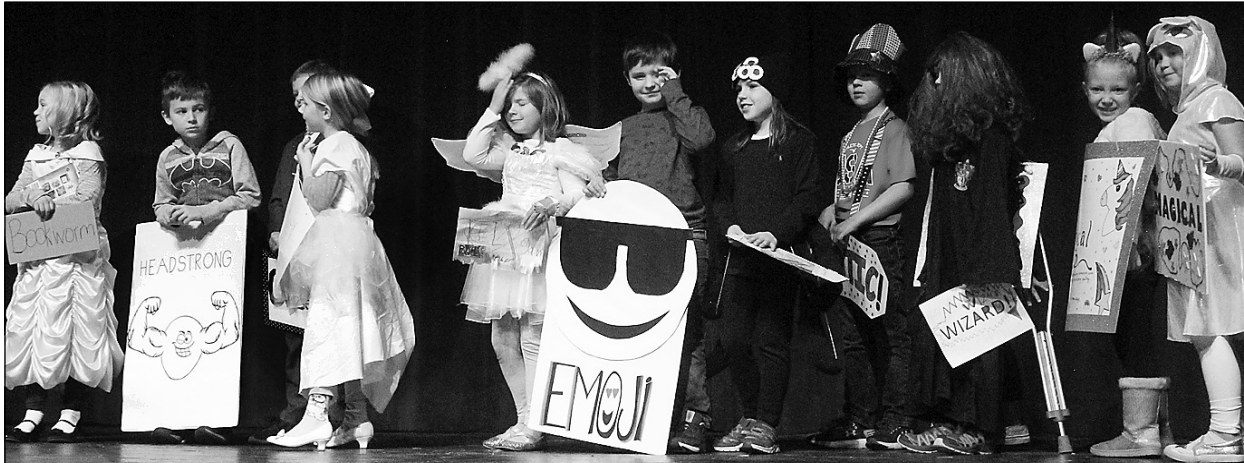
“Our non-competitive, non-profit display of creative talent will be the 21st edition of Ely’s hardy mid-winter window shopping tradition,” said organizer Mary Setterholm. More than 45 businesses participate by offering their store windows as a city-wide gallery.

Individual entries require a \$10 fee for a maximum of five pieces, and group entries require a \$30 fee for a maximum of 15 pieces. Those with PayPal accounts can pay online, and other options are detailed on the website and in the paper application.

“The Ely ArtWalk draws many visitors from all around the Arrowhead and beyond,” Setterholm said. “Most of the work can be purchased and 100 percent of sales go to the artist.”  
 The Ely ArtWalk is dedicated to the creation, promotion, and appreciation of the arts and is made possible in part by

the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation and an appropriation from the arts and cultural fund; a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust Fund; the Ely Chamber of Commerce; and individual and business sponsors.


**ELY HALLOWEEN 2019**



Washington Elementary students participated in the annual “vocabulary parade” on Halloween when they dressed as their favorite word. Shown below from left, Anna Fedders, Naomi Fedders, Logan Larsen, and Bela Moskowitz. photos by K. Vandervort



Becky Zupancich and Ashley Millett, above left, goofed around while helping at the Studio North Halloween Party last weekend. Trick-or-treaters at the library, left, included Allison Poppler, Addison Forsman and Else Ellerbroek. The littlr fireman, above, is Tanner Champa.

**the TIMBERJAY**  
  
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ELY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

# Boys cross country team competes in state meet



The Ely Memorial High School boys cross country team was honored at a pep rally in the school gym last Friday before they headed to the state meet in Northfield. The team finished 12th overall in the Class A run. Show from left, Henry Matthys, Nate Nettifee, Joey Bianco, Raif Olson, Harry Simons, Ethan Bremner, Dylan Fenske, Gabriel Pointer, Jasper Johnston, Emmett Faltesek, Luke Olson. photos by K. Vandervort



Band member Erika Mattson, left, played the trumpet during the pep rally. Teacher Todd Hohenstein did his best to fire up the students, including Tiffany Davis's Washington School second-grade class, below.



## News In Brief

### Free flu shots available at school

ELY - Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is providing free flu shots this year at the Ely School District 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

## Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of

### THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

November 7, 1919

### Pioneer Mine working again

The Pioneer Mine, which just before being shut down five weeks ago by the actions of the I.W.W. employed a force of over 300, resumed operations yesterday morning with a small crew of men.

As the larger part of its force had been paid off during the strike, it was necessary yesterday morning before going to work to again sign an application for employment. It is supposed by the management that a normal crew will again be at work in a short time.

The Chandler mines resumed operations two weeks ago and the Zenith mine opened last week. All are working short crews and men are being put on as fast as applications can be acted on. The Sibley mine is still idle and no word has been received as to when it would resume.

The resumption of the mine gives a better tone to the business prospects of the city. The strike has been a sad lesson for the laborer and also for the interests that rely on the laborer's payday. The leaders of the strike were all young men ready to move at a moment's notice and the 40 or more who walked out at the Zenith successfully tied up affairs here in somewhat of a knot.

It is estimated that the men secured the extra pay demanded (camouflage for the I.W.W. movement of making things safe in America for Russia and Germany). It would require over a year of constant work to make up the losses sustained in the walk out.

### Sheep start for Stoney

As many as 560 sheep were unloaded Monday at the old St. Croix barns for the Northwestern Sheep and Wool Co. The shipment was received in a blinding snowstorm and the sheep were housed in the barns until Wednesday when early in the morning they began their journey to the ultimate destination at the headquarters of the company on Stoney River.

The road had been plowed and broken and the halfway was reached the night before where the sheep were fed and housed. They arrived the next day with no losses.

## News In Brief

### NLAA annual meeting set for Monday

ELY - The Northern Lakes Arts Association's annual membership meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 11, beginning at 7 p.m., in the Vermilion College Theater lobby. Each fall, the NLAA organization gathers to celebrate the year in review with highlights from the programs and events that have brought the visual, performing and literary arts to the Ely community and surrounding area.

The membership meets to assess the financial position of the organization, vote on board members, and learn about the upcoming events of the year ahead.

A sneak preview of "Scrooge in Love," will also be part of the meeting. The holiday musical will be presented at the Vermilion College Theater on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 2 p.m., and on Friday and Saturday evenings, Dec. 6-7 at 7 p.m.

Also on the meeting agenda is sharing NLAA's updated logo, information on their current member-

ship drive and marketing strategies, the announcement of the Ely Community Spring Musical, and time to share ideas, some fellowship, and delicious refreshments.

### Ely Winter Festival seeks sponsors

ELY - The Ely Winter Festival, scheduled to run Feb. 6-16, 2020, seeks sponsors, including businesses and organizations in the Ely area, to help support the independent, non-profit organization.

The group relies and depends on sponsorships, grants, and gifts in-kind to keep the festival running, marking 26 years.

Despite support from all sectors of the Ely community, and having received a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board for specific expenses, they still depend on sponsors for their ongoing operation.

If you are interested in being a sponsor, contact the festival at 365-SNOW or at their website, <https://elywinterfestival.com/>.



## Ely Memorial High School Medallions

ON SALE NOW!

The Ely-Winton Historical Society is selling pewter

medallions with the replica of the Ely-Memorial High School engraved on them. These medallions are 2-1/2" wide by 2" tall and come with loop and cord for hanging. They cost \$15 each plus \$3.50 postage and handling for those ordering from out of the area.

Call the Ely-Winton Historical Society at 219-365-3226 or email: [ewhsmuseum.com@ewhsmuseum.com](mailto:ewhsmuseum.com@ewhsmuseum.com).

ELY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL (engraved)



## HALLOWEEN

# Halloween fun at the Cook Community Center

COOK - Fairies, wizards, spidermen, and a variety of other creatures and characters of all ages gathered at the community center here to enjoy each other's company. The Cook Lions Club was on hand with hot dogs, chips, and drinks to quench the voracious appetites of the monstrous partygoers. Creatures were also given the chance to try their hand - or paw or claw - at skeeball, basketball free-throws, and elephant ring toss. The victorious were awarded with their choice of candy. Altogether, it was a fun-filled, family-friendly evening.

photos by E. M. Schultz



## Sandra Butalla introduces new book at the Cook Library

by E. M. SCHULTZ  
Staff Writer

COOK - Over a dozen people gathered at the Cook Public Library on Oct. 22 to listen to Sandra Butalla, known as S. Fabian Butalla in the writing world, speak about her latest book, "We Are Not Invisible." It is the third book Butalla has written, and though she spoke about needing a break, it will likely not be her last.

Similar to her other two books, "The Man Who Fell to Earth" and "Warriors in the Cloak of Darkness," "We are Not Invisible" centers around World War II veterans. This one, however, takes a look at the stories of twenty-six women who served in a variety of capacities, from a file clerk to a Black Hawk helicopter pilot.

Butalla's inspiration for this latest book came from an event she attended at the Min-

nesota Discovery Center that featured thirty-four posters of women who had served in the military. Butalla was fascinated by their stories, but what really sparked her urge to write the book was looking around and realizing she was the only person there, besides the woman monitoring the displays. Butalla suggested someone should write a book, and fifteen months of research and interviews later, "We are Not Invisible" hit the bookshelves.

Each chapter in the book describes a different woman's story. According to Butalla, some will make you laugh, some will make you misty-eyed, and some will shock you. Each and every one, however, will help open your eyes to the importance of women in the military and the roles they have played throughout history. This book, a winner of the Veteran Voices Award, will change how



you view female veterans.

Butalla previously worked for the St. Louis County School District as both a teacher and media director (librarian). When she's not busy traveling

the world, making jewelry, or interviewing someone for one of her books, she and her husband enjoy a quiet life in northern Minnesota. Sales from her books go to different veterans'

organizations, with money from the third book going to the Women Veterans Initiative. All three of her books are available online at Barnes and Noble or Amazon.

## Cook-Orr Calendar

### Veterans Day Luncheon at Trinity Lutheran

COOK- Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook will be hosting their annual Veterans Day luncheon on Monday, Nov. 11 from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

This free lasagna lunch is in recognition of the service and dedication veterans have given for our country. All area veterans and their family members are welcome to attend, as well as surviving spouses of veterans. Any questions can be directed to the church office at 218-666-5965. Trinity is located right off Hwy. 53 by the American Bank in Cook at 213 2nd St. SE. Handicapped parking is available in both the north and the south parking lots.

### Support Group for those caring for individuals with dementia to start on Nov. 12

COOK - The Alzheimer's Association will be offering a support group to caregivers, families, and friends of individuals with dementia beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 12 from 12-1 p.m. at the Cook Public Library. This is an opportunity for people to talk through their concerns, exchange information, learn more about community resources, and build a support system together. The group

will meet the second Tuesday of every month. For more information, please contact Becky or Christle at 218-666-5941.

### Navigating THRU showing at the Comet Theater on Sunday, Nov. 17

COOK - Join filmmaker Lindsay Jackson for a free, private showing of her film "Navigating THRU" on Sunday, Nov. 17 at the Comet Theater in Cook. The film focuses on women thru-hikers on the Appalachian Trail and will begin at 6 p.m. Doors will open at 5. The event includes a Q&A session with the filmmaker and Appalachian Tail hikers. Everyone is welcome to attend. The event is free to the public, but donations are appreciated.

### Ruby's Pantry on Thursday, Nov. 14

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution will be Thursday, Nov. 14, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m. \$20 cash donation at the door. Volunteers are asked to please arrive at 3 p.m. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINERS. Ruby's Pantry is now offering online registration at rubyspantry.com starting Friday, Nov. 15, for December's distribution. \$21 donation at sign-up. Sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Al-

ango. For more information, contact Amy Viita at 218-666-2220.

### NWFA Writers Group meets on Saturday, Nov. 16

COOK- Are you interested in writing? The Northwoods Friends of the Arts Winter Writers Group meets in Cook on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 1 - 3 p.m. at NWFA Gallery on the main street of Cook. No pre-registration or membership is required to attend.

This group is open to anyone who enjoys writing and spending time with others who share an interest and passion for putting words together to tell a story. Individuals share personal writing as well as writing together as a group on an assigned topic during the meeting and in-between meetings...if you like.

Just for November, the meeting has been changed from the second Saturday to the third Saturday, so writers will meet Saturday, Nov. 16, from 1-3 p.m., and then meetings continue on Dec. 14, and the second Saturday each month all winter.

### Cook Carefree Living seeks holiday donations

COOK - With the holiday season fast approaching, Cook Carefree Living is seeking donations to help pro-

vide something for each resident to open on Christmas. Personal care items, calendars, postage stamps, tissues, dental care items, and treats or snacks are always appreciated by the residents, but other items are also acceptable. If you are unable to donate items, please consider stopping by to visit or joining us for events. Any type of donation goes a long way to making the holidays a little brighter for those who call Carefree Living home. Carefree Living currently has 25 residents. Please call 218-666-0200 with any questions you may have. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

### Cook Library World War I Poster Showcase

COOK - Informational posters about World War I will be on display at the Cook Public Library throughout the month of November. The posters will include information about advertising and the economy, women in the war, and medicine. The library will also have World War I books on display and available for check out. This showcase was made possible by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES).

### Join Us for Kids Crafternoon

COOK -Crafternoon, an afternoon of kid's crafting fun, will be held on Thursday, Nov. 14 from 4-6 p.m. at the Cook Public Library. Crafting supplies will be provided by the library and a snack will be provided by Friends of the Library. Kids may get a bus pass from North Woods to be dropped off at the library, if necessary. Please call 218-666-2210 for more information.

### Readers and Rappers to discuss "The Matriarch"

COOK - The Cook area book club Readers and Rappers will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 1 p.m. to discuss "The Matriarch" by Susan Page, a vivid biography of former First Lady Barbara Bush. Ellie Larmouth will act as hostess, while Alberta Whitenack will serve as the moderator. Readers and Rappers meets the second Tuesday of every month, except for July. In December, the book to be discussed is "Eleanor Oliphant" by Gail Honeyman. New members are always welcome!

### Teacher Conferences and School Closings

FIELD TWP- North Woods School Teacher Conferences for parents and guardians will be held Thursday, Nov.

14. Conference hours on both days are 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The conference schedule is also available on the North Woods School website. There is no school on Friday, Nov. 15.

### Friends of the Library Basket Fundraiser

COOK - Friends of the Cook Library will be sponsoring a combined silent auction and dollar raffle ticket fundraiser beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 12. A variety of baskets, containers, and items will be on display for the event at the Cook Public Library. Everyone is invited and encouraged to browse and bid, while enjoying everything the library has to offer. Winners will be drawn on Thursday, Dec. 12, so be sure to stop in often to make bids. All proceeds will benefit the Cook Public Library.

### Open Studio Art at NWFA Gallery on Saturdays

COOK- On Saturdays, 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.

NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# Computer technology is here to stay



**JOHN VUKMANICH**

short for “formula translator” and we used it as a tool and model to solve complex engineering equations. The language still exists but is now obsolete as other programs exist that do not require the complex programming skills.

Email has become the primary source of communication in many areas of life, and education is no different. While many would agree that email has made communication easier, for many of us in management positions, it is both a blessing and a curse. The sheer volume of email that I receive in a day is staggering. It also makes us instantly accessible, which is again a double-edged sword. Sometimes as I read an email from someone who is obviously very passionate about something, I can literally hear the fingertips slamming the keys! I recommend to my teachers, students, and myself to never respond in email without waiting 24 hours. I have saved myself much trouble by sleeping on a response and responding more kindly. Sometimes it’s best to just scrap the email and make a phone call, too. The same 24-hour window could also be applied for social-media posts.

Social media is not my cup of tea, but many presenters and national-level school leaders have advised that all principals should have a Twitter account and use it for school-related info. I would like to thank the local newspapers for acting as my “Twitter”!

Back to the topic at hand. Technology in schools. I remember probably around 2011

or so when many local schools began going one-to-one with devices. It was the “Great Technology Rollout.” iPads and tablets were being handed out to kids across our area, and likely across the country. Students were even talking about changing schools if their own school didn’t hop onto the technology bandwagon. I remember back several years ago when a student approached me to say she was changing schools. When I asked her why, her response was, “Free laptop computer, duh!” At the time, I am not sure if we, as educators, were quite ready to use the power of the electronic device yet. Actually, I am 100-percent sure that we were not, as educational systems, ready for it. Teachers were unsure of how to harness the power of this new tool which was seemingly being used as a toy by many. Electronics in school became another management issue. The act of breaking your device or accessing an unauthorized website became disciplinary offenses that schools had never dealt with. These behaviors were not even listed in some Student Handbooks yet! Cyber-bullying and using technology to create a “school-wide disturbance” were also behaviors that we felt ill-prepared to control.

Opinions still vary widely about the use of technology in schools. I think that we all need to step back and realize that school as we knew it has changed. We need to admit that it is not going back to the way it was. We need to start thinking about how to best use the technology that we have



**A group of North Woods Elementary students in Mrs. Panichi's class, working on spelling on iPads.**

at our fingers and teach kids to use it appropriately.

In his book “Cultivate”, author, former teacher, and school administrator Jimmy Casas states, “Educators and parents alike need to recognize that the world as we know it has changed forever with the birth of the world wide web. There is no going back. Let’s stop placing blame on devices for all that is wrong with learning in schools and start expecting more from ourselves as leaders.”

I have overheard kids and adults comment that a textbook with a pencil and a notebook is still better. The irony is that the majority of people have a smartphone and use it constantly. Ever lose your smartphone or know somebody who has? Have you ever witnessed someone literally having a meltdown because of losing their phone?

Look at jobs in present-day America. Almost every career requires at least some level of fluency with technology. From

mining to manufacturing, and even outdoor pursuits such as logging and agriculture, technology has taken over. The compass and map have been replaced by the GPS. The night-watch has been replaced by the computer monitoring system. Even in music, the human voice can be altered by computer and the drum set has been replaced by a computer. We use the internet for research and for instant answers to trivia questions. It almost feels like cheating! In school, the textbook has been replaced by a copy of the book downloaded onto a tablet. The pencil is now a stylus. The encyclopedia is now the internet. Math worksheets and science labs are available online. Instead of students carrying home a backpack full of books, they have a laptop.

As we move forward, educators have learned how to use the electronic age to better engage and involve students in their own learning. Research, assignments, interactive quizzes, presentations, and many other parts of

the education day are electronically based. In reality, it takes a balance. I don’t see writing and paper ever totally going away, and kids still need to learn the tactile skills to write. Using a pencil and a notebook to solve a complex math problem still works. There is also something magical about turning a page in a book that just cannot be replicated by swiping to the left.

If you are a parent, please work with your child on appropriate technology use. Remind them to take good care of their device, because devices are expensive. Check their internet history. Monitor their social media, and give us a heads-up at school if you need our help. Our technology specialist at North Woods is an expert at helping us solve our technology issues. Together we can make the technology we have an ally in how we prepare our kids for the future.

P.S.- We still teach handwriting!

**John Vukmanich**  
Principal

## NWFA Curious and Creative Winter Classes

COOK - Winter classes at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery (NWFA) are still in development, but there are several already on the schedule. All classes will take place at the gallery. For more information on these classes and NWFA, visit [www.nwfamn.org](http://www.nwfamn.org) or send an email to [nwfamn.org@gmail.com](mailto:nwfamn.org@gmail.com).

► Vickie Lange will be teaching Beginning Knitting on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. You will learn and practice four basic techniques: cast on, knit stitch, purl stitch, and bind off. Bring size 8 knitting needles and a skein of 4-ply yarn. Class

size is limited to five, so be sure to register early by calling Vickie at 507-412-1117.

► Susan Archbold will be hosting Create a Cool Needle-Felted Viking on Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. You will need to purchase a kit for \$20. The class itself costs \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. Call Alberta at 666-2153 to pre-register for this event.

► Lyn Reed will be teaching a Lino Print class on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 1-3 p.m. You will be able to design, carve, and print your own piece. Materials will be provided. Class size is limited to

ten, so be sure to pre-register by calling Alberta at 666-2153.

► Kris Musto will be teaching a class on Contour Drawing on Monday, Nov. 25 from 6-8 p.m. You will learn drawing techniques in a non-judgmental environment that will encourage drawing freedom. See world-renowned drawings and learn exercises to help spark your inspiration. No drawing experience is necessary, and all levels are welcome. To pre-register, call Alberta at 666-2153.

► Kris Musto will also be hosting Clay Play on Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. You will

create a small, polymer clay turtle or other critter that can be worn as a necklace or pin. Materials will be supplied by NWFA. Class size is limited to ten, so call Alberta at 666-2153 to register early.

► On Saturday, Dec. 7 from 1-3 p.m. there will be a class called “Pen and Ink, Watercolors and an Introduction to Masa Paper.” You will learn about masa paper and draw Minnesota lake creatures. Call Alberta at 666-2153 to register.

**STOP N' SHOP**

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Bookmobile Schedule	
<b>Thursdays: Nov. 21; Dec. 12</b>	
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](http://www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us)

*the* **TIMBERJAY**

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EDUCATION

# Virginia, Eveleth-Gilbert school districts plan to consolidate

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The Virginia and Eveleth-Gilbert school districts have announced their intent to consolidate some time next year.

Superintendents for both districts made that official with a letter of intent they prepared for submission to the state Department of Education on Oct. 22.

“Both school districts have been working together for the past two years

and recently, in May 2019, both school districts passed bond questions to build a new joint 7-12 high school and two new elementary schools,” stated the letter, signed by Virginia Superintendent Dr. Noel Schmidt and Eveleth-Gilbert Superintendent Jeff Carey.

The school officials have also contacted the St. Louis County Auditor to develop a consolidated plat of the proposed new district.

A joint powers board established by the two

districts approved the outlines of the consolidation at a meeting on Monday. The plan will now need approval by the boards of both districts, which could come as early as next week.

Issues such as payment of existing debt, the future makeup of a combined school board, and where to build a new grades 7-12 school are all being addressed by the joint powers board for now.

A public vote on the consolidation is not automatically required, but residents in either district

can require a referendum on the plan by submitting a petition signed by at least 25 percent of the eligible voters in the district. The entire consolidation process, including the process for petitioning for a public vote, is laid out in Minn. Stat. 123A.48.

While some details remain to be worked out, school officials recently got a look at the tax implications of the proposal. While both districts would continue to retire their bonded debt from their current tax base, even

after consolidation, the excess operating levies would be paid by taxpayers across the new district. That would be good news for residents of Virginia, who have a larger operating levy. A \$150,000 residence in Virginia, for example, would see an annual tax reduction of \$74 under the plan, according to an analysis by Ehlers. In contrast, that same home in the Eveleth-Gilbert School District would see a tax increase of \$108. A \$250,000 commercial-industrial property in Eveleth

or Gilbert would see a \$189 increase while that same property in Virginia would see a savings of \$111.

The proposed transformation of the future joint school board has been worked out. Under the plan, both school districts would initially be guaranteed at least three members on the new board, with one member elected at-large. That would change in 2025, however, with future boards to be elected entirely at-large.

The next meeting is set for Dec. 2

OUR DEMOCRACY

# Learn about use of ranked choice voting at two area presentations

REGIONAL- Dr. Maureen Reed will give two presentations on Tuesday, Nov. 12, on Ranked Choice Voting (RCV).

She will be speaking at the Tuesday Lunch Group at Grand Ely Lodge, in Ely, at noon, and then at the Tower City Council, at the Tower Civic Center, at 5:30 p.m. where she will be giving a 15-minute presentation at the end of the meeting.

There will be a ques-

tion and answer time at both events.

Using RCV, a jurisdiction has the ability to improve democracy by avoiding costly primaries with low voter turnout, focusing the debate on the issues not the personalities, allowing more diverse candidates to emerge, and reducing toxic rhetoric as candidates aim to appeal to a wider electorate.

Additionally, studies clearly show that voters find RCV easy to use and

find themselves more interested and invested in the election. Because RCV assures that the winning candidate receives more than 50-percent of the votes, the elected candidate benefits from having already effectively forged a coalition which is ready to conduct business upon taking office.

But Minnesota’s statutory jurisdictions, such as St. Louis County, do not have the right to decide for themselves the pros/cons

of RCV. The benefits of RCV are available only to Minnesota charter cities. The Local Options Bill for Ranked Choice Voting will be re-introduced at the upcoming legislative session. When passed, it would allow statutory jurisdictions to determine whether to institute RCV in their local elections. Importantly, it has bipartisan support.

Maureen Reed grew up in Redwood Falls and graduated from the

University of Minnesota Medical School. She practiced internal medicine in St. Paul and served as Medical Director at HealthPartners. She was elected to the Board of Regents at the University of Minnesota and served as Executive Director of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum. Her interest in democracy was punctuated by a run for statewide political office, participation on the Governor’s Health Care Reform Task Force,

and service as an election judge in Washington County. Currently she teaches leadership to undergraduates at the University of Minnesota Undergraduate Honors Program and is pleased to serve on the board of FairVote Minnesota.

Liz Johnson, Deputy Director, Fair Vote MN will accompany Dr. Reed and participate in the question and answer session.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

# Four tips to survive the flu season

REGIONAL - You know the signs. The thunderous cough. The pounding headache. The full-body fatigue.

It’s the flu. Last fall and winter, influenza sickened roughly 40 million Americans and killed 60,000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This year’s flu season is nearly upon us.

Here are four tips to stay healthy.

➤ 1. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. People should get the flu vaccine early. Every year, this shot prevents up to 6.7 million flu cases, 87,000 hospitalizations, and 10,000 deaths. The vaccine also helps make the flu less severe for those who do catch it.

The CDC recommends obtaining a flu shot no later than the end of October. The treatment takes around two weeks to become fully effective, so there’s no time to waste.

➤ 2. Your mom was right; If you do fall ill, remember your mother’s advice. Drink lots of fluids. Juice, Gatorade, herbal teas, and chicken soup can help fight dehydration. Menthol ointments and humidifiers break up mucus and make it easier to breathe. These treatments aren’t fancy, but they provide real relief.

➤ 3. Remember that antibiotics won’t help. Influenza is caused by a virus. Antibiotics, which only treat bacterial infec-

tions, are completely useless against viruses. Not all patients realize this. Many clamor for antibiotics at the first sign of flu-like symptoms. Such antibiotics won’t make people feel any better.

In fact, needlessly taking antibiotics increases people’s risk of future infections. It gives bacteria an opportunity to evolve and become immune to treatments - a phenomenon known as “antimicrobial resistance.”

➤ 4. Antibiotics come with risks. Antibiotic overuse accelerates the spread of drug-resistant bacteria known as “superbugs,” which already kill over 160,000 Americans every year.

To fight these superbugs, Congress is currently considering the Developing an Innovative Strategy for Antimicrobial Resistant Microorganisms Act, or DISARM.

This bill would incentivize hospitals to use antibiotics appropriately and sparingly. It would also encourage researchers to develop new antibiotics.

So remember - get your shots early, follow your mother’s advice, and don’t jeopardize your health by needlessly taking antibiotics.

Source: Greg Frank, Ph.D.

HALLOWEEN 2019



Savina Houtchkooper-Meyer, 2, of Ely, was dressed as Princess Elsa, from the “Frozen” movie, while she trick-or-treated at the Ely Public Library last week. photo by K. Vandervort

## ELY...Continued from page 1

➤ Doors and windows are broken out and in a state of disrepair.

➤ The property has junk debris in the rear yard.

➤ The property is overgrown with volunteer brush.

In the blight resolution, Whitney said, “The blight or blighting factors create an unreasonable danger to public health, safety and welfare. The detached garage is required to be removed due to hazardous and unsafe conditions.”

Kess is also required to board or repair all broken windows and remove all loose siding by Jan. 1, 2020. He must also repair the roofing and

roof sheathing by Aug. 15, 2020.

### Other business

In other action, the council:

➤ Heard from Budget Committee member Al Forsman that the 2020 city budget, currently under discussion, could reflect a one-percent decrease in the levy next year for city property taxes.

➤ Approved a recommendation that the Fire Department tanker truck replacement be moved from 2020 to 2021 budget year.

➤ Approved a recommendation that new HVAC system venting be installed in the five-year-

old public library building at a cost of \$3,850.

➤ Approved the recommendation to allow the Heck Epic Cycling Race to camp at Semer’s Park on July 17-19, 2020, and to use the park’s pavilion.

➤ Scheduled public

hearings for Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 5 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. for a city land sale and vacation of public property.

➤ Approved the mayor and council members to attend the Range Association of

Municipalities and Schools annual meeting on Dec. 19 in Mt. Iron, and nominated Paul Kess to remain the city’s representative for the organization.

➤ Approved a commercial renovation loan for the Ely Steakhouse,

216 E. Sheridan St., for \$17,500 for floor replacement and other interior improvements

➤ Authorized Premier Pyrotechnics to shoot the 2020 Fourth of July fireworks at a cost of \$15,000.

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SUPPORTING BUSINESS GROWTH

# New economic development tool debuts in Ely

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

## Business-centric website up and running

ELY – The Economic Development Authority arm of the city of Ely strives to provide initiatives to promote business growth in the community and a new website was recently launched to highlight those efforts.

City council members, acting as members of the EEDA, met last week Richard Stuart, webmaster of the new website, located at [www.eeda.ely.mn.us](http://www.eeda.ely.mn.us), who reviewed and detailed the new service, that describes the city of Ely as possessing “flexible real estate, a first-rate

education system, and forward-thinking incentives create momentum for businesses seeking to start up, expand, or relocate.”

“This website was developed a few months ago and we completed a beta testing and it is now up and running and continues to serve the public in terms of generating greater awareness of the economic development authority and how you are serving all of us in the community,” Stuart said.

According to Stuart, on the website’s intro-

ductory page, “The Ely Economic Development Authority is on a mission to position Ely as one of Minnesota’s most desirable cities to open, grow and maintain a business.”

“The City of Ely in conjunction with our community partners provides unique opportunities for recreation, culture, and work not often seen in a city of its size. Our outstanding educational opportunities, a full range of medical services, exceptional outdoor experiences, and an unequaled sense

of community spirit ensure that Ely offers an excellent quality of life to residents in affordable neighborhoods that complement our natural surroundings.”

The EEDA also touts the community’s “flexible real estate, a first-rate education system, and forward-thinking incentives,” as the organization strives to continue to create momentum for businesses seeking to startup, expand, or relocate. “The Ely Economic Development Authority supports business, indus-

try, and entrepreneurship, providing long-term, quality employment, and economic vitality,” Stuart said.

The site includes information about ongoing projects, including the new west end and trailhead development project as well as infrastructure and utility availability, reports, demographics. “There is quite a bit of information and it is pretty comprehensive in terms of what it covers,” Stuart said. “All this information is available for anyone looking to start a business here in Ely.”

Council member Heidi Omerza, who serves as president of the EEDA in addition to her involvement with the League of Minnesota Cities and other organizations, said the website stands out. “They tell me this is very professional,” she said.

Mayor Chuck Novak touted the significant progress made on the website development. “Our intent, of course was to capture Internet traffic away from another site, for one, and to show that we do have economic development opportunities. The more that we can put on this is positive and good. He added that Stuart “has been proactive to make a dang good site” and it will remain fresh and updated to provide new material.

Ely’s economic development advisor, John Fedo, said the site will be full of facts of progress in the community. “There is more to come,” he said. “Additional information will tell the next chapter. There is more to come.”

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski touted the demographics information available on the new EEDA website. “We started talking about updating our website about a year ago. Demographics information are those things businesses are asking for. I think just information on there has been important. I think it is just spectacular. These are things that people are asking for and he developed that for us. I would like to thank Richard for his hard work.”

### Waste pickup contract

During a special city council meeting also held last Tuesday, council members gave their final approval to the waste pickup licensing agreement with G-Men Environmental Services Inc., with a couple of minor

additions.

City residents and commercial customers were set to lose curbside pickup on Nov. 1 without a renewal of the contract. Negotiations with G-Men have been ongoing since late spring.

The new contract calls for residential service to be provided in the city of Ely for the next four years. Commercial waste pickup shall be provided for one year.

Last-minute changes to the contract, according to City Attorney Kelly Klun, call for a \$100,000 performance bond to be provided by the contractor, liability insurance to be provided by the contractor is increased from \$1.5 million to \$2 million for the length of both contracts, and the contractor will be able to terminate either or both contracts with a 180-day notice.

Omerza voiced her continuing frustration with the waste disposal contract negotiation process. “Perhaps this is twisting the knife, but I feel like twisting the knife,” she said. “I feel that we are no further ahead, in fact we are further behind. I don’t feel like we helped the citizens at all. We have more attorney fees. I don’t know if our contractor is any further ahead. I’m disappointed in the whole process. I feel we could have done a better job, and in the future we do a better job.”

Council member Paul Kess noted that having two separate contracts, one for residential and one for commercial service, is a significant change. “We can now begin to discuss changes for the next commercial contract,” he said.

Mayor Novak also continues to be frustrated with the waste disposal contract negotiation process. “Once again, we are at the last minute here,” he said. “We have something on the table that we didn’t get until we got here. That’s when mistakes are made. I have seen only one documented complaint on this. We have mused this thing around. We must pass this or our citizens will suffer. This will, in all likelihood, raise the rates to the residents, many of whom are on fixed incomes. This should have been settled a long time ago. I have been frustrated with this. I’ll be participating actively on anything with this in the future.”

Council members voted 6-0 in favor of the contract. One council member was absent from the meeting.



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# TOWER...Continued from page 1

recent onset of winter conditions, the realities of a northern Minnesota construction season have forced workers to adjust their goals accordingly.

Contractors are still hoping to get siding on the building's lower level installed this fall, and plan to pour a concrete floor in the basement area beneath the elevator shaft.

"The lower level will be done then," Batinich said. The work needed to bring electric and gas lines into the building is also now complete, and a temporary heating system is installed. An electrician will soon begin installing the permanent electrical service to the building.

Other changes are coming to the south wall that faces Tower's Main Street. The church's iconic red doors will be moved about 15 feet to the west, so

they enter directly into the Halunen lobby addition. Batinich hopes to get the siding on the lower portion of that wall completed this fall.

"Rome wasn't built in a day," said Batinich, who has been patiently leading the fundraising effort to restore the building and turn it into a community cultural center for well over five years.

## Stained glass windows

Three sets of the newly restored stained-glass windows have now been installed in the apse end of the church, and these will be lit from the inside this winter. The remaining 11 stained-glass windows will be installed once the siding and roof are complete. The apse windows will be temporarily removed, to

protect them also, while roof work is underway, according to Batinich.

"The windows are too delicate," Batinich said, and contractors are worried that falling debris could damage them when the roofing is redone.

The windows, which were all removed from the historic St. Mary's Episcopal Church before the building was moved, have been painstakingly restored by Kekekabic Studio in Ely.

The project, which involved moving a 125-year old historic church building to a new location, adding a full basement, lobby room and other community spaces, ran into a series of complications due to the age of the structure and the underlying condition of the roof which wasn't discovered during initial architectural inspec-



Kekekabic Studio owners John Bowe and Rosemary Shepherd are restoring the historic church windows. submitted photos



tions. This quickly ramped up the project costs for the restoration.

"It's still better than having the building just melt into the swamp where it was before," Batinich

said. LVCC is currently working on raising the \$150,000 needed to replace and insulate the roof.

You can learn more about this project at [www.vermilionculturalcenter.org](http://www.vermilionculturalcenter.org).

# CRIME...Continued from page 1

pull together to fight back against the perpetrators.

In the past month alone, there have been roughly 20-25 burglaries, and those are only the ones that have been reported. Residents mentioned crimes that Mayor Joel Astleford said he was hearing about for the first time. Vandalism, possible arson, and wide-ranging thefts were among the crimes that people discussed.

St. Louis County Sheriff's Lt. Jason Akerson and Deputy John Barrett, from the St. Louis County Sheriff's office, mentioned that an uptick in crime is not unusual during this time of the year, although they acknowledged that what they've seen in the Orr area is above and beyond the norm. Given the state of things, it's no surprise that residents are concerned not only about their property, but also their personal safety.

One resident asked about the possibility of getting more law enforcement in the area. As of 2012, there are four full-time officers based out of Cook who provide 24/7 coverage to a huge expanse of northwestern St. Louis County, but only one officer works at a time. When asked about their ability to cover the area, Lt. Jason Akerson said he believes they do well with what they have, but that it would "of course" be nice to have more deputies. He also mentioned that an increase in coverage would



Officials who attended the crime spree community meeting in Orr include, from left, Lt. Jason Akerson, Deputy John Barrett, Councilman Tom Kennebeck, Councilman Lloyd Scott, Mayor Joel Astleford, County Commissioner Paul McDonald, Councilwoman Ericka Cote, Councilman Bruce Black. photo by E.M. Schultz

likely mean an increase in taxes.

Although additional deputies might not be in the immediate future, Deputy Barrett said citizens can still do a lot to help deputies do their jobs. He talked about how residents sometimes hesitate to call 911 because they're concerned they might be disturbing the deputies or that they might be too far away.

"It's a partnership," said Barrett. "That's why we rely on eyes in the community. We want you to call us."

He mentioned that the deputies work 12-hour shifts, so they don't mind going wherever they're needed. Barrett also talked about other ways residents could help, such as documenting serial numbers on guns and taking pictures of items they're concerned may be stolen. He said it was important for those who have been robbed to visit local pawn shops and go on Craigslist to see if they recognize any of the

items being stolen as their own, since this could lead to either more information or a possible arrest.

Not everyone was pleased with having to wait until something happens before being able to do something. One resident asked, "What happens when they're on my property and I beat the hell out of them?"

"We certainly don't want to advocate people taking the law into their own hands," Akerson responded. "If you see something, please call right away."

This prompted at least one community member to speak up. She stated that she had called on at least two different occasions, including regarding the fire at Wally's Auto.

She said she had told the deputy who answered the call that she had important information, but no one ever came to talk to her. Another time she said she called, and was put on hold even though she had told the dispatcher that she was calling about a threatened homicide.

"I just kind of feel like, in Orr, they just kind of shove us to the side sometimes because we're not as big as other towns," she said.

Akerson and Barrett expressed concern over this incident and told residents that the best thing to do in situations of this type would be to call back after some time and mention this is a second call. If nothing seems to be happening, ask to speak with a supervisor.

Another resident asked about getting a more direct line to the deputies, saying that not every call was necessarily an emergency. Barrett, however, made it clear that the best way to get in touch with a deputy was to call 911. He also encouraged community members to write down license plate numbers of vehicles that seem suspicious or questionable and to turn the information over to the sheriff's department.

Regarding the current crime spree, the sheriff's office has a pretty good idea of who is behind it all. Now, it's just a matter of catching them. This is where the Northern St. Louis County Crime Watch could come in handy. It is currently

unclear where funding for the program will come from, but Commissioner Paul McDonald said he would look into who funded similar programs in other communities that were having this problem about fifteen years ago. He lauded the energy in the room, as well, saying that this was how things get done.

Forming a functional crime watch committee will take time, but Astleford said the city will figure out what they can do and let everyone who signed up at the meeting know within the next week what the next steps will be. In the meantime, residents are encouraged to call 911 if they see anything suspicious.

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## CROSS COUNTRY

# Ely finishes 12th in state competition

Luke Olson finished in seventh place overall; other teammates set strong marks as well

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

**NORTHFIELD** - The Ely boys cross country team brought home a 12th-place finish in the state Class A cross country meet held here last Saturday. Senior runner Luke Olson finished in seventh place overall, with a personal best time of 16:04.5.

“We had a good meet,” said Coach Jayne Dusich. “We are happy with 12th place as a team but we here hoping for tenth or better. They all would have

**Right: Ely junior Emmett Faltesek leads a pack of runners during state cross country competition in Northfield last Saturday.**

photo by J. Bianco

had to run great like they did at sections.”

An Iron Range runner, Geno Uhrbom, of Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin took first place as an individual in the boys Class A competition, with a time

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



## MAJOR LEAGUE EATING

# World record of gluttony

Geoffrey Esper defends his Indian taco-eating title

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

**VERMILION RESERVATION**— Another world record fell here last Saturday in an eight-minute-long frenzy of gluttony as Geoffrey Esper defended his title as the greatest consumer of Indian tacos on the planet. “It’s not pretty,” said Major League Eating (MLE) Emcee Sam Barclay, “but it is beautiful.”

Beauty, in this case, was definitely in the eye of the beholder. Yet the excitement was shared by all who attended the Third Annual World Indian Taco Eating Championship, at Fortune Bay. The crowd watched as Esper somehow stuffed 39 five-ounce Indian tacos down his throat in just eight minutes. Alongside him were seven other contestants, none of whom came close to matching Esper’s remarkable feat. Among the contestants were three local residents, including Sean Lein, of Nett Lake, Chad Johnson, of Aurora, and Jake Becker, of International Falls.

But all eyes were on the three top draws: top-ranked female MLE eater Miki Sudo, fifth-ranked MLE eater, Gideon Oji, and Esper, who is currently ranked second in the world. Top-ranked eater Joey Chestnut did not make an appearance at Fortune Bay, apparently choosing to sit out this contest after being bested by Esper the two previous years. Esper took home his second world title last year after eating 30-1/2 tacos, or far less than he was able to consume this year. It’s a testament to the power of dedicated training for athletes of all kinds.

First-time taco-eating participant Renee Rovtar, from New Jersey, a three-time Nathan’s hot dog-eating championship finalist, was also in the mix. She’s a school superintendent who got into major league eating after watching the Nathan’s hot dog-eating event on television. “We were watching the Fourth of July contest four years ago,” she said, “and this lady ate four hot dogs. I thought, I could do that.”

Rovtar, a school superintendent, did some research and started signing up for contests.

“The people are really fun,” she said. But Indian tacos proved a tough challenge for Rovtar, who failed to finish in the money.

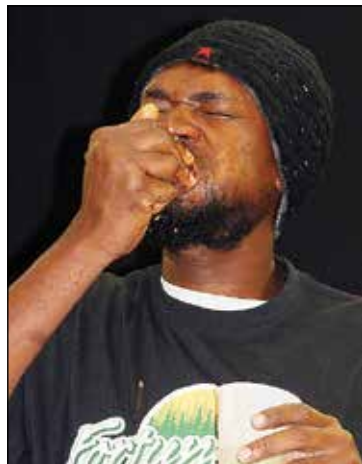
While the eating only lasts eight minutes, the wind-up was truly an event to experience in person. Barclay, the emcee, doesn’t mince words when it comes to spelling out the significance of the event. “Ladies and gentlemen,” he



**Above: Geoffrey Esper strains to keep it together as he downs one of 39 Indian tacos last Saturday to set a new world record.**



**Clockwise from left: Fry bread hangs from Miki Sudo’s mouth; Sam Barclay revs the crowd; County Commissioner Paul McDonald cheers after presenting the winner’s belt to Esper; Gideon Oji struggles to keep pace.**



## VOLLEYBALL

# Bulldogs end Ely’s best season in the semis

## Wolves fall 3-1

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

**HIBBING**— Ely’s impressive volleyball season came to an end here on Oct. 30 as Carlton proved the Timberwolves’ nemesis in the Section 7A finals for the second year in a row, winning three sets to one to advance to the section finals. The top-seeded Bulldogs took the first two sets, 25-22 and 25-11, before the Wolves rebounded to take set three 25-23.

“In set one, we came out with lots of energy and had a five-point lead that we let slip away from us,” said Ely Head Coach Andrea Thomas. “In set two we struggled to get anything going. Our passing was not on and we had a difficult time defensively. Set three we rallied and got back into our rhythm.”

But the Bulldogs’ defense proved relentless. “In set four, we were battling back the whole time, but we never gave up,” said Thomas. “Carlton plays incredible defense and they very rarely let the ball hit the floor. Just when you think you are going to score a point, that ball is in the air and coming back.”

Despite the loss, Ely players put up some impressive numbers. Junior McKenna Coughlin tallied 15 kills and 12 digs, while senior Brielle Kallberg posted ten kills, eight digs, and six blocks. Fellow senior Erika Mattson tallied nine kills and 19 digs, while setter McCartney Kaercher posted 35 assists and 17 digs.

While a close loss to the top seed isn’t unexpected, it was a disappointment after Ely amassed its best regular season record ever at 23-3. “It was definitely a tough loss,” said Thomas. “We really wanted to get to that next level, and it was especially difficult with all of the seniors on this team.”

Thomas was effusive in her praise for her team. “They really put in a lot of extra hours in the gym and the practice really paid off. They made amazing progress in the last year and I’m proud of their dedication and hard work. They have definitely raised the bar for teams to come.”

See **EATING...pg. 2B**

Obituaries and Death Notices



**Jerry P. Diwishek**

Jerry Peter Diwishek, 84, of Ely Lake, entered his heavenly home on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019, at his home. A gathering of family and friends will be held from 4-6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 8 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. A short memorial service will commence at 4 p.m., followed by fellowship and light refreshments.

Jerry was born to John and Nadia (Trofimluke) Diwishek on Jan. 2, 1935, in Zdolbunow, Poland. In 1939, after the invasion of Poland, Jerry's family was forced to move to Germany where the family lived in camps for two years before moving to Nieder Saxon, Germany, where his father was able to resume his

occupation as a master baker in Hann Munden. This allowed the family to move from the camp to an apartment. As a boy, Jerry would hire out to pick crops in exchange for food. After WWII, and with the help of his uncle, the family emigrated to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada, in October 1948. For the second time, once in Germany and now again in Canada, Jerry had to learn another language, this time the English language. Jerry excelled in school and also found that he excelled in school sports - soccer, hockey, volleyball and basketball. Jerry also enjoyed singing. He and his sisters often sang in a trio at church and in the school choir. The trio were also guest singers for "The Sunshine Hour", which aired on CKBJ radio in Prince Albert.

In 1950, Jerry's family moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, where Jerry finished high school. During this time, Jerry joined the Grant Memorial Baptist Church in Winnipeg, where he became the "song leader" for the

Youth Night Service. The pastor suggested that Jerry join a mission project called "God's Invasion Army" where Jerry traveled throughout Canada and the U.S. to serve many different churches for a year. During this time, he met Ardythe Nukala who was also a member of the mission group, and who would become his future wife; they were united in marriage on July 23, 1960, at the First Baptist Church in Cook.

Jerry and Ardythe lived in Minneapolis for a time and then moved back to Virginia, where their first child was born. After a severe snowstorm, the couple decided to move to San Diego, Calif., where they lived for 15 years and were blessed with three more children. The couple then decided it was time to move home to Minnesota. Jerry began a job with DW&P Railway and purchased some land in Britt, where Jerry and Ardythe built their home, pouring their hearts and plenty of back-breaking work into the project. This home was Jerry's pride and joy, as

it was built with his own hands from the ground up. The family lived in their home for the next 30 years, building many memories while raising their children. After the Department of Transportation decided to run a four-lane highway through Britt, the couple were forced to move from their beloved home, and it was demolished soon thereafter. It was a tremendous disappointment, but in Jerry's own words "...when one door closes another opens. God gave us our next home on Ely Lake." It was the same home where he and Ardythe lived until their passings, first Ardythe and then Jerry.

Jerry's "one desire as a boy was to see the world." He and Ardythe did just that, traveling to almost every province in Canada and almost every state in the U.S. They also traveled to England, Scotland, France, Germany and Vienna, Austria. Jerry also had "a love affair with cars", starting from the first car he owned, a Mercury, that he purchased in 1948 in Canada. Throughout his

life, and even as a young boy struggling during WWII in Poland and then in Germany, Jerry's faith never wavered. He noted in a family book that experiences come with joy and disappointments, "yet in all these I experienced the loving, guiding hand of my Heavenly Father. There was never a time when I felt helpless and all alone."

Jerry is survived by his four children, Valerie Diwishek of Eveleth, Michelle Gribbon of Duluth, John Diwishek of Sauk Rapids and Tim Diwishek of Virginia; sisters, Helene Pettypiece of Canada and Irene (Ernie) Friesen of California; sister-in-law, Doreen (Arlee) Olson of Cook; and four grandchildren, Casey Diwishek, Alia Gribbon, Chloe Diwishek and Ellie Diwishek.

He was preceded in death by his parents; beloved wife, Ardythe Diwishek; and infant sister, Nina Diwishek.

**Jeanette Mattson**

Jeanette Sipola Mattson, 90, of Virginia, formerly of Embarrass and

Ely, died on Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019, at the Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 8 at Range Funeral Home in Virginia with Rev. Terry Hartikka officiating. Visitation will be from 12:30 p.m. until the service at the funeral home. A luncheon will be provided after the service at Virginia United Methodist Church. Burial will be at a later date in Argo Cemetery. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Survivors include six children, Roberta (John) Templeton of Wrens, Ga., Frances (Charles) Roux of Buffalo, Lyle (Cheryl) Mattson of Britt, Marian (Amr) Azzabi of Eveleth, Terry Mattson and Robert (Mary) Mattson, both of Ely; 10 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; brother, James Sipola of Virginia; sisters, Miriam Gornick of Soudan, Margie Skube of Duluth and Doris Sipola of Roseville; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**RUNNERS...**Continued from page 1B

of 15:27.6.  
Ely boys runners, with place and time, included:  
▶ Emmett Faltesek, 888th, 17:23.4.  
▶ Jasper Johnston, 101st, 17:31.7.  
▶ Gabriel Pointer, 127th, 17:54.9.  
▶ Dylan Fenske, 158th, 18:55.7.

▶ Ethan Bremner, 163rd, 19:12.2.  
▶ Harry Simons, 170th, 19:49.7.  
"Luke and Jasper had their best times ever," Dusich said. "Since this was Luke's fifth state race, he knew how to run it and where he needed to be to place in the top 10."

Dusich said knowing where to position yourself can make a difference. "Emmett said he felt he could have run faster but got caught in the middle and it gets really crowded when you get onto the trails, as it is hard to pass runners as did Dylan and Gabriel. Ethan ran better

than he did at sections and felt good. Harry ran about the same as at sections and was happy about his race." Dusich is already looking forward to next season. "Competing at the state meet was good experience for Emmett, Jasper, Gabriel and Harry," she said. "Hopefully next

year they will improve their times and with some younger boys moving up they could go again as a team. But they need to run in the summer." Both the Ely girls and boys cross country teams were honored with the State Gold Academic Award, having a GPA

(grade point average) of 3.75 and above. "Luke was All-State, placing in the top 25, and he got the All-State Academic Award which is placing in the top 15 at Sections with a GPA of 3.5 or above," Dusich added.

**EATING...**Continued from page 1B

said. "We have reached the end of world history. This is the Fortune Bay World Indian Taco-eating champions. This is the Mt. Sinai of mastication. Let the contest begin."

Barclay, it turns out, is as much a part of the show as the eaters themselves, as he cracks jokes and pokes fun with the audience to get them into the spirit of the event. "I like to say it is my calling," he said. With his pronounced British accent, Barclay says he emceeds about 25 of the events in a year, though he admits he has never given the sport a try himself.

Barclay hails from Miami, Fla., but said he jumped at the chance to visit far northern Minnesota in November. "This is a stunning part of the country," he said, and while it's often hard to tell when he is speaking tongue-in-cheek, on that point, he sounded sincere. Before the actual eating got underway, Barclay noted that Oji, who hails from Nigeria, held the kale-eating title, that Sudo holds titles in ice cream and kimchee eating, and, of course, related tales of Esper's last two Indian taco titles.

Paula Madden, who was in the audience, was chosen as the official time-keeper. Madden, along with a rather rowdy group of friends, filled the front row with their matching taco-eating contest t-shirts. The group has not missed an Indian Taco Contest yet, having first attended the event because one of their husbands was a local participant at the inaugural contest two years ago.

Then, Fortune Bay staff put plate after plate of Indian tacos in front of the eight participants as Barclay revved up the crowd.

ute all-you-can-eat buffet," Barclay said.

And then the competition began. The serious eaters began shoveling the food into their mouths. Swallowing the hard-to-chew frybread is the greatest challenge. Many eaters used sports drinks to help move the food into their stomachs, though some opted for just water.

Four minutes into the competition, Esper was already at a world record pace. He had eaten 25 tacos in that time and was easily outpacing the other contestants. But Oji and Sudo were clearly still in the race.

The crowd counted down the final 10 seconds, and then, almost as quickly as it began, the event was over.

Esper retained his world title, and set a new world record as he downed more than 12 pounds of Indian tacos. He went home \$2,500 richer and the owner of his third-straight commemorative belt along with the absolute assurance that he is the Indian taco-eating king of the world.

He has also won the Hooters wing-eating

contest twice and holds records for brats, pork sandwiches, 10" and 9" pizzas, tamales, pretzels, and a few others.

Oji took second with 31-1/2 tacos (besting last year's record) and \$1,200. Third place went to Miki Sudo, who ate 27, and won \$650. Sudo currently holds the world record for Wild Rice Hotdish, a first-time MLE contest held at

Fortune Bay last summer. Cash prizes were also awarded to finisher John Gebhard with 13, Jake Becker with 10, and Jason Krause with 8-1/2. Total prizes awarded totaled \$5,000.

St. Louis County Commissioner Paul McDonald took to the stage for the award ceremony.



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# PUBLIC NOTICES

## CITY OF ELY Council Minutes October 15, 2019 Regular Meeting- Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Novak called the Regular meeting to order at 5:30pm.

PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, Campbell, and Mayor Novak  
ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the minutes from the October 1, 2019 Regular Council Meeting and the October 8, 2019 Special Council Meeting. Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:  
Addition 9.E.ii Residential Waste Disposal Contract and Commercial Waste Disposal Contract  
Addition 8.A. Projects Committee  
Addition 8.A. League of Minnesota Cities Regional Meetings  
Addition 8.A. Coalition of Greater MN Cities Policy  
Additions A-D added without objection.

MAYOR'S REPORT  
The Jake Forsman Burnout and Car Show is this Saturday, October 19, 2019. The recycling center will be staying at the current location for now, potentially until spring, but it depends on the contractor.

CONSENT AGENDA:  
Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda  
Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Notice November 26, 2019 at 6:00pm at Ely City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Novak indicated this is regarding the proposed levy for 2020, not the property values.  
Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items A and B. Motion Carried Unanimously.

REQUESTS TO APPEAR: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:  
Standing/Special Park and Recreation Board: Minutes included in the Council Packet

Library Board: Minutes included in the Council Packet

Planning and Zoning Commission: Minutes included in the Council Packet

Ely Airport Commission: Minutes included in the Council Packet

Joint Powers Board:  
Mayor Novak indicated that the Legislative meeting will be on December 2nd at 11:30am at the Grand Ely Lodge.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority: Minutes included in the Council Packet

Lodging Tax:  
Mayor Novak stated that the lodging tax report shows a significant reduction, it should improve by the end of the year when people are required to file.

Projects Committee  
Callen/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from the Projects Committee to authorize Harold to work on the possible purchase of the Trezona Trail alignment and property with the current owners and to bring a draft proposal back to the Council. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Callen/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from Projects Committee that the City moves forward with the sale of land and vacation of the Right of Way to Cunningham Electric for land near 421 Lakeview Avenue. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Callen/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from Projects Committee to the City Tree Board to accept this proposal to approve the "Potential Tree Planting Spacing Guidelines" with the amendments of "No trees to be planted under powerlines" and "maximum number of trees per side per standard block be four."

Kess stated that there could be more trees on certain

blocks, an example is the library, and could depend on the species of trees.  
Langowski indicated that this is about the boulevard trees, the library trees are not in the boulevard they are planted on the backside of the sidewalk. This has been brought to Public Works and the discussion has been to not have more than four trees per block and no trees to be planted under powerlines.  
Mayor Novak stated that part of the discussion at the Projects meeting was not just with trees, but there are also two light poles on each block, the concern is with snow removal.  
Kess stated that trees add valuation and they provide lots of other benefits and the council should hear from the tree board also.  
Omerza indicated that this is a recommendation to the Tree Board and if they have any issues they can bring it back; the tree board also wants the trees to survive.  
We should be figuring out how to get more volunteers to help the trees survive.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Callen/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from Projects Committee that the City Council approves the proposal for engineering work on the Prospector's Loop as provided by SEH for \$37,700. Motion Carried Unanimously.

League of Minnesota Cities Regional Meetings  
Omerza stated that she has attended several LMC regional meetings; the local meeting was in Chisholm on October 3rd. Omerza gave an update from the regional meetings.

Coalition of Greater MN Cities Policy  
Omerza indicated that the Coalition is looking for volunteers to serve on the policy committees which will convene by conference call or in person in the next couple of weeks.

D E P A R T M E N T A L REPORTS:  
Clerk-Treasurer

Fire Chief

Library Director  
Library Director Heinrich gave an update of the upcoming events at the library which can be located on the Library Website.

Police Chief  
Sergeant George Burger reported that Coffee with a Cop has been getting a lot of positive feedback. It is currently at the Front Porch at 9am on Wednesdays; Burger stated if any other businesses would like to host to contact the Police Station.

Sergeant Burger indicated that this weekend the Jake Forsman Car Show and Burnout Competition will include some street closures so please be aware.

On Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 10am-2pm it is National Take Back Day, bring any unused or expired medications to the Ely Police Department or to the Drop Box in City Hall. The drop box is available throughout the year on the 1st Floor of City Hall, or you can call 218-725-5144 to receive a free envelope to mail medications to a safe disposal center or call the Ely Police Department and they might be able to pick up any medications.  
Langowski thanked Sergeant Burger for mentioning the Take Back Drug Box that we have here at City Hall, a lot of people in the past were told to just flush it down the toilet/drain, this is the wrong thing to do as it affects our watershed, and the fish and animals in our watershed, the MPCA is saying do not flush drugs down the drain.

Sergeant Burger reminded everyone that Calendar Parking starts November 1st.

City Attorney  
Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the note and mortgage for the Residential Rehab Loan for Kim Eldevik to replace doors, insulate mud room/back entry way and to get the sewer line to code per POS Sewer Ordinance for 6 W Conan St for \$10,000. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sanitation Contract  
Residential Waste Disposal

Contract and Commercial Waste Disposal Contract  
Omerza/Debeltz moved to have the Mayor and Clerk sign the Residential and Commercial Waste Disposal Contracts and to present to the vendor for approval.  
Kess stated that these terms give the council opportunity to look at this in the future.  
Campbell read Sec 3.02 Subd. 4 of the Ely City Code. Campbell indicated that looking at the ordinance and she was concerned about the upcoming residential and commercial contracts with G Men. Campbell indicated that 50% citizens use G Men, what should we do with the other 50% that rely on being protected by this ordinance.  
Campbell indicated that the Charter is out of date, and the City of Ely is still required to serve those taxpaying citizens.

Mayor Novak asked how Campbell calculated the 50%.  
Campbell stated that she is just trying to make a point; she does not have the figures from the G Men.  
Mayor Novak stated that the code might be out of date; it possibly was not updated when the city changed from doing the trash pickup.  
Langowski indicated that City of Ely has a service provider, which is voluntary, it is not mandatory. Langowski stated that the citizens of Ely also have the option to haul their garbage to the Transfer Station if they choose. Langowski indicated he is concerned about what Campbell's question is about providing service. Garbage collection is provided to all of the citizens, the citizens can choose to use G Men or haul the garbage themselves.  
Mayor Novak asked Campbell if she is questioning that the previous council's for the last several decades have been executing this wrongly.  
Campbell stated that she believes the code is outdated, but we have to go by the code, it is law, we have to follow our ordinances.  
Mayor Novak indicated this is a different point, we are talking about the current contracts, and we are not here to talk about the ordinances.  
Campbell indicated that the citizens that choose not to have G Men pick up their garbage, the City is still responsible to pick up these citizens garbage according to the code.  
Mayor Novak indicated that the City Attorney is not present tonight to answer our questions about the code.  
Novak asked if Campbell had discussed this with the City Attorney for a legal interpretation.  
Campbell indicated that she did not talk to the City Attorney.  
Mayor Novak stated that we need to hear the legal opinion from our City Attorney before we consider this. We have been going through this for at least a couple decades with several other vendors and no issues have come up.  
Debeltz stated that the City used to have the garbage bins that the city used to pick up, but then they switched to a contracted service. There are a lot of people in town that want to haul their own garbage to the transfer station; they are not mandated to use G Men.  
Mayor Novak indicated that the code states providing the pickup, it doesn't say it has to be Public Works or a City Employee. We provide the opportunity for trash collection to every resident and it is voluntary if they want to use G Men or haul it themselves. It is being offered to every resident and business.  
Campbell asked about the residents that choose not to use the service of G Men, what about the residents that would like the city to take care of their garbage.  
Omerza stated that we are supposed to be voting on the contracts, we have been talking about sanitation for months now. Omerza asked Campbell what her point of this is. Omerza stated that this is a totally separate issue.

Omerza/Debeltz moved to call the question. Motion Fails – Kess and Campbell voting No.  
Kess stated if the ordinance is outdated, we can't fix the ordinance before we move on with extending the contracts. After the contracts are in place we can look at the ordinance.  
Mayor Novak expressed his concern that we have a

motion to approve the contracts and this does not follow the discussion on the motion. This is not the time for this debate, especially since the City Attorney is not here. Discussion should be on the motion on the table.  
If you have concern with the code this could have been discussed before as a separate item.

Campbell indicated she hopes we can discuss this ordinance in the future.  
Current motion on the table is:  
Omerza/Debeltz moved to have the Mayor and Clerk sign the Residential and Commercial Waste Disposal Contracts and to present to the vendor for approval. Motion Carried Unanimously.

City Engineer

COMMUNICATIONS: Matter of Information  
OSHA's Coming to Town: OSHA Safety Presentation on Violence in the Work Place on October 23, 2019 from 9am-11am at Ely City Hall.  
Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital Annual Member Meeting December 2, 2019 at Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT: City and EUC claims for October 15, 2019 – \$975,751.90  
Benchmark Engineering, Inc Invoice #1910-06 for \$42.50 for the Voyageur Country ATV Trail.  
SEH Invoice #374362 for \$4359.21 for the Voyageur Country ATV Trail.  
Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the Claims for Payment items A-C. Motion Carried Unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:  
Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the Christmas Parade and City Tree Lighting Ceremony on November 30, 2019 and any in kind services provided by the city, and have the Police Department secure necessary permits for the parade.  
Invitation to the City Council, Ely Police Department, and Ely Fire Department to participate in the 2019 Christmas Parade  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Callen moved to approve Walker, Giroux & Hahne Understanding of Services that they will provide to the City of Ely for the year ending December 31, 2019. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve Change Order #2 for the Trail Improvements and Vermillion River Bridge Construction. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Engineering Services proposal for the Prospector ATV Loop project from SEH for \$37,700. –Approved under Projects Committee

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve Resolution 2019-036 Resolution Creating a Census 2020 Complete Count Committee: to Plan and Conduct Local Educational Initiatives, Publicity and Promotional Activities to Increase Community Awareness and Participation in Census 2020.  
Omerza indicated this is very important we have a great risk of losing a congressional district. We need to make sure everyone is counted.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell – Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Callen moved to approve Resolution 2019-037 Resolution Making Levy and Assessment Against Taxable Properties for Delinquent Blight Violations.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell – Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest from Klun Law Firm for Tim and Monica Cunningham. – Matter of Information that Klun Law Firm did the closing for the old

Lakesides Beverage Building to the Cunningham's.

Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the Purchase Agreement for Tim and Monica Cunningham to purchase the property located at XXX Lakeview Ave, Ely, MN 55731 legally described as follows: Lots 12, 13, 14, and 15, Block 14 AND Lots 7 and 8, Block 12 all in Auditor's Plat of Chandler Addition of Ely for \$8000.00 and to direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance for the sale of land. Motion Carried Unanimously.

OPEN FORUM  
Dave Franks - 56 N Klondike Drive – Franks indicated that he has moved around a lot and when he moves to a new place he researches the ordinances to see what is and is not allowed. Franks indicated that the garbage ordinance is outdated and needs to be looked at. Franks stated that he had to learn through the grapevine that he could take his garbage to the transfer station, because it does not state that in the ordinance. There is a lot of trash in people's yards in Ely. In the ordinance there is not anything about composting, how to do it, the regulation on it, whether or not you need a container.

ADJOURN  
Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm without objection.

Casey Velcheff  
Deputy Clerk

Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019

## CITY OF ELY Public Hearing Minutes October 29, 2019 City Hall, Council Chambers

Call to Order:  
Mayor Novak called the public hearing to order at 6:30pm.

PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, and Mayor Novak  
ABSENT: Council member Campbell

Purpose: This hearing will be held to discuss 106 E Harvey St, Ely, MN 55731  
Mayor Novak indicated that Council Member Kess is the property owner that filed the appeal on the blight for the property at 106 E Harvey St, and he will be speaking from the audience as the property owner.

Kess gave background of the property at 106 E Harvey. Kess has owned the property for over 20 years, for many years it was a rental, but the last several years it has been vacant. During the time it has been vacant some vandalism has happened to the property. Kess indicated a few years ago a tree fell on the house and damaged portions of the soffit and messed up the side yard, Kess's intent is to fix the portion of the roof that the tree fell on.

Kess indicated that the house was built in the early 1900s and is a historic house in Ely. Kess indicated that he tried to get the house on the historic register, but they do not put single family houses on the register. Kess's plan is to preserve the historic nature of the house, he has been planning on doing it as a retirement project, and since he is now retired he will have the time to work on it. Kess went through the items that Building Official Whitney indicated need to be corrected.  
30 day corrections  
-Secure dwelling by keeping the same securely locked as needed- Kess indicated that he has kept it locked and will continue to keep it secure.  
-Remove all household goods, junk, and debris from the property. Kess stated that this was taken care of some time ago.  
-Remove all garbage, trash, and debris from the property and dwelling. Kess stated that there wasn't any garbage around the property, but there was some debris from when they took off some of the siding to see if the siding underneath it was salvageable or not, but all that has gone to the dump.  
-Clean up all overgrowth and volunteer brush. Kess stated that there are lilac bushes in the front and a hedge of trees

Building Official Whitney indicated that the property has been vacant for some time; Whitney indicated that he has never issued a rental license for this property. Over the last few years he has received complaints on the property since it is in a visible location; recently he has received several different complaints about the property. Most the complaints recently were about the hanging windows, and things blowing off the house. Whitney indicated that the property has been sitting in disrepair. Whitney indicated that it seems like Kess is asking for more time. Most of the 30 day items have been taken care of. The bigger issues are the missing siding and making sure the roof is not leaking. An inspection report was included in the packet from September 4, 2019. Whitney went through the photos on the inspection report.

Debeltz indicated that we need to be consistent with everyone in the city.

in the front, on the back side where the tree had fallen, that has been cleaned up by a contractor.

Kess stated that everything on the 30 days Correction list has been taken care of.

60 day corrections  
-Repair siding of dwelling – Kess indicated that the siding is the old asphalt against wood siding; it is in good shape on the three sides of the house, except where the tree took off the steps. The goal in the restoration is to remove all of the asphalt siding and replace or repair the wood siding that is there.  
-Re-roofing the dwelling- Kess stated that with the damage to the soffit he has been looking for someone to work on the roof for a long time, and has not had any luck finding a roofer to come over. Kess's intent is to fix the roof next summer.  
-Repair the windows as needed – Kess stated that all the windows are intact, some windows on the third floor are boarded up, some of the storm windows were hanging, but he has taken those storm windows down.  
-Replace side steps – Kess indicated he does not intend to replace the side steps as it would promote vandalism, he will replace them when the time comes.  
-Paint or finish all exterior surfaces as needed. – Kess stated he will do this as time comes.

Kess indicated that he has made improvements to the property over the last 10 years. He installed a new electrical service panel, replaced a portion of the back roof, repaired and rebuilt the chimney, removed the smaller home at the rear of the property, and installed new water and sewer lines. These items may not show but came at a considerable expense. Kess stated that he has made substantial investments but some of the improvements are not shown, he will continue to work on this property as time and money allows.  
Kess chose to appeal it because it is best to communicate in public; he could have asked for an extension. This house is not neglected and house should not be considered blight.

Building Official Whitney indicated that the property has been vacant for some time; Whitney indicated that he has never issued a rental license for this property. Over the last few years he has received complaints on the property since it is in a visible location; recently he has received several different complaints about the property. Most the complaints recently were about the hanging windows, and things blowing off the house. Whitney indicated that the property has been sitting in disrepair. Whitney indicated that it seems like Kess is asking for more time. Most of the 30 day items have been taken care of. The bigger issues are the missing siding and making sure the roof is not leaking. An inspection report was included in the packet from September 4, 2019. Whitney went through the photos on the inspection report.

Kess indicated that there are not any leaks in the roof other than the soffit that needs to be fixed and the 3rd floor windows are boarded and fixed. Kess would ask to be considered for extension to complete the things that need to get done.

Mayor Novak asked that Whitney and Kess get together to come up with a timeline to get things completed.

Debeltz indicated that we need to be consistent with everyone in the city.

Lottie Pinckney -114 E Harvey St – Pinckney indicated that what Kess is saying is not true; he has not cleaned up all the big sheets of concrete that are there on the side. There are shingles on the ground in her yard and he has not picked them up

yet. Pinckney indicated that he has not done anything major in 5 years.

Kess stated that he will take care of the issues.

Whitney stated that there are a lot of blight properties around town. Whitney focuses on the ones that he gets complaints on and the ones that are visible. We need some specifics on a timeline to get these items fixed from Kess.

Adjourn  
Mayor Novak adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:57pm

Casey Velcheff, Deputy Clerk

Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019

## CITY OF ELY Special Council Meeting – Council Chambers, Ely City Hall October 29, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:  
Mayor Novak called the Special Council Meeting to order at 5:15pm.

PRESENT: Council Members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, and Mayor Novak  
ABSENT: Council Member Campbell

ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS:  
Sanitation Contract Extension  
Omerza/A.Forsman moved to approve the Residential and Commercial Waste Disposal Contracts and to present to the vendor for approval.

Attorney Klun indicated that the changes made to the contracts are as follows: the contractor is required to have a \$100,000 performance bond payable to the City, the contractor shall also carry in its name a comprehensive form of general liability insurance policy with limits of not less than \$500,000 per person and two million dollars per anyone occurrence and a comprehensive automobile liability policy covering its operation with limits not less than \$500,000 per person and two million dollars per occurrence, and the contractor has the right to terminate this contract upon 180 days prior written notice to the City of its intent to terminate, these changes were made to both contracts.  
Omerza stated that this process started in May. Omerza is disappointed in the whole process. Hopefully in the future we can learn from this, and we can do a much better job.  
Kess stated that there is a significant difference in the contracts from when we started. We now have two separate contracts a residential and commercial contract. This allows for the council to work through the contracts more in the future. Kess stated that we have made progress.  
A.Forsman stated that at the time the existing contract was established there were a lot of great strides made to make it a more uniform collection which solves some of our issues. As we move forward we are going to try to evaluate to review our needs of the contract.  
Mayor Novak indicated that we have not had a lot of complaints and only one that is documented. We have spent a lot of time on this for months to get to this point, to be able to continue service by the end of the month we must pass this, or the citizens suffer. This should have been settled a long time ago. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Campbell Absent.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURN  
Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 5:23pm without objection.

Casey Velcheff, Deputy Clerk

Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019

## CITY OF ELY REQUEST FOR QUOTES

The City of Ely is requesting quotes for the demolition of a residential property located at 530 East Camp Street on behalf of the property owner. A copy of the plans and specifications can be reviewed at Ely City Hall starting the week of November 12th. The City of Ely reserves the right to refuse any and all quotes and to award the project in the best interest of the City of Ely. We will be accepting bids until 3 pm on Tuesday November 19th.

Submit quotes to the Ely City Clerk's Office, 209 E Chapman St., Ely, MN 55731. Questions, please call Harold R. Langowski at 218-235-3083.

*Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 8 & 15, 2019*

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# Outdoors

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## GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE OUTDOORS

# Record number of youth take part in special deer hunt

More than 20,000 youth licenses sold prior to start of statewide youth deer hunting season

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Young hunters responded enthusiastically to the special four-day youth deer hunt held Oct. 17-20. The hunt coincides with the annual MEA weekend, when the state's school kids enjoy

a Thursday and Friday off of school.

A total of 27,960 youth, ages 10-17, purchased a deer license for the event, with 7,896 buying a deer license for the first time. Nearly 5,700 young hunters managed to bag a deer during the four-day hunt, representing a 77-percent increase from the

2018 youth hunt, which was limited to only portions of the state. This is the first year that the event was made available statewide. Unsuccessful youth hunters can still use their licenses during the regular firearms deer season, which gets underway on Saturday, Nov. 8 and runs through Sunday, Nov. 24.

"We know that a number of youth license-buyers won't be hunting until the regular firearms deer season, but the large increase in harvest reflects the great response to this new opportunity," said Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader.

See **YOUTH HUNT**, pg. 5B



2019 FIREARMS DEER SEASON

# Mixed outlook for opener

Scouting could be key in a year with variable deer numbers, wet conditions

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — More than ever, this is likely to be a year when advanced scouting pays off for hunters who are heading to the woods on Saturday for the opening of the 2019 regular firearms deer season.

With a whitetail deer population that's still in recovery in many parts of northern St. Louis, Lake, and Koochiching counties, hunters will find that deer numbers are highly variable. "Some areas are seeing a lot of deer," said Tom Rusch, DNR wildlife manager in Tower. "Other areas are not seeing as many. That's why we have permit areas and differing quotas depending on the area."

In most parts of the North Country, the deer population remains somewhat below the goals established by the DNR, the result of a string of recent winters that have ranged from average to severe. "Right now, we're in a gray area," said Rusch. "Deer numbers aren't great, but they're not terrible, either."

Winter mortality is the single biggest factor determining the size of the deer herd here in the North Country, and Rusch notes that winter severity is can vary considerably around the region, particularly when it comes to snow depth. In

the border country, like permit areas 108 and 119, deeper snow in recent winters has slowed the deer recovery in the wake of back-to-back severe winters in 2013 and 2014.

That's why hunters in those areas will be limited to bucks only for the most part. Most other permit areas in the North Country allow for some antlerless harvest through the lottery system. Permit Area 177, which encompasses the farm country west of Cook and the shoreline of Lake Vermilion, is the only zone where hunters can take a deer of either sex with a regular license.

According to Rusch, such a variable recovery means that scouting is more important than ever. Even within permit areas, deer numbers can vary a lot from place-to-place and checking for evidence of deer activity can be critical to ensuring that you're in the right place at the right time. In the end, said Rusch, it doesn't really matter how many deer are in your permit area. "People judge by what they see from their deer stand," he said.

If you want your deer stand in the right place, that takes some preparation and time spent in the woods in most cases, notes Rusch.

Other factors are also at play this year, particularly the extremely wet conditions in



the woods. Much of the region saw nearly ten inches or more of rain in September, which left water standing in many areas that haven't been wet in the past. Rusch said hunters should be aware that the conditions could impact their access in areas they're traditionally hunted in the past.

### Active part of the rut

Hunters will want to be aware that this year's late opener (Nov. 9 is the latest possible date under Minnesota law), will mean that opening weekend should coincide with the peak of the chasing phase of the rut. This means deer, particularly bucks, should be moving almost continuously in search of does, and that typically makes them the most

See **OPENER**, pg. 5B

## TRADITIONS



### Send us your hunting stories

REGIONAL — Deer season is a time of tradition, family and fun. It's also a time for great outdoors stories and we'd like to hear yours — so we can share the best with our readers.

We're looking for stories and photos from this year's hunt. Whether it's an interesting encounter in the woods, a monster buck, a funny story about life at deer camp, or a young person's first deer, we want to hear about it. Don't worry if you're not a writer. Just tell us the story over the phone — we'll write it for you. Or email us with a few details and we'll take it from there. And don't forget — nothing highlights the story better than some photos, so send them along as well.

Contact Marshall HelMBERGER at 218-753-2950 with your stories or email them to marshall@timberjay.com. You can also mail them the old fashioned way to The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 or drop them off at our office in Tower. You can send photos to the same address. Be sure to have a return address if you want your photos back.

So go out and have a great time. And let us know how you did!

## Outdoors in brief

### Prepare for wet conditions

REGIONAL — Conditions remain wet in many areas of Minnesota. Hunters, it may be a good idea to scout first or check ahead for conditions. Information for individual deer permit areas can be found at [mndnr.gov/deermap](http://mndnr.gov/deermap).

The fall's heavy rains have made some forest roads and trails impassable, so make sure to check forest trail and road conditions before heading out. On roads and trails that remain open, drivers must use caution. Driving off the road, even to avoid mud puddles, can damage the road edge and surroundings.

### By the numbers

☞ Adult female white-tailed deer weigh about 145 pounds, and males weigh about 170 pounds.

☞ A whitetail's home range is about 1 square mile.

☞ The biggest white-tailed deer recorded in Minnesota was a 500-pound buck.

☞ Last year, 32 percent of Minnesota firearms hunters successfully harvested a deer.

☞ Seventy percent of Minnesota's firearms deer harvest typically occurs during the first three or four days of the season.

☞ The average hunter spends five days afield during Minnesota's firearms deer season.

**Area report**

**Kab-Nam area**

A couple inches of fresh snow on the ground and ice forming on most bays and shorelines would seem to indicate that winter is here.

Fishing has been virtually nonexistent so there's nothing to report. That being said, fishing can still be good this time of year if you are willing to brave the frigid temps and find any open water. Don't venture out on the ice just yet.

Spearing season begins on Nov. 15 and there will likely be some usable ice by then, but make sure to call ahead for the most recent ice reports. If you haven't experienced sitting over a spearing hole and watching a big pike move through, it is definitely worth a trip.

With Canada freezing up tight, bigger northern ducks have been moving through the area, which is also ahead of schedule. Some good hunting has been had and scouting is key to a successful hunt. Grouse hunting has been great for most hunters we've heard from.

Deer season starts this weekend and bucks are actively seeking does.

With a little snow on the ground, it should make for a great opener! Don't forget to stop into Gateway for your licenses, and after you get the big one you can register and have your deer weighed.

The Kabetogama Town Hall will be hosting the annual Hunters Supper this Saturday, Nov. 9 from 3-9 p.m. The menu includes turkey, beef and all the fixings to fill you up!

Pre-sale tickets are available at Gateway and The Rocky Ledge, at two for \$25. Tickets at the door are \$14 and \$5 for ages seven and under. There will also be a bake sale so get there early! ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR PERMANENT HELICOPTER LANDING PAD AT THE KAB FIRE HALL. This event is always a great time to mingle and hear from other hunters. As we dive into winter we will continue to post ice and snow conditions as well as fishing reports and any other activities. You can also check out the lake cam from Gateway's website to keep on eye on the lake!

Safe travels and we'll see you soon!

*Courtesy of Gateway Store, Lake Kabetogama.*

**Deer opener impacts**

**Deer hunting is big business**

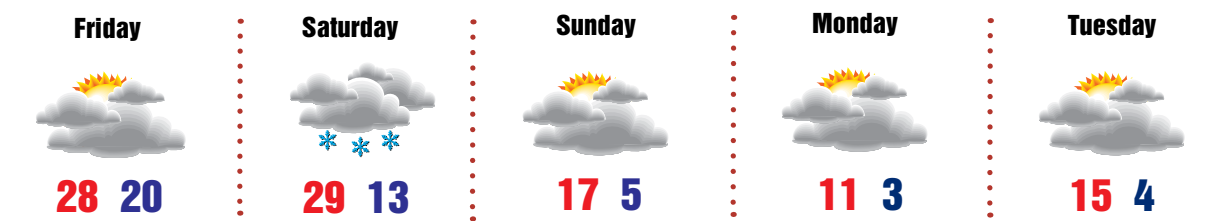
REGIONAL — According to a 2011 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service report, all hunting-related expenditures in Minnesota totaled \$725 million. Trip-related expenses such as food, lodging, and transportation were \$235 million.

Hunters spent \$400 million on equipment and an additional \$90 million on other items, such as magazines, membership dues, licenses, permits, land leasing and ownership.

And deer hunting in 2011 contributed 3,760 jobs in Minnesota, according to the Hunting in America report.

**LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST**

from NOAA weather



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.
10/28	39	27	0.01	0.1"	10/28	40	26	0.01	0.1"	10/28	39	27	0.01	0.2"	10/28	28	21	0.02	0.1"	10/28	39	27	0.00	
10/29	31	27	0.00		10/29	31	17	0.00		10/29	29	22	0.00		10/29	30	18	0.00		10/29	30	18	0.00	
10/30	32	18	0.00		10/30	32	17	0.00		10/30	31	20	0.00		10/30	25	21	0.00		10/30	32	19	0.00	
10/31	27	23	0.00		10/31	26	22	0.00		10/31	26	21	0.01	0.1"	10/31	32	21	0.00		10/31	26	22	0.00	
11/01	31	22	0.00		11/01	28	19	0.00		11/01	30	22	0.00		11/01	30	28	0.01	0.1"	11/01	30	21	0.00	
11/02	32	27	0.02	0.7"	11/02	36	26	0.02	0.4"	11/02	31	26	0.04	0.5"	11/02	30	25	0.00		11/02	31	26	0.02	tr
11/03	30	22	0.00		11/03	31	13	0.00		11/03	28	21	0.02	0.2"	11/03	36	18	0.00		11/03	30	14	0.00	
YTD Total			20.12	3.2"	YTD Total			25.75	1.0"	YTD Total			23.24	1.0"	YTD Total			NA	1.8"	YTD Total				27.59

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**New gravel helipad in place at fire brigade hall**

LAKE VERMILION— With the support of the community and other local emergency resource agencies, the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade has constructed a helipad with lighted windsock at their fire hall on Oak Narrows Road. The Brigade can now help expedite emergency medical transfers in the rural area by providing a safe helicopter landing site. The helipad work will be completed this fall, following harvest of some timber surrounding the site, ensuring a safe landing zone.

The parking lot of the fire hall was used three times last year as a medical helicopter landing zone, according to LVFB President Don Potter, so the group decided a dedicated landing area would be a useful addition to the area. The helipad uses part of the parking area for the fire hall.

This work was done thanks to the generosity of the community, and their support of our annual Memorial Weekend Pig Roast, and the Labor Day Antique and Wooden Boat Show fundraisers. The money

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

The DNR and other outdoors organizations have been promoting events like the special youth hunt in hopes of encouraging young



raised has funded the construction of the helipad and helped with the purchase of a fire truck which now supports the Cook Volunteer Fire Department.

The Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade was created as a non-profit ten years ago. Fundraising began, and enough money was raised to purchase a custom-made, fully-equipped 32-ft. fire and rescue watercraft. A second 26-ft. boat has been donated and is used to carry additional personnel and equipment to emergency incidents. Twenty-one volunteers, who are trained as boat and equipment operators, man the

fireboats. Both of the boats are now available and on call 24/7 on the west end of the lake, to help support all local, county and state fire and rescue agencies.

Managed and operated by volunteers, the Board of Directors is made up of concerned citizens. The Brigade works with an Advisory Board who provide professional council and advice. The Fire Brigade's operating expenses (training, equipment, etc.) are funded through donation. More information is available on their website at www.lakevermilionfirebrigade.com.

people to get more involved in outdoor pursuits, like hunting and fishing. "Positive early hunting experiences go a long way toward

starting or continuing a rewarding fall tradition," said Keller.

**OPENER...Continued from page 4B**

vulnerable to hunters. The key, as usual, is putting time in on the stand if you want to improve your odds of success. Hunters rarely bag a buck while sitting in camp.

Time of day is also important, particularly with the moon waxing toward full. Under the bright light of a near-full moon, deer often remain active overnight, and will

often take a breather in the early morning hours, before becoming active again midday. So rather than heading into camp at noon, consider packing your lunch and remaining in your stand. Deer experts know that 10:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. can be an excellent time to hunt under a full moon.

For those who follow the solunar calendar,

expect a major period on Nov. 9 from 10 a.m.-noon, with a minor period from 4 p.m. until close. Legal hunting hours on opener are a half hour before sunrise (or 6:35 a.m.) to a half hour after sunset (or 5:09 p.m.).

Temperatures this weekend are forecast to be seasonally chilly, with highs in the mid 20s and lows in the teens.

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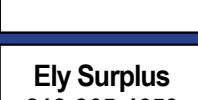
**North Star Credit Union**  
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**Insula Restaurant**  
218-365-4855  
insularestaurant.com



**North American Bear Center**  
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bear.org



**Vermilion Land Office**  
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thelakecountry.com



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ELY  
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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 vhhpdirector@gmail.com. This ad is paid for by Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners.

## LICENSE BUREAU

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

## REAL ESTATE

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## RENTAL

FOR LEASE: Country apartment, nice location. \$825/month with utilities, requires a short-term lease. Call 218-290-5370. 11/15

## SNOW REMOVAL

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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. ttn

## 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.

## HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEER TREASURER WANTED: Experienced financial volunteer to become treasurer for the non-profit arts organization, Northwoods Friends of the Arts in Cook. Call Shawna at 218-780-6510 or Lisa at 218-780-1151. 11/15

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## 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.)

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## Super Crossword

### WHAT SINGERS DO

- ACROSS**
- 1 "All seats sold" abbr.
  - 4 Wound coverer
  - 8 Course outlines
  - 15 Jessica of "The Veil"
  - 19 Really revealing
  - 21 At some future time
  - 22 Appear as though
  - 23 "Take Me Home Tonight" singer picks from the menu?
  - 25 Drawn-out drama
  - 26 Tiny parasite
  - 27 Pucksters' org.
  - 28 Parasite egg
  - 29 Big stirs
  - 30 "Hot Stuff" singer takes a pleasure trip?
  - 38 God of love
  - 39 Cultural credo
  - 40 1967 Dionne Warwick hit
  - 41 Small vise
  - 45 A Great Lake
  - 46 Sahara viper
  - 48 Vogue thing
  - 49 "Walk on the Wild Side" singer plays a droning instrument?
  - 52 Get a laugh out of
  - 54 War unit
  - 55 Wet blanket
  - 56 Fast-running birds
  - 57 Trapped like —
  - 61 Choir garb
  - 63 "I Walk the Line" singer trims a photo?
  - 68 Follower of Benedict?
  - 69 Galoot
  - 71 Art stand
  - 72 Aunt, to Juan
  - 73 IRS hiree
  - 74 "It's Too Late" singer grumbles?
  - 78 Hog lover
  - 80 Canadian oil company
  - 81 Group of two
  - 82 Slushy drink brand
  - 84 "—, vidi, vici"
  - 85 Choir song
  - 87 "Let's Stay Together" singer checks IDs at the door?
  - 91 Day, to Juan
  - 94 Entirely
  - 95 Writer Nin
  - 96 Queen, e.g.
  - 97 Go inside
  - 99 Nonviolent protest
  - 100 Novelist Oz
  - 102 "Them There Eyes" singer has fun at a bash?
  - 109 Just slightly
  - 110 Brooklyn loc.
  - 111 Assoc.
  - 112 La — Tar Pits
  - 114 Rake prong
  - 115 "Song Sung Blue" singer telephones someone?
  - 122 Snacks on
  - 123 Serving to help
  - 124 Matter of little interest
  - 125 Crate piece
  - 126 Noteworthy
  - 127 Attack like a turtle
  - 128 Tisane, e.g.
  - 7 Lew Wallace novel
  - 8 Like a sneak
  - 9 NBAer Ming
  - 10 P.O. piece
  - 11 Was a guide
  - 12 Sporting spots
  - 13 Of element #5
  - 14 Popular photo-sharing app, for short
  - 15 Lay into
  - 16 Make the first play
  - 17 Petalless showy flower
  - 18 Racked up
  - 20 Bank claim
  - 24 Tall tree
  - 31 Designate
  - 32 Excited, informally
  - 33 "You crack —!"
  - 34 To be, in French
  - 35 Fraternity letters
  - 36 Wernher — Braun
  - 37 Bugle tune
  - 41 Jodie's role in "The Silence of the Lambs"
  - 42 Sun or moon circlers
  - 43 Moves heavily
  - 44 "Ellen" actor Gross
  - 45 Upscale
  - 46 Something not to be missed
  - 47 Fish-on-rice food
  - 50 Mr. Hyde's other half
  - 51 Kung — chicken
  - 52 Drs.' gp.
  - 53 Corn serving
  - 56 Custard-filled treats
  - 58 Musical period that began in the 1950s
  - 59 Tacks on
  - 60 Like Russia, once
  - 62 "Dino" star Mineo
  - 64 Persist, as an injury
  - 65 Gp. advising the president
  - 66 "— out!" (ballpark cry)
  - 67 Fleet vehicle
  - 70 Piano part
  - 75 Alley- — (court play)
  - 76 What "je suis" means
  - 77 Abbr. after old dates
  - 79 Author Turgenev
  - 83 Forest moon where Ewoks live
  - 86 Hindu dress
  - 87 Prefix with 99-Down
  - 88 Installed, as carpet
  - 89 Gershon of "Cocktail"
  - 90 Sac in anatomy
  - 91 Wars of words
  - 92 First
  - 93 Georgia State locale
  - 95 Feel awful
  - 98 Like firstborn children
  - 99 Extroverted
  - 100 Wear for grill masters
  - 101 Cro- —
  - 103 1930s-'50s bandleader
  - 104 "Laughing" carnivore
  - 105 Lead-in to Kippur or tov
  - 106 Stork cousin
  - 107 Dadaist Max
  - 108 Smooth shift
  - 113 Out of port
  - 116 Caesar's 52
  - 117 1950s prez
  - 118 Little charged bit
  - 119 Rearward
  - 120 Cellular stuff
  - 121 Fabric flaw

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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	9	3	1	6	4	2	7	5
5	4	2	9	8	7	1	3	6
1	7	6	3	2	5	9	8	4
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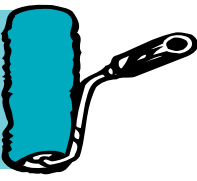
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[info@bicrealty.com](mailto:info@bicrealty.com)

**#132235 LAKE VERMILION** 3 BR, 4 BA home on 230 ft lksh and 2.4 acres. Vaulted ceiling / private master suite, lower-level walk-out. Attached 4-stall garage. Maintenance-free steel siding / 30-year shingles. **\$795,000**

**#137392 ANGORA** 120 wooded acres with approx. 1,660 ft of frontage on the Sturgeon River. River is readily accessible with power available along the road. **\$130,000**

**#135551 LAKE VERMILION** Secluded south-facing lake lot in Black Bay Lot 10, 3 acres w/ 220 ft lksh. Far northwest portion of the lake. Great spring walleye fishing. **PRICE REDUCED! \$125,000**

**#136835 VIRGINIA** 4 BR, 2.5 BA home. Several updates including 200 A elc. plumbing, steam conversion to natural gas has been done! Plus much more. **PRICE REDUCED! \$39,900**

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**Pickerel Lake-\$69,800** 3.15 acres on Pickerel Lake with 404 ft of shoreline. **MLS#137014**

**Rat Root River-\$47,900** 7 wooded acres and 343 ft on the river. Electric nearby. **MLS#137113**

**Lake Vermilion-\$119,000** 900+ ft of shoreline and 21.3 acres on Pine Island. **MLS#137228**

**Lake Vermilion-\$150,000** Pine Island 1.5 +/- acre lot with 205 +/- Lake Vermilion lakeshore. **MLS#137634**

**Elbow Lake-\$69,900** 13+ wooded acres and 525 ft of shoreline. **MLS#137794**

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF ELY ORDINANCE NO. 338, 2nd Series AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELY, MINNESOTA, AMENDING CHAPTER 20, SECTION 20.2 SALES OF LAND CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF ELY**

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. Chapter 20, Section 2, of the City Code of the City of Ely, Minnesota is amended to read as follows: SEC. 20.2.55. AUTHORIZING SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO TMC PROPERTY, LLC. The Council of the City of Ely is hereby authorized to transfer, for the price of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) and the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute all documents and perform all acts necessary for the transfer to TMC Property, LLC, subject to terms and conditions of the Purchase Agreement Between The City of Ely and TMC Property, LLC executed by Tim and Monica Cunningham executed on October 17, 2019 relative to the real property legally described as follows:

Lots 12, 13, 14, and 15.

Block 14 AND Lots 7 and 8, Block 12, all in Auditor's Plat of Chandler Addition to Ely.

SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: November 5, 2019

*Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019*

**CITY OF ELY ORDINANCE NO. 339, 2nd Series AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELY, MINNESOTA, ADDING TO THE ELY CITY CODE, CHAPTER 20, SECTION 20.13.24, ENTITLED VACATION OF A PORTION OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY**

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. A new Section shall be added to Chapter 20 as Section 20.13.24, of

the Ely City Code to read as follows:

SEC. 20.13.24 VACATION OF A PORTION OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY. The vacation of a public right-of-way described as that a portion of Park Street running adjacent to Lots 7 & 8, Block 12 and Lots 8 through 15, Block 14, Auditor's Plat Chandler Addition to Ely.

Said parcel contains 0.27 acres.

SUBJECT to the reservation of utility easements in favor of the City of Ely.

SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: November 5, 2019

*Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019*

**CITY OF ELY ORDINANCE NO. 340, 2nd Series AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELY, MINNESOTA, ADDING TO THE ELY CITY CODE, CHAPTER 20, SECTION 20.1.23,**

are hereby changed from the current zoned classification of Public 2 (P2) to Light Industrial (M).

SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: November 5, 2019

*Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019*

**ENTITLED ZONING MAP AMENDMENT**

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. A new Section shall be added to Chapter 20 as Section 20.1.23, of the Ely City Code to read as follows:

SECTION 20.1.23 ZONING MAP AMENDMENT. The zoning classification of the parcels of land located in the City of Ely, County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota, which have the following legal description:

Exhibit A & B

are hereby changed from the current zoned classification of Public 2 (P2) to Light Industrial (M).

SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: November 5, 2019

*Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019*

**CITY OF ELY ORDINANCE NO. 341, 2nd Series AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELY, MINNESOTA, ADDING TO THE ELY CITY CODE, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 2.63, ENTITLED CITY SANITATION COMMITTEE**

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. A new Section shall be added to Chapter 2 as Section 2.63 of the Ely City Code to read as follows:

SEC. 2.63 CITY SANITATION COMMITTEE

Subd. 1. Establishment and Composition.

Said City Sanitation Committee shall be composed of seven (7) members, consisting of three (3) council members, one (1) EUC member, one (1) Planning & Zoning Commission member, and two (2) citizens at-large who shall each serve for a term of three (3) years with staggered term appointments; and each member shall be nominated by the Council pursuant to Section 11.01 of the Charter of the City of Ely.

Subd. 2. Powers and Duties. The committee shall make recommendations to the Council, which shall include the following:

(1) determine which methods of solid waste collection to examine, which must include:

(i) the existing system of collection;

(ii) a system in which a single collector collects solid waste from all sections of a City; and

(iii) a system in which multiple collectors, either singly or as members of an organization of collectors, collect solid waste from different sections of the City;

(2) establish a list of criteria on which the solid waste collection methods selected for examination will be evaluated, which may include: costs to residential subscribers, impacts on residential subscribers' ability to choose a provider of solid waste service based on the desired level of service, costs and other factors, the impact of miles driven on city streets and alleys and the incremental impact of miles driven by collection vehicles, initial and operating costs to the city of implementing the solid waste collection system, providing incentives for waste reduction, impacts on solid waste collectors, and other physical, economic, fiscal, social, environmental, and aesthetic

impacts;

(3) collect information regarding the operation and efficacy of existing methods of solid waste collection in other cities and towns;

(4) seek input from, at a minimum:

(i) the governing body of the City;

(ii) the local official of the City responsible for solid waste issues;

(iii) persons currently licensed to operate solid waste collection and recycling services in the City; and

(iv) residents of the City who currently pay for residential solid waste collection services; and

(5) issue a report on the committee's research, findings, and any recommendations to the governing body of the City.

SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: November 5, 2019

*Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 8, 2019*

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SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: November 5, 2019

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