

# Early Deadline

Articles and ads for the Nov. 27 issue are due by 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 25

# the TIMBERJAY

VOL. 30, ISSUE 46 November 22, 2019

\$1.00



## SULFIDE MINING

# Judge orders search of MPCA computers

### Former officials allegedly involved in PolyMet permit comment suppression

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — A Ramsey County District Court judge on Tuesday ordered an independent forensic investigation of computers that were used by three former officials of the Minnesota

Pollution Control Agency.

The officials, former commissioner John Linc Stine, assistant commissioner Shannon Lotthammer, and mining sector director Ann Foss, may have been involved in the alleged suppression of comments from professional staff at the federal

Environmental Protection Agency related to a water discharge permit for PolyMet Mining.

Those allegations have been under both state, federal, and judicial investigation since last winter, when an EPA whistleblower alleged that state

officials had asked the federal agency to delay issuing written comments raising concerns about the terms of the permit for the state's first-ever copper-nickel mine.

Environmental groups and the Fond du Lac Band appealed the permit and, in an unprec-

edented action, the court of appeals remanded the case to a district court to allow for further investigation of the allegations. Following a hearing with the various parties on Nov. 13, Judge John Guthmann ordered

See...MPCA pg. 11

## THANKSGIVING



# Day of Gratitude

### Orr community comes together for Thanksgiving

by E. M. SCHULTZ  
Staff Writer

ORR — In early November 2008, Darleen Johnson, Joel and Lori Astleford, and the Rick and Wendy Deatherage family, decided to invite members of the Orr community to join them at Calvary Lutheran Church for a Thanksgiving dinner. The Astlefords had been volunteering at the Cook Community Thanksgiving Dinner since 2005 and thought there might be a few people in the Orr area who would appreciate a home cooked meal.

"We put an ad in the paper, hung a few flyers, and had no idea if anyone outside the family would join us," says Lori Astleford.

Little did she and the others know the

See...ORR pg. 12



A group of volunteers in Orr have gathered since 2008 to offer a community Thanksgiving dinner. The event has grown each year. Submitted photos

## CITY OF TOWER

# Ambulance, townships at odds over new contract

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER — A contract between several area townships and the Tower Area Ambulance Service that provides nearly \$39,000 in annual subsidy for the purchase of ambulances and other equipment is set to expire at the end of the year, without a new contract in place and with township officials increasingly frustrated over a lack of financial transparency and other concerns.

None of the townships involved, Greenwood, Vermilion Lake, Breitung, or Eagles Nest, appear willing to accept a request made earlier this year by TAAS Supervisor Steve Altenburg to substantially increase the township subsidy to fill an anticipated funding shortfall for ambulance purchases. While some township officials had appeared amenable to a phased increase in the subsidy, the city has not yet presented such a contract to the townships for consideration.

Yet township officials contacted by the *Timberjay* are expressing increasing skepticism about the direction of the TAAS since the adoption of 24-hour staffing Monday through Friday and an increase in the number of non-emergency transfers that the TAAS is now accepting to help pay the cost of a sizable jump in payroll and other expenses.

Altenburg continues to insist publicly that the TAAS remains highly profitable, but his statements don't line up with the city's most recent financial data, which

See...TOWER pg. 11

## CITY OF ELY

# Proposed archery deer hunt in city limits misses the target

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY — A proposal to initiate a deer-hunting season within the city limits here missed the mark with Ely City

Council members Tuesday night, who largely dismissed the request to consider reducing the deer population by allowing a limited bow hunting season.

City resident Sarah Malick-Wahls appeared before the council to describe her proposal. She presented as many as 12 letters of support from like-minded city residents.

"I am interested in the council entertaining the idea of managing deer at a lower sustainable level within the city limits," Malick-Wahls said.

She cited several

reasons for her concern.

► Motorist safety: "There are a few areas within the city limits where I have personally witnessed a number of close calls due to the unusually

high density in and around town," she said, and noted areas just west of town on Highway 169, Pioneer Road northeast of Miner's

See...ELY pg. 9



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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner at Gethsemane on Tuesday, Dec. 3

VIRGINIA – Come and join us for our annual lutefisk and meatball dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 3-7 p.m. at Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church in Virginia. We will be serving lutefisk with drawn butter and cream sauce, handmade Swedish meatballs, potatoes and gravy, lefse and bread, beet pickles, vegetables, coffee, milk, and cupcakes. Meals for adults are \$16 and children ages 6-12 are \$6. Children under 5 eat free.

## Holiday Boutique and Pancake Breakfast in Embarrass on Saturday, Dec. 7

EMBARRASS – The 2019 Holiday Boutique and Pancake Breakfast will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 8-11 a.m. at the Timber Hall. Join us for all-you-can-eat pancakes, your choice of ham or sausage links, a fruit cup, juice, and a bottomless cup of coffee. Adults \$5, children 6-10 \$3, and under 5 years free. Proceeds go to support the Embarrass Region Fair.

## Holiday Bazaar at Cook Hospital on Friday, Dec. 6

COOK – The Cook Area Healthcare Auxiliary (Thrift Shop), Cook Care Center Activities Department and Day Break (Adult Day Services) and the Cook Hospital Lions Club will join together to host the annual Holiday Bazaar on Friday, Dec. 6 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Cook Hospital. Those interested in attending the event should use the Care Center entrance. There will be a bake sale, a cookie walk, holiday crafts, decorations, and Thrift Shop treasures. For more information, call 218-666-5945 ext. 264.

## Road Runners Special Olympic Holiday Bingo Cancelled

GILBERT - The Road Runners Special Olympics Holiday Bingo at St. Joseph's in Gilbert on Sunday, Dec. 1 has been cancelled.

## Annual Christmas Tea at Cook's First Baptist Church on Dec. 2

COOK - The ladies of our communities are invited to attend the annual Christmas Tea at the First Baptist Church in Cook on Monday, Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. We will be blessed with a personal visit from some very special individuals, including a shepherd, a wise man, Mary and Joseph. They will bring their messages of hope, leading us into a deeper meaning of "What Child is This?", our theme for this year. Join us for carol-singing, special musical numbers, and of course, delightful refreshments. We welcome you to invite your friends to enjoy the evening with you as well.

## Cook Thrift Shop Announces Holiday and Winter Hours

COOK – The Thrift Shop will be closed on Thanksgiving and Black Friday, as well as the weeks of Christmas and New Year's. In December, it will be open during its regular hours on Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. It will also be open on Saturday, Dec. 7, 14, and 21 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. There are lots of Christmas items, and we want to give people the extra opportunity to shop for the holidays. The Thrift Shop will be open again on January 9, 10, 11, 23, 24, and 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thanks to the continued support of our patrons, we were able to donate over \$114,000 this year to our local hospital and care facility, as well as a \$1,000 scholarship to a local student. Thanks to all our volunteers, those who donate, and those who shop at our local gem of a store. Good wishes to all in the upcoming holiday season!

## Finland native to perform at Gethsemane on Saturday, Nov. 30

VIRGINIA - Kati Arikoski, a native of Finland now residing in the U.S., will perform a classical program of Sibelius, Beethoven, Debussy, and Gershwin at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Virginia on Saturday, Nov. 30 at 2 p.m. Arikoski trained at the Turku Art Academy in Finland, as well as the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen. A reception will follow the concert, and \$10 is suggested as a donation. This is a rare opportunity to hear a wonderfully talented performer! The event is sponsored by the Finnish Americans of Hibbing.

## LOCAL WRITERS

# Iron Range author Tom Mattson to speak at upcoming area events

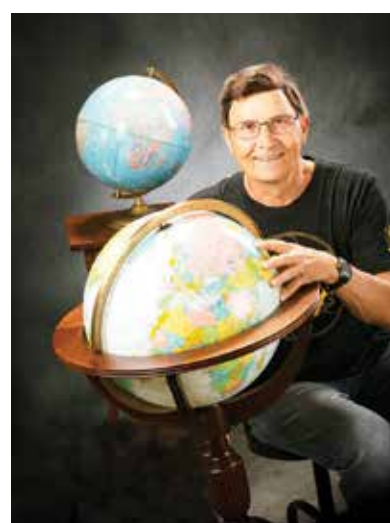
In Tower on Nov. 23 at Sulu's; in Embarrass on Dec. 6 at the Nelimark; and in Biwabik on Dec. 7 at Weihnachtsfest

REGIONAL - Biwabik native Tom Mattson's book "The Other Worlds: Offbeat Adventures of a Curious Traveler" will get a running start on the Iron Range, ahead of national distribution in January 2020. Sulu's Espresso Café in Tower will host a Meet the Author event on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mattson will also be at the Nelimark Homestead Museum in Embarrass on Friday, Dec. 6 from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., and the Biwabik Weihnachtsfest on Saturday, Dec. 7. There are plans in the works for a reading at the Lyric Center for the Arts in Virginia as well. Mattson hopes some of the Lyric Center's actors will participate in the event.

The book centers on Mattson's travels to four continents, his interactions with strangers, and his explorations of exotic places. It covers his adventures from the Arctic Circle in Finland to the tip of South

America, from Cuba to Vietnam and China, and from the Vermilion Iron Range to his shack in the Guatemala mountains. Published by Dudley Court Press of Arizona, the book also includes two dozen photos, as well as eight custom-made maps, which add to the stories.

Mattson's mother, Elmy Erickson, grew up in Tower and attended the very first Old Settlers celebration as a child in 1915. In later decades, Mattson attended several of the celebrations with his mother, once bringing a Peruvian friend, a descendant of the Incas, who was asked to say a few words. As a Virginia Junior College student in 1965, he edited and published "The Mesabi-Vermilion Iron Range," an 84-page historical booklet, along with eleven other Range students. It sold out in the 1960's but was recently reprinted and is available for purchase along with Mattson's



new book. To connect with Mattson or learn more about him and his books, visit [www.tomsglobe.com](http://www.tomsglobe.com) or come to one or all of the events.

## LEADERSHIP

# Bois Forte, Fond du Lac and Grand Portage residents complete Blandin Reservation Community Leadership program



Back Row from left: Bill Mease (Trainer), Sidra Starkovich, Shandelle Friedman, Monica Ares, Cassidy Capriglione, Adikoons Olson, Nenaaw Giizhig Smith, and Beth Drost. Middle: Jacob Dunlap, Steven StandingCloud, Derek Strong, Bessie Medicine, Monica Porter, Angela Lien, Mallory Towle, Dan Soulier, Rick Smith (Trainer), and Roxanne DeLille (Trainer). Front: Brook LaFloe, Tom Spears, Allydia Diver, Jeroam DeFoe, Dan Buckanaga Indalecio Romero, Mark Pero, Michael Dahmen, and Bill Myers. submitted photo

GRAND RAPIDS - Twenty-four residents of the Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, and Grand Portage reservation communities recently completed a five-day leadership retreat. This was the first segment of an intense, seven-day training provided by the Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program (BRCLP). The team will also participate in follow-up workshops.

Participants who completed the retreat were: Monica Ares, Dan Buckanaga, Cassidy Capriglione, Michael Dahmen, Jeroam DeFoe, Allydia Diver, Beth Drost, Jacob Dunlap, Shandelle

Friedman, Nenaaw Giizhig Smith, Brook LaFloe, Angela Lien, Bessie Medicine, Bill Myers, Adikoons Olson, Mark Pero, Monica Porter, Indalecio Romero, Dan Soulier, Tom Spears, Steven StandingCloud, Sidra Starkovich, Derek Strong and Mallory Towle.

The goal of the BRCLP is to strengthen leadership capacity through cultural strengths and assets to build and sustain healthy tribal communities. Topics covered during the retreat included acknowledging and drawing upon leadership strengths, recognizing and tapping into sources of personal and commu-

nity resilience, framing community issues and opportunities, building social capital, and mobilizing community resources.

A program of the Grand Rapids-based Blandin Foundation, BRCLP has provided experiential leadership training for more than 500 community leaders from 11 Minnesota American Indian Reservations since 2001. This is the eighth time these communities have participated together in the BRCLP leadership program. BRCLP training programs are funded entirely by the Blandin Foundation.

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COUNTY SCHOOLS

# T-S community ed coordinator resigns

Decision by Leone Graf comes after she raised concerns publicly about program changes

TOWER - The St. Louis County School District is searching for a new Tower-Soudan Community Education coordinator after Leone Graf announced her resignation as of Friday, Nov. 15.

Graf told the *Timberjay* she had hoped to continue her work as coordinator but felt she was "pushing the ball uphill and would never get ahead of it."

Graf's departure comes shortly after she spoke to the *Timberjay* regarding concerns she had about the community education program and its future viability in Tower given a recent administrative directive that abolishes the ability of local coordinators to waive fees for

students attending community education events. The Tower-Soudan Elementary School has one of the highest percentages of low-income students in the state, and that is one reason why local coordinators have typically waived fees in the community. According to data from the Minnesota Department of Education, a total of 88 percent of T-S students qualify for free and reduced lunches based on income. The other schools in ISD 2142 average half that rate.

Graf had told the *Timberjay* late last month that participation in community education programming dropped sharply when she tried to implement fees to help pay the cost.

Top school district administrators had temporarily suspended the T-S community education program in the wake of the *Timberjay* story, ostensibly over concerns about the financial management of the program. Graf had served in the position for just over two years.

While the school district is now advertising the vacancy on the district website, the district has cut the number of hours in half, from about 13.5 hours per week to just seven. The *Timberjay* reached out to Community Education Director Denise Parson and Superintendent Reggie Engebritson to see if other coordinators in the district were having their hours reduced

as well. As of press time, district officials had not responded.

Graf says the district had previously threatened to cut her hours if certain changes weren't made to the programming. She also says the district had threatened to eliminate the before and after school enrichment program, since they did not believe there were enough children in the program to make it viable. For now, that program remains intact.

Graf is concerned the district will have a difficult time filling her position, especially with the cut in hours. The list of new requirements she received from the district prior to her

See EDUCATION...pg. 5

Briefly

## Fire damages Elbow Lake Lodge maintenance shop

COOK - A fire broke out at Elbow Lake Lodge in Beatty Township just north of Cook on the morning of Monday, Nov. 18, causing severe damage to the resort's maintenance shop. A witness noticed smoke coming from the shop area and was greeted by a wall of smoke when he opened the door to investigate. The Cook Fire Department and the State Fire Marshal responded to the scene. Foul play is not suspected, but the incident remains under investigation by both the Fire Marshal and the Sheriff's Office.

## Marijuana legalization event postponed

REGIONAL - A community conversation on the legalization of cannabis for adult use in Minnesota, originally set for Saturday, Nov. 23, has been postponed due to the funeral of a member of the Legislature.

House Majority Leader Ryan Winkler and Rep. Julie Sandstede had planned to host the event at 2 p.m. on Saturday, but that will conflict with the celebration of life being held for Rep. Diane Loeffler, who died earlier this week. The event will be rescheduled for a later date.

In an op-ed written earlier this month, Rep. Winkler announced that legalizing cannabis for adult use will be a legislative priority during the 2020 legislative session in Minnesota.

THE ARTS

# Ely to celebrate "The Quiltmaker's Gift"

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

January musical growing into significant community event

ELY - As the first live theatrical presentation in the newly renovated State Theater, Jeff Brumbeau's book *The Quiltmaker's Gift*, illustrated by Ely's own Gail de Marcken, comes to life here early next year.

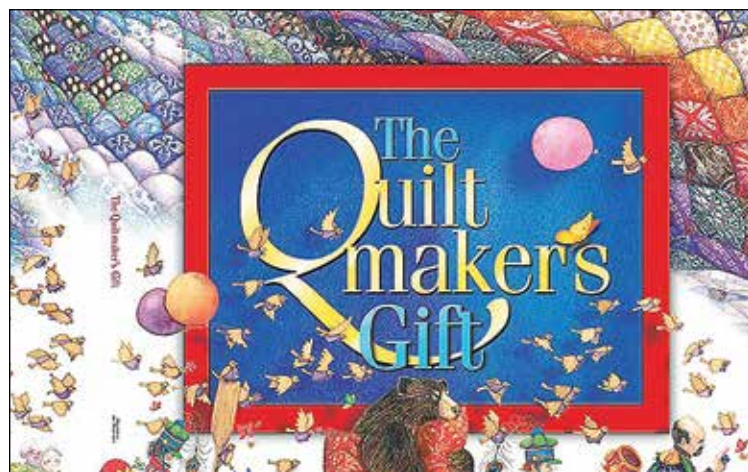
Friends of de Marcken are organizing a community effort to present the musical at the Historic State Theater on Friday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 25-26 at 2 p.m. Auditions were held earlier this week. Laurie Kess is the director and Irene Hartfield is the musical director. Molly Olson is the choreographer, and Peter Kess, is the light and sound technician.

The illustrator is now a full-time Ely resident. "When

she illustrated this book she was living in Latvia with her husband, whose career with the Peace Corps took them all over the world," said Muffin Nelson, who is assisting in the effort.

Nelson and de Marcken will make a presentation about the planned musical next week at the Nov. 26 Tuesday Group gathering, beginning at noon at the Grand Ely Lodge. "I will talk about the play and she will talk about getting an author and illustrator together to publish a book and how she did it from afar," Nelson said.

According to Nelson, de Marcken grew up in Minneapolis and graduated from the University of Minnesota. "She met her



husband in Borneo with the Peace Corps in 1964," Nelson said. "He died about four years ago. He was head of the Peace Corps in many French-speaking African nations

and they spent most of their married life around Africa. Their two grown daughters are now

See MUSICAL... pg. 5

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# OPINION

“CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW...  
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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

## Editorial

### America in the balance

Trump’s attempted bribe will test the ability of Congress to fulfill its role

Can a U.S. President offer a bribe to a foreign head of state and get away with it?

That is the question that will be answered by Congress in the coming weeks as part of the impeachment proceedings over President Trump’s withholding of aid to Ukraine.

Cut through all the smoke and talking points coming from the president’s defenders and the case before Congress is really quite simple.

Forget about the whistleblower, whose identity at this point could not be more irrelevant. The whistleblower blew the whistle. Once blown, the president’s crime was there for everyone to see. The very notes of President Trump’s phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, which were released by the White House in September, provide clear basis for believing that President Trump offered Zelensky a \$400 million financial inducement (the release of military aid that Trump had frozen) for announcing an investigation into one of Trump’s leading political opponents.

That evidence has only been bolstered by a steady stream of current and former diplomats who confirmed through both direct and indirect eyewitness testimony in recent days that the president was focused on “deliverables” in exchange for the release of military aid as well as an invitation for a politically important White House visit.

In other words, it was the quid pro quo (I’ll give you this, if you’ll give me that) at the heart of the crime of bribery.

While we often view bribery as centering on an exchange of money, bribery can involve any number of inducements, financial, political, or even sexual.

It would be easier to understand Trump’s crime in this case if money had been involved. If, when Trump told Zelensky, “I would like you to do us a favor though...” he then asked for \$10 million in a suitcase, we would all easily recognize the crime for what it was.

In this case, however, Trump wasn’t looking for money he didn’t need, he was offering to use his office to give Zelensky something Ukraine desperately needed in exchange for a political gift that was potentially worth much more than \$10 million to President Trump.

Some have suggested that this kind of thing happens all the time in the real world. Those claims are made by people who have no idea how the U.S. government actually functions. Without doubt, the

United States has long used its political and financial influence to pressure other countries to take certain actions. That’s called *foreign policy*. Yet, in those instances, the representatives of the U.S., whether it’s the president, secretary of state, or an ambassador, are advocating an outcome that has been discussed and vetted by informed government officials and is consistent with the interests of the United States, not the narrow interests of the individual who is representing the United States.

In this instance, the Congress had already overwhelmingly approved the aid to Ukraine to help that politically allied nation fight a separatist revolt instigated and backed by Russia. The U.S. foreign policy apparatus, including the State Department, was fully behind the aid and recognized its critical importance. Officials were rightfully stunned and confused when President Trump, on his own, refused to release the aid. Once it became clear that Trump was doing so in order to use the aid as leverage or inducement to get the Ukrainians to announce an investigation into Vice President Joe Biden and his son, alarm bells went off. It wasn’t just a single whistleblower. We now know that National Security Advisor John Bolton and others were rightfully alarmed and made sure that lawyers for the National Security Council were informed. Bolton, according to eyewitnesses, referred to the whole sorry episode as a “drug deal,” making no bones about his view of the legality of this obvious quid pro quo.

The only question that ultimately matters, of course, is whether Congress cares enough to do anything about it. We know what our Founding Fathers would have done. The U.S. Constitution specifically authorizes impeachment upon a finding of “treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.”

If a president can use the levers of power inherent in their office to gain foreign political or financial favors, and not be held accountable by Congress, we are on a slippery slope to the death of the American experiment in self-governance. In the aftermath of the first Constitutional Convention, an interested citizen famously asked Benjamin Franklin if the founders had delivered a monarchy or a republic, and Franklin responded: “A republic, if you can keep it.”

Congress, in the next few months, will help to answer the question inherent in Franklin’s sage words.



## Letters from Readers

### Imagine the kind of leader we could have

Can you imagine a leader who...

- Shows empathy and compassion for others, the poor, the sick, the elderly, children, the handicapped.
- Listens to others, carefully, with the intent to understand.
- Responds thoughtfully.
- Respects all people, no matter one’s race, religion or none, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, or sexual identification.
- Values differing opinions and perspectives.
- Welcomes the knowledge and expertise of others, including scientists, researchers, physicians, psychologists, teachers, economists, lawyers, journalists, writers, artists, parents, and children, who by the way are very wise.
- Is knowledgeable about the history of this nation and the laws of this land.
- Understands the impact of racism on this nation.
- Protects all groups from any form of discrimination.
- Stands for all that is promised in the U.S. Constitution, including equality, liberty, and justice for all.

Ellie Larmouth Tower

### Other Americans serve our country along with veterans

November is the month that our country honors veterans. Photos on the front page of the Nov. 15 *Timberjay* showed local schools honoring Veterans Day with special programs. Much is known about the military. Wars and battles are studied in school. Institutions where people are educated for service in the armed service are well known — West Point and Annapolis. Many movies have been made over the years about soldiers, battles, and conflicts. Issues of soldiers and their families are discussed. All this is important and right.

After listening to the state-

ments of George Kent, William Taylor and Marie Yovanovitch last week, I wonder why there is not a month when our country honors those who serve as ambassadors and staff in the Department of State. I thought just as children learn about veterans and we honor the armed services members, so should we honor the many people who serve our country in the State Department. What is known about the duties of ambassadors? Are there colleges and universities that specialize in educating to serve as ambassadors? What are the issues that their families face?

To educate myself I learned that the Department of State has 270 embassies, consulates, and diplomatic missions around the world that foster relations with more than 180 countries. Its mission includes these three duties: Promote peace by negotiating and mediating relations with governments, building trust and developing alliances. Protect American citizens abroad. Support prosperity. Ambassadors and their staff oversee peace deals, oversee trade and economics, oversee culture, oversee human rights, and oversee the environment. They negotiate treaties and international agreements before politicians endorse them.

I am humbled by the importance of this effort and their commitment. I remain truly grateful for their service.

Elizabeth Urban  
Eagles Nest

### A lawyer cajoles his reluctant client

Lawyer to Client:  
“Just give me a date on which you will in fact return to complete this process.”

Client: ... “ahem.”  
[having used the above phrase twice already after two conferences and three drafts and following yet another indefinite put-off]

“See, with us guys in general, we figure:

- a) we’re immortal, and
- b) preparing for an event hastens the arrival of that event, and

c) we personally aren’t as important as what we are accomplishing in the world.

“So we tend to find just about anything else to do besides that which needs to be done for ourselves.

“Women, being quite a bit closer to the central processes of life, aren’t nearly as bad as we are about this sort of thing. And being sensitive as they are to the need of their roosters for pride and the feeling of control of their shared environment in order to be at all effective and useful, women tend not to push us guys when it comes to stuff like this.

“And me, being old enough to be willing to substitute experience for common sense and politeness, I am perfectly willing to tell you that we really need to get this done for the sake of both your son and your wife.

“Doing otherwise puts both at risk.

“Lawyers aren’t really here to help you. Their actual goal is just to be able to say, “I told you so.” If that’s not available, we want to at least be able to say, “I told him so.” - and all too often, it becomes necessary to prove it to the survivors.

“(n.b. this is not being copied to [your wife], yet.)”

Dave Porter  
Minneapolis

### We welcome your letters

The *Timberjay* encourages letters to the editor. You can submit letters by mail at PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790, or email letters to [marshall@timberjay.com](mailto:marshall@timberjay.com).

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

Letters are subject to editing, primarily for length and clarity.

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

## Their Way: A friendship thrives in an era of divide

Editor’s Note: “Their Way” is an occasional column that captures the personal style of the many public officials and other personalities and events covered by former *Mesabi Daily News* Executive Editor Bill Hanna during his more than 40 years of newspaper reporting, writing and editing.



BILL HANNA

My first contact with Doug Johnson was shortly after taking an editor’s job at the *Mesabi Daily News*.

I’ve never told Doug this, but I was literally shaking when I picked up the telephone after hearing our receptionist in 1985 say, “Bill, Doug Johnson

I was 99 percent sure of the reason for one of the most prominent legislators in Minnesota at the time to place a call to a newbie editor at an Iron Range newspaper.

I had written a local editorial the previous day that was critical of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board for allowing members of the agency board to vote by telephone on a crucial issue.

Critical might be — no was — too tame of a word.

The editorial was filled with outrage. The vote wasn’t proper; it was rude and defiant to the Iron Range public they served; and it was just plain wrong, to paraphrase the editorial’s content.

A firm stand on the issue was needed, we believed. I did so with written words that represented the newspaper’s opinion.

But now my bravado was quivering a bit as I reached for the phone — oh, what a brave young editor.

I answered with the usual

salutation to the caller, and put on my editor’s voice of determination that belied my real concern about an impending verbal spat with such a public official of distinction.

How foolish of me.

The chairman of the powerful Senate Tax Committee has a pleasant, engaging voice — but a voice that can change for emphasis when needed.

Mutual friend Matt Matasich

See JOHNSON...pg. 5

# Letters from Readers

## Americans must make the effort to learn the truth

I just read a reliable poll stating a number that shocked me: 47 percent of Americans believe it is difficult to know whether the information they encounter is true.

It is true that today's media presents conflicting reports of the same events. But why should educated Americans not be aware that every news source has a bias? I was taught that in high school. I was taught to think in high school, to know my own bias and that of others.

I wonder if this vast number of Americans have stopped giving the "news" their attention. Do they feel the exhaustion I felt at the end of World War II. We were so tired of destroying life and property in war that we shaped the belief that "We will never war again." Good citizens must be

like "feeding birds." While they eat, their heads turn constantly and their alert eyes look everywhere. Their vigilance keeps them safe. We live in a world where our lives and freedom can be quickly taken from us. Clear heads must vigilantly assess the "news" until we can be assured of what is true. Today's political rhetoric manipulates us according to the principles that we have adopted and that hold our lives together. Some tell us what we want to hear. They don't care about us at all. Their "narratives" create a desire to vote for them.

I become suspicious of any political party that wants to "destroy their opposition." I watch vigilantly when the bullying of those with incredible power destroys their opposition. My respect vanishes! Gone is healthy conversation! All of us are different and I experience conversation that creates cooperation. Our basic needs must be met or we begin to die. Human life must be valued above every-

thing else. Vigilance must be kept by all Americans in order to hold fast to economic and political policies that will bring the very best to the largest number of people. We must view "actions of destruction," with eyes that insist on their ending. We cannot turn our eyes away to avoid pain. We must enter human suffering to heal it.

This is a time for the increased vigilance of every voter. We must all care about what is happening in our government. We cannot stop scrutinizing the media. Our ire must drive us into open conversations. Though each of us is a little grain of sand, when confronted with obvious lies that make any opponent an enemy to be destroyed, we must engage in conversations that evaluate the "rhetoric" in search of the truth and state it. When 47 percent of Americans at this moment don't know what the truth is, it is time for vigilant discussion of what we are hearing. Are we being suckered in by manipulative talk? If we

do nothing at all we will be led into cells that fit our gut feelings and into a blind loyalty to those with the keys. Respect will die and healing will not be possible.

I live on the money my reduced pension and Social Security provide. I have one debt, my home mortgage. I am one of the tempted 47 percent of Americans, without economic power and vulnerable. But I have a working mind. I watched the last election, suspicious that Hillary lost the Electoral College vote because of a massive smear campaign that affected voters. I watch the news today and am very suspicious that the "Very Rich" with immense political and economic power now manipulate the votes of American citizens. American citizens today must not let "fake news" be told without searching out "true news." We are not ruled by "big bucks" but by "little votes." People who care can determine the truth.

**Art Dale Soudan**

## Briefly

# Keith hearing postponed again

REGIONAL— A court hearing in an ongoing criminal case against former Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith was postponed on Wednesday as the parties await a new criminal complaint. Keith's next court appearance is now set for Thursday, Dec. 19, at 9:30 a.m.

Keith is expected to face a new complaint stemming from her acknowledged destruction of a city laptop computer that had been in her possession for an unknown period of time.

City officials had directed Keith to return the laptop to City Hall after her suspension back in June.

But Keith informed city officials at that time that she had destroyed the computer, although she provided no evidence of the destruction. The *Timberjay* has learned that the county attorney's office has completed a criminal complaint stemming from the computer's destruction, but the complaint still needs to be approved by the district court before it can be made public. The *Timberjay* will provide details on that complaint at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com) as soon as it is made public.

Meanwhile, Keith is still awaiting a determination on an original charge of falsifying official city records. Keith is charged with a gross misdemeanor for that infraction, which stems from her apparent attempt to cover up the illegal removal of Marshall Helmsberger from the Tower Economic Development Authority back in 2018.

## JOHNSON...Continued from page 4

— Da self-proclaimed Virginia Northsider Republican — had appropriately nicknamed Doug the "Little Bear Cub."

But I knew Sen. Doug Johnson had a little grizzly in him, too, to be used when necessary in the Legislature. Thankfully, Doug felt it wasn't required that morning.

The conversation was personally friendly from word one. It was much more a "get-to-know-you" call than a "you're-a-Bozo" rant.

My concerns about a verbal confrontation dissipated from the start. We talked for a few minutes about family and then about my covering of Gov. "Wild" Bill Janklow for the Associated Press in South Dakota and his work for the Iron Range and jobs in the Legislature.

I had been totally disarmed, which I would learn was a Doug Johnson trademark.

Then Doug got to the

real point of the call — and did so with a nice Colombo touch.

TV police detective Columbo would converse, sometimes at length, with a suspect who usually turned out to be the killer and then start walking away and saying goodbye. But he would soon stop in his tracks, raise a finger in the air and say, "Oh, just one more thing."

As we were about to end our talk, Doug said, "Oh, by the way ...."

Here it comes, I thought. But to my surprise, he agreed with the editorial. Well, sort of.

He said the editorial was a good one, but slyly added there was a gray area, however, regarding the agency being able to vote by phone. But, yes, as chairman of the board, he would not let votes by phone go ahead.

He had the last word, of course. Just as he often did while serving more than 30 years in the

Legislature, first in the House and then the Senate.

I watched for years in awe as the master politician with a cherubic face dissected Minnesota issues while in the Legislature, with the Iron Range always at his core. His fight — as it is now — was and will always be job creation on his beloved Iron Range.

He could be as parochial as any other politician when it came to his constituents. Doug could bring home the bacon with the best of them to help his native Cook and other smaller Range communities.

And he bled Iron Range red ore when fighting for regional legislative funding for the issues of mining, logging, land use, and especially job creation.

Looking inward once home, he was fully committed to supporting the entire Range with a sharing of the wealth of Iron Range Resources funds, sometimes drawing the

ire of other lawmakers of the area.

And he has done so all while showing such grace while dealing with a forever hitch in his giddy-up and the troubling medical aftermath of childhood polio.

Every time I watch him rise from a chair and lock his leg brace into place I know I'm privileged to call such a courageous man a good friend.

It would have been easy to wallow in self-pity when he was stricken with the terrible crippling disease just before a preventive cure was found. But that's not Doug Johnson's style.

That anxious first verbal meeting with Doug quickly grew into a top-shelf friendship — now for nearly 35 years.

When my brother John and sister-in-law Patsy were invited with me for an overnight at the Johnsons', Patsy was at first a bit overwhelmed. I

told her, "Hey, don't worry. It's just Doug and Denesse ... they're good people."

That's it, I thought. That's what makes them so special, they are truly good, regular folks.

Doug and I have shared beers and cocktails together, watched the George W. Bush vs. Al Gore presidential debate at his Lake Vermilion home with his wife Denesse and mutual friend Matt Matasich and then analyzed and disagreed on the outcome. We fished for walleye in Lake Vermilion and have been there for each other during tough times with personal ailments and through difficult family losses. And we have disagreed often on the political leaders of the day, from the Bushes to Obama to Trump.

But a good and kind friendship will always survive political differences — even in this era of Obama and Trump. So it goes with ours.

We talk often, sometimes daily. And we will do so again during the Minnesota Timberwolves season.

"The Senator" (which he will always be to me) — you see — is (as are so many others on the Range), a victim of a selfish, big-money battle between Dish Network and Fox Sports. That dispute left Dish subscribers unable to get Minnesota Twins games the last two months of the season and now Minnesota Timberwolves and Golden Gopher football and basketball games.

Doug loves the Timberwolves. I will serve as his personal sports broadcaster, just as during the Twins season and playoffs. He'll get the score at the end of each quarter and a short synopsis on quality of play.

Hey, what are friends for.

## SPENDING...Continued from page 3

both working in Africa."

Nelson said that de Marcken has illustrated 10 books, the first of which was Bob Cary's "Born To Pull." They were living in Tunisia when she made those illustrations. "They have owned property here for more than 30 years, building the cabin they retired to over the course of many summers," Nelson said.

According to Nelson, the Phoenix Theater in Arizona developed the play and the music. "It has been presented in communities across the United States but never in Ely," she said.

### Community effort

The musical has grown into a community event. In connection with

the production, Nelson and other friends of de Marcken are collaborating with Ely's Heart of the Woods Quilters to present a quilt show at the Ely Folk School. "When Quiltmaker's Gift was first published in 2000 it was a sensation with quilting clubs across the country," Nelson said. "They propelled it to success.

"In addition to the quilt show, the Ely Folk School will host a morning art activity for children and conduct adult classes," Nelson said.

The Ely Public Library will offer storytelling and activities. ISD 696 art teacher Kelly Chick will lead fabric art classes. "We plan to invite second and third-graders from Ely,

Babbitt and Tower to a Thursday afternoon dress rehearsal performance on Jan. 23," she added.

The Ely Community Resource Reading Pals group will read the book in costume in Washington Elementary School classrooms and the Ely Kiwanis Club will donate a copy of The Quiltmaker's Gift to each classroom, Nelson said. "The Ely Watercolor Club is willing to help paint the stage sets."

According to director Laurie Kess, "This is a fable for our times that celebrates the joy of giving." It is the story of a generous quiltmaker with magic in her fingers who sews the most beautiful quilts in the world, then gives them away," she

said. "A greedy king, his storehouse stuffed with treasures, yearns for something that will make him happy. When the quiltmaker finally agrees to make a quilt for the king, but only under certain conditions, she causes him to undergo a change of heart."

At times mystical, hilarious, gently provocative and touching, this intimate musical, performed throughout the United States, has delighted audiences, Kess added.

The Quiltmaker's Gift won the Book Sense Book of the Year Award in 2000 for best children's picture book, and 2020 will mark the 20th anniversary of its publication.

To date, roughly 725,000 copies of The

Quiltmaker's Gift have been sold worldwide and it has been translated into Chinese, Korean, Greek and German. It inspired a sequel, The Quiltmaker's Journey, two books on quilting, and a number of theatrical productions including a ballet with the University of Utah's Children's Dance Theater at the Marshall School in

Duluth.

The community production is supported in part by the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust, the Ely Rotary, the Ely Chamber of Commerce, Lake Country Power and the Ely Kiwanis. "Our new website QuiltmakersGiftEly.com is being created and we can be found on Facebook," Nelson said.

## EDUCATION...Continued from page 3

resignation was also a concern, since anyone taking the job would end up having to work well over seven hours in order to complete all of the required paperwork and attend each event, which was not required in the past, she said. According to Graf, programs put on by Jim "Chimpy" Tuominen, including the massively popular Family Fun Night,

are already being pulled from the community education roster. Tuominen hopes to still run his events but will do so outside

the community education program in order to keep them free and open to all.

**Ely Community Health Center**

---

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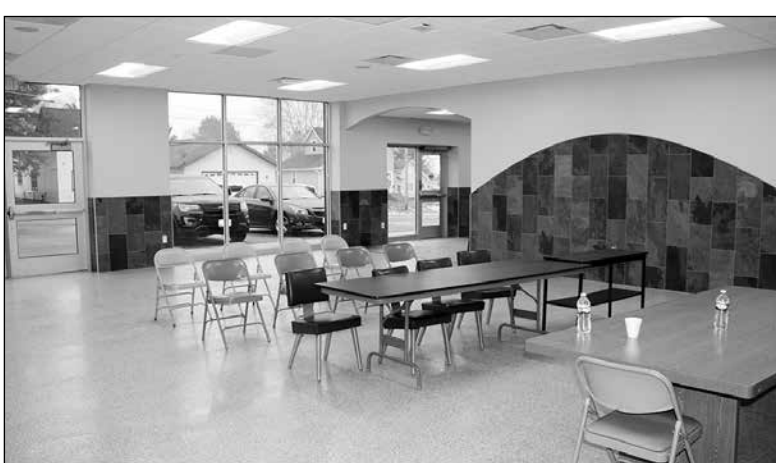
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BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

# New town hall is open for business...



The new community room kitchen area.



The Breitung Town Board met for the first time, Nov. 19, in their newly-remodeled town hall building in Soudan.

Above: Supervisors Chuck Tekautz, Tim Tomsich, and Greg Dostert check out the new township office.

Left: The newly-created community room where the town board meetings are now held.



The building remodel also included lots of new improvements to the Soudan Post Office, which leases space in the building. The post office now features keyed locks and a remodeled entrance and lobby area.

photos by S. Ukkola



Fire Chief Steve Burgess showed the new fire department equipment lockers.



The fire department now has ample room to store all their vehicles.



New signage above the entrance to the community center.



Above: The fire department was moved to what used to be the maintenance garages, which are now located in the former MINOS building along with the Breitung Police.

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

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

**Event Rentals Welcome**  
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**Pull-Tabs Sold Daily**  
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**Thursday Bingo**  
Early Bird 6 p.m.  
Progressive Prizes

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

**Take-Out 666-0500**

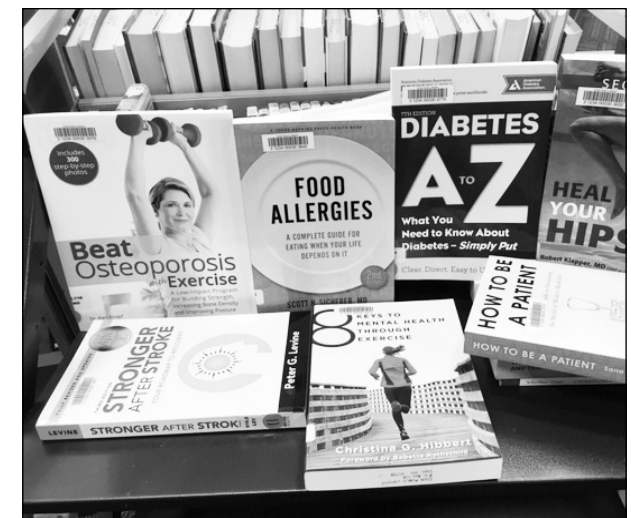
## TOWER BINGO Monday, Dec. 2

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Dec. 2 at the Tower Civic Center from 11:45 a.m. – 3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m. Senior Bingo is organized by the Friends of the Vermilion Country Charter School. In case of inclement weather school closure in Tower, bingo will be cancelled. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

**Upcoming dates for 2020:**  
No bingo in January  
Monday, February 3, 2020  
Monday, March 2, 2020  
Monday, April 6, 2020

## Cook Public Library receives Consumer Health Collection Award; new books now on display

COOK - The Cook Public Library has been awarded \$1,000 by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) to purchase new health-related books. The NNLM All of Us Consumer Health Collection Award is for small or rural public libraries serving areas with populations less than 25,000. This award helps public libraries support health information needs in their communities. The Cook Public Library used the award money to purchase forty-two health-related titles covering topics such as Alzheimer's disease, osteoporosis, cerebral palsy, depres-



sion, food allergies, heart health, and many more. There are also books that talk about mental and physical health during all stages of life. All of the newly purchased books are available to check out with your library card.

# Start thinking about Operation Santa

Donations needed by Dec. 13: toys, gift cards, clothing, and cash welcome

TOWER- This year's Operation Santa toy drive is officially underway. Operation Santa is a local fundraiser which purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year we served over 160 area children.

Take advantage of the great deals offered over the upcoming holiday to bring some joy into a child's life.

We have started to receive some donations, but much more is needed to make sure every child in our community receives gifts and warm clothing this Christmas season.

The effort is organized by *the Timberjay* and the Tower Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)

Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made a very generous donation to the Tower Soudan Civic Club (formerly the Tower Women's Club), to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the children.

We are looking at donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15).



If you purchase a toy that uses batteries, please also send a spare set!

We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food shelf.

Donations can be dropped off at *the Timberjay* in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 17.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

TOWER- The annual Tower Holiday Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. This show features many talented area crafters and bakers, offering a wide selection of holiday gifts.

Stop by for homemade baked goods, gifts for all ages, craft items, coffee an', taco-in-a-bag, and more. Get your holiday shopping done close to home and support local crafters and vendors. This year's show will feature many local favorites and some new vendors: hand-made wooden cutting boards, lots of homemade craft items, holiday ornaments, jewelry, wreaths, crocheted items, candles, holiday baked goods and candies, LuLaRoe clothing, Young Living Essential Oils, Iron Ranger sweatshirts, Nordic Home North gifts, and a table featuring information about the Vermilion Park Inn.

The show is sponsored by Friends of Vermilion Country School. A few tables are still available, contact Jodi at 218-753-2950 with any questions.

### Annual Lights of Love Campaign is underway

REGIONAL- The 29th annual Virgie Hegg Hospice Partner's Lights of Love campaign, our largest fundraiser of the year, begins in November

to commemorate National Hospice Month and National Family Caregivers Month. Last year's Lights of Love raised approximately \$5,600. Fundraising goals are achieved through the dedicated efforts of our Board of Directors working together with a community of supporting individuals and businesses. We invite you to continue the tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones by supporting VHHP through this Lights of Love campaign.

Our mission is to bring comfort care services to enrolled hospice patients and their families as well as hospice eligible patients in our local communities.

VHHP sponsors two education scholarships for students enrolled in the North Woods School and Tower enrollment area, pursuing a medical career and one for college students.

Your tax-deductible donation will help light the trees at the holiday celebrations in Cook, Orr and Tower in support of local hospice patients and their families. Donations may be given in honor or memory of a loved one. Ice candles are available for purchase to be displayed as part of the tree lighting ceremonies. All Lights of Love contributions and dedications will be published in local area newspapers during the month of January, unless otherwise indicated on the attached form.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the Lights of Love tree light-

ing and caroling which will take place at the Cook Library and Gazebo on Friday, Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. or Orr's Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Tower Civic Center at 4 p.m. You are also invited to join us following the ceremonies for coffee, cider and treats.

For more information about Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners, visit our website at [www.vhhp.org](http://www.vhhp.org) or contact Becca Bundy, Program Director at 218-780-5423 or Ivette Reing, Chairperson at 218-290-6177. To make a donation, you can find a form on our website or please make checks payable to VHHP Lights of Love and mail to P.O. Box 244, Cook, MN, 55723. PayPal is also available via our website.

### St. Paul's hosting this year's Community Thanksgiving Service on Thursday, Nov. 27

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.

### 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 the harvest. The meal will be served in the church fellowship hall on Thursday, Nov. 28 at 1 p.m. Take outs 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 by Nov. 22 and for any questions you may have. Happy Thanksgiving to all and "Bon Appetit."

### 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. 25**  
No school all week, no lunch served



### Week of Nov. 25

**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 Dec. 17.

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

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

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

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

Vermilion Country School Board- Meetings posted online at [vermilioncountry.org](http://vermilioncountry.org).

**Subscribe Today**  
**(218) 753-2950**  
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### 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).

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**ZUP'S Inc.** 315 Main St, Tower  
753-2725

**CLOSED**  
**Thurs., Nov. 28**  
**THANKSGIVING DAY**  
Happy Thanksgiving from all of us!  
**FALL / WINTER HOURS**  
Sun. 8-3; Mon.-Sat. 8-6

### Bookmobile Schedule

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

For further information, call the Arrowhead Library System at 218-741-3840 or [www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us](http://www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us)

### Transfer station

<b>Soudan Canister</b>	<b>Hwy. 77 Canister</b>
<i>Expanded hours year-round</i>	<i>Winter hours now in effect</i>
Monday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Thursday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	
Sunday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	
For info: 1-800-450-9278	Recycling canisters available at the canister site when open. For info: 1-800-450-9278

**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. 26** - Muffin  
Nelson and Gayle  
deMarcken - Quilt  
Maker's Gift  
**Game night**  
ELY - Smear tour-  
naments are held the first  
and third Mondays, and  
cribbage tournaments  
are held the second and  
fourth Mondays at the  
Ely Senior Center, 27 S  
1st Ave E, starting at 6  
p.m. There is a \$5 entry  
fee, plus 25 cents per set.  
**Ely Free Clinic**  
ELY - The Ely  
Community Health  
Center is open every  
Thursday evening  
from 5:30-7 p.m. in  
the AFU Building, 111  
S 4th Ave. E.  
For more infor-  
mation, call 218-365-  
5678, or visit their  
website, www.ely-  
communityhealth.org.

**Breathing Out**  
by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



net heavy laden  
fish visible through clear ice  
successful day's catch

ELY VETERANS DAY 2019



**FOR ALL VETERANS**  
Ely School District presents special tribute

ELY - The Ely School District followed recent tradition and celebrated Veterans Day last Monday with a special program and tribute. Students and faculty gathered with area veterans and their families, and other community members, in the high school gymnasium.

The Ely Honor Guard opened the program with the posting of colors, followed by the playing of the National Anthem by the Memorial High School band, and welcoming remarks by Memorial School Principal Megan Anderson, who honored all veterans in attendance.

One veteran in particular, Calvin Herrala, a member of the Ely High School Class of 1942, received special recognition from Anderson. He served in the Army Air Corps in World War II. "President Calvin Coolidge was inaugurated on the day he was born," Anderson said. "That was a fun fact he shared with me, just before the program."

Byron Moran, who is also a WWII veteran, was also at the program. "He taught in Ely for many years," Anderson added. The Ely Memorial High School choir sang "Lady of the Harbor," and the keynote address was delivered by Jessica Kellogg, an Ely area resident and veteran of the United States Navy. Washington Elementary students sang



**Ely students presented a salute to all military veterans during a special ceremony in the Memorial gymnasium on Monday, Nov. 11. World War II veteran Cal Herrala, above, a 1942 graduate of Ely High School, received special recognition for his service in the Army Air Corps. Mrs. Devine's kindergarten class, top, concentrated on reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.** photos by K. Vandervort

"God Bless the USA," and "Oh, I Love America." The high school band saluted all the branches of the military with their rendition of "American Heroes."

The Ely Area Honor Guard retired the colors in a solemn tribute that also include the playing of Taps. Veterans and their

guests were invited for coffee and refreshments, following the event, with a reception held in the high school media center.

**the TIMBERJAY**

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ELY MEMORIAL SCHOOL

- Quarter 1 Honor Roll 2019-2020  
\* Denotes 3.5 GPA or above
- Grade 6:** \*Brayden Akins, Addyson Brandau, \*Cazimiro Carlson, \*Isabelle Chick, \*Jack Davies, \*Cylvia Debeltz, \*Otto Devine, \*Peyton Erzar-Tyndall, \*William Forsberg, James Grant, \*Jesse Grant, \*Tatum Gubrud, \*Hunter Halbakken, Brandon Hancock, \*Aila Harding, \*Sabrah Hart, \*Blake Hegfors, \*Nathan Hoffmeister, \*Makenzi Huntington, Andrew Johnson, Molly Lindsay, \*Zoe Mackenzie, \*Bria Marshall, \*Jesse Oelke, \*Ella Perish, \*Alison Poppler, \*Sadie Rechichi, Jack Rintala, \*John Schiltz, Jaymes Scholz, Tyler Scott, Summit Smith, \*Rhys Truty, \*Chance Wavrin, Olin Weise, \*Jayden Zemke.
- Grade 7:** \*Noah Anderson, \*Evelyn Cavalier, \*Caid Chittum, \*Max Cochran, \*Isabella Davis, \*Carena Debeltz, \*Anna Dunn, Dylan Durkin, \*Brady Eaton, \*Isabella Ferrante, \*Margaret Fetterer, \*Annabelle Henry, \*Rena Johnston, \*Senja Kess, Rylee Larsen, \*Anna Larson, Morgan Lassi, Bennett Leeson, \*Maija Mattson, \*Wyatt Mattson, \*Alex Merriman, Madelyn Moen, \*Janae Murphy, Carmen Nelson, \*Eli Olson, \*Lillian Rechichi, \*Lauren Rehbein, \*Garrett Rohr, Sylvia Shock, Silas Solum, \*Ava Sundell, \*Clare Thomas, Henry Zgonc, \*Kennedy Zupancich.
- Grade 8:** Chase Anderson, \*Esther Anderson, \*Lily Dirks, Kiarstin Eaton, Samuel Favet, Bryce Ferdig, \*Thomas Homer, \*Abigail Johnson, \*Liam Lacey, \*Grace Latourell, \*Gavin Marshall, \*Samuel Prijatel, \*Deegan Richards, \*Isabelle Schiltz, \*Ava Skustad, \*Leo Stalmer, Robert Towley, \*Sarah Visser.
- Grade 9:** Erron Anderson, \*Joseph Bianco, Charlize Carlson, Bennett Cavalier, \*Jacob Cochran, Ashton Cook, \*Katherine Coughlin, \*Rachel Coughlin, \*Margaret Dammann, \*Zoe Devine, \*Sydney Durkin, \*Courtney Eilrich, \*Clayton Forsman, \*Natasha Fulkrod, \*Taylor Gibney, \*Madelyn Gruba, \*Gunnar Hart, \*Jackson Hegman, \*Phoebe Helms, Logan Loe, Kole Macho, \*Gabriel Mann, \*Morgan McClelland, \*Sean Ogburn, Cedar Ohlhauser, Elizabeth Omerza, \*Madeline Perry, \*Madison Rohr, \*Juliet Stouffer, \*Grace Sundell, \*Lillian Tedrick, \*Audrey Thomas, \*Kelly Thumpson.
- Grade 10:** \*Bryce Fairchild, Charly Flom, \*Joseph Foster, \*Jon Hakala, \*Drayke Hanninen, \*Laura Holmstrom, \*Micah Larson, \*Sidney Marshall, \*Annikka Mattson, Willow Ohlhauser, \*Cora Olson, Lauren Olson, \*Gabriel Pointer, \*Gracie Pointer, Edward Prijatel, \*Abigail Rehbein, \*Zachary Robbins, Chase Sandberg, \*Katrina Seliskar, \*Harry Simons, \*Kellen Thomas, Jacob Towley, \*Ande Visser.
- Grade 11:** Lane Anderson, Riley Bishop, \*Madisyn Carlson, \*McKenna Coughlin, Harrison Dammann, \*William Davies, Emmett Faltesek, \*Jasper Johnston, \*Cameron Kienitz, \*Brock Latourell, \*Desiray Lawrence, Sophie Montana, Gabrielle Motes, \*Amelia Pluth, \*Sydni Richards, Madelyne Roderick, Hailey Schaller, Jonah Schwamm, \*Julia Schwingamer, Abigail Thompson, Brynn Vollom, Elsie Vollom, Davis Walsh.
- Grade 12:** Elissia Bennett, \*Ana Bercher, \*Ethan Bremner, Holly Dirks, \*Dylan Fenske, \*Apolonia Homer, \*Sarah Isbell, Savannah Johnson, \*McCartney Kaercher, Brielle Kallberg, \*Isabelle Kelly, Steven Kerntz, \*Henry Matthys, Eric Mattila, \*Erika Mattson, \*Jenna Merhar, \*Nathan Nettifee, \*Luke Olson, \*Raif Olson, Eric Omerza, \*Brooke Pasmick, \*Mitchell Peterson, Joshua Pohlman, \*Abigail Rabe, \*Winter Sainio.



OUR COMMUNITY



The Ely Folk School was selected as the recipient of the 100-plus Women Who Care event on Nov. 10. A celebration was held Tuesday afternoon where funds totaling \$7,539 was presented. The purpose of 100+ Ely Women Who Care is to foster philanthropy and community by donating as a group to a local charity. By contributing a significant amount at one time, charities are able to provide programs and services that otherwise might not be possible. Over 100 Ely women contributed to the donations. This was the sixth 100+ Ely Women Who Care event. The first five events raised over \$37,000. The group holds two events each year, and welcomes participation, even for those who cannot attend. For more information, go to 100ElyWomenWhoCare.org.

photo by K. Vandervort

Fall Lake brush disposal sites

FALL LAKE TWP - "Got brush?" Between this year's windstorms and spruce budworm infestation, woody brush is piling up around homes and other structures. Even with all the rain this year, it's still a wildfire hazard, and it's a good idea to clear it away from buildings. But where to put it?

In partnership with Fall Lake Township and the U.S. Forest Service, Lake County offers a few community brush disposal sites for homeowners to deposit woody vegetation.

"Homeowners have been good at keeping their woody material small and clean so it can be safely reduced by burning, which helps conserve space and reduce overall wildfire risk," said BJ Kohlstedt, Lake County Emergency Manager.

The community brush disposal sites in Fall Lake Township are listed below. Most are only for homeowners' brush, not for contractors. Contractors can contact Fall Lake Township or private sites for information on where to bring larger quantities of brush or woody vegetation.

- USFS Moose Lake and Ojibway Lake sites are open for homeowner brush.
- Fall Lake Township Transfer Station is open for homeowner woody brush on Saturdays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Contractors, call for information.
- Lake County Ernie's Road site was recently added for Firewise project contractors only to reduce community risk, but not for homeowner brush disposal.
- USFS Snowbank site, DNR Cloquet Line pit, and Lake County Glipe pit are not currently open for homeowner or contractor brush.

Please note that only clean vegetation is allowed in the brush disposal sites. Do not dump stumps, roots or soil. All sites are monitored for illegal dumping. Report illegal dumping to the Lake County Sheriff's Office at 218-834-8385. Lake County is under a gypsy moth quarantine, which means no woody materials can be transferred from Lake to St. Louis County.

Burning of brush on site (with three inches of snow cover or with DNR permit) is another option for some homeowners. Contact Lake County Emergency Management for a brochure on "Hand Piling Woody Debris for Burning" at bj.kohlstedt@co.lake.mn.us or 218-226-4444.

"These sites and programs make us all safer by helping homeowners and community partners reduce their risk of wildfire damage," he said.

Have coffee with a cop

ELY - Join members of the Ely Police Department at the Front Porch Coffee and Tea Co. on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for Coffee with a Cop.

The program was started as a community-police initiative to build relationships between law enforcement and the community they serve. "This event will provide a way to meet a police officer from the Ely Police Department in an informal and relaxed setting," said Chief John Lahtonen.

Feel free to stop by, grab a cup of coffee and have a chat with the police officer, who will have discussion topics on hand for those who just want to listen.

Gifts That Give Sale set for Nov. 23

ELY - The Annual Gifts That Give Sale will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 226 E Harvey St. The sale is sponsored by St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

The Gifts That Give Sale offers holiday gifts that give twice. Everything at the sale benefits people and organizations in need, including world relief groups like Rotary's End Polio Now Campaign and SERRV/A Greater Gift, and local organizations including Ely PTO, Northern Lights Clubhouse, Vermilion Community College's Vet Tech and Forestry and Wildlife clubs, and the Ely Winter Festival.

Items available to buy are unique, varied, and affordable. Get a jump on that holiday gift list, feel good about giving to people in need, and learn something new about the many service and relief organizations served by the dedicated volunteers in our community.

The Ely Food Shelf will be serving soup, rolls, and coffee for a free-will donation, with all proceeds going directly to the Food Shelf. There will be an activity table to keep kids busy while parents shop.

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.

"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.

Ely ArtWalk 2020 registrations and payment are due by Dec. 6.

Paper entry forms can be found at The Front Porch, The Art Entry, and Art & Soul Gallery. Artists can also register at www.elyartwalk.org which can also be accessed through www.elywinterfestival.com.

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 web site 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."

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/.

The Ely Winter Festival and Ely ArtWalk are funded in part by grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council (thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund), the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust, and the Ely Chamber of Commerce.

ELY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL



Two standout Ely Memorial High School athletes signed National Letters of Intent for their prospective colleges last week. Brielle Kallberg will be playing volleyball at Minnesota State University- Moorhead next season. Luke Olson will be running track at the University of South Dakota. submitted photo

News in Brief

Christmas Cookie sale is Dec. 14

ELY - First Lutheran Church's, Ely, Ladies Aid have scheduled their annual Christmas Cookie and Baked Goods Sale and Dessert Social for Saturday, Dec. 14 from 1-3 p.m. in the Social Hall. Cookies will be sold for \$7 per pound. Let them help you with your holiday baking and join them for a cup of coffee

Senior lunch program held daily in Ely

ELY - The Ely Senior Lunch program is held daily at the Ely Senior Center, 27 S First Ave E, from noon to 1 p.m. Must be at least 60 years of age to participate.

Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of

THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

November 21, 1919

Carrier pigeons report fires

The carrier pigeons and equipment of the Navy Department will be used next year by the U.S. Forest Service for conveying fire reports from lookout stations and fire fighters "at the front" to National Forest Headquarters.

The value of the birds in mountainous and lake regions, where in many places travel is difficult on account of the lack of roads and trails and there are but few telephone lines, will especially be great.

The test of the birds for this use was carried out on a limited scale this season, but it encouraged the Forest Service officials to believe that pigeons can be employed profitably on a large scale. With a view to establishing successful carrier pigeon systems, plans will be laid during the coming winter to have posts properly located and get the birds acclimated and begin their training.

Flights of 600 miles in a single day have been made, while a distance of 140 to 200 miles means but a two or three-hour flight for the average bird. The distances to be covered in the National Forests are considerably less than this; in most instances, the flights to headquarters from lookout stations and fire fighting areas being less than 50 miles.

The effective airplane patrol for detecting forest fires started this year by the Forest Service, in cooperation with the War Department, will thus be further augmented by the use of carrier pigeons whose services will be especially valuable in keeping Forest officers in touch with conditions at the fire front on large fires.

Sibley mine starts

The Sibley mine started up Tuesday morning after an idleness of nearly two months. The strike of the I.W.W. miners closed the mine in September, along with all the other Ely mines.

All of the mines are now at work again. The Sibley normally employs about 150 to 200 men. It is not thought that the full force can be found to start with, as many of the miners have left the district or have found occupation elsewhere.

Firemen's dance

What promises to be the event of the season in dances will be the 25th annual ball given by the Ely Fire Department at the Washington Auditorium next Wednesday evening (Thanksgiving Eve).

The fire boys are recognized as the finest kind of entertainers and their annual affair this year will be kept up to the standard. Rubbo's 7-piece orchestra of Chisholm have been engaged for the occasion and the tickets have been placed at \$1.10 with door rights reserved.



An Open Letter To Our Contributors

We at the Ely-Winton Historical Society want to take this opportunity to speak directly to all those people who have contributed to our Building Fund.

Lately we have been asked where our storage building project stands. We can tell you that at this point we have raised enough money to pay for the demolition of our current building and the site preparation for constructing a new building. That is a great start and we owe the ability to do this to all of you - our contributors.

This is where our project has come to rest until next year. We will have to find a location in which to store the items currently in the concrete block building to be replaced. To date such a place has not been found.

Our problem lies in the inability to borrow startup funds because of our non-profit status. Finding the start-up funding is our major hang-up. Once that is in place we have more than enough help coming from the public sector but that money relies on our ability to jump start the project.

We thank all of you for your generous donations. Without you we wouldn't be as far along as we are. Our goal remains the same: the construction of a new building in which to store a multitude of items which depict life in Ely as it was.

Sincerely yours,  
The Ely-Winton Historical Society Board of Directors



## Friends of the Library host Silent Auction and Raffle fundraiser

by E. M. SCHULTZ  
Staff Writer

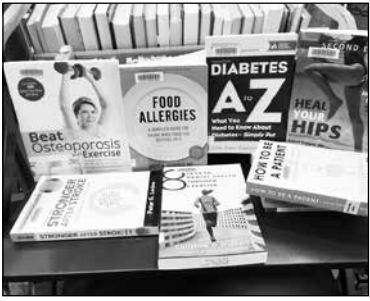
COOK – Walking around the Cook Library, you may notice a plethora of baskets and other items that seem somewhat out of place. That’s because the annual Holiday Basket Raffle/Silent Auction, put on by the Cook Friends of the Library, kicked off on Tuesday, Nov. 12. Prizes include handcrafted items, books, movies, décor, games, and countless other goodies, so plan on spending a good amount of time looking around. The event also lasts an entire month, making it a

prudent choice to stop in often to check on the status of your bids or add more raffle tickets to an item’s box. With a variety of baskets and prizes, there’s bound to be something for everyone.

The majority of bids for baskets begin at \$10, while the raffle tickets cost \$1 each. There is no limit to how many prizes you may win, and the drawings will take place on Thursday, Dec. 12. You do not need to be present to win. This event is sponsored by the Cook Friends of the Library. All proceeds go toward benefiting the Cook Public Library.

## Cook Public Library receives Consumer Health Collection Award; new books now on display

COOK - The Cook Public Library has been awarded \$1,000 by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) to purchase new health-related books. The NNLM All of Us Consumer Health Collection Award is for small or rural public libraries serving areas with populations less than 25,000. This award helps public libraries support health information needs in their communities. The Cook Public Library used the award money to purchase forty-two health-related titles covering topics such as Alzheimer’s disease, osteoporosis, cerebral palsy, depression, food allergies,



heart health, and many more. There are also books that talk about mental and physical health during all stages of life. All of the newly purchased books are available to check out with your library card.

## NORTHWOODS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS Learning how to create with wool

by E. M. SCHULTZ  
Staff Writer

COOK – Members and non-members gathered at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery (NWFA) here to “Create a Cool Needle Felted Viking.” The class, taught by Susan Archbold, centered around the precise and delicate art of needle felting. Those who attended learned about the process of needle felting and crafted their own miniature Scandinavian Viking. For many of the students, this was their first experience with needle felting. Archbold walked them through each step of the process while sharing encouraging words.

“Everybody’s first one usually looks like a mutant,” she said.

Archbold herself is no stranger to needle felting, a process that requires patience and attention to detail. She has made countless creations over the years, from birds to gnomes and everything in between. She sells kits and offers classes throughout the year out of General Store Primitives, the business she runs in Eveleth. She dabbles with other creative media as well, but her passion lies with primitives and wool.

“Create a Cool Needle Felted Viking” was just one of the many curious and creative classes offered by NWFA this winter. For a full list of classes, head to [www.nwfamn.org](http://www.nwfamn.org), stop by the gallery, or call 218-666-2153.

**Top right: Instructor Susan Archbold works with a student.**  
**Middle left: Using the tiny but very sharp needle to felt the wool into shapes.**  
**Middle right: The finished Viking doll.**  
**Right: Students working on their project.**

photos by E.M. Schultz



## Cook-Orr Calendar

### Annual Lights of Love Campaign is underway

REGIONAL- The 29th annual Virgie Hegg Hospice Partner’s Lights of Love campaign, our largest fundraiser of the year, begins in November to commemorate National Hospice Month and National Family Caregivers Month. Last year’s Lights of Love raised approximately \$5,600. Fundraising goals are achieved through the dedicated efforts of our Board of Directors working together with a community of supporting individuals and businesses. We invite you to continue the tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones by supporting VHHP through this Lights of Love campaign.

Our mission is to bring comfort care services to enrolled hospice patients and their families as well as hospice eligible patients in our local communities.

VHHP sponsors two education scholarships for students enrolled in the North Woods School and Tower enrollment area, pursuing a medical career and one for college students.

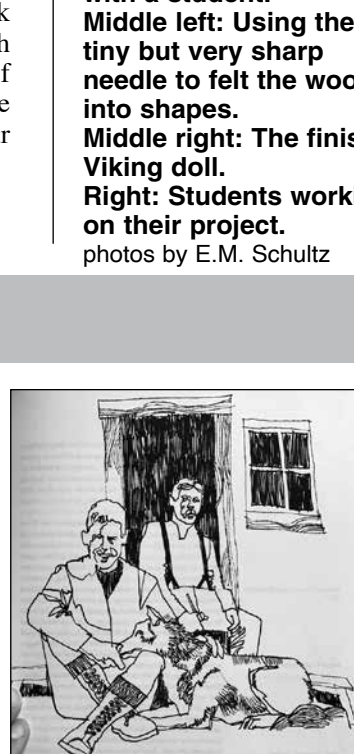
Your tax-deductible donation will help light the trees at the holiday celebrations in Cook, Orr and Tower in support of local hospice patients and their families. Donations may be given in honor or memory of a loved one. Ice candles are available for purchase to be displayed as part of the tree lighting ceremonies. All Lights of Love contributions and dedications will be published in local area newspapers during the month of January, unless otherwise indicated on the attached form.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the Lights of Love tree lighting and caroling which will take place at the Cook Library and Gazebo on Friday, Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. or Orr’s Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Tower Civic Center at 4 p.m. You are also invited to join us following the ceremonies for coffee, cider and treats.

For more information about Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners, visit our website at [www.vhhp.org](http://www.vhhp.org) or contact Becca Bundy, Program Director at 218-780-5423 or Ivette Reing, Chairperson at 218-290-6177. To make a donation, you can find a form on our website or please make checks payable to VHHP Lights of Love and mail to P.O. Box 244, Cook, MN, 55723. PayPal is also available via our website.

### Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 7

COOK – The Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook will be hosting a traditional Scandinavian dinner on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4-7 p.m. Join us for a meal of lutefisk, white sauce and/or melted butter, meatballs, potatoes and gravy, green beans, rutabaga, lefse, homemade bread, cranberries, pickled herring, desserts, and more. Proceeds from this event will be donated to Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) World Hunger, the Cook Community Food Shelf, and other renovations. Tickets for adults are \$15. Children under 10 are \$6.



### Contour Drawing Class at NWFA on Monday

COOK - Beginners and accomplished artists are all invited to explore negative space and blind contour drawing at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts (NWFA) Gallery on Monday, Nov. 25 from 6-8 p.m. Flex your drawing muscles and learn a technique that will help cultivate drawing freedom. This class, taught by Kris Musto, playfully helps develop confidence. Some world-renowned drawings will be available for study. No experience is necessary to attend. This class costs \$10 for NWFA members and \$20 for non-members. Call Alberta at 218-666-2153 to pre-register for this class.

### Create Water Creatures with Art by Freya of the Northland

COOK - Grab a snorkel mask and let’s paint! Let’s dive down under the lake or local mine pit and capture the creatures we find with pen, ink, watercolor, and masa paper at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts (NWFA) gallery in Cook on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 1-3 p.m. The class, “Pen and Ink, Watercolors and an Introduction to Masa Paper,” will ex-

plore techniques with Japanese masa paper and do their own hands-on water coloring using the new techniques they will learn. Students will also employ pen and in details to create Zentangle-inspired art. Create a high, low, or medium key portrait of a Northern, Walleye, or other Minnesota fish, and don’t be afraid to bring in a reference photo of the big ‘un you caught last summer. The class fee is \$10 for NWFA members and \$20 for non-members. Call Alberta at 218-666-2153 to pre-register.

### North Wood’s National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

COOK - Seven North Woods High School students will be inducted into the National Honor Society at the annual induction ceremony this year. Brielle Anderson, Morgan Burnett, Alex Hartway, Abby Koch, Michaela Luecken, Olivia Udovich, and Brandie Walker have all met the requirements to become members. The ceremony will take place in the high school cafeteria on Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.

To be eligible for membership in the National Honor Society, students in grades 10-12 must have a cumulative GPA of 3.60. Additionally, members must meet high standards of leadership, service, and character. Students being considered for membership were evaluated by a faculty council of five teachers.

### Come meet Santa in Cook, Sunday, Dec. 8

COOK - Word was received this week that Santa and his elves will be making an early stop at the Cook Community Center on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 3-6 p.m. He will be bringing treat bags for all the little boys and girls. Friends of the Parks are planning a Santa’s Workshop event to coincide with his visit. Activities will include pictures with Santa taken by Becky Smith, with a photo being mailed to each family. There will also be stations set up for making ornaments, cards, and other fun crafts, as well as decorating sugar cookies and playing games. Pizza, bars, cookies, and beverages will be served. This event is free of charge thanks to the generosity of Friends of the Parks and other area service groups. All families and individuals wanting to join in the fun are welcome to attend.

### Thanksgiving Worship at Bear River Lutheran Church on Sunday

BEAR RIVER - There are so many things to be thankful for as we head into the busy holiday season. Join us at the Bear River Lutheran Church on Sunday, Nov. 24 at 10 a.m. to celebrate all these blessings. There will be a special collection of non-perishable food items and/or cash donations during the service to be given to the Cook Area Food Shelf. A time of fellowship will follow the worship service.

Bear River Church is located at 11141 Highway 22 in Bear River. If you have any questions, please contact Carol at 218-376-4534 or Gloria at 218-376-4673.

NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# There is a lot going on at North Woods School



**JOHN VUKMANICH**

This week's article will be more of an update about some of the happenings at school recently, sort of a weekly update.

## Attendance

The most important single factor in school success is being in school. Attendance is super-important. Please be diligent as parents in expecting your kids to attend school every day unless your child is really sick. The school's general guideline for attendance is that students do not miss any more than four days in a quarter. The majority of our kids are well under that number. In reality, we are also trying to train our kids for their future careers, and I think that most adults would agree that anyone who were to miss over sixteen days of work in a year without medical documentation of a serious medical condition would be out of a job.

## Technology

If you are a parent of a North Woods student, please talk to them about appropriate technology

use at school. Starting now, we are going to do a stricter job of monitoring school-issued devices. Students are not allowed to alter their device, alter their school profile, or use it inappropriately. We will be spot-checking this periodically. Teachers will be doing their best to assure that students are on their electronics for the right reasons.

## PBIS

Teachers and school administration have been working on PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies) in the elementary school. Our teacher team, along with myself, just returned from a training on this system that is designed to reinforce positive behavior expectations at school. If you remember from one of my articles a while back, PBIS looks at student behavior as a reward system and as a method that teaches behavior as a subject.

Our teacher team is looking at common expectations, voice-levels, posters, rewards, assemblies, supervision, intervention techniques, comparing school/home values, and numerous other components that influence behavior of students and perceptions of it. Our hope is that our kids learn to value high expectations for behavior at school, and that our families will support these same high expectations.



Left: Rory Bundy and Alex Burckhardt staff the "Goodie Booth" on conference night at North Woods. Right: Secretary Connie Harju and Counselor Jill Stark are all smiles at the front table at North Woods School conferences.



## Winter Sports

The gyms are alive with the sound of basketballs! Girls Basketball started on Monday, Nov. 11, and Boys Basketball began Monday, Nov. 18. The girls open at home against Northeast Range on Nov. 25. The boys begin their season at Bigfork on Dec. 3. I will take this opportunity to remind parents and fans that the most important part of athletics is sportsmanship. We expect all of our players, coaches, parents, and fans to demonstrate excellent sportsmanship, win or lose. Even though sports play an important role in our school culture, our players are student athletes and we expect them to

be students first, athletes second. Also, parents of younger students: please supervise your kids at games. Students are to be watching the game, and not roaming the building. We do not have building-wide supervision for game nights. Best of luck to our winter teams as they start their seasons.

## Lockdown and Evacuation Drill

On Thursday, Nov. 14, North Woods School conducted a PreK-12th-grade lockdown drill followed by a building evacuation. My compliments to our School Resource Officer Barrett, former SRO Kick, and our students, teachers, and parents. It is unfortunate that we need to practice these

things, but we take the safety of our kids seriously. Preparing them for emergencies is all a part of keeping them safe. Our students were exceptional during this drill and demonstrated exceptional behavior. The attitude in the building was to take our drill seriously and treat it as a learning experience for all of us. Evacuating 600-plus people is no easy task, but we made it happen without any issues in a timely, orderly fashion. I cannot compliment our kids enough.

## Music Performances

Our annual "Winter Sing" for elementary classes will be on Friday, Dec. 20. The Winter 7-12 Band/Choir Concert

will be Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. Admission is free. Please come out and support the arts in our school!

## Conferences

Fall conferences took place on Nov. 7 and 14. We appreciate all of the families who came in to visit with school staff. You are always welcome to make an appointment to visit with us about concerns that you may have anytime, not just at conference time. Teachers appreciate a heads-up with their kids, and also like knowing about any concerns that you may have. I am also happy to meet with concerned parents. The only favor I ask of parents is that you give the teacher the opportunity to address your concerns before bringing the issue to the administration.

## Upcoming school vacations

Thanksgiving Break is Nov. 28 - Dec. 1 with classes resuming on Monday, Dec. 2. Winter Break takes place Dec. 23-Jan. 5 with classes resuming on Monday, Jan. 6.

Best of luck hunting as firearms deer season wraps up, and be safe!

**John Vukmanich**  
School Principal

NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# North Woods High School first quarter honor roll

## A Honor Roll

**Seniors**  
Trevor Adelmann  
Lauren Arvila  
Bethany Cotten  
Kenzie Fox  
Luke Gabrielson  
Clayton Janssen  
David Moes  
Trevor Morrison  
Olivia Niska  
Karlyn Pierce  
Nicole Roy  
Amber Scofield  
Kayla Towner  
Michaela Tschida

Madison Taylor  
Trinity Vidal  
Jacob Whiteman  
Keenan Whitney  
Luke Will

## Seventh Grade

Addison Burckhardt  
Alex Burckhardt  
John Carlson  
Aki Goodsky-Spears  
Aidan Hartway  
Louie Panichi  
Sierra Schuster  
Amber Sopoci

Jack Cook  
Megan Cote  
Emily Fosso  
Samuel Frazee  
Olivia Fultz  
Darius Goggeley  
Shandra Hanninen  
Zoe Kisch  
Aubrey Koskovich  
Rayanne Marroquin  
Rey Marroquin  
Logan Nurmi  
Andrew Peak  
Zuly Roach  
Austin Sokoloski  
Elijah Squires

Braden King  
Benjamin Kruse  
Garrett Lappi  
Kiana LaRoque  
Angeline Lilya  
Cruz Marroquin  
Dillon Musakka  
Any Pearson  
Covington Rintala  
Brian Swinson  
Avery Thiel  
Alexandria Whiteman

Sheyenne Schuster  
Terrence Strong-Boshey

Lydia Trip

## B Honor Roll

**Seniors**  
Dylan Adelmann  
Brielle Anderson  
Zander Carr  
Katrina Chapman  
Daniel Crockett  
Samantha Francke  
Pierce Johnson  
Tyler Kehoe  
Amia Kisch  
Wyatt Kneen  
Morgan Malecha  
CeCilia Martinez  
Jordyn Nelson  
Nicole Olson  
Kylie Parson  
Neiva Smith  
Macy Viita  
Kennedy Wardas  
Brian Whiteman  
Courtney Woods

**Sophomores**  
Haley Bogdan  
Ethan Byram  
Ivy Chauklin  
Tyler Chiabotti  
Bryce Chosa  
Joshua Copeland  
Christopher Fairbanks  
Erik Hagen  
Michelle Hagen  
Kadence Holland  
Anneliese Isham  
Katrina Jackson  
Sierra Jensen  
Timothy Lilya  
Shea Oveson  
Abigail Shuster  
James Towner  
Kaya Tschida  
Lillian Voges  
Jaden Whiteman

**Eighth Grade**  
Brandon Cook  
Madison Dantes  
Talise Goodsky  
Emily Grahn  
Rhonda Hoagland  
Alexandra Holm  
Dylan Leinonen  
Haley Leinonen  
Zefrym Mankowski  
Steven Morrison  
Cadense Nelson  
Victoria Olson  
Dayton Rintala  
Caleb Thom

**Seventh Grade**  
Kalvyn Benner  
Jacob Benoit  
Olivia Boone  
Alauna Boshey  
Rory Bundy  
Ella Cornelius  
Nevada Gauthier  
Ryder Gibson  
Ira Isham  
Talen Jarshaw  
Jaida Lambert  
Jasmine Munson  
Carson Refsdal

**Juniors**  
Joey Lakoskey  
Brynn Simpson  
Zoe Trip

**Sophomores**  
Morgan Burnett  
Ty Fabish  
Trey Gibson  
Alex Hartway  
Joseph Hoagland  
Taylor Jones  
Abby Koch  
Michaela Luecken  
Sean Morrison  
Jacob Panichi  
Olivia Udovich  
Brandie Walker

**Freshmen**  
Cooper Antikainen  
Kohen Briggs  
Hannah Kinsey  
Grace Koch  
Kaden Ratai  
Karah Scofield  
Elias Smith  
Steven Sopoci  
Jacob Swanson  
Emily Trip  
Skyler Yernatich

## Juniors

Monique Benner  
Jocelynn Carver

**Freshmen**  
Thomas Debeltz  
Kia Deegan  
Brielle Hujanen

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## Bookmobile Schedule

**Thursdays: Nov. 21; Dec. 12; Jan. 2 & 23**

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

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

**the TIMBERJAY**

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HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

# Orr Snow City Festival gets underway on Saturday, Dec. 7

ORR - Don't miss out on the fun of this year's Snow City Festival in Orr. While the festival is held on Saturday, Dec. 7, the event begins with the Medallion Hunt. Clues will be posted starting on Sunday, Dec. 1 for the Snow City Medallion hunt, kicking off the annual holiday tradition.

Residents and visitors alike will be treated to the annual festival on Saturday Dec. 7 at events around Orr, starting with breakfast bright and early at 7 a.m. at the Orr Community Center (Legion Building).

At 11 a.m. craft vendors will open their shops at the Orr Community Center. While moms and dads shop,

kids will have a day filled with activities at the center as well.

Once your stomach is ready to eat again, the Orr Center will host lunch starting at 11 a.m.

Don't forget to watch the parade at 1 p.m. After the parade, bring the kids to the North Pole tent to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus. The day will conclude at 6 p.m. back at the Orr Center with the Lights of Love tree lighting and refreshments. There will also be an evening of karaoke/DJ fun at the Orr Muni.

Santa visits Orr on Dec. 7. file photo



## TOWER-SOUDAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

### TSAA Fall Auction highlights

This year's TSAA fundraiser, held at the Wilderness at Fortune Bay on Nov. 7, featured lots of silent and live auction action, raffle games, and karaoke led by Irene Hartfield. The annual event raises money for youth activities and athletics in Tower-Soudan and is the group's only fundraiser.

Left: The VCS Choir performed several songs, and later students took turns at karaoke.

photos by J. Summit



Checking out some of the games.



A group from Scenic Rivers Health Services took their turn at karaoke.

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Marjory Wood won the coveted "Last Woman Standing" prize worth over \$500.



VCS administrator Frank Zobitz sang with VCS Choir teacher Karin Schultz.



Attendees watching the entertainment. The event was close to being sold-out this year.

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

lake, and Savoy Road as a couple of areas of high deer density.

►Garden pests: "The overabundance of deer within the city of Ely limits and their apparent fearlessness of humans has resulted in a large number of frustrated gardeners," she said. "It is impossible to grow many flowers and vegetables in portions of this town without near-daily application of deer repellent during the growing season or tall fencing. I hear this problem from others." She cited information from a local gardener who reported as many as 10 deer at a time in her garden. "She is trying to grow expensive tulip and flower gardens in anticipation of eventually developing a bed and breakfast at her home," Malick-Wahls said.

►Chronic wasting disease: "CWD is knocking on our door," she said. "It was recently reported just 150 miles away in Crow Wing County." High deer density is one of the ways this disease is spread. "One of the ways that we could get ahead of this issue is to manage our deer at lower levels so we don't have such an extreme spread of this disease."

►Moose recovery: Moose are important to our region's tourist economy as they are one of the top species visitors hope to see while visiting the Ely area, according to Malick-Wahls. "One of the factors contributing to their marked decline since 2006 is the parasites and disease spread by

white-tailed deer, including brainworm and liver flukes," she said. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, she added, has realigned northeast deer permit areas in order to manage deer at lower, stable densities to reduce disease and parasite transmission from deer to moose. "If deer densities are allowed to remain high in Ely, this may counter any positive impacts from managing the moose in our local area."

►Deer ticks: Lyme disease is spread by deer ticks and deer ticks are most frequently spread by deer and mice, she said. "While we may not have a reasonable method to control the number of mice that are cohabitating in our spaces and bringing deer ticks with them, we do have the ability to control the density of deer through a controlled archery hunt," she said.

At least 24 other communities in Minnesota, including nearby municipalities like Tower, Cook, Aurora, Hoyt Lakes, Two Harbors and Side Lake conduct an annual special archery hunt season.

"They manage (the hunt) through the Arrowhead Bowhunters Association which uses their own proficiency testing so only deer hunters who are using equipment they have tested their accuracy and skill with on an annual basis are allowed to hunt," Malick-Wahls said.

"The cities identify only certain areas where hunting is allowed," she

said, and suggested that areas around the Lucky Boy ponds, Old Airport Road, the U.S. Forest Service office, the city water treatment facility, and other places away from residences could be included in a special archery season here.

Ely Mayor Chuck Novak largely dismissed the proposal. "The reason we have a lot of deer here is that people are feeding them," he said. "No one is helping the deer by feeding them. A lot of people feed them corn. The only time that corn is possibly beneficial is when the does are having fawns. Other than that, it

is not healthy for them, and neither is bird seed."

Novak also noted that some of the potential locations cited by Malick-Wahls are not within the city limits. "Other folks have mentioned Pioneer Road as a possible hunt area. Well, we have the Trezona Trail and people walking nearby, and people that live along Pioneer Road."

Novak quoted Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "I shot an arrow into the air and where it landed, I know not where," to describe his concerns about the safety and liability issues involved in conducting bow hunting

in a residential area.

"This is not high on my list to deal with," Novak added. "If you talk to the DNR about what they want to do on wildlife management and see if there is an area within the city limits that could be applicable, I guess the council could take a look at it," he said. He cited tax levy work and the legislative agenda as taking up most of his time right now.

According to council member Al Forsman, the city of Ely is surrounded by a DNR hunting zone (Section 118) where heavy hunting is not encouraged. "It is

bucks-only around here or lottery only," he said. "There are a lot of deer around, but you should request that the DNR step up to increase the number of permits or to divide the section."

Council member Paul Kess also cited public safety and the density of private property in the city as just a few problems encountered with conducting a city-wide hunting season.

Council member Jerome Debelitz suggested that gardeners buy more deer repellent.

No action was taken on the proposal.



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**TOWER CRAFT SHOW**

OUR COMMUNITY

# Iron Rangers form Road Runners unified Special Olympics team

by E. M. SCHULTZ  
Staff Writer

REGIONAL – Each year, roughly 100 athletes from around the Iron Range gather to form the Road Runners Special Olympics in a variety of sporting events.

They keep themselves extremely busy with basketball in the winter, track and field in the spring, softball in the summer, and bowling in the fall.

On top of weekly practices and attending regular area events, they also participate in state competitions for each sport, not to mention, the numerous fundraising events they hold throughout the year.

With everything they have going on, it's easy to see that the team is made up of a dedicated group of athletes, coaches, and volunteers.

Along with the athletes who suffer from mental and/or physical disabilities, there are several athletes who do not. In fact, all of the sports in which the Road Runners participate are considered unified, which simply means a combination of athletes with and without disabilities participate.



As many as 100 Iron Range Special Olympics athletes make up the Road Runners team that participates in a variety of sporting events. submitted photos

There has been a large push for this unification over the past several years as it allows for a more inclusive atmosphere where friendship and understanding can blossom between the athletes. Similar to the school system, Special Olympics tries to integrate those with special needs with those who don't, to create a more normalized atmosphere rather than a segregated one.

The Road Runners are currently in the midst of their unified bowling season. Every Saturday, those from the team who are participating in this particular sport get together to practice at the Virginia Bowling Gardens. They're gearing up for their state tournament, which will take place at the Incline Station in Duluth on Nov. 23 and 24. According to the team's financial director,

Leola Hey, anyone who competes at area meets is also allowed to participate in the state competition. This lack of qualifying scores for state competitions applies to all Special Olympics sports, but that doesn't mean the athletes don't have their work cut out for them before getting there.

"There is no qualifying score in order to go to state," she says, "but they



do use the scores from area events to figure out what level to place each athlete at."

The athletes, as well as others involved with the team, must also work hard to raise the funds required to attend these competitions. There are transportation expenses, hotel costs, and games fees that must be paid. For the Road Runners, this means hosting a different fundraiser almost every month. This may sound like a lot, but there's a very good reason for it.

"The goal is for the athletes to not have to pay," says Hey. "We want as many people as possible to be able to participate, and we don't want money to be the thing that stops them."

Fortunately, the state competitions in which the Road Runners participate were recently moved from the Twin Cities to Duluth, which helps keep the cost down. That doesn't mean it's non-existent, of course, so the multitude of fundraisers is still very necessary, especially with such a large team. Sadly, the Holiday Bingo event they had set for December had to be cancelled, which means their next fundraiser will take place in February. They will be selling Little Caesar's pizza kits.

According to Hey, the Road Runners try to get involved in community events and partner with area businesses as often as possible. They recently served refreshments at the Mesabi Community Band Concert, and they partner with the Masons every year

selling pasties. They host a salad luncheon every March, a pasta dinner every April, and participate in the Polar Plunge every February. They also host pancake dinners, a burger bash at the Ely IGA, an ATV ride in the fall, and work in the Brat Barn at Super One. They're constantly looking for new and unique fundraising ideas as well.

"It's time-consuming but fun," says Hey, who doesn't seem to mind the busy schedule. "They're a great bunch of people to work with. They truly live life to the fullest."

The Road Runners team is one of two Special Olympics teams in the area, the other being Team Triumph out of Aurora which consists of about five or six athletes. Up until last year, there was also the Mesabi Thunder team, which unfortunately ended up disbanding. The Road Runners were more than happy to welcome their past rivals as new teammates, though. Hey says they are always thrilled when they get more athletes, as well as volunteers. After all, without volunteers, the team wouldn't be possible.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for the Road Runners Special Olympic team, you may go online to [www.specialolympicsminnesota.org](http://www.specialolympicsminnesota.org) where you will need to fill out a form and complete a brief training. You may also get in touch with the team on their Facebook page or by contacting Head of Delegation Lynn Sundbomb at [coachlynns@hotmail.com](mailto:coachlynns@hotmail.com).

## THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS OF THIS YEAR'S TOWER-SOUDAN ATHLETIC ASSN. FALL AUCTION

Thanks to all those who volunteered, including Vermilion Country School students and staff. Thanks to Muriel Scott, Joan and Greg Dostert, Jackie Kangas, Mary Shedd, Karin Schmidt, Frank Zobitz, Jolene Herberg, Mandy Northrup, Jodi Summit, Marshall Helmberger, Scarlet and Bill Stone, VCS Choir Students, and everyone else who lent a hand. Thank you to Rachel Indihar and the staff at the Wilderness Grill for all they did to help make our event a success. Thanks to Irene Hartfield for her amazing music and karaoke! Thanks to the Timberjay for donating advertising and printing of programs.

Special thanks to all businesses and individuals who donated. This year's donations were especially generous:

Adrienne DeVries, Aronson Boat Works, Barb Soderberg, Bergetta Indihar, Bob's Service and Towing, Brandenburg Gallery, Broten Construction, Cathy Wright, Corky Hill, Crapola, D'Erick's Tower Liquors, Elaine McGillivray, Eloranta and Associates/Boulder Busters, Ely Subway, Firelight Galleries, Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Good Ol' Days, Greg Northrup, IBI Construction/Greg and Joan Dostert, Jodi Summit, Kay Vandervort, Johnson Brothers Wines/Leigh Lillquist, Mickey Ferguson/Linda Briston/Holly Novak, Muriel Scott, Nancy Eicholz and Friends, Nancy Larson, Nordic Home North, Northern Pine Embroidery, Northwoods True Value, Potluck Kitchen Store, The Quick Ladies, Rocket Liquors, Rocks the Jewelers, Shoes and Things, Sisu Designs, Sulu's Espresso Café, Susan Norha, The Timberjay, Tower Auto, Tower Café, Tower Car Wash, Tower-Soudan Elementary Staff, Tower-Soudan Agency, Ubetcha Antiques & Uniques, Vermilion Club, Vermilion Fuel and Food, Vermilion Land Office, Vermilion Park Inn, Vermilion Storage/Nate Dostert, Village Inn, Wilderness Golf, Wolfland Hobby and Computers, Marjory Wood, Zup's of Tower, Zup's of Ely, Wintergreen-Northern Wear, Kekekabic Studios Stained Glass, Ely Dairy Queen, Marjory and Michael Wood, Nancy and Dale Dougherty, Catherine and David Farley, Ely Drop and Shop, Pebble Spa of Ely and Virginia, Dee's Liquor, Insula Restaurant, Bridal Loft, Casey Skala, and Vermilion Shear Image.



And if we missed anyone, we apologize. It was a very busy, and successful, night! The event is hosted by TSAA and Friends of VCS.

THANK YOU, The 2019 TSAA Auction Committee and Helpers Jodi Summit, Muriel Scott, Joan Dostert, Mary Shedd, Marshall Helmberger, Mandy Northrup, Karin Schmidt, Frank Zobitz, & VCS Choir students



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In Brief

### Remains found of Chisholm man missing since 2018

WUORI TWP – A member of the public discovered the body of a Chisholm man while out for a walk here last week, and immediately reported the discovery to law enforcement.

Deputies from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office recovered the badly decomposed body of Christopher Quirk, age 52, whose family had reported him missing in May of 2018.

Injuries to his body appeared to be self-inflicted and foul play is not suspected at this time, although a sheriff's investigation is ongoing.

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

shows TAAS could well finish the year in the red—even though it won't take delivery of its new ambulance until sometime early next year. Prior to the adoption of paid staffing, the TAAS typically generated annual surpluses of \$100,000 or more.

Township officials have a number of concerns, including:

► In excess of \$600,000 in previous TAAS surpluses were transferred to pay for other city operations or projects without being repaid. That has increased the need for an increase in ambulance subsidies to help cover ambulance replacement costs that might otherwise have been paid for out of reserves.

► Whether township subsidy payments have been transferred to other city uses, rather than being earmarked solely for ambulance and equipment replacement.

► Whether the TAAS should be running three ambulances based on current call volume.

► Whether the increase in transfers is putting excess miles on the ambulances, thereby requiring more frequent ambulance replacement.

A recent analysis of run data, prepared by Vermilion Lake Township Treasurer Steve Lotz, which has made the rounds of area township officials, nearly two-thirds of the miles currently being put on TAAS ambulances are for non-emergency transfers. While such transfers generate significant revenue for area ambulance services, they are not required and are generally not considered part of the mission of a local ambulance service.

According to Lotz's analysis, which includes run data from Jan. 1-Sept. 30 of this year, the TAAS put an estimated 13,782 miles on its ambulances while responding to 303 emergency calls within its service territory. At the

same time, the TAAS put an estimated 24,844 miles on its ambulances while conducting 104 transfers.

Lotz said Vermilion Lake supervisors had requested the mileage information from Altenburg earlier this year, but that Altenburg had not followed through on the request. "He would never give any financial accounting of the subsidy money," said Lotz.

Even basic financial information has been difficult for townships to obtain. While Altenburg touted an increase in revenues during a financial report he gave at an ambulance commission meeting last month, his report did not include expenditures, which have jumped sharply since he took over management of the service. At the same time, township officials, like Lotz, have pressed Altenburg for a complete breakdown of the costs associated with running the additional transfers. While Altenburg has accounted for the additional costs of payroll and most costs associated with the rental and maintenance of quarters for the paid ambulance crews, he has resisted calls by township officials to factor in the costs of accelerated ambulance replacement because of the additional miles. "It's an accounting disaster," said Lotz. "How can a town board responsibly make a decision under those conditions?"

Greenwood Township officials share that concern. At a town board meeting earlier this month, supervisors agreed to issue a check to pay the second half of their subsidy to TAAS for 2019, but opted not to send the check until the city can provide more clarity about the use of subsidy funds. "They should be able to document where the money was spent from the subsidy collected," said supervisor Mike Ralston. "Until we see something

like that, we should hold out on any increases, for sure."

Greenwood Treasurer Pam Rogers agreed. "Their accounting is very lacking. When Steve Altenburg was here, he was not very clear."

Township officials note that Altenburg's claim that non-emergency transfers generate significant amounts of revenue undercuts his argument for an increase in the ambulance subsidy. "We want to talk to Steve Altenburg. If the transfers are making that much money, they should transfer some of that revenue to the ambulance replacement fund," said Breitung Town Board Chair Tim Tomsich. Several township officials indicated that they see that as a sensible approach given that the transfers are now generating the overwhelming majority of the miles put on TAAS ambulances.

For now, Tomsich said he doesn't expect his board will approve any contract proposal the city has put forward to date. He said the board has discussed possibly approving a contract on a year-to-year basis, at least until the city is able to provide more financial transparency. "The information isn't there yet," said Tomsich. "We need more accountability."

Other township representatives believe Altenburg has not yet made the case for operating a third ambulance, or for maintaining 24-hour staffing given the current call volume. Larry McCray, who served as a career firefighter for 15 years and with a volunteer department for another 30 years, represents Eagles Nest on the ambulance commission. He said he's asked repeatedly for information that would help Eagles Nest officials assess whether the TAAS actually needs a third ambulance. "The questions I've had are

how many miles per year are being put on the ambulances? Are they being rotated on a regular basis? What is the number of overlapping calls, and how many times are three ambulances needed at once? He [Altenburg] has never provided any of that."

Altenburg and Tower Clerk-Treasurer Victoria Ranua responded jointly to similar questions posed by the *Timberjay*. In their response, the two city officials stated that the current system for tracking ambulance usage does not track data in such a way. However, they stated that "three [ambulances] have been deployed at once or two have been deployed while one was being repaired."

McCray said he expects his board will grant a one-year extension of the ambulance subsidy, with a 25-percent increase. "But that's it," he said, until TAAS provides much more information than has been offered so far. "The ball is in their court," McCray added.

**A history of good relations at risk**

The concerns expressed by township officials are new and reflect an erosion of trust in TAAS leadership on the part of township officials in the past two years. For years, the townships maintained good relationships with the TAAS and were usually more open to increases in the ambulance subsidy. For the townships, the subsidy payments, which are currently set at \$15 per capita annually, have always been optional. Under their state licensing agreement, the TAAS is obligated to respond to emergency calls within its coverage area, whether or not townships make a contribution toward the service.

The late TAAS supervisor Ballard Turnbull had made the case to area

townships nearly 20 years ago that their contributions would strengthen the ambulance service by ensuring a stable source of revenue for ambulance replacement.

Township officials still generally agree that it's important to continue that contribution. "We're in an aging township, so the need is there," said Larry Anderson, a long-time supervisor in Eagles Nest Township. But Anderson, who served for several years as the township's representative on the ambulance commission, echoed other area officials in his frustration with the current state of financial information from TAAS. "The first thing that our township wants to know is where is the money going?" said Anderson. "When Matt [Tuchel] ran it, we knew where we were at. It was a real open and well-run department. I have nothing personally against Steve [Altenburg], I just feel we have not been given enough data and we don't know where we're at."

Altenburg's credibility has also suffered from claims he made to area townships during presentations earlier this year as part of his effort to get townships to accept an increase in the ambulance subsidy. On at least one occasion, he told the Greenwood town board that other townships had already approved the increase in the subsidy, when none of them have approved the request to date.

Township officials have repeatedly raised questions about the use of their subsidy payments for other city funding needs. While the city did, in the recent past, transfer township payments for city cash flow purposes, recent financial data provided by the city shows the subsidy account, which is tracked separately, has been restored

to the full amount. The same cannot be said of the regular ambulance account, much of which the city has been unable to restore due to its ongoing financial problems.

So far in 2019, the city has collected only about 39 percent of the subsidy payments due from the townships with just over a month to go in the year. Final payments from the townships are due as of Dec. 31.

Meanwhile, Eagles Nest's Anderson said he remains concerned about the decision by TAAS not to replace its ambulance garage, which was destroyed by fire five and a half years ago. "We have equipment that is taking it hard being left outside," he said. That's a complaint that some on the Tower council have made as well. Yet the \$140,000 insurance settlement that the city received from the fire went into the city's general fund and has since been spent for other purposes.

**Other approaches being considered**

The situation has city officials in Tower open to consideration of alternatives forms of management for the ambulance service. The Tower City Council voted unanimously on Nov. 12 to ask Virginia Ambulance Supervisor Allen Lewis to give a presentation on ambulance issues, which could include a regional concept for managing EMS services in northern St. Louis County.

In Breitung, Tomsich said he'd like to see what Lewis has to say before the town board decides how to proceed with the latest proposals from TAAS. "That would certainly be another option to listen to," he said.

**MPCA...**Continued from page 1

the forensic search as part of that investigation.

The court of appeals also suspended PolyMet's water pollution permit on Aug. 6 until hearings are completed into whether the MPCA and Trump political appointees in the EPA tried to hide concerns from the agency's professional staff that the PolyMet wastewater permit would violate the Clean Water Act.

Environmental litigants had argued for the forensic search after the MPCA contended that many of the emails produced by the three former officials, some of which may shed light on their interactions with the EPA over the permit, appear to

no longer be available on their former computers. A forensic investigator may be able to recover communications that were previously deleted, whether accidentally or intentionally.

The judge's order is unusual in that it suggests concern over the MPCA's handling of official records that likely should have been retained. "The MPCA had already hired private outside counsel,"

said Water Legacy legal counsel Paula Maccabee. "They knew this was likely to be litigated. In the common course of things, these communications should have been part of the official record." In addition, state law requires retention of official records, and that would certainly cover email communications by top MPCA officials on a matter of significant public interest.

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# Try hockey for free!



Area youth recently had an opportunity to try hockey for free at the Ely Ice Arena. Clockwise from upper left, Logan Larsen was all smiles in his hockey helmet. Hadleigh Myers did her best to stay upright all by herself. Destinee Nelson and her son, Brody, worked together to put on his socks. Jace Davis enjoyed a snack after skating. photos by K. Vandervort



## ORR...Continued from page 1

event would be a massive success. That first year, they served a total of sixty-five dinners, including those for their own families. When they arrived at the church prior to the event, however, things hadn't looked all that promising.

"Thanksgiving morning, we woke up to a snowstorm and a foot of snow," says Lori. "We could hardly get into the church."

Despite concerns that the weather would keep people away, they carried on with their plans, and two hours later, were greeted by a pleasant surprise. Local resident Jim Holman showed up to plow the parking lot, and Shawn and Trudy

Halverson's sons were soon shoveling the sidewalk and church steps. They were also joined by their first two volunteers, Robert Johnson and Marilyn Grilley.

The following year, they decided to move the dinner to the Orr Legion, now the Orr Community Center, which is where it still takes place to this day. Individuals come from all over the area to enjoy the company of others while sharing a hot meal. Volunteers also pack and deliver "meals to go" to those who can't make it to the community center, those who prefer to eat at their own table, and local businesses that are open on Thanksgiving Day. They have delivered to homes

in Elephant Lake, Gheen, Buyck, Orr, and Nett Lake, making it clear that they are willing to go the distance to ensure as many people as possible are able to enjoy the holiday.

According to Lori, those who attend the event each year seem to enjoy it. A children's area with coloring, crafts, and toys is set up each year to keep the children occupied while parents enjoy a relaxing cup of coffee and a slice of pie. Friends and neighbors are able to catch up with one another without the stress that often accompanies holidays, and the volunteers love to see the genuine gratitude on the faces of those who attend and receive meals. Altogether, it's a

day where community members can get together and bask in the positivity and grateful spirit of the holiday.

This year will mark the 11th annual Orr Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Those who were originally involved are still working hard to make the holiday special for the entire community. They've also gained a multitude of volunteers over the years, and receive help from local businesses through donations of turkeys, supplies, newspaper ads, and finances.

"None of this would be possible if the local businesses did not help us out, along with the many volunteers," says Lori. "They know the

routine and keep it moving smoothly every year."

The Orr Lions have also gotten involved in the dinner as a co-sponsor, since many of the volunteers are also members of the Lions. Lori also gave a "big shout out" to those who donate pies each year. According to her, everyone looks forward to dessert.

"They just seem to show up every year," she says, "and we are so thankful for those delicious pies."

Lori, as well as the others involved, encourage everyone to join them this Thanksgiving Day from 1-3 p.m. at the Orr Community Center for this year's dinner. She also encourages people to

reach out to the volunteers if they or someone they know might benefit from having a meal delivered to their door.

For those who wish to pay it forward, there will be a collection box for donations to families in need during the Christmas season. This collection is coordinated through the North Woods school nurse. Donations for the dinner may be deposited to the Orr Thanksgiving Dinner account at American Bank or mailed to Orr Thanksgiving Dinner, PO Box 247, Orr, MN. 55771. If you have any questions or would like to donate or volunteer, please call Lori at 218-290-1297 or Wendy at 909-900-6626.



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## 2019 Holiday Events

**Festival of Trees**  
Welcome to Northwoods Partners 17th Annual Festival of Trees, where beautifully decorated trees and wreaths transform the lobby of the Grand Ely Lodge into a winter wonderland for a silent auction from Nov. 28 - Dec. 8. Lighting Ceremony At 5 pm on Thanksgiving evening with refreshments and entertainment.

**Thanksgiving Night Shopping**  
Join us for a longstanding tradition that is part of our charming, small town culture. Since the eighties, Ely merchants have been welcoming people with goodies and holiday cheer for Thanksgiving Night Shopping. It starts at 6 pm. Bundle up and take a stroll through downtown and share this neighborly tradition with us. Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce Events & Promotions Committee

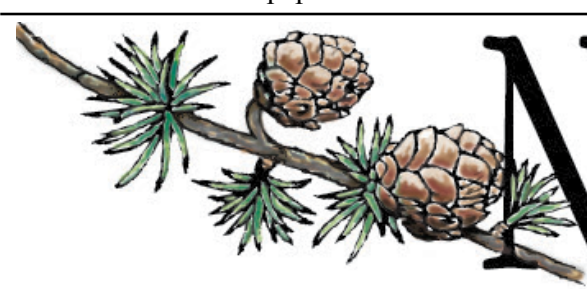
**Small Town Christmas**  
Saturday, November 30 10 am - 5 pm  
There is something special about Christmas in a small town - darting in and out of beautifully decorated shops. Friendly merchants help you find that perfect gift from a great selection of unique items and quality gifts. Don't forget our Ely made products too. Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce.

**Holiday Parade/City Tree Lighting**  
Saturday, November 30 5 pm  
Celebrate the magic of the season with this Ely tradition. The parade begins at 5 pm and is followed by the City's Tree Lighting at Whiteside Park. Complimentary hot refreshments and cookies will be served. Kids visit with Dafne from the Art Corner. Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce and City of Ely.

**Mrs. Claus Holiday Party**  
Saturday, December 14 1 - 3 pm  
Join us at Amici's Event Center for this free event with games, activities, cookie decorating, dancing, storytelling, hot chocolate and hot cider. Don't forget to bring your list for Santa as he will be stopping in for a visit. Every child gets a bag of goodies. While in town, stop by our shops for holiday gifts! Sponsored by Ely Chamber of Commerce.

For a full list of all the holiday activities, visit our Event Calendar at [www.Ely.org](http://www.Ely.org) or follow us on Facebook @ElyChamberOfCommerce.





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## ELECTIONS

# Could ranked choice voting come to the North Country?

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Advocates of ranked-choice voting in elections made their case last week in both Ely and Tower that the innovative voting method could empower voters and help to reduce the increasing toxicity of politics in the U.S.

The voting method, under which voters can rank their

choices on the ballot, rather than simply select one candidate, has gained increasing attention nationally as more cities, including recently New York City, have adopted ranked-choice voting, or RCV, for their municipal elections. Here in



Maureen Reed

Minnesota, both Minneapolis and St. Paul now use RCV for local elections, and other charter cities in the state are currently considering the option.

“RCV is a method of voting that allows, or requires, that every elected official be elected with a majority,” said Maureen Reed, a former medical doctor and University of Minnesota regent who is assisting FairVote Minnesota, a nonprofit that advocates for the adoption of RCV.

Reed spoke in Ely last Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Tuesday Group luncheon and during the Tower City Council meeting later that evening. She was joined by Liz Johnson, deputy executive director of FairVote Minnesota.

Under an RCV election, voters have the ability to state their preferences by ranking the candidates. “Let’s say you have three people running for mayor,” said Reed. “One gets 42 percent, one gets 40 percent, and

the third candidate ends up with 18 percent. All of the voters who voted first for the lowest-ranking candidate would have their votes reassigned to their second choice.” Once that happens, one of the other candidates would end up with a majority of the vote and win the election. The process of reassigning the second-choice votes might have been cumbersome in the past,

See **VOTING...**pg. 2B



‘TIS THE SEASON

# Christmas at the Nelimark

Weekend events here are always a warm and inviting place

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

EMBARRASS- You’re always going to see old friends at a visit to the annual Christmas gatherings at the Nelimark Homestead Museum. But when the historic homestead opens for two holiday weekend events, you just might make some new friends as well.

Perhaps, that’s what keeps people returning year after year.

“There was a line of people waiting outdoors a half an hour before we opened the first Friday,” said artisan Cindy Scherer, who was volunteering at the museum checkout.

Those first in line get the best selection of the home-baked treats. Besides all the baked goods, the event offers an opportunity to find some well-crafted gifts, Finnish items, and books (a great selection of Finnish-themed books for all ages). There’s coffee and featuring dozens of holiday treats to choose from, as well as hot cider.

Tana Johnson, of Embarrass, made her first visit to the Homestead Christmas event, this year titled “Hyvaa Joulua,” or Happy Christmas in Finnish. She filled up her shopping basket with fresh-baked holiday baked goods, along with some unique gift items.

Jean Taylor and Deb Shaw, both members of the Farmstead Artisans group, were enjoying all the visitors wandering through.

“We would help out here anyway,” they both said. “It’s a great way to meet people and learn about our history.”

Artisan member Jeannine Bjornrud



Above: Tana Johnson, of Embarrass, was getting a head start on her holiday shopping earlier this month at the Nelimark Homestead Museum.

Left: Howard Heath and Jeannine Bjornrud were very animated as they visited during the November gathering. The greeting, “Hyvaa Joulua” means Happy Christmas in Finnish.



Top left: A wide variety of freshly-preserved jams and jellies for sale.

Above: Fresh baked goods and many other great gift ideas are on sale at the Nelimark.



Left: Gary Rantala and a fellow visitor read an illustrated childrens book written in Finnish.

All photos by J. Summit

## NON-PROFITS

# New leadership at International Wolf Center

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - With 25 years of experience in wildlife education and zoo leadership in Minnesota and Oregon, Grant Spickelmier will take the helm of the International Wolf Center as executive director in mid-January.

Spickelmier comes from the Oregon Zoo in Portland after eight years as curator of conservation learning. He previously served multiple roles, including assistant director of education, at Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley.

“Grant brings the skills and experience the wolf center needs to help spark public awareness and dialogue based on powerful science-based wolf education,” said wolf center board chair Nancy Jo Tubbs.



Grant Spickelmier

He’ll lead a staff of about 16 at the interpretive center in Ely and the organization’s Minneapolis office, where he will be based.

“I’m honored to be chosen to lead the world’s pre-eminent wolf organization,” Spickelmier said. “Since I first heard a wolf howl in northern Minnesota, I’ve been hooked on helping this species recover in the United States. At the Minnesota Zoo, I created programs about wolves for kids and adults. I led travel programs in Alaska and with the International Wolf Center in Minnesota.”

Spickelmier’s work has focused on fundraising, strategic planning, partnerships, exhibit development, and management of large teams of staff and volunteers. He co-wrote the WolfQuest internet game used at the wolf center, that is considered to be the premier wolf simulation game with 900,000 online players.

“I hope to continue building the wolf center’s leadership team successfully led by administrator Chad Richardson in recent months, as we work to increase public understanding of how wolves and humans can successfully coexist,” Spickelmier said.

He was chosen by the center’s board in partnership with a Minneapolis-based firm, CohenTaylor Executive Search, which conducted an extensive national search, according to Tubbs.

The International Wolf Center, founded in 1985, is known worldwide as the premier source for wolf information and education. The center educates through its website, its ambassador wolves, museum exhibits, educational outreach programs, International Wolf magazine, and the interpretive center in Ely.

See **NELIMARK...**pg. 2B

**VOTING...**Continued from page 1B

but new computer software available today makes those calculations within a matter of milliseconds, said Reed.

RCV provides a number of advantages, according to Reed. For one, the process eliminates the need for a primary election, which typically narrows the field to two candidates. That not only saves communities the cost of running a primary, it ensures that the decisions that voters will have in the general election aren't limited by the relatively small number of voters who typically turn out in primaries.

It also means that whoever is ultimately elected has support from a

majority of the electorate. Under more conventional voting systems, candidates in a three-way race could win with less than 40 percent of the vote.

The switch to RCV can bring significant change to campaigns, for both candidates and voters.

As a candidate, I can no longer count on my narrow base of support to win in a crowded field," said Reed. "I have to think about how to be the second choice of a lot of voters as well. That means you don't pass by the house that already has your opponent's sign. That means you will engage in conversation with more people, and you won't trash their first choice (who

might be an opponent) or you might not be their second choice. It means you spend a lot more time talking about the issues." The focus on issues, rather than personalities, can help to reduce political polarization, which is often harmful to communities, said Reed.

For voters, RCV offers the chance to vote out of conviction rather than fear. "As a voter, I'm empowered to vote on what I really think."

RCV ends the spoiler factor, according to Reed, since people can vote for a candidate they truly like the most without fearing that in doing so, they will elect the person they like least.

"In studies that have been done, voters love it," said Reed. "No city has ever rescinded RCV after adopting it," she added.

In Minnesota, most cities are not currently allowed to use RCV, because the Legislature has, so far, been reluctant to authorize the voting method for what are known as "statutory cities."

But some cities, like Tower and Ely, are established by charter, and those cities can adopt RCV, which is one reason that Reed and Johnson were visiting Ely and Tower last week.

Tower Mayor Orlyn Kringstad, a longtime friend of Reed's, said that the Tower City Council

might take up the issue for consideration in 2020. But Ely Mayor Chuck Novak said he wasn't sure that the concept would provide much value in Ely. "It's hard to get people to run in the first place," he said, noting that he has run unopposed in the past. "I don't know that ranked choice voting would help with that," he said.

While Reed touted the benefits of RCV, she also addressed some of the criticisms of the voting method. "Some contend that voters won't understand it," said Reed. "But that's a fallacy. Study after study shows that voters have no trouble with it."

While some have questioned the constitu-

tionality of RCV, Reed said the Minnesota Supreme Court has already upheld the practice as consistent with the state's constitution.

While RCV represents change from conventional voting, Reed said it's change for the better that could help to reduce cynicism among the electorate. "Our younger generation is horrified by the bitter and vitriolic language that they hear at all levels of our political process these days," said Reed. "Voters of tomorrow need to see a future in our democracy. RCV is one way to move toward a more centered place," she said.

**NELIMARK...**Continued from page 1B

was having a spirited discussion with a brand-new friend, Howard Heath, from Aurora, who had come with his wife to check out the Nelimark. You never would have guessed the two had just met, and of course, they found out they had plenty of mutual friends.

Gary Rantala, who teaches a conversational Finnish group at the Nelimark in the summer, was working on reading aloud a children's book, in Finnish, working out the meanings of some unusual words with help from another Finnish speaker.

The Nelimark is owned by Sisu Heritage Inc., a non-profit that works to restore and maintain historic buildings in Embarrass. The Nelimark, whose sauna is listed on the

National Historic Register, is open Thursday through Saturday in the summer, allowing visitors to tour the historic farmstead and its outbuildings, as well as purchase locally-made crafts, including holiday décor, gifts items, and jewelry. The artists, part of the Farmstead Artisans group, help staff the building in the summer. The group also opens the Nelimark up for two ever-popular weekend events every fall.

If you missed getting out to the Nelimark earlier this month, you have one more chance this year when it opens on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 6-7, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution on Saturday, Nov. 23**

BABBITT - Ruby's Pantry will be distributing food on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Babbitt Municipal Center. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. A \$20 cash donation will buy you an abundance, so please bring two large boxes or baskets. There are no income or residency requirements for this event, which is sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church. Volunteers are always welcome.

**2nd Annual Small Works Silent Auction underway at Lyric Center**

VIRGINIA - Chickadees, dragonflies, hummingbirds, cows, and bears up for auction at The Lyric Center for the Arts in Virginia

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

as part of the 2nd annual Small Works Big Auction. This year, 21 artists donated 33 small works of art including paintings and ceramics, so be sure to stop by during regular hours to cast your bids. The silent auction runs until Saturday, Nov. 23 and will close with an open gala from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Lyric Center gallery. There will be a cash wine/beer bar, refreshments, and music. Attendees are also encouraged to stay after the event to watch the Twilight Parade from the gallery. Proceeds go to the Lyric's capital campaign for renovation of the 1912 Lyric Opera building.

The Lyric Center for the Arts is a significant element in the Virginia Commercial Historic District as listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building currently houses The First Stage Gallery, which opened in 2006 and exhibits and sells work from local and regional artists. In addition,

the Lyric and the adjacent Annex building are home to the Small Parts Players Children's Theatre and Northern Stage Works Community Theatre companies. Local and touring musicians also contribute to performances through the Lyric's House Concert Series. Find out more about the history of the Lyric Building at [www.lyriccenteronline.org](http://www.lyriccenteronline.org).

**Indoor Walking at Timber Hall begins Monday, Nov. 4 from 7:30 - 9 a.m.**

EMBARRASS- All are welcome to attend indoor walking at Timber Hall on Hwy. 21 in Embarrass on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 7:30-9 a.m.



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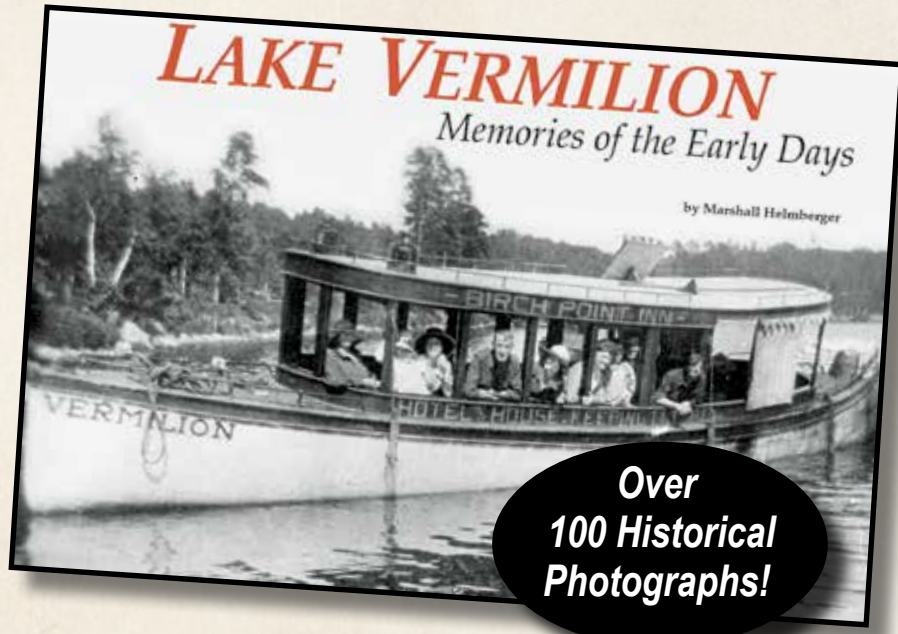
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# Obituaries and Death Notices



## Jerome J. Schauer

Jerome "Jerry" Joseph Schauer, 61, of Orr, passed away at his home on Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019, due to natural causes. A celebration of life to be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 23 at the Orr American Legion, 4543 Hwy. 53, Orr, MN 55771. Private inurnment will be at a later date on a Pelican Lake island. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

He was born on May 16, 1958, in St. Paul, the son of James and Mary (McDonough) Schauer.

He was a member of the Northwoods Riders Motorcycle Club. He was a dedicated U.S. Marine, and a Firefighter/Paramedic of the St. Paul Fire Department for 20

years of service. He went to Harding High School in St. Paul.

Jerry enjoyed riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle, hunting, fishing, and watching his favorite football teams. He loved a good political debate. He especially loved spending time with his grandsons, Brady and Hayden.

He is survived by his wife, Cecile Schauer; two sons, Jeremy (Michelle) Schauer of Forest Lake and Nathan Schauer of St. Paul Park; two stepsons, Curtis Warren of Chisholm and Lee Warren of Palo; one stepdaughter, Melanie Warren of Orr; seven grandchildren, Trista Hopkins, Brady Schauer, Hayden Schauer, Christian Schauer, John Warren, Landon Mankus and Marlie Kinney; one great-granddaughter, Addilynn; three brothers, Daniel (Mary) Schauer of North Branch, Jim (Denise) Schauer of Orr and John (Laurie) Schauer of Cottage Grove; two sisters, Ginny Erling of Madison, Wis., and Connie Garcia of St. Paul; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in

death by his daughter, Melissa Schauer; and parents, James and Mary Schauer.



## Bonnie J. Adams

Bonnie Joy Adams, 63, of Ely, and formerly of Virginia, Duluth and Wright, and Litchfield, Ariz., died on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019, at Essentia Health - St. Mary's in Duluth. A memorial service was held on Saturday, Nov. 16 at the Bauman-Vermilion Funeral Home Chapel in Tower with Michael Wefel officiating. Family services were provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

Bonnie was born on Aug. 28, 1956, in Virginia, the daughter of Merle and Beverly (Hanson) Adams. She was a 1974 graduate

of Virginia High School and went on to receive her LPN degree from Eveleth Vo-Tech.

Bonnie worked as a Business Support Analyst for the Federal Reserve through Sato/Carlson Wagonlit. She had also worked as a nurse for several years at St. Mary's in Duluth. She attended the Heritage Trail Bible Church. Bonnie was a member of the Eagles Nest Lake Association and Eagles Nest Fireflies. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, swimming, reading, and games.

Bonnie is survived by her special sibling and friend, DeAnn Schatz of Ely; siblings, Cheryl J. Adams of Chisholm, Kathleen (Henry) Sande of Virginia, James (Evie) Adams of Niles, Mich., Kenneth (Marie) Adams of Toney, Ala., Linda (Chuck) Pendgraft of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Patty (Paul) Briardy of Grand Junction, Colo., and Dennis Johnson of Omaha, Neb.; numerous nieces and nephews; and many extended family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Beverly Spiker and

Merle and Lena Adams; brothers, Gary Adams and Jeff Johnson; and infant sister, Sally Adams.

## Stephanie J. Boffa

Stephanie Jean Grahek Boffa, 59, of Ely, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019, at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth with her husband Pat by her side. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 24 at Kerntz Funeral Home with a gathering of family and friends being held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her husband, Pat; siblings, Steve (Patty), Mary (Jim), Sharon (Jerry) and Damian (Erica); sisters-in-law, Roxanne (Brad) Sader and Jill (Dave) Lossing; brother-in-law, Joseph (Patty) Boffa II; and numerous nieces and nephews.

## William Sarazin

William "Bill" Sarazin, 84, of Babbitt, died on Monday, Nov. 18, 2019, at Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely, with his family at his side. A

Memorial Mass was held on Thursday, Nov. 21 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Babbitt with Father Bill Skarich as celebrant. Inurnment will be in the Argo Cemetery at a later date. Family services are provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

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

## Lawrence D. Irving

Lawrence D. Irving, of Ely, passed away at his residence on Monday, Nov. 18, 2019. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## CITY OF ELY Council Minutes - November 5, 2019 Regular Meeting Ely City Council - City Hall, Council Chambers

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

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2019 Regular Council Meeting, the October 29, 2019 Special Council Meeting, and the October 29, 2019 Public Hearing (The Public Hearing Minutes were added in additions). Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:  
A. Addition 11.B. West Camp Street Pattison Street East Improvements Partial Payment Estimate #4 for \$51,756.85 to Utility Systems of America Inc.  
B. Addition 11.C. West End Redevelopment District, Phase 1 Partial Payment Estimate #2 for \$151,798.60 to Utility Systems of America Inc.  
C. Addition 12.A. Updated Resolution 2019-039 and Inspection Report from October 31, 2019  
Additions A-C were added without objection.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT  
Proclamation - General Aviation Appreciation Month

6. CONSENT AGENDA:  
A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda  
Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the Consent Agenda Item A. Motion Carried Unanimously.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR: None

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:  
A. Standing/Special Heritage Preservation Commission: Minutes included in the Agenda Packet

Planning and Zoning Commission:  
Callen/Omerza moved to approve the Matter of Information - Board of Adjustment approved CUPs for CLINIC and PROFESSIONAL OFFICES with conditions of approval that 1) current AFU Building tenant; Range Mental Health, or its successor, be the only approved provider of mental health counselling allowed under this CUP for PROFESSIONAL OFFICE.  
Any other organization or business must apply for new CUP before operating from AFU Building and 2) No dispensing of controlled substances on premises.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Recommendation from Planning and Zoning to ask each of the respective contributors/commissions to update their respective sections of the Comprehensive Plan and to submit a final version to the Ely Comprehensive Plan 2020 Steering Committee before January 31, 2020.  
Callen indicated that P&Z Admin Riley will send out the notices to the respective contributors/commissions to update their sections of the Comprehensive Plan.  
Omerza indicated that last time we asked the public to submit a letter if they were interested in participating in the Comprehensive Plan and we should do the same this time, since this is the blueprint for the future of City of Ely.  
Callen listed the main contributors from the last comp plan.  
Mayor Novak indicated that Planning and Zoning will come up with the committee and open it up to public comment.  
Kess stated that the timeline should be extended to the end of February with the Holidays and not many committees meeting in December.  
Callen indicated that the comprehensive plan needs to be completed by April and submitted to the state.

Budget Committee  
A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to move the Tanker Truck from 2020 to 2021 on the equipment replacement plan. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Callen moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee for the Fire Department to apply for a grant to purchase a dryer for the Fire Department and to purchase the dryer for \$4500 with a 10% match of \$450. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to table the turnout gear invoice due to the order issue. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to have Harold work with the Seller on the possible purchase of the Trezona Trail alignment and property and to get an appraisal. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to fund the \$3850 to install new venting in the Library HVAC system. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Kess indicated that the Budget Committee has been working on the 2020 budget and they are working towards reducing the levy by 1-percent.

Park and Recreation Board  
Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to allow the Heck Epic Cycling Race to camp at Semer's Beach on July 17-19, 2020 and to use the Semer's Park Pavilion. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to reimburse the Ely Softball League for \$500 for the payment of the league made for Portable Toilets, the \$500 was budgeted. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ely Utilities Commission: Minutes included in the Agenda Packet

Emergency Management Update 2019-3: Included in the Agenda Packet

Ely Area Ambulance Service Board: Minutes Included in the Agenda Packet

## 9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer  
i. The following items of business were recommended for approval at the regular EUC meeting on Wednesday, October 30, 2019:  
1. Approve Northern Industrial Erectors, Inc. proposal for valve replacement at the WTP for \$11,150.00.  
2. Approve payment of the WSN Invoice for pole replacement design for \$30,789.00.  
3. Approve payment of the EUC Bills List for September, 2019 for \$301,409.93.  
A.Forsman/Campbell moved to approve the EUC Consent Agenda items 1-3. Motion Carried Unanimously.

B. Fire Chief

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

D. Police Chief  
Chief Lahtonen reminded everyone that calendar parking is in effect, warnings were given for the first 5 nights, and now tickets will be given starting tonight.

E. City Attorney

i. Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve the 1st Reading Ordinance 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.  
Attorney Klun indicated that this is for the sale of land by the old Lakeside Services Building to the Cunningham's.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

ii. Debeltz/Omerza moved to Schedule Public Hearing

for the Sale of Land for Ordinance 338 for November 19, 2019 at 5:00pm. Motion Carried Unanimously.

iii. Campbell/Omerza moved to approve Resolution 2019-041 Resolution Establishing the City of Ely's Intent to Vacate a Portion of City Owned Property.  
Attorney Klun indicated that this is relative to Ordinance 338.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

iv. Omerza/Callen moved to approve the 1st Reading Ordinance 339, 2nd Series An Ordinance of Ely, Minnesota, Adding to the Ely City Code, Chapter 20, Section 20.13.24, Entitled Vacation of a Portion of City-Owned Property. Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

v. Omerza/Callen moved to Schedule Public Hearing for the Vacation of Park Street for Ordinance 339 for November 19, 2019 at 5:15pm. Motion Carried Unanimously.

vi. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the 1st Reading Ordinance 340, 2nd Series An Ordinance of the City of Ely, Minnesota, Adding to the Ely City Code, Chapter 20, Section 20.1.23, Entitled Zoning Map Amendment  
Attorney Klun indicated that this pertains to the Central Avenue Business Park District. It was zoned as Public 2 and now it should be Light Industrial-M.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

vii. Omerza/Callen moved to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 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.  
Attorney Klun stated that the Subd 1 of the ordinance can change, but the Subd 2 is from the state statute.  
A.Forsman asked to define the responsibilities of the Sanitation Committee. What are the duties during the off contract years. Will the committee have the authority to make recommendations on off years.  
Mayor Novak indicated that meetings could be held with the approval of a majority of the committee.

Attorney Klun indicated that the committee would meet yearly, and could meet more often with approval of the committee. Duties could include the sanitation contracts and hearing of complaints.

Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:  
A. Correspondence from the St. Louis County Youth in Action  
B. Save the Date for the RAMS Annual Meeting - December 19, 2019 at 5pm at the Mt Iron Community Center.  
Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve the Mayor, Council, and Staff to attend the RAMS Annual Meeting on December 19, 2019 at 5pm in Mt. Iron. Motion Carried Unanimously.

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:  
A. City and EUC claims for November 5, 2019 - \$85,884.64  
B. West Camp Street Pattison Street East Improvements Partial Payment Estimate #4 for \$51,756.85 to Utility Systems of America Inc.  
C. West End Redevelopment District, Phase 1 Partial Payment Estimate #2 for \$151,798.60 to Utility Systems of America Inc.  
Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the Claims for Payment items A-C. Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS:  
A. Resolution 2019-039 A Resolution and Order of the City of Ely, Minnesota, Declaring the Real Property at 106 E Harvey Street Blight Pursuant to the Ely City Code.  
Additions Updated Resolution 2019-039  
Additions Inspection Report from October 31, 2019  
A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the updated Resolution 2019-039 A Resolution and Order of

the City of Ely, Minnesota, Declaring the Real Property at 106 E Harvey St Blight Pursuant to the Ely City Code.

Kess indicated he will abstain from the vote since he owns the property.  
Attorney Klun stated that on page 3 of the resolution, the Ely City Council Finds: Section 4 was updated with the following must be performed to abate the conditions: Board or repair all broken windows - January 1, 2020, Remove Loose Siding - January 1, 2020, and Repair roofing and roof sheathing - August 15, 2020.

Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Abstain, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Kess Abstaining.

13. NEW BUSINESS:  
A. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve Resolution 2019-038 Resolution Supporting Grant Application to the MN DNR Grant-In-Aid Snowmobile Trail Assistance Program for Maintenance and Grooming.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

B. Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the Commercial renovation loan for Ely Steakhouse at 216 E Sheridan St. to replace floors, subfloor and floor tiles, and to prime, sand and paint bathroom walls, and perimeter cove baseboard replacement for \$17,500, pending proper paperwork and fees and to direct Attorney Klun to work with the applicant and to proceed with loan processing. Motion Carried Unanimously.

C. Debeltz/Campbell moved to Approve the Subordination

Agreement for Scott Mills and Wende Nelson for the Residential Rehab Loan recorded as document number 1331455.

Attorney Klun indicated that the city is often the 2nd mortgage with our rehab loans, there is still equity in the property and their 1st mortgage has a higher status. Motion Carried Unanimously.

D. RAMS Board of Directors Nominations.  
A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to nominate Paul Kess for the RAMS Board of Directors. Motion Carried Unanimously.

E. Omerza/Debeltz moved to Approve Premier Pyrotechnics to shoot the 2020 4th of July Fireworks for \$15,000. Motion Carried Unanimously.

F. Omerza/Callen moved to approve Resolution 2019-040 Resolution Supporting The US EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Application To Be Submitted By The City Of Virginia, And Authorizing The City Of Ely To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Agreement With The City Of Virginia For A Community-Wide Assessment Project.  
Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Campbell - Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously

14. OPEN FORUM: None

15. ADJOURN  
Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:16pm without objection.

Casey Velchiff  
Deputy Clerk

Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 22, 2019



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# Outdoors

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Northwoods

## 2019 FIREARMS DEER SEASON

# Deer harvest continues to lag 2018 numbers

Registrations in the North Country off 26 percent over last year

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Deer registrations across northern and central St. Louis, northern Lake, and Koochiching counties continue to run substantially behind last year after the second weekend of the 16-day regular firearms deer season.

The total deer harvest is down 26 percent across the region, although that is likely

attributable, at least in part, to the reduction in antlerless tags issued by the Department of Natural Resources. But even the buck harvest is down by 10.5 percent through the same point in the season last year.

Those figures, which are all preliminary, include permit areas in the *Timberjay* coverage area, specifically PAs 108, 117, 118, 119, 130, 176, 177, and 178.

Bucks comprised 79 percent of the harvest in the region as a

result of the lower number of antlerless tags. But the lower number of antlerless tags was not the sole reason for the decline. In PA 177, where hunters once again had the choice to take a deer of either sex, hunters registered 908 deer, down 25 percent over the 1,215 deer registered during the same period last year.

“Hunters reported a mixed bag of deer activity depend-

See **DEER HUNT...**pg. 5B



### Area Deer Harvest

Results through Monday, Nov. 18

Year	Bucks	Antlerless	Total
2016	4,987	917	5,904
2017	4,426	2,312	6,738
2018	4,635	2,490	7,125
2019	4,144	1,115	5,259

Preliminary harvest totals for permit areas in northern St. Louis and Lake counties, including 108, 117, 118, 119, 130, 176, 177, and 178.



WILDLIFE RESEARCH

# A future for fisher?

Research to test potential of artificial nest boxes for reversing the decline in fisher numbers

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Wildlife researchers are hoping that a new project will better determine if the use of artificial nest boxes may be one way to help recover Minnesota's fisher population, which has declined sharply in recent years.

Biologists from the Natural Resources Research Institute, in Duluth, are leading the two-year study, funded by a \$190,000 grant from the Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources, or LCCMR. Vermilion Community College's Forestry and Wildlife Club and the Hubachek Wilderness Research Center, in Ely, are among the participating partners in the project.

NRRI biologist Michael Joyce led a group of VCC students this past Friday to two sites on the Tomahawk, east of Babbitt, to install two more of the heavy-duty nest boxes in nearby forest.

Researchers will be mon-

itoring use of the boxes for at least two years, and possibly up to five years, depending on how long they hold up. Researchers installed a dozen boxes elsewhere in northern Minnesota during a pilot study begun in early 2018 and have installed another 60 boxes so far in their expanded study. They have a few more dozen yet to install with a final goal of 110-120 boxes, according to Joyce.

Studies from elsewhere in North America have confirmed that fishers will use nest boxes for reproduction, but researchers here want to confirm that in Minnesota and learn more about whether the location of boxes and the types of surrounding habitat impacts whether fisher will use the boxes to raise their kits. “To me, that’s the first step, to see if they can use them,” said Joyce. “Then we need to figure out where they will use them.”

While fishers normally make use of natural tree cavities, many wildlife biologists are concerned that increasingly-intensive forest management in the state has been eliminat-



Top: VCC student Aaron Mollin-Kling adjusts a strap as others hold a fisher nest box in place on a jack pine.

Left: VCC student Kendra Fink installs a trail camera near the nest box in order to monitor activity at the box.

photos by M. HelMBERGER

tion in the state has declined by about half over the last 20 years.

An eight-year DNR study, concluded in 2015, identified the limited number of natural cavities as a possible factor that was limiting fisher reproductive success.

Fisher, due to their size, require old, large-diameter

See **FISHER...**pg. 5B

### Outdoors in brief

## DNR reminds trappers of season changes for fisher and pine marten

REGIONAL— The Department of Natural Resources is reminding trappers that dates have changed for the fisher and marten trapping seasons this year. Traditionally, the season has opened on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, but that has changed in an effort to increase youth participation and trapping success. The new date will coincide with most school holiday vacations, allowing more young people to take part.

The season this year is set for Dec. 21-29, with the first registration date set for Dec. 31. The bobcat season will run from Dec. 21- Jan. 26, 2020.

### 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.

**FISHER...**Continued from page 4B

trees for their rearing dens. According to Joyce, fishers are typically using the largest two percent of trees found in the forest, and those trees are in increasingly short supply. And under the 40-60-year stand rotation schedule that the DNR is implementing on most of its forest lands, such trees are likely to become even rarer in the future.

If nest boxes can be used to supplement the number of natural cavities, they could help sustain fisher numbers in the future despite the changes in forest management. But first, researchers need to understand what locations fishers prefer and whether they'll opt to den in the more marginal habitat that is likely to be available in the future. "If they'll only use boxes located in old forests anyway, it won't help much," said Joyce.

The research includes a number of ways to detect whether fishers are using the boxes. For one, researchers install a trail camera directed toward the box entrance to monitor the comings and goings of all the wildlife that are making use of the boxes. They have also attached a sticky strip along the top portion of the entrance, which is designed to catch a few hairs as animals go in and out of the box. Those hairs can be identified either visually or through DNR analysis. The researchers are also installed a temperature sensor that will allow them to monitor temperature changes inside the box, which will indicate whether an animal is using it.

The boxes are heavy duty, built from a double layer of plywood sandwiching foam insulation, which will offer more thermal protection for the animals that utilize them. The nest box entrances are designed specifically

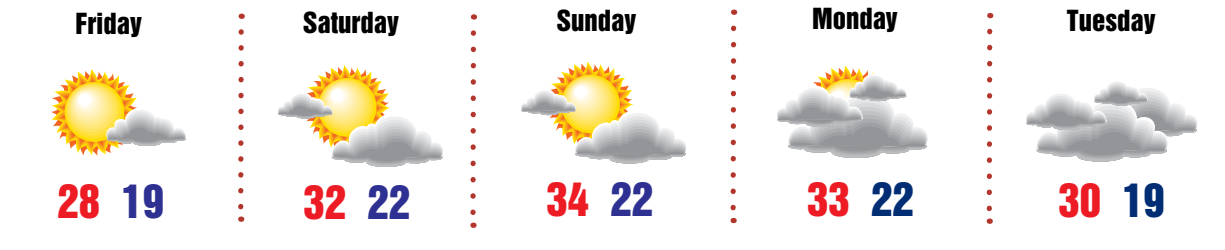
to accommodate female fishers, which are significantly smaller than males, while excluding males. That offers the females and their young protection from the males, which can be aggressive during breeding periods. The researchers have reinforced the entrance holes with a third layer of dense hardwood in order to discourage red squirrels from enlarging the entrances.

Female fishers typically give birth to their young in March, and they often breed again within days of giving birth, said Joyce. "Female fishers are effectively pregnant year-round," said Joyce. But the fertilized embryos are maintained in a kind of suspended animation for months, and only implant and begin to grow during the following winter. This unusual process, known as delayed implantation, is typical of members of the weasel family as well as bears.

While the nest boxes may provide useful denning sites in an absence of natural cavities, it remains unclear if they'll help protect fishers from the threat of bobcats, which have been steadily increasing in numbers in northern Minnesota in recent years.

To date, the suggestion that bobcats are preying on fisher is mostly anecdotal. Trapping data does suggest that fisher numbers tend to be low when bobcat numbers are high. Joyce said that his fellow researchers hope to learn more about that connection through related research they hope to have funded by later this year. That research would involve GPS-collaring of both bobcat and fishers in order to learn more about how the two species might be interacting in the wild.

**LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST** from NOAA weather



Ely				Emb.				Cook				Orr				Tower																																											
Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.																																								
11/11	17	7	0.00	11/11	16	5	0.00	11/11	14	6	0.01	0.1"	11/11	9	6	0.00	11/11	16	5	0.02	0.2"																																						
11/12	10	-14	0.00	11/12	10	-15	0.00	11/12	9	-7	0.01	0.1"	11/12	16	-7	0.00	0.1"	11/12	12	9	0.00																																						
11/13	15	-14	0.01	0.2"	11/13	14	-16	0.01	0.2"	11/13	14	-7	0.00	11/13	21	-7	0.01	11/13	12	-14	0.00																																						
11/14	21	14	0.06	1.6"	11/14	19	13	0.01	1.6"	11/14	21	14	0.02	0.2"	11/14	27	14	0.02	11/14	19	13	0.02	0.8"																																				
11/15	28	13	0.00	11/15	28	12	0.00	11/15	28	14	0.00	11/15	27	14	0.01	11/15	27	11	0.00																																								
11/16	29	13	0.00	11/16	29	12	0.00	11/16	28	15	0.00	11/16	41	15	0.03	0.1"	11/16	30	14	0.00																																							
11/17	41	29	0.02	11/17	41	12	0.04	11/17	39	28	0.03	0.1"	11/17	34	28	0.03	0.1"	11/17	41	30	0.10																																						
YTD Total				20.40				10.9"				YTD Total				25.99				5.2"				YTD Total				23.46				3.1"				YTD Total				NA				2.5"				YTD Total				27.99				3.4"			

**DISEASE**  
**Northern Minnesota grouse test positive for eastern equine encephalitis virus**

**REGIONAL**—Three Itasca County ruffed grouse that appeared sick have tested positive for the mosquito-borne virus eastern equine encephalitis or EEE. It's the first time the virus has been confirmed to cause illness in a Minnesota wild animal. "Now that we've found the EEE virus in Minnesota grouse, we will continue to monitor grouse populations for signs of the disease," said Michelle Carstensen, wildlife health program leader for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. "It's too soon to say how widespread the EEE virus might be in grouse populations because we only have one



year of grouse sampling results from 2018." EEE is a rare illness in humans. People bitten by infected mosquitoes seldom develop any symptoms but the virus can be serious if they do. The hunters who harvested the grouse brought them to DNR staff in late

October after they noticed abnormal behavior in the birds — they didn't or couldn't fly away. When field dressing the birds, the hunters also noticed reduced muscle mass. Tests concluded two and possibly a third were infected with the EEE virus. The third grouse - suspected of having the virus, also had inflammation in the brain, providing further evidence that it likely also suffered from EEE. All birds tested negative for West Nile virus. The EEE virus is typically found in the eastern United States and along the Gulf Coast but also has been found in other states, including Michigan and

Wisconsin. Prior to this discovery, the DNR had confirmed that wolves and moose in northeastern Minnesota had been exposed to the virus but never found animals of either species sick with the disease. As with any wild game, care should be used when processing the animal to avoid cuts that could cause potential infection. Any game that appears abnormal — either in the field or after dressing — should not be consumed. Hunters with questions about what they harvest can contact a nearby DNR area wildlife office.

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

ing on the day and the weather," said Tom Rusch, DNR Tower area wildlife manager. "Some hunters reported bucks chasing does and breeding pairs. Other hunters reported minimal deer activity with most of it occurring at night."

The weather and field conditions in the region were pretty typical for mid-November after the cold front moved through mid-week. Most days were in the 20s and 30s with the high temperatures reaching into the 40s this past weekend. "Nights were cool and a skiff of snow remained to improve visibility," said Rusch. "Swamps and low areas remained frozen which greatly improved access compared to early fall conditions."

The cold weather conditions that greeted hunters for much of the opening week significantly impact-

ed hunter effort, reducing stand time for many hunters, and ultimately harvest, said Rusch. "That was a huge factor considering the decline in harvest over opening weekend, when the majority of

hunters are in the woods." Statewide, hunters had registered 153,643 deer including 86,533 (56 percent) bucks and 67,110 antlerless deer. With lower hunting pressure and the tail end of rutting activity

continuing into the last weekend, Rusch predicts that hunting should be good for those hunters still in the woods.

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**DeWalt® 20 Volt MAX Lithium-Ion Drill & Impact Driver Kit** \$149.99

**DeWalt® 64 Pc. Drill Bit/Driver Bit Set** \$14.99

**BLACK+DECKER® Jigsaw, Orbital Sander, Drill, Angle Grinder or ROTO-BIT Storage Screwdriver** \$19.99

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**SEE YOUR HELPFUL HARDWARE FOLKS**  
PRICES GOOD NOVEMBER 20 - DECEMBER 2, 2019

**Merhar's Ace Hardware**  
48 E. Chapman St., Ely • 218-365-3129

For a donation of \$400 (or more), a silver nameplate will be engraved with the text of your choice. (3 lines or less, 12 characters per line. 36 total including punctuation and spaces.)

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**Thank you for your support!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Or make a donation in support of Ely's Historic State Theater and be part of its history!

Yes, I/we would like to be part of the action. Please accept my/our gift of:

\$1 - \$399.....Friends of the Theater  
 \$400 - \$999.....Theater Patron  
 \$1,000 - \$4999.....Spotlight Level  
 \$5,000 - \$9,999.....Red Carpet Level  
 \$10,000 - and above.....Academy Level

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM & DONATIONS TO:  
ELY'S HISTORIC STATE THEATER (EHST)  
PO BOX 34 ELY, MN 55731

EHST IS A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE LAW

# 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**

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  
Second Reading: November 19, 2019  
Adopted this 19th day of November, 2019.  
Chuck Novak, Mayor

Harold R Langowski, City Clerk-Treasurer

*Published in the Ely Timberjay Nov. 8 & 22, 2019*

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

**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**

14, Auditors 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  
Second Reading: November 19, 2019

Adopted this 19th day of November, 2019.

Chuck Novak, Mayor  
Harold R Langowski, City Clerk-Treasurer

*Published in the Ely Timberjay Nov. 8 & 22, 2019*

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

**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, ENTITLED ZONING MAP AMENDMENT**

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.

Adopted this 19th day of November, 2019.

Chuck Novak, Mayor

Harold R Langowski, City Clerk-Treasurer

First Reading: November 5, 2019  
Second Reading: November 19, 2019

*Published in the Ely Timberjay Nov. 8 & 22, 2019*

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

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

SECTION 2. Effective Date:

## NOTICE OF BOARD APPOINTMENT TOWN OF CRANE LAKE

The Crane Lake Town Board of Supervisors will be making two appointments to the **Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District Board of Managers** for three-year terms that will commence January 1, 2020 and expire December 31, 2022. Application Forms are available at the Clerk's office. A completed application, current resume and cover letter stating qualifications and experience to serve must be filed with the Clerk of the Town of Crane Lake by December 2 prior to the Board of Supervisors' Meeting on December 10, 2019.

Jo Ann Pohlman, Clerk, Town of Crane Lake, 218-993-1303

*Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 8 & 22, 2019*

## TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF ELY PROPOSED 2020 BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX LEVY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Ely will hold a public hearing on November 26, 2019 at 6:00pm at Ely City Hall Council Chambers, 209 E Chapman St., Ely MN on its budget and property tax levy it is proposing to collect to pay for the costs of services the City will provide in 2020.

All Ely city residents are invited to attend the public hearing of the City Council to express their opinions on the proposed 2020 budget and property tax levy.

Harold R. Langowski, City Clerk/Treasurer City of Ely

*Published in the Ely Timberjay, Nov. 15 & 22, 2019*

## CITY OF ORR TRUTH-IN-TAXATION HEARING NOTICE OF FINAL 2019 PROPERTY TAXES

Orr Residents/Property Owners are invited to attend the Public Hearing to express their opinions of the final 2020 Budget and 2019 property taxes collected to pay for the costs of services the City will provide in 2020.

**Monday, December 9, 2019 at 5:00 PM Orr City Hall 4429 Hwy 53, Orr, MN 55771 218-757-3288**

Cheri Carter, City Clerk-Treasurer

*Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 22 & 29, 2019*

## EMPLOYMENT



**COOK HOSPITAL & CARE CENTER**  
Our Specialty is You

**OPEN POSITIONS** 10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

**Maintenance**  
Full-Time Maintenance/Plant Operations (Monday-Friday, on-call rotation) Possess, at a minimum, specialist boiler license and must become Second Class C Certified within 6 months of hire.

**Laboratory**  
Full-Time Medical Lab Technician

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

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

**Rehabilitation**  
FT Physical Therapist (sign-on bonus)

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

**Environmental Services**  
Part Time and Casual Housekeeper (Wage starting at \$12.43/hr.)

**Pharmacy**  
Casual Pharmacy Technician

**TO APPLY:**  
[www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/](http://www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/)  
More Info? Contact Human Resources  
**218-666-6220**  
[humanresources@cookhospital.org](mailto:humanresources@cookhospital.org)

The Cook Hospital & Care Center offers competitive pay and benefits including PBA retirement, Health and Dental coverage, Life and LTD.

Equal Opportunity Employer/ Affirmative Action Employer

## EMPLOYMENT



**DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION**

**Human Resources Technician 2**  
**Working Title: HR Generalist**  
**Permanent, Full-time Position**

This position provides professional level Human Resources work for the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation, Eveleth MN. Serves as the agency HRIS transaction specialist; Serves as the Workers Compensation Coordinator/Claims Manager and Safety Officer; Assists in recruitment, selection and affirmative action efforts; Assists in handling employee inquiries regarding labor relations issues and insurance benefits as well as HR policy inquiries; Maintains personnel files and records and HR forms and policies; Coordinates drug and alcohol testing; Provides support to agency HR and Operations functions. This position will deal with confidential documents as defined by M.S. 13.37.

Learn more and apply online at [mn.gov/careers](http://mn.gov/careers)  
Job ID number is 37151

Contact Barbara Sanders with questions at [barbara.sanders@state.mn.us](mailto:barbara.sanders@state.mn.us) or 218-735-3027

Application deadline: 12/13/2019  
Equal Opportunity Employer 12/6

**COOK CAREFREE LIVING HIRING RESIDENT ASSISTANTS**

Starting wage \$12.00 with additional pay for afternoons and midnight shifts.  
Apply at [www.spectrumhealthcos.com](http://www.spectrumhealthcos.com).  
Benefits offered, flexible scheduling, paid time off, 401k, free meals, cell phone discounts and more. 12/6

**DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER**

The City of Cook (pop. 574) located in St. Louis County is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of Deputy Clerk/Treasurer. This position is full time, potentially covers a flexible work schedule, and includes some evening council and commission meetings.

Primary Duties: utility billing, payroll, accounts payable/receivable, prepare monthly financial statements, meeting minutes, assist with annual budgets, assist in annual audit, manage computer and filing systems and assist in monthly council packet preparation. Applicants must possess strong analytical, organizational, math and computer skills; ability to work with the public; excellent oral and written communication skills; and the ability to work independently and efficiently.

Besides this position, City Hall staff includes an Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer and Office Assistant. Wage includes annual step and reviewed cost of living increases, as well as full time benefit package.

Interested applicants should contact the Cook City Hall by phone at 218-666-2200 or e-mail at [theresa@cookmn.us](mailto:theresa@cookmn.us) for an application packet. Position will remain open until filled. Application packets can be returned to Cook City Hall by delivering them to 127 South River Street or mailing them to PO Box 155, Cook, MN, 55723. 11/22

**FRANDSEN BANK & TRUST**

*Your Bridge to Financial Success for Life*

**Customer Service Representative**

Frandsen Bank & Trust is a growing company looking for a Full-time Customer Service Representative for our Tower, MN office. Responsibilities will include handling routine financial transactions while ensuring a positive interaction with customers/non-customers; handling customer inquiries and research; FB&T product knowledge and cross selling product as appropriate.

The qualified individuals will provide professional, superior customer service to both internal and external customers. A pleasant disposition and ability to communicate clearly and effectively to new and existing customers is a must. Candidates must have an eye for detail, work efficiently and cooperatively, and be flexible. Teller experience is preferred.

Frandsen Bank & Trust is owned by Frandsen Financial Corporation ("FFC"), an inter-state bank holding company with \$1.7 billion in assets and over 30 offices. To learn more about our company please visit [www.frandsenfinancial.com](http://www.frandsenfinancial.com). 11/22

## Super Crossword

### Answers

T	S	P	OWN	P	A	T	H	S	S	R	I	S	T									
H	A	I	R	T	I	E	E	T	H	I	C	H	O	N	O	R	E					
A	S	T	O	R	I	A	R	H	O	D	A	A	B	A	L	O	N	E				
W	H	Y	W	O	U	L	D	S	O	M	E	B	O	D	Y	W	A	N	T			
S	A	S	E	O	I	L	D	I	N	E	M	I	A									
			R	A	J	A	H	S	T	R	A	D	E	A	I	N	T					
			T	O	S	H	O	P	A	T	A	S	U	P	E	R	M	A	R	K	E	T
			B	E	T	E	S	P	L	A	S	E	R	A	N	G	E	L	A			
			A	T	T	I	R	E	S	T	A	R	S	B	R	I	O					
			T	H	A	T	O	F	F	E	R	S	S	E	V	E	R	A	L	R	P	M
			H	E	W	S	I	R	E	A	L	E	T	E	R	A						
			E	R	A	D	I	F	F	E	R	E	N	T	B	R	A	N	D	S	O	F
							R	E	N	E	E	R	A	S	E	W	A	S	A	B	I	
			G	A	P	E	A	T	C	H	E	R	I	E	A	T	L	E	A			
			D	R	I	E	D	S	H	R	I	V	E	L	E	D	G	R	A	P	E	S
			A	T	A	D	A	I	M	E	D	N	O	O	D	L	E					
			Y	I	N	D	O	V	E	B	F	F	R	H	E	A						
			F	O	R	A	V	A	R	I	E	T	Y	O	F	R	A	I	S	I	N	S
			T	I	B	E	T	A	N	S	T	E	A	L	A	L	M	O	N	D	S	
			S	C	A	P	U	L	A	A	C	R	I	D	S	T	A	N	D	E	E	
			E	E	R	M	S	W	H	I	R	S	P	O	X	I	D	S				

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**Subscribe Today**  
**218-753-2950**



# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

## AUTOMOTIVE

**Langevin Auto & Truck Repair**  
Full Service Auto Repair & Garage

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

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

## DAY CARE

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

## HAIR CARE

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

## HOSPICE

VIRGIE HEGG HOSPICE PARTNERS can provide help for patients and their families in ways such as: comfort care, massages, last wishes and more. For more information, contact Program Director Becca Bundy at 218-780-5423 or 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

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

## SNOW REMOVAL

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

## FREE STUFF

Friday & Saturday Nov. 22-23  
Cleaning out an old garage and trailer.

Stop by Good Ol' Days in Tower to get the location (located in Tower). Lots of guy stuff, kitchen stuff, much more.

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

Call 753-2950 to place yours now!

## BUILDING SERVICES

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

## WANTED

SELIGA CANOES WANTED: We'll buy old Seligas in Good Shape. Turn your classic canoe into cash. Call Steve at 365-6745. 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 Shanna at 218-780-6510 or Lisa at 218-780-1151. 12/13

## FOR SALE

WILD RICE FOR SALE- Locally harvested. Cass Lake Processed. \$10/pound. 218-235-9084. Babbitt. 12/6

## WILD GAME

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

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

## FUNERAL SERVICES

**Range Funeral Home**

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

Answer

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

**Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.**  
Line classifieds cost 30¢/word, \$6.00 minimum. Classified ads can be run a second time at half price (private parties only). We now accept payment by Visa, Mastercard and Discover. Call your ad in to 218-753-2950. Display (boxed) classifieds are billed by the "inch"- please call for prices and information on discounts. Call Today - 218-753-2950 or 218-365-3114

## MARINE

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

**ARONSON BOAT WORKS**  
LAKE VERMILION, TOWER  
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169  
Winter Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 9 AM-5 PM  
Sat & Sun: By appointment  
MERCURY LUND  
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

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

**MERCURY OUTBOARDS**  
Frank's Marine  
Sales & Service, Orr, Mn 55771  
Mercury Outboards, MerCruiser, Crestliner, Lund, Spartan Trailers, Ercoc Pontoons.  
Call 218-757-3150

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

## SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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

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

**MARINE**

**Handberg's MARINA** • **YAMAHA** • **EVINRUDE**  
ALUMINUMWELD • **POWERPOW** • **GODFREY**  
Boats • Family • Fun!  
**218-993-2214**

**Marina Services**  
Boat Sales & Repairs • Boat & Motor Rentals  
RV Sites • Marina Slips • Boat Storage  
Service Hours: M-Fri 8-5, Sat 8-4, Sun 9-3  
No Mechanics on Sunday

**Store**  
Ice Cream Cones • Clothing & Gifts • Gas & Bait  
Store Open: 7 days a week 8 AM-7 PM

**TIMBUKTU MARINA** ON LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2131  
7801 Oak Narrows Rd - Cook MN  
Cabin rentals  
Year round boat storage and dockage  
Boat and pontoon rental  
Convenience store  
Gas, bait & liquor  
timbuktumarina.com

**TIMBUKTU MARINA** LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2276  
2173 Vermilion Dr - Cook MN  
Ranger Boats • Premier Pontoon Weeres  
Boats • MERCURY  
SUZUKI • YAMAHA  
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories  
timbuktumarine.com

Read us online at **timberjay.com**  
**218-753-2950**

## Super Crossword

**CURRENT OPTIONS**

**ACROSS**  
1 One-sixth of a fl. oz.  
4 Fess (up)  
7 Hikers' trails  
12 — Lankan  
15 Suffix with 83-Down  
18 Alternative to a barrette  
20 Moral code  
21 One getting toasted, e.g.  
23 Waldorf — (New York hotel)  
24 1970s TV spinoff  
25 Clingy mollusk  
26 Start of a riddle  
29 RSVP card encl.  
30 Saudi export  
31 Sup in style  
32 Farrow of "Alice"  
34 Indian kings  
38 Buy and sell  
41 Nonstandard contraction  
42 Riddle, part 2  
47 Casino stake  
48 Claimed psychic gift  
49 Engraving tool  
50 Germany's Merkel  
51 Clothing

**DOWN**  
11 Healing sign  
12 Blocking more sunlight  
13 Actress Lively or musician Hitchcock  
14 Dumbstruck  
15 Nickname for boxer Tyson  
16 Watchman  
17 Golf ball prop  
19 Regatta athletes  
22 Ending for Motor or Rock  
27 Capital of Qatar  
28 More quirky  
33 "— girl!"  
35 "No man is — to his valet"  
36 Composer Franz — Haydn  
37 Extra for an iPhone  
38 Pre-1917 despots  
39 Word after ballet or charlotte  
40 Big primate  
41 2012 film set in Iran  
42 Canine chain

**ACROSS**  
53 Skylights?  
55 Vigor, muscially  
56 Riddle, part 3  
60 Tachometer inits.  
63 Cuts down with an ax  
64 Furiousness  
65 Stein quaff  
66 Giga- times 1,000  
67 Eon division  
68 Riddle, part 4  
75 Rationalist Descartes  
76 Render blank  
77 Japanese condiment  
78 Eye in awe  
81 Comic actress Oteri  
83 Devour  
84 Grassy tract  
85 End of the riddle  
90 Ever so slightly  
91 Directed (at)  
92 Pasta tube  
93 Yang go-with  
94 White bird  
96 Really good bud, in brief  
97 Zeus' mother  
101 Riddle's answer  
109 Like the Dalai Lama

**DOWN**  
110 Filch  
111 Babka nuts  
112 Shoulder bone  
113 Bitterly pungent  
114 Rider not in a seat  
115 Always, in verse  
116 Submitted texts: Abbr.  
117 Rotor noises  
118 Chicken — (varicella)  
119 Carders' requests

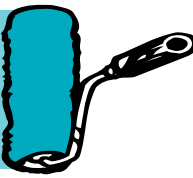
**ACROSS**  
43 Canada's capital  
44 "What a shame"  
45 Actress Kate or Rooney  
46 Blue dye from a plant  
47 Wash oneself  
52 "— in there!"  
53 Vassal of old  
54 Beech, e.g.  
55 Certain sib, in dialect  
57 Marcher's flute  
58 Big tanks  
59 River in Germany  
60 Junk dealer's transaction  
61 Takes a close look at  
62 Group in "GoodFellas"  
66 QBs' stats  
68 Numb  
69 Misfires from QBs: Abbr.  
70 Actor Christopher  
71 Made a misplay, say  
72 Hammering target  
73 Pulitzer, e.g.  
74 Related to birth  
75 Marsh stalk  
78 Aussie "Hi"

**DOWN**  
79 Clever trick  
80 Lounge featuring ivory-tickers  
81 "Hear ye!" shouter  
82 That dude  
83 Swelled head  
86 Cigars from Cuba  
87 Wraps around  
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