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# the TIMBERJAY

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ELECTION 2020

## North Country picks Biden

Former vice president garnered nearly 40-percent of Minnesota vote

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—Former Vice President Joe Biden was the big winner in Tuesday’s presidential balloting across the North Country.

Biden, who defied expectations and the latest polling, easily won

Minnesota and the largest share of the state’s 75 delegates to the Democratic national convention set to be held in Milwaukee in July.

President Donald Trump, who was not contested on the GOP side, easily won as well.

Biden garnered 38.6 percent of the vote statewide, to 29.9 percent

for Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders. Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren finished a distant third, with 15.4 percent. Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar had bowed out of the race this past weekend, throwing her support to Biden.

See...**BIDEN** pg. 8



A voter in Ely casts her ballot Tuesday in the presidential primary. photo by K. Vandervort

SUPPORTING THE ARTS



## Education and inspiration

Hoop dancers share native culture with Ely students

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

ELY - As children growing up in Santa Clarita, a California community just north of Los Angeles, Lumhe and Samsoche Sampson experienced the sting that often comes with being different. The brothers, of Seneca and Muskogee Creek heritage, were the only two Native Americans in their school.

“We got picked on and we got bullied for having long hair, for being who we were, for exercising our culture,” Lumhe said. “We learned very quickly how to stand

**Samsoche Sampson, above, performs a traditional hoop dance last Thursday during an Indian Education program at the Ely school. Ely second-grader Ella Rue, right, concentrates as she tries to execute a basic hoop dance move.**

photos by D. Colburn

up for ourselves, using knowledge as power to be able to change people’s stereotypes of what they view Native Americans as.”

See...**DANCE** pg. 8



TAAS

## Townships balk as ambulance miles rack up

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER— Four area townships in the Tower area, along with the Bois Forte Band, have made payments for years to help cover a portion of the cost of replacing ambulances for the city-run emergency medical service.

But now they’re balking as a result of a shift in the ambulance service’s economic model, which is putting many more miles on those ambulances to generate revenue from non-emergency inter-hospital transfers.

Their concerns were front and center at Monday’s meeting of the Tower Area Ambulance Commission and they expressed their displeasure at the city of Tower’s proposal to reimburse the ambulance replacement fund by 22 cents for every mile driven for a transfer. That proposal was part of a new one-year ambulance contribution contract that the city is hoping to sign with the area townships to replace an existing contract that expired at the end of 2019. The township subsidies contribute about \$40,000 a year to the ambulance service, while Fortune Bay Resort Casino pays \$5,000 per year.

“I am not sure whether to laugh or be insulted,” said Eagles Nest Fire Chief Larry McCray, a commission member. “Twenty-two cents a mile is an insult.” McCray noted the IRS pegs the cost per mile for running a personal vehicle at 54 cents per mile.

See...**AMBULANCE** pg. 8

“I’m not sure whether to laugh or be insulted.”

**Larry McCray**  
**Eagles Nest**  
**Fire Chief**

ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY

## Historical obsession

Ely author researching role of iron, steel in World War II

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – Iron Range ore is long credited with making the United States’ victory in World War II possible, and that’s a piece of

history that local historian Pam Brunfelt is working hard to bring to life.

Brunfelt, who retired from a teaching position at Vermilion Community College last May, has been devoting almost all of her

time to her research. “It is going to take another 20 years, so I have to live a long time,” she told a gathering at a recent Tuesday Group. “I have embarked on something that

See...**IRON** pg. 9



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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Winter Writers Group, March 14

COOK- The Winter Writers Group will meet Saturday, March 14 at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook. The group regularly meets on the second Saturday of each month from 1-3 p.m.

The group is open to anyone who enjoys writing. In each session, writers respond to prompts presented by the group leader, Ellie Larmouth. Participants also share writings that they have completed outside of the meetings. All forms of writing are valued... poems, essays, articles, short stories, chapters of future books, and personal memoirs.

There is a writer in each of us waiting to be discovered! NWFA membership is not a requirement to attend. NWFA is a non-profit membership organization supporting artists in all fields in the area of Cook. Forty artists display their work year round at NWFA. For more information, see the website [nwfamn.org](http://nwfamn.org).

## Business Development Series is back

ELY- The Ely Chamber of Commerce and City of Ely are teaming up again to bring Ely area business owners multiple opportunities for business development. Thanks to a grant from the Blandin Foundation, the series will feature one online course and three classroom workshops. Cecilia Quattromani of CQ Squared, LLC has developed these programs specifically for Ely. Cecilia is an experienced human resources and business partner who specializes in helping people and businesses achieve their goals.

The online course was part of last spring's business development series: Recruiting and Onboarding Strategies 101 – Foundation. Learn how the process of interviewing and onboarding influences your employee's engagement and productivity. This is an on-demand course that can be accessed at any time and includes several invaluable templates.

While Recruiting and Onboarding 101 covers the process, Recruiting and Onboarding 102 – Hands On will guide employers and hiring managers through updating their job descriptions, interview approach, and guides. The online course is a pre-requisite for this hands on workshop. The course is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, from 1-4 p.m.

The second workshop, Managing Conflict, is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, from 1-3 p.m. This workshop provides a conflict management framework that will help you solve complex problems more easily. Learn the five different conflict styles and identify your personal style.

Situational Leadership II – SLII Concepts completes the 2020 Business Development series. The four-hour workshop is designed for managers and supervisors to aid with developing and coaching employees. Learn a more effective way to communicate with your team to increase productivity and others' self-reliance. The completion of an online self-assessment is required. Workshop date is Tuesday, March 24, from 1 – 5 p.m.

All workshops will be held at the Grand Ely Lodge. A light soup and salad lunch will be served from 12- 12:45 p.m. Advanced registration is required. Seating is limited, so please contact the Chamber office at 218-365-6123 or [director@ely.org](mailto:director@ely.org) to reserve your spot.

## MDHA to host DNR speaker on moose

MT. IRON- DNR Area Wildlife Supervisor Tom Rusch will speak about moose in the areas he supervises at 6:30 p.m. in the Mt. Iron Community Center on Wednesday, March 11 at the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association meeting. His presentation, which is open to the public, will include a question and answer period. A business meeting of chapter members will follow.

## DEMOCRACY

# Annual meetings held March 10

Mark your calendar for democracy in action this Township Day



Residents vote at Greenwood annual meeting last year. file photo

R E G I O N A L - Minnesota's 1,781 townships will hold their annual town meetings on Tuesday, March 10. Known as Township Day, these annual meetings are held every year on the second Tuesday in March. Residents of the townships will meet to voice their opinions about local issues with other township residents and also vote directly on their annual tax levy; direct democracy in action. Citizens attending annual meetings also often discuss and vote on other local issues.

In addition, many of the state's townships will hold their township officer elections on Tuesday's Township Day.

"Township Day gives a direct voice to residents of townships. The annual

meeting is an opportunity to participate in local government. Residents meet and discuss issues with their town board and vote on the proposed tax levy," said Minnesota Association of Townships Executive Director David Hann.

"If you live in a township, please participate in your township's annual meeting on Tuesday, March 10. You can find the location and time by checking the published notice in the local newspaper or by contacting the township clerk," continued Hann.

"Township communities come together to shape their government from the grassroots up. Whether they are electing new local officers or voting on the annual tax levy,

these annual meetings are important to the direct democracy of townships. On behalf of the Minnesota Association of Townships, I encourage every township resident to attend their annual meeting," concluded Hann.

There are approximately 914,174 township residents in 1,781 townships in Minnesota. Townships exist in every area of the state, including the metropolitan area. Some, with populations of more than 1,000, function in much the same way as a small city. While many townships remain rural agricultural centers, other host a variety of residential, light commercial, and industrial development.

The tradition of a town meeting has roots

in colonial America. New England town meetings gave citizens a way to exercise local authority. Those meetings were especially important in the development of democracy because it emphasized problem-solving through group efforts.

Townships were the original form of local government in Minnesota, established in the 1800s when Congress ordered a survey that divided the Minnesota territory into 36 square mile tracts of land. Today, the term "township" generally refers to public corporations governed by a local board of supervisors and created to provide services to residents.

## Pancake breakfast and horse tack swap meet, March 7 in Embarrass

EMBARRASS- Have a great breakfast while helping the fair. A horse tack and horse stuff swap meet will be held at the Embarrass Timber Hall on Saturday, March 7 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. This event will be held concurrently with the Embarrass Fair Pancake Breakfast.

Table set-up begins at 7 a.m.; clean up is at 11 a.m. and needs to be completed by noon. Vendors are responsible for their own set up, take down, and clean up. Cost to rent an 8-foot table is \$15. Proceeds from table rentals go to the Team Penning event at the Embarrass Fair, Aug. 28 and 29, and the horse show on Aug. 30. To reserve a table, call or text Pam Myre at 218-780-8882.



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## MINING

# Supreme Court to hear Minntac tailings basin case

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

## Water Legacy and Fond du Lac challenge Court of Appeals ruling

REGIONAL — The Minnesota Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal that could ultimately require U.S. Steel to clean up pollution the company currently discharges into groundwater from the Minntac tailings basin north of Virginia. The appeal, filed by Duluth-based Water Legacy and the Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe, will reconsider a decision issued in December by the state's Court of Appeals, that found that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency lacked authority to regulate groundwater pollution emanating from the tailings basin.

In the end, the Court of Appeals threw out the wastewater discharge permit issued to Minntac by the MPCA in December 2018 and remanded

it back to the agency for further proceedings.

U.S. Steel opted not to appeal the ruling, which ensures that portions of the appellate ruling that favored Water Legacy and the Fond du Lac Band will stand.

But other portions of the ruling prompted environmentalists and tribes to ask the high court for a second look. Among the issues of concern to litigants is the appellate court's determination that the MPCA erred when it required U.S. Steel to comply with a 250-milligram-per-liter federal drinking water standard for sulfate. While the federal drinking water standard does limit sulfate levels to 250 mg/l, the court determined that the federal standard did not apply and was therefore enforced by

the MPCA in error.

The court also found that polluted groundwater that emanates from under the basin and enters the Sand and Dark River watersheds was not subject to regulation under the Clean Water Act even though it was "hydrologically-connected" to those surface waters. While the Court of Appeals sided with Water Legacy and the Fond du Lac in other portions of their ruling, the two decisions on groundwater contamination were a clear victory for U.S. Steel.

The question of whether groundwater is subject to that federal law has been a controversial one in the courts for decades and a landmark case out of Hawaii, which the U.S. Supreme Court heard last fall, is expected to clarify that issue later this



year. The Minnesota appellate judges appeared content to err on the side of caution pending that decision and determined that the federal clean water law does not apply to groundwater. Any decision by the state's high court will likely come after a decision in the Hawaii case, and will likely be guided by that federal ruling.

"This is a big deal," said Paula Maccabee, head legal counsel for Water Legacy, commenting on the court's decision to hear the case. The Supreme Court typically agrees to hear only about five percent of the cases that are offered by litigants.

## ST. LOUIS COUNTY

# County board approves rules allowing short-term rentals

## County hopes new permitting will ensure safety and minimize disruption for neighbors

REGIONAL- The St. Louis County Board has unanimously approved changing its zoning ordinance to allow for short-term rental of properties while also bringing them under greater regulation. The vote followed a public hearing held Feb. 26 in Hibbing. The updated ordinance goes into effect immediately.

"This issue has been circling the County Board for the last 10 years or so, and it isn't going away," said Commissioner Keith Nelson. "The planning commis-

sion has worked very hard at putting this together. We know it's just a starting point. They want to see it back in a year to tweak as needed."

Commissioner Paul McDonald, whose sprawling Fourth District includes most of the county's short-term rental properties, noted that his predecessor, Tom Rukavina, had urged him to work on this issue. "People want the board to tackle this and come up with a reasonable solution for all of

us. This is about public health and safety. It's about septic. It's about parking."

With the continued growth in popularity of vacation rental options like Airbnb and VRBO, St. Louis County's goal has been to ensure these short-term rentals are managed in the best possible way. Public input received during development of the county's adopted 2019 Comprehensive Land Use Plan strongly supported this review to improve the regulation of short-

term rentals. A number of St. Louis County services play a role in the short-term rental market, including property classification, land use administration, solid waste, and on-site sewage treatment compliance.

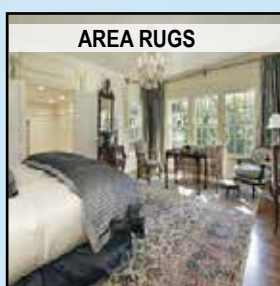
By requiring appropriate permitting with performance standards, and setting requirements for septic, parking and posting of rules, the goal is to ensure a safe experience for guests, and minimal disruption to neighbors and the environment.

The zoning ordinance and proposed amendments apply to any areas where St. Louis County is the zoning authority. The County's amendments do not impact short-term rental properties within cities because these municipalities administer their own zoning ordinance.

The updated ordinance and fact sheets about the ordinance amendments can be found online at [stlouiscountymn.gov/planning](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/planning).

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# OPINION

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

## Editorial

### Needless bloodletting

Political boycotts of local businesses  
are a recipe for disaster

The recent calls for boycotts of Indian-owned businesses in our region are as foolish as they are disrespectful. The politicians, like Sen. Tom Bakk, Ely Mayor Chuck Novak, and groups like the Laurentian Chamber of Commerce, can't have it both ways. When they tell members of the Bois Forte Band that their views shouldn't count, or that the values they hold dear don't matter, they are revealing much about their lack of respect toward native people.

We have heard much in recent months about the Iron Range “way of life” which, to some, rests solely on resource extraction. Yet native peoples who lived here for centuries before the white man showed up to level the forests and gouge the Earth have a “way of life,” too. It just isn't one that very many Americans of European descent have ever understood or respected. And with their recent calls for boycotts of native-owned businesses, they're putting an exclamation point on that lack of respect.

The Bois Forte Band, in particular, have been remarkably patient in the face of such attitudes. Through Fortune Bay, in particular, they have been accommodating and generous in their contributions to the wider community. The list of area groups, causes, and events to which they have offered critical logistical support or made generous donations is longer than any other business in the region.

Unfortunately, the irony of this situation is likely lost on those advocating for boycotts. Fortune Bay, in particular, is one of the largest employers north of the Laurentian Divide and provides both good wages and benefits to its employees. And yet, people and organizations who say they're fighting for jobs are actively seeking to harm a business that supports hundreds of families in the region.

The decision of the Laurentian Chamber of Commerce is particularly disturbing, because that's an organization that should certainly know better. A chamber of commerce, of all organizations, should understand the danger of using boycotts over political disagreements. Boycotts can cut

multiple ways, don't forget. The region's economy doesn't need such a blood-letting.

It should surprise no one that the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe voiced support for protecting the Rainy River watershed from the threat posed by sulfide mining. While some in our region prefer to ignore those risks, they are real and pose multiple dangers to resources like fish and wild rice that native peoples across northern Minnesota depend on. Those who support the call for boycotts say they're just standing up for their way of life. But don't native people have the same right to stand up for theirs, without facing economic threats from those who disagree?

What's perhaps most frustrating about this entire episode is how preposterous this fight really is. The federal legislation that sparked this fracas would impact no iron mining and only a single copper-nickel mine proposal, by Twin Metals, which has a virtually zero percent chance of proceeding any time in the next two decades. While Twin Metals has released a new mine proposal, the company has yet to publicly release any financial projections for that project— and there's a reason for that. The mine is not financially feasible at anything close to current metal prices. This is little more than Kabuki theater on the part of a foreign mining company that is hoping to lock up Minnesota's resources for its own benefit. And that benefit could just as easily include keeping the region's metals off the market to support higher prices. Mining companies often do better by constricting supply than they do by creating new production.

Sadly, we have people who should know better in our region who are willing to put existing jobs at risk in a misguided and disrespectful effort to “support” new jobs that are wildly speculative at best. It's destructive and belies their claims that they're actually interested in jobs. They're interested only in a certain type of job and care little or nothing about the harm they're doing in the process. We should expect better from politicians and organizations who claim to represent us.



## Letters from Readers

### Wanted: A place to live

Knowing that it may be time to make a major life change is only part of my dilemma. The other part is finding a place that is right for me. Most of us thought we would live our retirement years in our home and with our life partner. However, life happens and things change. I find myself in this situation and would like to share my vision of the perfect place which I think could happen right here in Tower.

I would like to live in a senior (55 and older) apartment building built on Tower's main street between the *Timberjay* and the car wash, building on a portion of this property with thoughts of adding on if needed in the future.

Building in this location would give the residents the option to walk to church, a doctor or dentist appointment, the grocery store, restaurants, the post office and other businesses located on Main Street. I could see my life happening right outside the window with a ringside seat to the Tower Fourth of July Parade.

I picture a parking garage approachable from the alley at the lowest level. This would include storage facilities for residents and possibly an exercise room. The number of apartments would depend on how large the building would be built.

The first floor on Main Street level could have businesses for the public and residents to frequent.

The second and third floors would have one and two bedroom apartments with basic kitchens. The apartments would have balconies overlooking Main Street or on the south side

of the building where the winter sun warms and brightens the apartments. One of these floors could also have a community room where residents could gather for social events like card playing, movie or TV watching, or just having coffee together.

I wish I would have written this letter ten years ago as I wish the apartments would be ready to open this summer.

I would like to develop a list of people who share my vision for living in an apartment building in this location of Tower. Please contact me through letters to the editor or send your contact information to phousenga@gmail.com.

**Pauline “Pauly”  
Peil Housenga  
Tower**

### An economic development plan for the Range

Here is a new, proposed economic development plan for the Iron Range. Pro-mining groups should boycott anti-mining businesses. Anti-mining groups should boycott pro-mining business. (The one or two folks in the middle should punt.) Pro-mining groups will win because anti-mining businesses will dry up and die. Yay! Anti-mining groups will win because pro-mining businesses will dry up and die. Yay! No one is inconvenienced much because everyone can do their shopping in Duluth or the ever-dreaded Cities. Yay! They are not that far away and stuff is cheaper there anyway and the selection is better, too. Yay!

On top of all that, both groups should clobber each other as often as possible with nasty personal attacks on their

motives, their beliefs, their livelihood, their character, their ancestors, their hobbies, their politics, their appearance, whatever works. Just think how good you will feel by making others feel bad. Yay! Insults, bullying and personal attacks are widely known as an effective means of persuasion, right? Just think how many minds you will change. Yay! Soon everyone will be on the same side—living side by side in dead communities with no remaining businesses to boycott and an ever-diminishing number of neighbors to bash. Mission accomplished. Yay!

Can't you see just how damaging all this mutual self-destruction can be? There is good reason game theorists label such strategies as lose-lose (die-die in this case). The simple fact (paradox) is that boycotts, no matter how successful, are a loser for everyone, particularly the community at large. In this respect they are a bit like trade wars. I'll tax your trade, you'll tax my trade until there is no trade left to tax. Yay!

No matter how many and no matter how severe, boycotts will have exactly zero effect on the ultimate decision whether to mine or not to mine. Same with nasty personal attacks and insults. The decision makers likely won't even know of or pay any attention to any of them. For the most part, they don't even live here, they solve no problems and make most worse. They can and will further divide a community already seriously divided. But, since self-flagellation feels so good, why not just punch yourself in the face and flush your money down the toilet. That will be just as effective with similar results, but a bit more immediate. Have at it.

**Don Brown  
Tower**

# There's more to be desired for women's equality

The weeks roll by quickly! Once again, I'm faced with a list of topics screaming for my attention. The sun is shining and the temperature outside has risen to the mid-thirties. Shouldn't I be out walking the dog or doing some other delightful activity instead of holing up

in my office cubby? No, a deadline calls... Let me take another look here.

Topping my list, the coronavirus. OMG! What can I say about that? At this point, we're keeping our fingers crossed, but only after having washed them for at least 40 seconds, to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” or “Happy Birthday” sung twice, whichever works for you, long enough to wash the “bugs” away.

And then there's the story about our state senator cancel-



**KATHLEEN  
MCQUILLAN**

ing his fundraising event at Fortune Bay Casino, at the behest of the local trade unions, because of objections to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe stating publicly its position on locating a copper-nickel mining operation too close to the

BWCAW! And the mayor of Ely then calling a boycott of all Native-owned enterprises! What happened to respecting treaty agreements between sovereign nations, not to mention “freedom of speech?” What the heck? Geez! The list continues...

Next? How can I overlook the state party caucuses on Feb. 25 and the Super Tuesday Presidential Primary? While the Republican Party is pretty much locked down by their infamous incumbent, Democrats have

to cope with so many choices that they're in danger of falling overboard from the campaign rhetoric. And this is only the beginning! We have many more months of mud-slinging, fear-mongering, and doomsday reports to come, from both parties. What's more, I can feel my blood pressure rise as I read about foreign interference in our election, sophisticated tactics to spread misinformation to confuse us, and underhanded efforts to suppress voter turnout. And, those “political war-chests” that are now almost as big as the actual military budget! When tallied, come November, we may find they've well surpassed it. My big question is this: Post-election, will we feel more or less secure? Will we sigh with relief or feel a surge of panic?

Excuse me for a second while I get my bearings.

Well, I think I'll just go back to a photograph I found last week of President Jimmy

Carter leaning over his desk, pen in hand, a serene smile upon his face, formally signing the document first proclaiming Women's History Week, which was later expanded to include the whole of March as “Women's History Month,” a time to highlight stories of remarkable women who made valuable contributions to American society. In Carter's words:

*“From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions were unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.”* (Gosh, I loved that man!)

The movement for women's suffrage began well before the Civil War. After parading, pick-

eting, imprisonment and hunger striking, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, granting women the right to vote, finally passed into law in August 1920. Sixty-four years later, in 1984, it achieved full ratification when Tennessee became the 50th state in the union to add women's suffrage to its state constitution.

One hundred years later the struggle for women's rights is still not over. Let's look at the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) which reads, “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex.” This proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution would finally make any act of gender-based discrimination unlawful. Although the wording is simple, its intent is clear. Once passed, females would finally have achieved full and equal

See **WOMEN...**pg. 5



# Letters from Readers

## God help us if Trump is re-elected

As we approach the crucial 2020 election, what more can be said of the current occupant of the White House, this ultimate con-man, this business “genius” with his multiple bankruptcies? A man whose “unmatched wisdom” has managed to alienate virtually the entire American banking system (to the extent that, for years, he’s been forced to deal with corrupt foreign entities such as Deutsche Bank), who is a textbook narcissist living in this alternate universe of “Trumpworld” where everyone loves him and he is incapable of error, and all evidence to the contrary must be wrong, contrived by his enemies, or “fake news.”

There are good reasons why so many conservative commentators have opposed Trump, people such as Steve Schmidt, George Will, David Brooks and Nicole Wallace, to name but a few. Their main reason is that they understand Trump isn’t really a conservative. He isn’t anything, he’s just pro-Trump, with two overriding concerns in his life: his own celebrity and his own personal wealth. Everything else is secondary to those two things. Unfortunately, since he decided to run for office, the ones who’ve had his ear are the likes of Steve Bannon, Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh and Stephen Miller, all far-right zealots with an almost neo-fascist agenda, masquerading as patriots.

After the 2016 election, I was foolish enough to at least hope that once he became president, once he felt the awesome prestige and power of the office, Trump would at least try to do what some others before him have done—make an attempt to rise above himself and become truly presidential, worthy of the office. How naïve was that! Rather than rising above the fray and “draining the swamp,” as he so famously promised, he has instead increased the size of the swamp ten-fold, confirming our worst fears. In his twisted view of things, he sees nothing wrong with conducting government business in the same way that he’s run his own businesses all his life, using the same corrupt tools—bribery, extortion, etc. He thinks it’s the way of the world because it’s all he knows. He has believed from the beginning that, as President of the United States, he should have the unquestioned right to do whatever he wants, Congressional and Constitutional oversight be damned. Now that he’s survived impeachment, has been “exonerated,” in his own delusional mind, he intends to, and is, in fact, doing just that—whatever he wants, knowing he has nothing to fear from congressional Republicans who will not hold his feet to the fire. They won’t offer so much as a whimper in protest. In a second term, what damage could such a man do, no longer even having to worry about the voters? If this shameless fraud is re-elected, God help us all.

**Lynn Scott  
Soudan**

## Vote yes on a hired clerk and treasurer

An important part of the Greenwood Township upcoming election is the decision for voters to decide if they want the clerk and treasurer positions to be selected via an election ballot in which any individual may spend \$2 and be placed on the ballot each time that the positions are up for election. They may apply regardless of the amount of training or skills needed for the positions.

I believe it will be much better for the two positions to be selected by the township board, thus allowing individuals to apply who have excellent resumes that show their past education, skills, past employment history and recommendations from their employers.

This would give the township board the opportunity to:

- Select two members (Open Meeting Law) from the board and two members at-large from the township to serve as a four-person committee that would review all applications and resumes to determine which ones should be selected for interviews.

- Have a special town board meeting to meet each of the selected candidates and have a question and answer period with each candidate. This could also be done by the committee, too, with a final recommendation to the board upon completion of the interviews.

- Vote on the candidates to be employed by the township.

I believe it would be in the township’s best interest to NOT use the election process but allow the board to select the persons they feel would best represent the township. Many qualified individuals may apply that may not want to apply via the election process. This will give the board the opportunity to have a 90 or 180-day probationary period with the selected individuals to make sure they are the best choices. It also gives the residents an opportunity to contact a board member directly and personally if they have a concern about either of the two employees. Residents do not have to wait two years to voice their opinion. Lastly, it will give the board the opportunity to have the township office open five days a week for four hours daily, which could be determined by the board in discussion with the two employees, especially the clerk position. It would be so nice for residents, summer residents, and prospective residents to know that the office is open daily Monday through Friday.

Please vote YES on your ballot when you vote on Election Day.

**Gene Baland  
Greenwood Twp.**

## Fiscal stimulus better than low interest rates

The Trump administration wants the Federal Reserve to reduce interest rates and it has even urged negative rates to help curb the impact of coronavirus. Nevertheless, it is unlikely to be an effective measure in this economic environment. The economy is already operating

with relatively low interest rates and high employment, making the benefits of interest reduction less meaningful. Corporate managers are reluctant to make project commitments, even with a one-percent interest rate reduction, in the present uncertain economic outlook.

Moreover, the administration does not address the issue of people experiencing hardship on the other side of the rate cut. There are people and institutions that depend on yield income from government, corporate and agency bonds. Lower interest rates are detrimental to the income from pension funds, endowments, insurance payments and individual retirement funds.

Lowering interest rates is no antidote for the virus. Disruptions of the supply chain will occur, despite lower interest rates, due to absenteeism, transportation interruptions and gaps in supply chains on a worldwide basis.

People’s response will be to avoid the life-threatening virus. They will stay away from crowds in the workplace, shopping areas, cruise ships, planes, trains, buses, restaurants and entertainment which can be sources for the transmission of the virus. From their point of view, their health will take priority over any benefits from lower interest. It is doubtful that reduced interest rates will stimulate the present economy to any meaningful degree in this economic environment.

Instead of focusing on monetary measures, the administration should employ fiscal measures to stimulate the current economy.

**Gerry Snyder  
Ely**

## True Stories brings community closer

We wish to thank all those folks who attended the True Stories from the Edge events over the last three years. We want to also thank Gardner Trust for assisting us with financial support this year. We enjoyed our time sharing stories and learning about our neighbors from all around the Ely area. We asked the participants at our last event to share with us their answer to this question: How does the True Stories event help Ely? Here are some of their responses:

- Brings us closer as a community.

- Allows us to share our lives with others. Everyone has a story, we always get along better when we know each others stories.

- Stories bring us together when so much pulls us apart.

- Connecting generations relieves cabin fever.

- Connection, social time and personal stories help us understand one another.

- Brings Elyites together to get to know each other better and to share experiences.

- True Stories makes good use of our abundance of senior citizens.

- It cut to the truth, we get insight into the lives of our neighbors.

- It connects people, deepens relationships and entertains.

- It makes us vulnerable and thereby helps me make meaningful relationships with community members.

- It brings fellowship and an opportunity to get to know people.

- Hearing others’ stories helps folks connect and see commonality in humanity.

- Bridges ages, backgrounds, nationalities, beliefs = we are all one in being Elyites.

- Discovering surprising things about our neighbors enriches our community.

- It brings people together for good, warm, fun on a cold winter night.

- We make connections with each other that last.

And Ely, for most, is a storybook ending!

**Terry Cooper  
Julie Nester  
Ely**

## Vote John Bassing

Dear Greenwood voters, my name is John Bassing and I am seeking election to the position of township supervisor in the upcoming township election on Tuesday, March 10. My wife, JoAnn, and I have been township residents since 1980.

There are several reasons why I have decided to seek election to this position, one of which is the unanimous action by the board to put Option B on the ballot. Option B would surrender the responsibility of choosing the township clerk and treasurer to the appointment of the board. We would no longer be able to vote for one of our citizens to be our clerk or treasurer. Since its inception, and in conjunction with the vast majority of Minnesota townships, Greenwood has always elected its clerks and treasurers. We need a clerk to work for all of us, not just the five who sit as supervisors. There is no valid reason to take the people’s power (right to vote of the many) and place it in the hands of the few.

Second, the board, in a unanimous vote, rejected a Blandin Broadband Grant (free) to provide \$5,000 toward purchasing a computer and accessories to establish a high-speed internet workstation for our citizens should they need it when their service is interrupted. The board instead used your tax dollars to establish this workstation.

Third, for more than a year, I’ve been working on the Blandin TEDA Committee, initiating and reviewing grant proposals in our area, and on the Blandin Feasibility Committee which is working to bring broadband infrastructure from the Virginia, Eveleth, Greenwood, Tower area on through Eagles Nest Township. I feel I can bring greater understanding and commitment required to get our township broadband connectivity as soon as possible.

Fourth, I believe all township meetings should be open to the public. Township business should be heard by all township supervisors at said public meetings. This is the foundation of the Open Meeting Law that townships must abide by, otherwise confusion and misinformation ensue. I believe it should be the mission of the board to conduct Greenwood Township business in a manner rooted in citizen

involvement, providing quality services in an open and cost-effective manner.

In closing, I stand by your right to vote (No Option B), spending your tax dollars wisely (accept and pursue grant monies), will work hard to bring broadband to our homes and businesses, and will conduct all township business in an open and transparent fashion.

I would appreciate your consideration and vote on March 10.

**John Bassing  
Greenwood Twp.**

## Greenwood will go broke when pigs fly

Here are a few things I believe everyone should know about a township levy. This year we are setting the 2021 levy. When the levy is discussed, you are actually looking at three years: dollars spent last year, this year, and then 2021 spending. When a levy is set by voter approval, it should be done with ALL revenues and expenses in mind. It’s common to talk about the dollars received from the levy and the last year’s expenses, or levy spent, but that is not the whole picture. There are other sources of township revenue that need to be accounted for when arriving at a levy amount to be voted on. Every township is required to submit to the state a financial reporting form each year that lists revenues and expenses. This is available to anyone. For example, the Greenwood levy collected \$146,000 in 2019 revenue. Total revenues reported to the state were \$265,000, a difference of \$119,000. This is other income. That number needs to be part of the 2021 levy decision. Greenwood reported \$306,000 in expenses in 2019. The cash position reported by the treasurer at the January meetings was roughly \$661,000 for 2019, in 2018 it was \$699,000, that means the cash on hand was reduced by \$38,000 that year. Bringing those numbers forward, a levy of \$150,000, ALL revenues less expenditures. It would take five years to bring the cash on hand down to \$450,000 at a rate of \$38,000 per year. And that may still be too much cash in the bank. Greenwood has insurance for all the buildings and equipment it owns. It has no sewers, water towers or other unexpected infrastructure to be considered. There is no reason that Greenwood should hold on to any more taxpayer dollars than are necessary. Too bad it’s not like taxes where you get a refund for paying in too much. Many folks here live on a fixed retirement income and live smartly, shouldn’t Greenwood do the same? Too much cash on hand leads only to one thing, more spending. It could be argued that if our reserves were smaller the spending would be smaller too. A tightening of the belt may be in order. If the cash on hand decreases, so may the spending. If Greenwood goes broke, you may want to look up for flying pigs.

**Jeff Maus  
Greenwood Twp.**

## WOMEN...Continued from page 4

protection under the law.

The ERA was first introduced in the U.S. Congress in 1923 but didn’t pass in the Senate until 1972. And after 48 years of dogged determination to garner support for ratification from 3/4 of our 50 states, it wasn’t until this January that Virginia became the 38th signatory to the ERA. But the ERA faces yet another roadblock to passage. A statutory deadline that expired in the 1980s is under debate. Having

passed a waiver of the deadline in the House just last week, it now must go before the Senate, where Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is expected to deny a floor vote for its passage. If this current opportunity for ratification is lost, the process must begin all over again, delaying full citizenship to half our nation’s population for perhaps another one hundred years.

The Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security

Index conducts a biennial survey that examines the status of women around the globe. In 2019, 167 countries participated. The study uses 11 indicators grouped in three categories: inclusion, security and justice. I was disappointed to learn that the U.S. ranked 19th. Do you think our failure to include equal protection to women and girls in our nation’s Constitution could have affected our rating in the inclusion category?

The index is definitely worth checking out. It contains information that is both encouraging and disheartening about the progress of women, and far more interesting than much of the news we’re getting elsewhere. Its content is credibly sourced. And there’s something about matter-of-fact graphs and charts that help cut to the chase, allowing clear facts, logic and common sense to see a way forward.

Although women have been

voting since 1920, and more of us ran for office and were elected into the U.S. House and Senate in 2018 than at any other time in our history, we still hold only 23.6 percent of those 535 seats.

Yes, it’s true, “we’ve come a long way...” maybe, but we have a long, long way to go. 2020 presents the opportunity to break even more records, making not just history but her-story!



## VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL



# Celebrating School Choice at Vermilion Country

Vermilion Country School recently celebrated School Choice Week, a national celebration of charter schools. The school, located in Tower, serves students in grade 7 -12 with a focus on project-based and environmental learning. VCS students are now getting ready for a four-day overnight trip to the Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center in Sandstone.

## Annual meeting, election day on Tuesday, March 10

REGIONAL- Breitung, Vermilion Lake, and Greenwood all hold their township elections on Tuesday, March 10. Eagles Nest, Kugler, and Tower hold their local elections in November. All area townships will be holding their annual meetings on Tuesday also.

In Vermilion Lake Township, incumbent clerk Crystal Alaspa and incumbent supervisor Phil Anderson have both filed.

In Breitung Township, incumbent supervisor Greg Dostert filed. Newcomer Dianna Sundahl has filed for the open clerk seat. Incumbent clerk Polly McDonald is retiring. Robin Bjorgo had filed for the seat but has withdrawn her application.

In Greenwood Township, incumbent Paul Skubic is being challenged by former township chairman John Bassing for the Supervisor 1 seat. Incumbent Mike Ralston is being challenged by Barb Lofquist for the Supervisor 2 seat. Incumbent clerk Sue Drobac is being challenged by Deb Spicer for the two-year clerk seat.

## Chimpy's Play in the Snow Day on Saturday in Soudan

SOUDAN- The skating season is over, but Chimpy is hosting a "Play in the Snow Day" on Saturday, March 7 from 12 noon – 2 p.m. at the Soudan Skating Rink area. There will be lots of great food and snacks, thanks to a generous donation from the Tower Firemen's Relief Association, this week's sponsor. So bring your snowpants and mittens and maybe even a sled, and have fun sliding, building snowmen, and playing outside on the playground. Temperatures are expected to be in the 40s.

## Little Church meeting on Saturday, March 14

VERMILION LAKE TWP- The Little Church committee will meet on Saturday, March 14 at 10 a.m. We welcome anyone and are looking for people interested in keeping the Little Church preserved and maintained in our community. The group also hosts a Men's Group that meets every Thursday at 10 a.m. for coffee and conversation, and all are welcome.

The Little Church is located on Cty. Rd 26/ Wahlsten Rd. Any questions contact Len Hujanen at 218-749-2014.

## Terry Defoe named to fall Dean's List at Bemidji State University

BEMIDJI- Terry Defoe, of Tower, earned Dean's List honors from Bemidji State University in Bemidji, at the conclusion of the Fall 2019 semester.

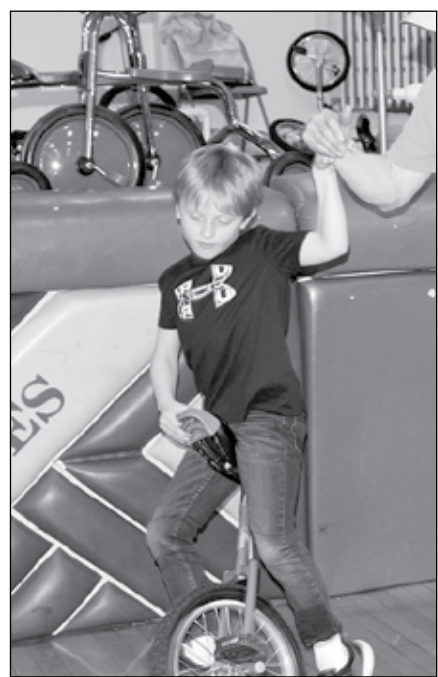
To be eligible for the Dean's List, NTC students must be enrolled for at least 12 credits and earn a 3.5 GPA during the semester.

## FUN ON ONE WHEEL



Unicycle lessons are underway again at TS Elementary, under the very patient tutelage of Chimpy Tuominen.

Above: Gus Larson  
Left: Eva Larson gets ready to help beginner Serah Ross.  
Below: Blake Pineo-Vogh.  
photos by J. Summit



## Cook VFW

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## Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

**Northwoods Transfer Station**  
9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt  
Winter Hours  
Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm  
Tue: 9:30am-3pm  
Wed: 11am-5pm

**County 77 Canister Site**  
2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp  
Winter Hours  
Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm

**Embarrass Canister Site**  
7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass  
Hours  
Sat: 12:30-4:30pm  
Thu: 10am-5pm

**Household Hazardous Waste Facility**  
5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia  
Hours  
Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm

**Cook Transfer Station**  
2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook  
Hours  
Mon: 10am-6pm  
Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm

**Soudan Canister Site**  
5160 Hwy 169, Soudan  
Hours  
Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun  
8am-5pm

**Aurora Transfer Station**  
5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora  
Hours  
Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm  
Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm  
Sat: 8am-noon

**Regional Landfill**  
5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia  
Hours  
Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm  
Sat: 8am-3:30pm

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Please Vote March 10

**Dianna Sundahl**  
Breitung Township Clerk

Paid for by Dianna Sundahl

**RE-ELECT**  
**GREG "DUSTY"**  
**DOSTERT**

*I'd appreciate your vote  
on Tuesday, March 10!*

Paid by the candidate on his own behalf

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to the  
**Timberjay!**





TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY

School receives donations



Tower-Soudan elementary students showed off with new large-screen television and MacBook laptops received thanks to a grant from the local Blandin Broadband Committee. The equipment will take advantage of new broadband internet speeds available at the school. submitted photo



Principal Kelly Engman and Scott Chiabotti showed off the new flag football curriculum and equipment sent by the Vikings. submitted photo

CHURCH NEWS

St. Paul’s hosting movie nights on Sundays during Lent

SOUDAN- St. Paul’s Lutheran and Soudan Baptist are jointly sponsoring Lenten Movie Night on Sundays at 6 p.m. at St. Paul’s during Lent. All are welcome, refreshments will be served.

St. James Movie Night on Sunday, March 15

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower will host a free movie night on Sunday, March 15 at 6 p.m. The movie is “6 Below.” An adrenaline-seeking snowboarder gets lost in a massive winter storm in the back country of the High Sierras where he is pushed to the limits of human endurance and forced to battle his own personal demons as he fights for survival. The film is rated PG-13.

St. James 2020 Lenten Worship Theme

TOWER- The theme for Lenten worship at St. James Presbyterian this year is “The Upside Down Teachings Of Jesus.” Sunday, March 8 – “Moving to the Head of the Line”, Matthew 23:1-23. Jesus hated pride and used the Pharisees to highlight the evils of that sin. But why would God hate pride, and how would I know if I suffer from it?

Sunday, March 15 – “Slave or Free”, Romans 6:1-23. The world believes that if they can be free of God, they’ll be free to do as they wish? The Bible teaches us that everyone is a slave to something, but does that really make sense?

Sunday, March 22 – “Strength Training”, 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. How could my weakness be a good thing? Why would this truth be necessary for me to understand God’s will for my life?

Sunday, March 29 – “Life From Death”, Matthew 22:23-33. Modern day Sadducees still teach that a bodily resurrection is unbelievable. For what three reasons do they reject a teaching that is so obviously Biblical?

St. James Presybyterian Holy Week and Easter schedule

Palm Sunday – “From Triumph To Tragedy”, Matthew 21:1-11, Jesus went from triumph to tragedy in a week.

Maundy Thursday – The Lord’s Supper and Potluck 6 p.m. “The Fifth Cup: Our Way Of Hope” from our series “The Path To The Cross.”

Good Friday – Ecumenical Service at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday– “A Living Hope For The Hopeless”, Luke 24:10-35. When Jesus rose from the dead, Thomas got a five-minute show and tell. By contrast, the

two men on the road to Emmaus received a three-hour dissertation. Why the difference? Perhaps Jesus spent more time with these hopeless men, to show us how to have a living Hope in a hopeless world. The service will be followed by a potluck Easter Brunch

Ecumenical Community Good Friday Service

TOWER- This year’s Ecumenical Community Good Friday Service will be held on Friday, April 9 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower at 7 p.m.

Community Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 11 at 11 a.m. Sharp!

TOWER- The annual Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 11 at 11 a.m. sharp. The event is for all children through sixth-grade and their families. Join us at the Tower Civic Center. The egg hunt begins at 11 a.m. sharp, so please arrive early. The egg hunt itself only takes a few minutes as the children race to collect the thousands of eggs scattered on the civic center grounds.

If you can help with preparing the eggs and prizes prior to the event, or can volunteer on the day of the event, please contact Pastor Doug Workman at St. James Presbyterian at 218-753-6005.

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION



Dear Hearts,

March already... we are getting ready for St. Paddy’s Day. We were late without preparations last year and had to make do with root beer. Not a great substitute for the nectar from the old sod. I am also making hot cross buns and other Irish dishes to distract Hilda from the deer patrol. There are three (Odocoileus virginianus) white-tailed deer that wander across the yard each morning. Hilda

feels that their presence will destroy the pristine nature of our lawn. I have tried to point out to her that we have very little lawn left since the snowmobile parade.

We were not home! Ever since she took Gun Safety for the Elderly, she has been hot to ward off home invaders.

Rock salt shells are her ammo of choice.

I have no idea where one gets rock salt bullets... probably the same place she gets her camouflage wardrobe.

She has a magazine article from the ARRP magazine, “Deer— You or Them... Helpful Horticultural Hints.”

The very first hint was... “GET A GUN!”

I felt that arming senior citizens might not be the best advice.

We are a cranky sort with little patience with

people, for example, who chat with the checkout person after their groceries have been bagged.

Hilda’s first run-in with the police was when she shot out the tires of a driver who beat her to a good parking spot at Target.

Only a day later, her second offense, which led to the arrival of several police cars and her incarceration, occurred in a local eatery.

Young people must learn that the older we get the less patience we have when we are hungry.

Hilda was hungry, Hilda was armed, and she fired a couple of warning shots toward the kitchen where our waitress was flirting with the cook.

One has to learn that when she is HUNGRY, Hilda becomes a raging beast... look out world.

There were, as you

might expect, the wails of a police car, handcuffs, and a court appearance.

Her lawyer’s defense was the fact that she was over-imbibing Geritol!

After a lecture by the judge about drug usage and the possible negative consequences of gunfire in a crowded area she was set free with no jail time. While in jail we were given a list of deer resistant plants!

It goes on for AGES and lists many, many plants totally unfamiliar to us! Common Sweet Shrub, Nikko, Bicolor Barrenwort, Cushion Splurge and Andromeda!

There were some hardy to Zone 3, plants— Ladies Mantle, Bleeding Hearts, Siberian Iris and who knew... Peonies.

Well, ta ta, dears, Ms. Vera Milion

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, March 18; April 8, 29

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

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 218-300-1447 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 March 9

Monday-	Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup
Tuesday-	Cheese Enchilada, Corn
Wednesday-	Pop-corn Shrimp, Green Beans w/Cheese Sauce, Baked Potato, Bread Stick
Thursday-	Chicken Philly Sandwich, Potato Chips
Friday-	No School, no lunch served

Week of March 9

Monday

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

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

Tower City Council, 5:30 p.m. on March 9

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 March 17.

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

Township election and annual meeting day

Wednesday


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

Thursday

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

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

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the **TIMBERJAY**

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**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.



the
**TIMBERJAY**

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**Tuesday Group**  
ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at the Grand Ely Lodge.  
**March 10** - Dave and Amy Freeman - To the Bahamas and Beyond: A 14-month journey on a small sailboat.

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

**Game night**  
ELY - Smear tournaments are held the first and third Mondays, and cribbage tournaments are held the second and fourth Mondays at the Ely Senior Center, 27 S First Ave E, starting at 6 p.m.

**Breathing Out**  
by Cecilia Rolando © 2020



color subtracted  
grays, brown-filling the landscape  
a typical march

WINDOW INTO YESTERDAY

Ely's first ladies of history

by DAVID KESS  
Ely-Winton Historical Society



In 1932, Marie Sarkipato (later Ericson) was one of the first girl guides in the BWCA. Her first trips out occurred when she was still in high school. photos courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society



Lolita Schnitzius was elected in 1999 as the first woman mayor of Ely.

served from 1952 - 1966 as president.

Mary Toutloff Anderson, a Native American, and her husband John, were resort owners on Burntside Lake. Not only were they among the earliest of resort owners in the area, Mary was the first Ojibwe woman to be in that position. A nicer woman could not be found.

In 1932 Marie Sarkipato (later Ericson) was discovered by the national press as it became known that she was one of the first girl guides in the BWCA. Her first trips out occurred when she was still in high school. Another hardy adventurer was Anne Bancroft. In 1986 while living in Ely she joined the Steger expedition to the North Pole.

Thirty years before that in 1956 Isabel Foot Koski became the first woman to be elected to Ely's school board. She served until 1965. It must have been a bit intimidating especially since Isabel was not even "from here," but her involvement spoke to the commitment that this community placed on education.

The first woman to become a St. Louis County Commissioner was Deidre Tomsich Dodge, then from Duluth but who was born and raised in Ely. There may have been other women commissioners since then but overwhelmingly the county board has been male-dominated.

Those of us over the age of 50 will likely recall Mary Hutar. Housekeeper for the priests at St. Anthony's, she also was the church organist and first lady choir director, serving for decades. As Catholic as Mary was, she was also ecumenical in her thinking. She also

served as organist for the Presbyterian Church for several years. Were these jobs not enough, she endeared herself to many in community musicals.

In 1889, a group of Finnish ladies (and men) formed the Vesi Temperance Lodge. Besides discouraging the use of strong drink, a scourge among the young single immigrant men, they constructed a large building on Camp Street then known as the Opera House. They promoted a mens exercise group, held lectures and other programs, promoted concerts and a brass band, and put together a free lending library. The women strongly supported the women's suffrage movement. Their building eventually became a movie theater and finally a bowling alley. These women were the first in the community to organize and to take on such an effort.

There may well be other ladies who were first in one way or another, ones that we have overlooked. Our museum and current display has taken as representative of those women by mentioning Mrs. Katharine Spreitzer. She was the mother of 14 children and persevered for many years as a widow. Many such ladies lived putting their families first. Despite their years of providing for the welfare and education of their children, they often found time to make contributions to the life of our community.

The "First Ladies" exhibit is at Vermilion Community College during March and April and then can be seen at the Ely Public Library for two more months. March is Women's Month and March 8 is International Women's Day. Ely has every reason to recognize

Ely Public Library Events

► Friday, March 6 at 11 a.m. - Preschool Storytime - Our regular preschool storytime featuring stories, early literacy activities, and lots of fun! We end with an optional craft that ties into the week's theme. This week will be Hats and Mittens.

► Monday, March 9 at 3 p.m. - Friends of the Library Bookclub - for teens and adults. This month's book will be Where'd You Go, Bernadette by Marie Sample.

► Wednesday, March 11 at 1 p.m. - Becky

Schlegel Duo - for all ages. Take a musical journey with the Becky Schlegel Duo! Becky's music is original, drawing on the influence of classic country, bluegrass, folk, and her own thoughtful spirit. Her voice floats, whispers, then soars above music of the highest quality. This program is sponsored by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

► Friday, March 13 at 11 a.m. - Preschool Storytime - Our regular preschool storytime featuring stories, early literacy activities, and lots of fun! We end with an optional craft that ties into the week's theme. This week will be St. Patrick's Day.

► Friday, March 13 at 3:30 p.m. - Pinterest Projects - This is part of a series of programs based on a crafting theme. This month, the theme is Tin Creations. This is the perfect craft session for you if you find yourself pinning lots of ideas on Pinterest that you never go back and use. Please pre-register for this program, so we can have enough supplies on hand. The library will supply materials. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

► Thursday, March 19 and Friday, March 20 - Model Rocketry Seminar, for grades 7 - 12 - Learn the basics of how rockets work, then build and launch a model rocket. Pre-registration required... must be able to attend both sessions. More details of times, etc. to come soon.

► Friday, March 20 at 11 a.m. - Preschool Storytime - Our regular preschool storytime featuring stories, early literacy activities, and lots of fun! We end with an optional craft that ties into the week's theme. This week will be llamas.



## SUPPORTING THE ARTS



## Ice skaters put on a show



Members of the Babbitt Figure Skating Club presented their annual ice dancing show, "Love is" last weekend. Shown in top photo, from left, Skylar Cameron, Katie Blaeser, Alexa Barsness, Avery Bee, Kiersten Schoonover, Celia Klimek and Braylynn Norman. Above, solo skater is Edee Flug. At right is Kashtin Tom photos by Tara Larsen



## BUSINESS NEWS

## Ely bakery closes retail business

ELY - There has been a major change in an Ely family business, Plum Bun Bakery, dynamic. After years of wanting a change, Thom Serson broke away from the bakery, and is working at another establishment, leaving just Elizabeth to maintain the bakery which is now strictly wholesale.

"(Thom's) initial thought was to work enough to make a paycheck, and to help me with what he could on the side," Liz wrote on a recent Facebook post. "His schedule will not allow that, but we both agreed that he should stay and give it a good try. I will be taking over the

bread production. We will have to be strictly wholesale for now, until we can foresee a way to re-open the shop for retail sales."

She said she will continue to provide updates on Facebook. "Please encourage others to like our page if they want to know what's going on. I will try to be diligent in my posts, so people know what to expect."

Cakes, and other special orders will continue to be available with enough notice. "My schedule has changed, and I will need more notice for orders," Liz said. "Please call us with any questions you may have."

According to a 2018 Go Fund

Me Campaign, The Sersons bought the local bakery some 16 years ago when it was "on its last legs" and brought it back to life.

"The road to owning the bakery was a long, and incredibly tumultuous one," she said. "Despite popular belief, owning a business doesn't make you rich, even if your products are great quality. In our little town of 3,500, we see businesses come and go all the time, and we've done our best to be a staple of the town so we can stick around. It hasn't been easy, but we do our best."

For more information, call 218-365-2802.

## AROUND TOWN

### Ely film screening tonight at VCC

ELY - The Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters organization recently created a new educational mini-documentary about the threat of sulfide-ore copper mining on the edge of the Boundary Waters, and they are hosting a series of screenings in the Midwest, including in Ely.

The film screening will start at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 6 at Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater.

This documentary features experts, Boundary Waters enthusiasts, and business owners speaking on behalf of the wilderness, and explaining why a toxic copper mine in this place impacts everyone.

### Great Decisions group meets March 12

ELY - The Great Decisions foreign policy discussion is set for Thursday, March 12, from 4-5:50 p.m. in room CL 124 at Vermilion Community College.

The discussion topic is Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

Study guides that provide background information about each of the topics are available to purchase at the Front Porch for \$35 each.

There are two copies available to read at the Ely Public Library.

The public is invited to participate.



### Fiddler tickets on sale March 8

ELY - Tickets go on sale starting at 10 a.m. on Sunday March 8, for the Ely Community Spring Musical, "The Fiddler on the Roof," hosted by the Northern Lakes Arts Association. "Fiddler" will be presented at the Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater March 26-29, March 31, and April 2-4. For more information, go to [www.northernlakesarts.org](http://www.northernlakesarts.org).

### Ely AAUW meets Tuesday

ELY - The local branch of American Association of University Women will meet for lunch at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, at the Grand Ely Lodge.

The program, provided by Kathy Cyriacks of Gracie's Plant Works, will be "Get Ready for Gardening." The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

### Donald C. Gardner Humanities Trust

#### We are now accepting 2020 Arts Grant Applications

for Individual Artists, Project & Youth Grants, Scholarships & Operational Funding

Updated grant applications and guidelines are available online at [www.gardnertrust.org](http://www.gardnertrust.org)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:  
12:00 noon on Tues., March 17**

*Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Keiko Williams, Executive Director, by early March for help and review of their applications.*

Call 365-2639 or email [info@gardnertrust.org](mailto:info@gardnertrust.org)

Youth Grant applicants must call Keiko by Friday, Feb. 21 to schedule a grant review meeting.



### Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

**Northwoods Transfer Station**  
9384 Hwy 21 N. Ely/Babbitt  
Winter Hours  
Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm  
Tue: 9:30am-3pm  
Wed: 11am-5pm

**Aurora Transfer Station**  
5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora  
Hours  
Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm  
Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm  
Sat: 8am-noon

**Embarrass Canister Site**  
7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass  
Hours  
Sat: 12:30-4:30pm  
Thu: 10am-5pm

**Soudan Canister Site**  
5160 Hwy 169, Soudan  
Hours  
Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun:  
8am-5pm

**Household Hazardous Waste Facility**  
5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia  
Hours  
Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm

**Regional Landfill**  
5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia  
Hours  
Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm  
Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department  
1-800-450-9278  
Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday  
[www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle)





NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# Empty Bowl event raises \$1,200 for food pantries

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- With dozens of beautiful student-made ceramic bowls spread out on cafeteria tables and delicious soups, breads, and desserts along three sides of the North Woods School commons area, it was clear the stage was set Friday for another successful edition of the art department's annual Empty Bowl fundraiser for food pantries in Cook and Orr.

Art instructor Rachel Betterley was pleased with the turnout of generous patrons, but also with what her students were learning by doing something for the community.

"The students are doing awesome," Betterley said. "The ones that are volunteering are fusing art and community service, which is the whole point. What you create can essentially be used for good."

Many students were repeat volunteers, Betterley said.

"We've had some students who have done this for three years in a row," she said.

Hibbing Community College art student Emily Benoit, who was demonstrating throwing pottery on a wheel, is a former North Woods student and repeat Empty Bowl volunteer.

"I've been doing this since 11th grade," Benoit said. "It's just nice to see everything happen, to show people what pottery is about, how nice and therapeutic it is, and to show off what I've learned."

Benoit is also an example of the influence that art and community service can have, particularly when it's linked to a supportive teacher like Betterley.

"She helped me through a really dark time, and she helped me realize what I wanted to do with my life," Benoit said. "I'm following in her footsteps and I'm going to hopefully become an art teacher."

Younger children took turns being fascinated by Benoit's skill on the wheel and by two celebrity guests, Miss Minnesota 2019 Kathryn Kueppers and Miss Minnesota's 2019 Outstanding Teen Rachel Luchsinger. Kueppers, a singer, and Luchsinger, a pianist, were so engaged with attendees that they came perilously close to missing out on the food.

"We have been running around all day, so we haven't eaten yet, but I can't wait to try it out!" Kueppers said.

"We've been waiting for so long!" Luchsinger added.

The performing artists both said they were glad to lend their presence and talents to support students in the visual arts in their service efforts.

"These kids made these bowls on their own and it's also promoting community involvement," Kueppers said. "Everybody here is getting together to support the kids and their art projects and it's service, it's community, it's learning, it's everything wonderful about an appearance."

Betterley was appreciative of the added excitement the pair brought to younger attendees, suggesting the overall experience would help to nurture future artists.



Above: From left, North Woods School art instructor Rachel Betterley, Miss Minnesota Kathryn Kueppers, Miss Minnesota Outstanding Teen Rachel Luchsinger, and fourth-graders Evalyn Thiel and Carsyn Burnett look on as fourth-grader Rebecca Koch prepares to announce a winning raffle ticket.

Right: The hands of volunteer potter Emily Benoit put the finishing touches on a freshly-formed clay bowl.

ciative of the added excitement the pair brought to younger attendees, suggesting the overall experience would help to nurture future artists.

"It's nice because I might have those younger students in art one day as middle schoolers and high schoolers," Betterley said. "If they're seeing at a young age how fun this event is, how fun art is, it's not only building my program as the art teacher, but its fostering arts in general for the

community."

However, If the royal duo had turned to Betterley for advice about the best soup to try, they wouldn't have gotten much help.

"Because my father-in-law made soup, and he also takes care of my son, I might be biased in saying his chicken noodle is my favorite," Betterley said.

After expenses, the event raised about \$1,200 to be donated to food pantries in Cook and Orr.



COOK CITY COUNCIL

# Council approves new ambulance purchase

Service will start charging new fee for non-transport runs

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK – Health-related issues occupied the lion's share of time at Thursday's meeting of the Cook City Council, as they approved the purchase of a new ambulance, decided to start charging for non-transport ambulance runs, and discussed the city's readiness for coronavirus.

The average lifespan of Cook's ambulances has been about seven years, and ambulance director Tina Rothleutner reported that Rig No. 1 has been in service nearly eight.

"It's costing more to keep than it's worth," she said.

The council approved a low bid from Everest Emergency Vehicles for a 2020 Ford F-550 Road Rescue Type 1 model for \$229,000. Patients and responders alike will notice differences in the upgrade from the Type 3 model it replaces.

"It's a truck chassis instead of a van chassis, which is a smoother ride for our patients," Rothleutner said. "A Type 1 has more room, so when you're running those full codes, you're not on top of each other."

Ambulance calls that end without anyone being transported will now incur a \$100 charge af-

ter the council approved a recommendation from the city's medical billing company.

"Because we do a three-man crew, we're paying our three personnel to go out there, and we're putting wear and tear on our rigs," Rothleutner said.

Given a suggested range of \$100 to \$200, councilor Karen Hollanitsch said they opted for the lower amount because it will likely result in out-of-pocket expenses for callers.

Rothleutner explained that the majority of commercial insurance companies won't cover the charge, and Medicaid/Medicare usually covers just 50 percent of a non-transport charge.

"We don't want to discourage people from calling," Rothleutner said.

In order to apply the non-transport charge, some kind of patient care has to be provided, Rothleutner said.

"For 90 percent of our non-transport we do at least a blood pressure check," she said. "It can be as simple as somebody calling for a lift assist, and unfortunately those patients will probably get charged."

Rothleutner also asked for and received approval to purchase additional pagers for five or six crew members who

don't have them. While they have radios, she said they don't always carry them. An additional phone instant messaging system used by dispatchers requires someone to move to a different computer than the one used for radio and pager-based dispatches, which can result in significant delays in receiving a dispatch on their phone.

"If they are backed up on calls, your IM responding on your phone can be from anywhere from five to ten minutes delayed from your pager tone," Rothleutner said.

## Coronavirus

Echoing concerns expressed throughout the nation, councilor Kim Brunner asked if the city had received any information on preparedness for the potential spread of coronavirus.

Councilor Elizabeth Storm, former chief operating officer for Scenic Rivers Medical Services, was quick to respond.

"We would be following the Minnesota Department of Health and recommendations from the CDC," she said.

Several councilors chimed in with comments about encouraging thorough handwashing, a practice that prevents the spread of influenza and other contagious diseases as well.

Storm noted the level

of public anxiety reported by national media outlets and suggested additional protective measures could be warranted.

"Maybe if we find out that virus was here in our state you would limit your socialization," she said. "I remember back when I was still working and we were talking about the SARS epidemic there were recommendations, serious ones, about holding funerals online."

## Airport

While renewing a five-year deal with SEH Inc. as the engineering firm for the Cook airport, councilor Hollanitsch reported on two items needing to be addressed.

"A couple of things on the agenda for this year are crack sealing, and at some point we do need to relocate the beacon," she said. "There are a couple of things involved with that beacon. First of all, it's smack dab in the middle of where our expansion will be when we get to putting in a new taxiway and making room for more hangars. We're totally out of space and still have people interested in hangars. And it's not OSHA compliant."

In other business, the council:

►Heard a report from Timber Days co-chair Steve Kajala about plans for this year's fes-

tival, to be held June 12-14. Beach volleyball will replace the softball tournament, as it has become too hard to recruit enough softball teams. Council members authorized \$1,000 to pay for portable toilets, and also approved special events for The Old Muni and VFW.

►Approved a retirement request from liquor store assistant manager Randy Olson, who will continue to work at the store one day a week.

►Approved final change orders from

JPJ Engineering in the amount of \$14,452w for the Cook Care Center right-of-way and commercial corridor infrastructure projects.

►Appointed Kris Maki as election judge.

►Heard from city administrator Theresa Martinson that letters are being sent to surrounding townships asking for support of Cook Community Center operations.

# Grizzlies archers compete at Grand Rapids event

Three young North Woods archers scored top-five finishes at the Grand Rapids Grand Prix Archery Meet last Saturday.

Cadence Nelson tied for high score with Alayna Sluis of Milaca Wolves Archery in the middle school division with 281 points. Nel-

son was awarded second place in a tie-breaker.

Khloe Holland placed second among fifth graders with 261 points. Third place in the fourth grade division went to Melody Nelson with 219 points.

The next meet will be this Saturday at Mt. Iron-Buhl.

Read us online at  
[www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com)  
check out our e-edition



# North Woods students enjoy Snowmobile to School days



JOHN VUKMANICH

Mother Nature has been very kind to most winter sports enthusiasts this winter. Although heavy snow has meant many hours of shoveling, plowing and snow blowing, it has also been very beneficial for skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling.

I am happy for our local businesses who benefit from the snow. On most of the snowmobile rides I have been on this year the trails, motels, resorts, restaurants, and local taverns have been bustling with snowmobilers. One morning on my way to work a large crew was gassing up in Cook at 7 a.m. I was green with envy.

As reported in previous years, North Woods provides a special opportunity for students to ride their snowmobiles to school. This year we actually had two because the snow allowed us to.

A question has come up before, and it is a good one: Why aren't students allowed to ride snow-

mobiles to school every day? It would be possible for kids to ride to school most of the winter. We have ample parking and a trail that leads through the woods to the school from Highway 53. The problem is the possibility for accidents and the safety of our students, and ensuring that students are not driving around other parts of the school's property and neighboring fields. I am just not comfortable worrying about the possibility of a student crashing on the way to school or crossing Hwy. 53 every day. Plus, it makes for a special occasion when we designate a day or two for our kids to enjoy their favorite sport.

Last year, the snow was quite deep by the time we had our day. This year it was the same. With our first ride being scheduled for Jan. 22, the snow in the ditch was at or above waist-depth.

At our rules meeting, I encouraged kids to ride with someone in a group with a long track in order to break trail. Several students have mountain sleds, and they agreed to make sure they had a plan to break trail in the ditch. There was one mishap, and all I will say is that a combination of deep snow and ditch angle led to some difficulty in getting a heavy machine to go in the direction it was pointed. It was a heavy sled and when it came

down to gravity versus the steering angle, gravity won. A large cement culvert didn't help, either. Thankfully it was minor with no serious injuries or major damage to the snowmobile.

The students who rode showed great camaraderie by sticking together and assisting in getting the damaged machine unstuck. It was really neat to see them all pitch in to help. The rider received some ribbing from his buddies, but that's the way it goes.

A parent of one of the riders also stopped by and assisted. It was nice to have a conversation with the parent about the situation, too. The parent, who also rides, was reassuring that this is a good learning experience for the students. My first concern is always student safety, and I was worried about any possible fall-out from the mishap. Instead, it actually turned out to be a positive. We all were reminded that it takes teamwork to get a 700-pound snowmobile dug out, an accident can happen really fast, and the most important thing is that nobody was hurt.

Our most recent ride was February 26. Warm temperatures from the previous weekend melted the snow down considerably and left us with an ice-hard surface that can still be ridden on, albeit with some slight issues.

When snowmobiles



Team "Braap" is ready for takeoff. Notice the Tundra, second from left, front row. It has one cylinder, it is fan cooled and lightweight. It is a throwback to the days of simpler designs.

submitted photo

were first invented, they used small, air cooled engines. A fan was attached to the engine's crankshaft, and as the motor turned, the fan blew cool air over the cooling fins of the motor. These motors were called "fan cooled" engines, in comparison to "free air" engines. The free air motor had no fan to zap horsepower from the motor and depended on a steady flow of cold outside air to cool the engine. Drive the machine too slow, and the motor would overheat. Drive it on a hot day, and warm air would lead to overheating and a melted piston. On cold, below-zero days I can still remember my dad saying, "The machines will run great today!"

In modern times the majority of snowmobiles are liquid-cooled, like a car. Most liquid-cooled

machines depend on snow, pushed in from the track, to contact the surface of a heat exchanger, melt, and transfer the cool energy to the coolant and then to the engine. Icy conditions make it difficult for snow to get to the exchanger for liquid-cooled machines to stay cool.

So, the only issues from this past week were a few machines running hot. Otherwise, the frozen crust on top of the snow has made for easy travels by snowmobile, snowshoe, and timber wolf.

Upon leaving school, one student struggled with getting his machine started. We lined up to take a picture. The other machines were all started and ready. As the lone student pulled repeatedly on his recoil, one of our students yelled, "I'll give

you a hand after he (Mr. Vukmanich) takes the picture!" Again, these kids are great at helping each other out. They pulled the plugs, which were recently replaced, and found the issue: The gap electrode on one plug was pushed tight to the center electrode, essentially grounding out the spark on one cylinder. After the boys quickly changed the plug, they were off. It was nice to see the teamwork and concern these kids showed for each other. If we can apply this in all parts of life, we can really get somewhere collectively!

Thanks to the local DNR and SRO Barrett for helping us be safe. Thanks to Mr. Fabish for letting us use his room to store the helmets, boots, and gear. Nothing like the smell of two-stroke in the morning!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Women's Day of Recollection is March 7

COOK- St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women from St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cook will be hosting a Day of Recollection during Lent on Saturday, March 7 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Mary Wanhala, Director of Outreach Ministry at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Hibbing. Wanhala's presentation will be "Spiritual Motherhood: Uplifting Our Priests."

The program schedule will include registration with coffee and goodies, two presentations (one in the morning and one in the afternoon), Mass with Father Nick Nelson, a free luncheon, and closing comments and prayer.

This Day of Recollection is open to all women. There is no cost to attend.

For more information or to register, please con-

tact St. Mary's Catholic Church at 218-666-5334 or Tammy Palmer at 218-780-8445. Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 5.

### Readers and Rappers to meet March 10

COOK- The Readers and Rappers book club will have their next meeting on Tuesday, March 10 at 1 p.m. in the Community Room at the Homestead Apartments in Cook. Sue Gustafson will be the moderator for "The Woman in the Window" by A.J. Finn. The hostess will be Marilyn Berlin. The following month of April will be Poetry Month. New members are always welcome.

### Events at Cook Library

►Friday, March 6: Preschool story time at 10:30 a.m. This week's selection is Fun with Food.

►Thursday, March

12: Preschool/Elementary 400 Snowflake Challenge Pizza Party at 4 p.m.

►Thursday, March 19: Adult mystery event, "Death on the Little Fork" at 6 p.m.

### Events at Northwoods Friends of the Arts

►Take Your Best Shot photo contest is in progress and accepting photo entries until Saturday, April 25. Adults pay \$10 for each 5x7 or 8x10 photo entry and students may submit three photos without charge. Registration forms are available at the NWFA Gallery or online at nwfamn.org.

►Every Saturday is Open Studio Art from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists meet to enjoy working. All artists and would-be-artists are welcome to share the time and space. All are welcome with no registration or membership required.

►Woodcarving Group meets every

Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. Call Howard at 218-741-7941 for more information. Beginners are welcome and encouraged to come.

►"Sunlight and Shadow," a new monthly exhibit, continues to March 28. The new exhibit features the three-dimensional art of Kris Musto and Laura Pajari.

►The Winter Writers Group meets the second Saturday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m. at NWFA Gallery. The next meet-

ing is March 14. Anyone interested in writing is welcome.

Gallery hours: Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 210 S River St. in Cook.

For more information, visit the website, nwfamn.org, or email nwfamn.org@gmail.com. The gallery will be open on Wednesdays beginning in April.



## the TIMBERJAY

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"This is my first year here at the school and this is our very first one," Anderson said. "It's very exciting. We have about 40 Native American students. We're trying to get some more culturally-based programs up here."

"The answer is infinity," Micco said. "That's crazy, right? In Western

“We teach that we each have a side in the circle, not only us now, but past generations and future generations will have a side in the circle,” Micco said. “Each one of us in this room has a tiny side, but not only us. The people in Asia, in Africa, in Europe, all over the world, all of us are a part of each other’s world. The birds, the bees, the trees, anything you can

"The first thing you'll see is Turtle Island (North America) crawling and moving forward, forming the foundation for the great

“It was really ingenious in how it was derived through thousands of years of living experience. It’s pretty much proven science, but sometimes it’s dismissed as myth or lore because we just don’t have the context or perspective to get the message across or

"Being here in their presence lets them know that I'm a human, that I'm real, that they can simply reach out. Those that take that initiative to reach out I'm more than happy to acknowledge them and give them as many teachings as I possibly can."

in the Eighth District in northeastern Minnesota, to 26.18 percent for Sanders. In the 2016 presidential race, Sanders had easily outpaced former Sen. Hillary Clinton in the Eighth District.

Biden won most precincts in northern St. Louis and Lake counties, with varying margins. Biden won Tower, with 28 votes to Sanders' 21, as well as Cook 57-16, and Orr 9-0. Biden also won big

in Babbitt, with 78 votes to just 35 for Sanders. Biden also carried all but a handful of area townships, including Greenwood, where Biden won 79 votes to 41 for Sanders, and Morse, where Biden

But Sanders did have some bright spots, such as Ely, where he won 199 votes to Biden's 182, along with a handful of small townships.

Turnout was relative-

ly low by Minnesota standards, with approximately 26 percent of registered voters casting ballots in the contest.

longer than the currently projected six-to-eight years, and that transfers were accounting for nearly two-thirds of the mileage put on ambulances last year.

"Without the transfers, what we contribute would buy an ambulance every six-to-eight years without any other money whatsoever," said McCray. "If you need to replace ambulances sooner than that, it is because of the transfer miles."

doesn't consider costs like depreciation or the cost of TAAS's shift to 24-hour paid-on-call staffing, which Altenburg said would be covered by extra revenue from transfers.

Some of the township officials were unconvinced, however, and Altenburg didn't help his case by arguing that the service can't afford to make contributions to the replacement fund of anything more than an amount that township officials consider to be taken at best.

Tower Clerk  
Treasurer Victoria  
Ranua, who drafted the  
new contract, challenged

Altenburg's claim as well. Ranua asked Altenburg how many transfers were done last year.

"One hundred and thirty-two," he replied.

"You are saying there is \$1,000 profit per transfer," she said. "That's \$132,000, and you are using the ambulance for free."

“We are putting that money back in the service,” Altenburg said, without elaborating.

But the TAAS has also seen its profits drop dramatically since Altenburg assumed the director position in late 2016, declining from steady profits of \$100,000-plus as recently as 2017, to barely break-even since the adoption of Altenburg's paid on-call model. And TAAS's much-diminished operating margins don't account for the cost of ambulance depreciation, a significant expense.

Breitung Township representative Chuck Tekautz, who told the *Timberjay* last week, he

believes from his own calculations that the transfers actually lose money, questioned Altenburg's claims of profitability. "If it is so profitable, why doesn't a private party do it?" he asked.

Ranua said the ambulance service would be developing a new business plan, which should help guide the commission and city as they seek to answer questions of actual profitability and put together subsidy agreements in future years.

Altensburg balked at a proposal by McCray for the city to add \$1.66 for every transfer mile to the ambulance replacement fund, which would cost the TAAS about \$400-\$500 for the average transfer. "There isn't that kind of money in it if its \$57,000 a year," said Altensburg. "It's not realistic."

Schmidt said that she saw 80 cents per mile as a better option, one that would generate about \$26,400 if the TAAS runs similar transfer miles this year as in 2019. The meeting ended without any agreement over the reimbursement rate. Once agreed, this amount would be paid retroactive to January 2020.

Ranua tried to keep the meeting on track during the spirited conversation. While the Ambulance Commission meetings have typically seen little if any audience attendance, Altenburg had used TAAS's emergency communications system to get service members to the meeting, telling them the service was under threat.

It is actually Altenburg, who has been the subject of an ongoing investigation into his conduct and questionable management of


the TAAS, who is facing a potential threat to his hold on the director's position.

Despite the element of tension in the room, some tried to keep the focus on the ultimate goal of the commission. "There's one thing we all should remember here," Tekautz said. "We all want to have an ambulance located in Tower serving our area."

And while the parties didn't reach a final deal on reimbursement to the replacement fund, the city did agree to other revisions suggested by the townships, including giving the commission equal say with the city on when replacement is needed, adding language to indemnify the townships from any liability, and providing the townships with a business plan for TAAS. The city will also give the townships quarterly updates on the finances, and clarify that the replacement account is separated from all other

The commission consists of representatives from Tower, Breitung, Kugler, Greenwood, Eagles Nest, Vermilion Lake, and the Bois Forte Band. The ambulance service coverage area also includes a portion of Embarrass Township, but residents there have not chosen to be part of the ambulance commission because their township is served by four different ambulance services.

The ambulance commission generally meets the first Monday of each quarter (Jan., April, July, Oct.) The next regular meeting is Monday, April 6 at 7 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center.



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## Men as Peacemakers

**VIRGINIA-** On Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 a.m., at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church, "Men as Peacemakers" will be the topic of a presentation by Nate Kesti.

Kesti works in

Restorative Justice and Diversion for Men as Peacemakers (MAP), a Duluth organization whose mission is to engage individuals and communities in innovative strategies that promote equality, repair harm and prevent violence against women and children. MAP aspires to create communities free from violence in which all people regardless of age, race, gender or sexual preference feel safe, equal and respected.

The church is located at 230 7th St. S in Virginia

## Ruby's Pantry open March 12

**COOK-** The next Ruby's Pantry food distribution will be held Thursday, March 12 from 4:30-6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m.

A \$20 cash donation is required at the door. Volunteers are asked to please arrive at 3 p.m. Please bring your own containers.

Starting in March all registration must be done online at [rubyspantry.com](http://rubyspantry.com) prior to distribution. Online registration will also be available on site. Ruby's Pantry is sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango.

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

**IRON...**Continued from page 1

is probably logistically impossible for one person to try to do.”

Brunfelt is attempting to tell the story of iron and steel in World War II, a conflict that took place in nearly every corner of the earth from 1939 to 1945. "It is going to involve lots of travel that I haven't even begun. I have been reading tons of books on World War II," she said.

There are two factors in why the United States and its allies won World War II, according to Brunfelt. “One was obviously the bravery of the young men who fought in spite of the incompetence of their leaders,” she said. “The second (factor) is that they could not have won if it had not been for all the material, made of steel, that we provided. This number one factor in our victory has never been written about.”

Brunfelt jokingly said that all that steel needed for the ships, tanks, airplanes, weapons and bullets “just appeared magically,” and the Iron Range has never received any recognition for what was done. “We should be getting massive amounts of credit,” she said.

"I discovered this story about six years before I retired when I was on sabbatical reading *Skellings Mining Review* (founded in Duluth in 1912)," she said. "I kept finding these little tidbits that we produced 8,000 tanks, and millions of rounds of ammunition, and it was all made out of steel. I kept wondering why I don't know any of this. I grew up here. I should



**Pam Brunfelt**

know that.”

Through those random little lines in *Skillings*, Brunfelt got intrigued and wanted to know more. “I have spent all my time since then doing nothing but research on iron and steel in World War II. I am completely obsessed. I have no time for anything else. I go into my office in the morning and work for six or seven hours, then I read for another two or three hours, and then I go to bed. That’s my life for the next 20 years and I wouldn’t trade it for anything,” she said.

Brunfelt is realistic in her chances for completing this project. "I'm hoping I can provide enough research for somebody else to finish it," she said.

## An amazing story

Steel production in World War II and mining of the iron ore needed, has been overlooked by historians. "At one time, the world did know about us," Brunfelt said of northern Minnesota. "Russian leader Josef Stalin, at the Yalta Conference in 1944, said the victory could be credited to the production of steel, without which the war would have been lost.

Never doubt that that statement is absolutely true."

According to Brunfelt, the war materiel produced in the U.S. during the war included:

- 5,000 merchant vessels.
- 79,125 landing craft.
- 300,000 warplanes,
- 41 million rounds of ammunition.
- 434 million tons of steel.

- 126,839 gun carriages and armored cars.
- 2.4 million military trucks.
- 2.6 million machine guns.

“And that is just a partial list. This was all done because of what was in the ground here in northeastern Minnesota,” Brunfelt added. “As many as 17 states produced iron ore during the war years, and Minnesota outperformed them all by a mile.”

According to Brunfelt's research, Minnesota produced 70 percent of all the iron ore that was used in World War II. The next highest state, Michigan, produced 15 percent, and the other 15 states produced the other 15 percent of iron ore. "What would have happened to us in this country if we didn't have Minnesota's iron ore to provide all of the material that was used in the war?"

“More than 329 million tons of iron ore went to the steel mills from here,” she said. She added that oil, the single most important commodity in World War II, was moved to the coast through pipes made of steel and the steel was made from iron ore.

“Not many people know this, but we bankrupted the iron ore industry here during World War II,” Brunfelt said. “Natural ore was virtually gone by the end of the war. That’s why we ended up producing taconite. There was no natural ore left. We sacrificed in two ways, we sent our men off to the war and sacrificed the iron ore here.”

The ratio of iron ore to steel is almost exactly one-to-one, according to Brunfelt. "Steel consists of one ton of iron, plus four tons of coal and a half-ton of limestone," she said. "They shipped the ore east to where the coal was located."

From 1901 to 1946, almost two billion tons of iron ore was mined out of

northeastern Minnesota, she said. “Hardly anybody knows how much iron ore is left in the ground here. It is too expensive to remove. Once they shifted to taconite, there was no way they were going to mine natural ore the old way. That’s why mining shut down here.”

Brunfelt also covered the United States Lend Lease program where military equipment was made available to the allies prior to the U.S. entering the war after the attack on Pearl Harbor in late 1941. "We provided 33,000 airplanes to the U.S.S.R. and 10,000 planes to Great Britain," she said. "The number one vehicle we provided to the Russians was the Dodge half-ton truck. They brought most

of the Soviet Army out of Russia in 455,000 of those vehicles. And they loved our Jeeps.”

"I love these statistics," she said. "In 1944 the United States Steel Corporation produced enough steel every hour to make 705 fighter planes. If that doesn't knock your socks off, you're not alive. They produced 90 percent of the 21 million steel helmets that the soldiers used. U.S. Steel made 31 million kegs of nails!"

In short, said Brunfelt, concluding her presentation: "I would argue that the real arsenal of democracy was the men who worked in the mines here in Minnesota."

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CRAFT AND CONVERSATION

# Woodcarvers group: Serious art, serious fun

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

COOK- If not for sharp objects and chunks of wood in their hands, the folks who gather for woodcarving group Thursday nights at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts gallery in Cook could easily be mistaken for about any weekly coffee group or social club.

“That’s what brings you here every week,” said Warren Anderson, at 79 the group’s senior member. “I just enjoy coming here and talking with the guys.”

Conversation was lively and topics varied last week as nine participants applied their creative skills to carving projects ranging from turtles and dogs to bowls and rifle stocks.

“You can tell by all the noise it’s more or less a social thing, which is good,” Howard Hilshorst said. “We all have opinions, but I’ve never seen anybody yet get upset. You don’t have to know who we all are, you can just come and have fun.”

As much as novice and veteran carvers enjoyed each other’s company, however, they weren’t distracted from working on their various projects.

Dave Pearson whittled



Dave Pearson works on carving the woven handle of a Celtic love spoon during a recent gathering of a woodcarver’s group at the Northwoods Friends of thre Arts gallery in Cook. photo by D. Colburn

away at a decorative handle on a large spoon as he talked.

“It’s called a Celtic love spoon,” he said. “Years ago, in Wales the young men used to give their girlfriends a spoon instead of a ring. That was their engagement.”

Pearson first learned woodcarving by attend-

ing a regular class at the old Cook school, one he attended for about 20 years before it stopped meeting.

“I learned from all the older guys,” Pearson said. “I went from when I was about 30 to 50. We had as many as 50 to 60 people who came and went over the years. We had people from Tower who came.

Most of the people from the original carving class have passed away.”

Now Caleb Thom is the one learning from “older guys” and women, too. He’s an eighth grader at North Woods School, the only one seriously bitten by the woodcarving bug when it was offered at the school last fall.

“The main reason they wanted to do that was to get kids my age interested in woodcarving,” Thom said. “I always whittled in the summer, little knives and swords out of branches. I didn’t really take it seriously, though. This time I was like, ‘Hey, I really want to try this.’”

Thom said he didn’t mind being the group’s youngest member.

When I got here, I expected there to be a lot more kids my age, but when I realized there were a lot of older people that was fine,” he said. “We’re all the same. Age doesn’t matter to me. I like older people because they’re more mature.”

Thom has taken his prior whittling interests to a new level – he’s currently working on carving a handle, guard, and blade for a large sword. His classmates have given him numerous tips.

“I’m very creative,

but my mind is stronger than my skills,” Thom said. “They help you, that’s what’s really nice. Everyone’s so kind here.”

While Anderson is the group’s oldest member, he didn’t start woodcarving until he was in his mid-60s.

“My wife, she carves,” he said. “She was doing carving and they had a party. I went to the party and got to know some of the guys and they said to come and do it.”

Anderson said he likes carving in Scandinavian flat style, but adapts his carving to whatever seems best suited to a project. He’s carved a lot of different things over the past 15 years, but they’re not taking up space around his home.

“I put them on a ledge in my basement and the next time I come down there they’re gone,” he said. “My kids take them.”

Anderson sometimes takes inspiration from other classmates, and makes other items on request.

“I’ve got an order for this one from a neighbor,” Anderson said, pointing to still-in-progress dog.

Hilshorst may be the most prolific woodworker in the group. While he carves items such as decorative acorns and

pineapples, he also makes a variety of items such as frames, keepsake boxes, lazy Susans, and more that he decorates with carvings. He sells most of what he makes, putting some items in the NWFA gallery shop and shipping others to sisters in Kentucky and Ohio.

“It’s fun,” he said. “I like making things. I sell a lot of things.”

Hilshorst, who has been woodcarving since about 1970, said he would like to see more people join the group.

“Anybody is welcome,” he said. “There’s no charge. If you want to come, we’ll help you. We’ve got tools, we’ve got wood.”

Then he smiled. “We’ll keep you from cutting the end of your thumb off,” he chuckled.

Anderson would also like to see some new members.

“When this class got started, we had 12 to 14 people here,” he said. “I’d like to see it get a little bigger. I’d like to see more young people. Maybe we’ll get them here.”

The woodworking group meets Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at the NWFA Gallery, 210 S River St., Cook.

CHILDCARE

## Program on adverse childhood experiences on March 13 in Mt. Iron

MT. IRON- Prenatal and childhood trauma can lead to teen and adult depression, obesity, smoking, heart disease, cancer and other ailments throughout life. The major repeated forms of trauma early in life are called Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Not everyone who has ACEs is

destined to suffer. Just one trusted, caring adult can help the child bounce back.

Learn about ACEs and Building Resilience at a free presentation that starts at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 13, at the Mt. Iron Community Center. A team of three presenters will be sharing information. Each team member

has been certified in a state-sponsored program to discuss in plain language the ACE Study, neurology, and epidemiology or “brain science” that explains how adversity leads to health problems.

Two of the presenters have met with audiences across the Iron Range over the past two years: Jenna

Ballinger with Essentia Health and Keny Adams, a local business owner. The third, Dean Grace, EdD, worked with traumatized children at Northwood Children’s Services in Duluth. There, he documented the approaches that worked best to help children bounce back from the effects of trauma they had experienced.

Doors open at the

community center at 5 p.m. for socializing and light snacks. The presentations are scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The center is located at 8586 Enterprise Drive S in Mt. Iron. To assure adequate seating, leave a message at 218-235-0283 or send an email to [rangeparents@midco.net](mailto:rangeparents@midco.net) with your number of needed seats.

Free childcare for

toddlers and older is available at Virginia Drop-in Daycare. It is located at 1325 9th Street S in Virginia. Call ahead to assure adequate staffing at 218-290-6654.

The event is sponsored by the Northern St. Louis County Circle of Parents support groups.

### Correction


In the Feb. 28 issue of the *Timberjay*, a comment referencing Ely Mayor Chuck Novak being “under fire” over recent comments he made about boycotting businesses that oppose proposed sulfide

mining projects was made by ISD 696 superintendent Erik Erie and not school board chair Ray Marsnik.

The *Timberjay* strives for accuracy in its reporting and regrets the error.

VOTE JOHN BASSING

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## GIRLS SECTION 7A PLAYOFFS

# Timberwolves fall to ‘Streaks in quarterfinals

Loss of leading scorer Erika Mattson to injury proved a challenge to Ely’s playoff prospects

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

D U L U T H — T h e Bluestreaks avenged a December loss to Ely on Saturday, ending the Timberwolves’ Section 7A playoff run in a quarterfinals heartbreaker, 45-42, at UMD’s Romano Gym. Playing without their leading scorer, senior Erika

Mattson, who was out with an injury, the fourth-seeded Wolves couldn’t quite keep pace with fifth-seed Chisholm.

“We fought hard all the way to the end and had chances in the second half to get a possible victory,” said Ely Head Coach Darren Visser. “We fell a little short but at the end of the game I knew they left everything on

the floor.”

Senior Brielle Kallberg led the way offensively for Ely, with 12 points and 11 rebounds for a double-double. Eighth-grader Grace LaTourell added 11 points for the Wolves, while freshman Madeline Perry tallied ten points. Senior Winter Sainio added seven points and seven boards.

The season-ending loss came on the heels of Ely’s 47-34 win over Bigfork last Thursday in the opening round of the playoffs. With Mattson out again, Kallberg dominated scoring for Ely, pouring in 33 points, while adding 13 rebounds for another double-double. LaTourell added seven while Perry added five.

Despite the relatively early

exit from the playoff hunt, Visser said he was pleased with the team’s overall performance. “With injuries and illnesses our team had some hurdles to overcome and they just continued to work hard and give their best,” he said. “Finishing with 18 wins ties them for third for the most victories in the history of the program.”



## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Warriors stymie North Woods

No. 2 seed Grizzlies now focused on playoffs, potential rerun at section title

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- The biggest obstacles facing the North Woods Grizzlies as they opened sectional tournament play at home Wednesday against Cook County could well be inside their own heads: maintaining a legacy and fighting complacency.

With three consecutive trips to the state Class A final, there’s little doubt the current Grizzlies squad is intent on not only equaling that feat but exceeding it by bringing home a state championship.

But first they have to get through the sectional tournament. Cook County, at a paltry 6-14, came into Wednesday’s game with nothing to lose, driven to play knowing the game could well be their last.

If the Grizzlies survived that test, awaiting them Saturday in

Hibbing will be a regular season foe, either South Ridge, who they crushed by 37, or Carlton, who they beat by 23. Neither will likely be so easily overcome in a rematch, particularly if the Grizzlies err on the side of overconfidence from their prior victories. Possible complacency will cease to be an issue if the Grizzlies win their first two sectional games. Third-seed Ely, a team the Grizzlies beat by 11 at

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

**Above: North Woods senior Trevor Morrison reaches in to pressure Deer River’s Ty Morrison during last Friday’s contest at North Woods School.**

**Right: North Woods freshman Jared Chiabotti goes in for a layup under pressure.**

photos by C. Stone



# T-Wolves head to playoffs at 21-5

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY — The Timberwolves wrapped up their regular season at 21-5 after rallying to defeat Wrenshall 83-61 here last Friday night. As the *Timberjay* went to press, the Wolves were set to host Hill City on Wednesday night in the opening round of the Section 7A playoffs. The results of that game will be posted online at

Wrap up regular season with win over Wrenshall

timberjay.com and in next week’s print edition.

In their regular season finale, the Wolves came out flat, at least initially. “We got off to a slow start and I thought Wrenshall came in with lots of energy and played well against us,” said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. Ely’s comeback started in the

second quarter and by halftime they were up 37-31. “We played much better in the second half,” said McDonald, as the Wolves finished with the lopsided win.

As he has much of the season, senior forward Dylan Fenske led the way for Ely, with 17 points in addition to eight rebounds, while senior Eric Omerza added 15

points and 11 assists for a double-double. Junior Will Davies just missed his own double-double, notching 12 points and nine boards, while sophomore guard Harry Simons added a career-high 14 points. Junior Emmett Faltesek added eight points, nine rebounds and eight assists in a good all-around effort.

## 7A PLAYOFFS

# Grizzlies season ends at Chisholm

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

CHISHOLM — North Woods Head Coach Robbie Goggleye and his assistants huddled with an emotional Grizzlies girls team for a long time after losing an opening sectional tourney game Thursday to Chisholm, 68-53. No one wanted the season to be over, especially for seniors Kennedy Wardas, Sasha Strong, and Coley Olson.

“We’ve got a lot of great heart on this team here,” Goggleye said. “Our seniors did the greatest they could do for us.”

As they did in an early-season contest against Chisholm, the Grizzlies dug a hole in the first half that proved too big to climb out of, trailing 38-21 at the break.

Bluestreaks freshman guard Hannah Kne seemingly scored at will from the outside for 13 points in the first stanza, and the Grizzlies had problems solving Chisholm’s press.

“Their one-two-two got us right away and we made it look good by not keeping composure and making the right read,” Goggleye said. “There are a lot of panic buttons out here and if you step on them turnovers happen.”

During the break, Goggleye reminded the team how it nearly came back from a 20-point deficit against Chisholm in the season’s second game and encouraged them to bring their all in the second half.

“We switched to man defense and we wanted to be more aggressive on feeding the post,” Goggleye said.

Led by its seniors, a team that was trounced by 17 in the first half regained its composure, outscoring the Bluestreaks 32-30 in the second half. The Grizzlies made a late run with a chance to cut the lead to single digits before Chisholm took control to preserve the win.

Strong led the Grizzlies with 15 points, 13 coming in the second half. Eighth-grader Madi Dantes was the only other North Woods player in double-digits, with 10.

Goggleye was effusive

See **GIRLS...**pg. 2B



THE OLD FASHIONED WAY

# Steger Center hosts annual “Ice Ball”

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - The annual Ice Ball Festival recently took place at the Steger Wilderness Center, located deep in the woods a few miles from here.

In spite of a smaller volunteer crew of invited guests this year, enough ice was harvested to fill the super-insulated, north-facing, ice house located close to where it will be used, at the heart of the center.

“The day transformed this winter’s lake ice to the cooling power essential for the coming summer season of community activity at the center,” said Michael Gilgosh who participated in the event.

A dozen or more sled

loads, each carrying close to a ton of ice, were drawn up the icy road from the lake shore by two teams of paired Shire draft horses. A hearty, home-cooked meal was prepared and served in the cozy, woodstove-heated cabin, called the Lodge.

Despite a somewhat late start, the day-long task was completed well before the dimming light of the winter sunset. “This year’s ice quality was deemed of disappointing quality compared to past harvests,” Gilgosh said. “The ice hopefully will last well into the summer months for food preservation. The day’s effort fit perfectly into Will Steger’s ideals of self-sufficiency and conservation of energy,” Gilgosh added.



Volunteers put up ice at the Steger Center, located north of Ely. photo courtesy Michael Gilgosh

The Will Steger Wilderness Center is a towering building overlooking a lake just outside of Ely. It is a place to escape the din of modern life and focus on issues of sustainability and problem-solving that can be taken into everyday life,

according to the center’s website.

Steger is best known for his legendary polar explorations. He has traveled tens of thousands of miles by kayak and dogsled over 50 years, leading teams on some of

the most significant polar expeditions in history.

Steger led the first confirmed dogsled journey to the North Pole without re-supply in 1986, the 1,600-mile south-north traverse of Greenland in 1988, and led the first dogsled

traverse of Antarctica, a seven-month, 3,741-mile International Trans-Antarctica Expedition in 1989-90.

## GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

home in December, is a likely opponent, and North Woods is experienced enough to know playing on a neutral court can be a perilous equalizer.

If the Grizzlies reach the sectional final, they’re almost certainly going to have to overcome an opponent who has already beaten them. Top-seed Nashwauk-Keewatin beat them at the outset of the season in an overtime thriller.

The sour taste of a loss to fourth-seeded Deer River is still fresh in the Grizzlies’ mouths, as the Warriors neutralized everything that has powered North Woods to recent victories to claim an 86-72 triumph last Friday on the Grizzlies home court.

The Grizzlies have

overwhelmed opponents with fast breaks, by creating points off turnovers, and forcing them into subpar shooting performances. However, the Warriors matched them in steals and points off of turnovers, outscored them 27-16 in transition points, and hit a sizzling 48 percent from the field, including 64 percent from two-point range. Five Warriors scored in double figures.

North Woods led by two at the half, 39-37, and with 10 minutes remaining went up 54-52 on a Brenden Chiabotti three-pointer, the team’s first trey in more than three halves of play.

But with the Grizzlies’ Trevor Morrison nursing a sore shoulder after two hard falls, the Warriors

quickly struck back with a 7-0 run for a 59-54 lead. The Grizzlies got as close as 64-61 on a bucket by Levi Byram before the Warriors pulled ahead by 10 and used a spread offense in the last five minutes to ice the win.

“We had no fouls to give which made it really tough there,” said North Woods Head Coach Will Kleppe. “We did well in stretches but not well enough to win the game. We had a few too many obstacles to overcome in the second half.”

One of those obstacles was being outbattled for rebounds.

“A big part of our strategy coming into this game was that we needed five guys crashing the boards,” Kleppe said. “We took some shots where

we had only one or two rebounding. That’s going to hurt you.”

Kleppe was glad to see Brenden, TJ, and Jared Chiabotti end the team’s extended drought from three-point range.

“It was good to hit a few,” he said. “It kept the game interesting where we had a couple of chances to close on them, but they stayed hot.”

TJ Chiabotti led all scorers with 26 points,

while Darius Goggleye notched 16 and Morrison hit for 14 in just 24 minutes of action.

While he could not comment on the nature of Morrison’s injury, Kleppe was optimistic about his status for the sectional tournament.

“We’re hoping it’s nothing serious,” he said. “We’ll give him the weekend to rest up and evaluate him.”

The loss didn’t affect

the Grizzlies’ seeding for sectional play as they were slotted second behind Nashwauk-Keewatin and received a first-round bye. North Woods was scheduled for a Wednesday home game against Cook County. A win would advance the Grizzlies to a 4 p.m. tilt Saturday at Hibbing Memorial Arena.

## GIRLS... Continued from page 1B

in his praise for his senior trio.

“Kennedy has been our spark plug,” he said. “Her motor is always going 100 percent. Sasha has great leadership; she tries

to keep everyone involved and always keeps working. Coley (Olson) is Coley. She’s a great athlete, has great poise, and she keeps her head. They’re going to succeed in life with the

attitudes they have.”

The loss capped a disappointing eight-game losing streak for the Grizzlies, who ended their season with a record of 8-19.

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Presentation: 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

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GREENWOOD VOTERS....

VOTE NO  
on Option B

Make Sure:

- Your Clerk is a Township Resident
- Your Clerk Works for YOU, not just the Board
- Your Clerk is not a tool of “Cronyism”

Most of All...

KEEP YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE

Paid by John and Joanne Bassing



Obituaries and Death Notices



Arleigh I. Birk

Arleigh Ingle Birk, 99, of Hoyt Lakes, died on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020, at Essentia Health - Northern Pines in Aurora. Funeral services were held on Monday, March 2 at Faith Lutheran Church in Hoyt Lakes with Pastor Charles Barnes officiating. Military honors were accorded by the Aurora/Hoyt Lakes Color Guard. Inurnment will take place in the Hoyt Lakes Memorial Cemetery at a later date. Arrangements are with Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava Funeral Home in Aurora.

Arleigh was born on Feb. 27, 1920, in Grafton, North Dakota, to

Leonard and Lisa (Kyddland) Birk. At an early age he was a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps Camps and in 1939 he joined the U.S. Navy. He served in Pearl Harbor on the USS Honolulu. During the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the ship was heavily damaged and Arleigh was then transferred to the USS Denver. He went on to serve in the Philippines, Guadalcanal, Japan and Saipan.

On June 4, 1947, he married Marion Hove in Grafton. He farmed in North Dakota, later moved to Makinen, and finally moved to Hoyt Lakes in 1957. He began working for Erie Mining Company and retired from there in 1982 as a welder. In 1968 he purchased the Forest Lane Resort on Lake Vermilion which they owned and operated until 1975. The couple then moved to Palo and returned to Hoyt Lakes in 1988.

Arleigh was an active member of Faith Lutheran Church, the Timothy Robinson VFW Post, and the Aurora American Legion Post 241. He was

also a member of the Disabled American Veterans and the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association where he had served as President.

Survivors include his children, Lois (Robert) Dunne of Pennock, Caryl (Dan) Kaler of Burnsville, Bruce (Sandra) Birk of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Brian (Kathie) Birk of Tower and Kathryn (Bruce) Feroe of Hoyt Lakes; grandchildren, Sara (Andrew) George, Matthew Kaler, Lisa (Lee Sherwin) Birk, Phillip (Megan) Birk, Rebecca (Jeremy) Nissila, Carly (Ross) Malo, Heidi (Matt Connick) Feroe and Erica Birk; great-grandchildren, Frederick George, Logan Nissila, Olive Fox and Norah Connick; siblings, Keith Birk, Effie Randall, and Martha Brown; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Lisa; wife, Marion; siblings, Iva Bashour, Phillip Birk and Mae Anderson.



Regina E. Johnson

Regina Elizabeth Johnson, 94, of Ely, passed away peacefully at Carefree Assisted Living in Ely on Friday, Feb. 28, 2020.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, June 20, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Ledgerock Community Church in Ely. A gathering time for family and friends will begin one hour prior to the service at the church. Inurnment will take place in the Greenwood Cemetery in Virginia.

Family services provided by Bauman-Vermilion, A Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower. To share condolences online, please see [www.baumanfuneralhome.com](http://www.baumanfuneralhome.com).

Regina was born Feb. 8, 1926, in Virginia, Minn., the daughter of Swedish immigrant parents Ernest and Anna (Nordstrom) Johnson. She was a graduate of Virginia High School and attended the University of Minnesota where she earned a bachelor's degree in Home Economics. After teaching in southern Minnesota and North St. Paul, she began teaching at Ely Memorial High School in 1951. Regina retired in 1984 after a total of 37 years in education. A highlight of her time in Ely included working with the University of Minnesota School of Architecture to re-design and update the Ely High School home economics department. It became a state-of-the-art facility and a model for other high schools to follow. Regina worked with many student organizations supporting and mentoring hundreds of students during her career in education.

Regina worked on many committees at Ledgerock Community

Church. Originally, the church gathered as the Ely Baptist Church in the home of Bob Sharp. Along with many others, Regina worked diligently to grow the church. Those efforts, along with their devotion to serving the Lord, helped Ledgerock become a dynamic and strong pillar of the Ely community.

Regina enjoyed collecting and reading cookbooks and amassed a cookbook library of over 250 volumes in her heyday. She played the piano and flute, enjoyed reading, knitting, and traveled extensively to Europe and Scandinavia during her summers.

Regina is survived by her sister Catherine of Bellingham, Wash., nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

She was preceded in death by nine brothers, Gustave, Sune, Russell, Alvin, Vernor, Howard, Grant, Peter, Sheldon; and one sister, Florence (Ulicsni).

# Scenic Rivers Clinics

**Cook Medical**  
20 5th St SE  
Open Monday - Saturday  
**(218) 666-5941**

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415 N 2nd St, Suite 2  
*Former High School Building*  
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**Medical: (218) 753-2405**  
**Dental: (218) 753-6061**

**Cook Dental**  
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# ATTENTION GREENWOOD VOTERS

**March 10 is Minnesota Township Day, and voters control township taxes at their annual meeting.**

- The Greenwood Board is proposing increased taxes when the township has \$660,000 in reserves.
- I support keeping taxes the same, to use excessive reserves.

**Keep your right to vote for  
your clerk  
VOTE NO ON OPTION B**

**Please join me, John Bassing, at the annual meeting and vote for the taxes you support.**

Paid by John and Joanne Bassing on their own behalf

# Spring Closeout S•A•L•E

**2019 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT**  
Double Cab 4x4 Allstar Edition  
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SAVE \$10,736 OR CHOOSE 0% APR+ \$3,000 CASH ALLOWANCE\*\*

**2019 CHEVROLET BLAZER AWD**  
MSRP \$42,895  
**Sale Price \$37,837\***  
SAVE \$5,058  
OR CHOOSE 0% APR\*\*

**2020 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT AWD SPORT EDITION**  
MSRP \$36,215  
**Sale Price \$29,669\***  
SAVE \$6,546 OR CHOOSE 0% APR+ \$1,000 CASH ALLOWANCE\*\*

DISCLOSURES Take delivery from dealer stock by 03/31/2020. Not compatible with some other offers. \*Price after GM Loyalty Offer. Must currently own/lease a 2006 or newer GM passenger vehicle to qualify. Restrictions apply see dealer for details. \*\*On approved credit with GM Financial. Not compatible with some other offers. Take delivery from dealer stock by 03/31/2020. Restrictions apply see dealer for details.

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2019 CHEVROLET IMPALA LT.....V6 Power!.....	\$19,990
2017 JEEP COMPASS 4X4.....Winter Package!.....	\$16,990
2017 RAM 1500 BIGHORN 4X4.....Navigation!.....	\$28,990
2017 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT AWD.....Sport Package.....	\$20,990
2016 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM AWD.....Loaded!.....	\$19,990
2016 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCAB 4X4.....Low Miles!.....	\$28,990
2016 TOYOTA RAV 4 LE.....Legendary Quality!.....	\$16,990
2016 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE.....Go Anywhere!.....	\$18,990
2014 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LTZ.....Loaded 3rd Row!.....	\$20,990
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2010 DODGE DAKOTA BIGHORN 4X4.....Low Miles!.....	\$13,990

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## Ely Chamber of Commerce & City of Ely

### Business Development Series

#### Recruiting & Onboarding Strategies 101—Foundation

Individual study course available online. Saying Hello makes a lasting impression, one that starts long before the interview. Understand how the interview and onboarding process impacts your new employee's engagement and productivity. Contact the Chamber office for link information.

#### Recruiting & Onboarding Strategies 102—Hands On

This 3-hour workshop provides participants the opportunity to update their job descriptions, interview approach and guides and, onboarding plans. In addition, participants practice using their guides through role play. Working through the online course above is strongly encouraged for all participants. **DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 1:00 - 4:00**

#### Managing Conflict

Learn a conflict management framework that can help you solve complex problems more easily. Understanding the five different types of conflict styles, including your own "preferred" conflict style will enable you to lead more effectively. **DATE: Thursday, March 19, 2020, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

#### Situational Leadership II—SLII Concepts

This is a comprehensive, hands on workshop for the manager/supervisor to learn the language and practice of Situational Leadership (SLII®). Practicing SLII® in any leadership setting (including at home) is a life-long, powerful tool. It'll increase your productivity when it comes to developing and coaching your teams. Objectives include: learn a new language of leadership, increase the quality and quantity of conversations, and develop others' self-reliance. The completion of an online self-assessment is required. **DATE: Tuesday, March 24, 2020, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

#### Series Spotlight

All sessions are offered at no charge and include a free soup and sandwich lunch. Advanced registration is required due to limited seating. RSVP to [fun@ely.org](mailto:fun@ely.org) or 218-365-6123.

Lunch served: Noon - 12:45  
All sessions begin promptly at 1 p.m.

All sessions are lead by Cecilia Quattromani of CQ Squared. LLC . Cecilia has over twenty years of operations and human resource experience.

ELY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Series sponsored by The Ely Chamber of Commerce & City of Ely through a generous grant from the Blandin Foundation





# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## WINTER SEVERITY

# Area whitetails feeling effects of early deep snow

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—The area’s whitetail deer population is feeling the effects of months of deep snow cover, which has substantially increased the winter severity index (WSI) across much of northern St. Louis and Lake counties. That’s according to Tower DNR Area Wildlife Manager Tom Rusch, who noted that the conditions could cause substantial deer mortality this winter, despite the mild tem-

peratures the region has experienced.

DNR wildlife managers use the WSI as a means of assessing winter mortality of white-tail deer. The index includes a point for every 24-hour period with a below-zero temperature reading and a point for every day with 15 inches or more of snow on the ground.

“Snow depth continues to be the main driver for winter severity this winter,” said Rusch. “Early snowstorms in late

November and early December pushed our area over the 15-inch threshold on Dec. 9 in Tower.”

That totals 87 days as of Wednesday with snow depths of greater than 15 inches. “That’s a severe winter,”

noted Rusch. “Deer mortality will increase daily until spring green-up.”

The extended deep snow had pushed the WSI in much of the Tower and Ely area to over 130 as of this week, with potentially weeks of deep snow and below-zero weather remaining. Depending on weather in March and April, that could push the WSI readings to well in excess of 150. The WSI reaches about 115 in an average winter in the Tower area. Whenever the WSI rises above 100, it increases the likelihood

of starvation or malnutrition in whitetails. That can result in higher-than-average mortality from predators and can significantly reduce fawn production the following spring.

Despite above-freezing conditions in late February and early March, which started to compress the snowpack, conditions remain difficult, noted Rusch. “Current snow depths are three to five inches lower than last month but still deep for white-tailed deer,” noted Rusch. “Each day a deer

has to endure trudging through chest deep snow is a significant drain on its physiological condition.”

As of Feb. 28, the DNR was reporting snow depths ranging from 19 inches in Ely and Orr to 35 inches in Isabella. Other reported snow depths included Babbitt (28”), Tower (26”) inches, Greaney (24”), Snowbank Lake (22”), Cook (20”), and Kabetogama (20”).

The good news for deer is that the deep snow has not been combined with cold temperatures this year. As of this past week, the area had only experienced 48 nights with below zero temperature readings, well below a typical winter in the region. While recent warm temperatures have helped to reduce snow levels somewhat, which is good news for deer, the temperatures also allowed for the development of a crust, that could further exacerbate the stress on whitetails. “This is a real game changer and tips the balance in favor of predators,” said Rusch. “Wolves, bobcats and coyotes can now stay on top while deer break through the crusted layer. With an increase in sun angle, snow conditions now change day-to-day but deep snow favors the predators.”

## SLEDDING

# Take it easy on the trails

REGIONAL—Snowmobilers appear to be in a hurry to hit the trails. According to several area conservation officers, they encountered numerous speed violations, with several snow machines clocked in the mid-to-upper 90s over this past weekend in northern St. Louis County.

Cook-area CO Shane Zavodnik reported an exceptional number of speed violations, encountering dozens of snowmobilers traveling well beyond a reasonable speed.

Ely-area CO Sean Williams also reported issuing a high number of speeding violations over the weekend on area trails. He also reported a recent rash of people attempting to drive cars and trucks on snowmobile trails and becoming stuck. He is advising visitors in the area to be observant of snow-covered roads they are unfamiliar with and to keep an eye out for snowmobile trail markers so they can avoid a similar fate.

CO Anthony Bermel, of Babbitt, also reported a high rate of extreme speed violations in his work area. He issued several citations over the weekend for speeds at least 25 miles-per-hour in excess of the legal speed limit of 50 miles-per-hour.

Snowmobile trail conditions remain in good to very good condition in most places, although the recent mild weather has exposed a few bare spots in sunny locations.



LAKE VERMILION STATE PARK

# New park cabins taking shape

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

LAKE VERMILION—Visitors to Lake Vermilion Soudan Mine State Park will soon have a new option for overnight lodging. A total of eight “camper cabins” currently nearing completion on a ridge between Armstrong and Cable bays are expected to be open by fall, and possibly sooner, according to park manager Jim Essig.

But you may want to start planning for your visit well before then. “They’re very popular,” said Jen Westlund, manager at Bear Head Lake State Park just down the road. Bear Head has had four of the small cabins for several years and getting a reservation can be like winning the lottery.

The cabins, which run between 300-400 square feet, may be rustic, but they’re a

**Above and right: New camper cabins at Lake Vermilion Soudan Mine State Park are nearing completion.**

photos by M. HelMBERGER

huge step up from tent camping, which makes them popular with a wide range of park users, according to Westlund. “People just wish we had more of them,” she said. The Bear Head units currently rent for \$75 a night.

The eight new cabins at Lake Vermilion are likely to be equally popular. They’re nicely-designed, with plenty of glass, large decks, and even an outdoor food preparation area. They’re also scattered along a ridge, guaranteeing lake breezes and scenic views for users. The cabins are located just to the west of the Armstrong Bay day use area.

While the cabins are likely to be tough to reserve in summer,



they will also be available for rent in other seasons, including winter. The cabins are constructed from structural insulated panels, with electric baseboard heating, giving them a high energy efficiency that should keep them cozy even in the coldest weather.

The cabins are currently about 80 percent complete, said Essig, with final completion expected by late spring. That will allow for some systems testing and finishing touches over the summer. “Certainly they’ll be rentable sometime this fall, maybe sooner,” said Essig.

## LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
35 21					47 27					42 12					26 2					27 4				
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
02/24	41	16	0.00		02/24	41	10	0.00		02/24	38	10	0.00		02/24	37	12	0.00		02/24	36	11	0.00	
02/25	40	5	0.00		02/25	41	-3	0.00		02/25	40	5	0.00		02/25	30	7	0.00		02/25	40	-3	0.00	
02/26	35	2	0.00		02/26	33	-4	0.00		02/26	35	1	0.00		02/26	18	-2	0.00		02/26	34	-4	0.00	
02/27	22	-5	0.00		02/27	20	-12	0.00		02/27	19	0	0.00		02/27	18	-6	0.00		02/27	19	-13	0.00	
02/28	19	-20	0.00		02/28	17	-23	0.00		02/28	19	-19	0.00		02/28	21	-18	0.00		02/28	23	-25	0.00	
02/29	23	-20	0.00		02/29	22	-26	0.00		02/29	21	-20	0.00		02/29	39	3	0.00		02/29	32	-25	0.00	
03/01	41	-6	0.00		03/01	40	-26	0.00		03/01	38	-8	0.00		03/01	41	25	0.00		03/01	40	-5	0.00	
Total			0.89	81.9"	YTD Total			1.13	54.1"	YTD Total			1.73	63.8"	YTD Total			NA	45.4"	YTD Total			1.34	57.0"

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# Check Out These... Snowmobile HOT Spots



## Area Trail Conditions

### Taconite Trail

Fair Condition, Groomed  
0-6" base, 12-32" snow on ground

### Arrowhead Trail

Fair Condition with some poor spots,  
Groomed, 0-6" base, 12-32" snow

Watch for bare spots due to warm weather  
DNR groomers are trying to cover any bare spots



## Snowmobiles Welcome!

Fireside Lobby  
Bar & Restaurant  
FREE Wi-Fi  
Swimming Pool  
Hot Tub & Sauna

4675 Hwy. 53, Orr MN  
[www.ovesonpelicanlakeresortandinn.com](http://www.ovesonpelicanlakeresortandinn.com)

1-800-860-3613 • 218-757-3613

**1**

**Voyagaire**  
Lodge & Houseboats

**Gateway to Voyageurs Nat'l Park**

**BAR & DINING ROOM OPEN DAILY**

Lodging • Gas • ATM  
Mechanic On-Site  
**SNOWMOBILE RENTALS**

**1-800-882-6287**  
[www.voyagaire.com](http://www.voyagaire.com)

**2**

**SAMZ Place**

**Happy Hour:**  
Mon-Thurs: 4-7 PM  
Open 10 AM • 7 days a week

**Beat the Bartender:**  
Fri: 5-7 PM

1225 Old Winton Road Ely, MN  
**218-365-4175**

**3**

**MELGEORGE'S**  
ELEPHANT LAKE LODGE AND RESORT

Centrally located on Arrowhead Trail

**RESTAURANT & BAR**  
Cabins & Lodge Rooms  
Satellite TV  
Plenty of trailer parking!

**ANTIQUE & CLASSIC SNOWMOBILE RACE**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

[www.melgeorges.com](http://www.melgeorges.com)  
Box 185, Orr, MN 55771  
800-205-9001 • 218-374-3621

**4**

**INSULA**  
restaurant

*Serving*  
*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*  
*Beer & Wine*  
*(sled parking out back)*

**HOURS:**  
Sun 7:30 AM-2 PM • Breakfast to Noon  
Monday Closed  
Tues thru Saturday 7:30 AM-9:30 PM

145 E Sheridan St, Ely, MN  
[www.insularestaurant.com](http://www.insularestaurant.com)  
**218-365-4855**

**5**

**Bayview Bar & Grill**

**SNOWMOBILES WELCOME**

**Hours:**  
**Friday thru Sunday**  
**Noon-Close**

**FULL MENU & BAR**

2001 Bayview Drive, Tower, MN  
**218-753-2469**

**6**

**Vermilion Park Inn**  
B&B

Open Year-Round

Right off the Taconite Trail  
between Tower & Ely...  
next to Soudan's Only Store!

- Comfy, cozy rooms
- Great rates starting at \$88 per night
- Wifi
- Continental breakfast

**NEW PROJECT/CLASSROOM**  
on lower level!

**218-753-2333**  
30 Center Street, Soudan

**7**

**VERMILION CLUB**  
& POOR GARY'S PIZZA

• **LARGE BAR** •  
**SNOWMOBILES WELCOME!**

**Hours:**  
Mon-Thurs: 3 PM-Close;  
Fri, Sat, Sun: Noon-Close

**Dining Room:**  
Sun-Thurs: Open daily to 9 PM  
Fri & Sat: Noon to 10 PM

**Poor Gary's Pizza:**  
Sun.-Wed. to 9 PM; Thurs. to 10 PM  
Fri. & Sat. to Midnight

3191 Hwy 77, Tower  
(Daisy Bay, Lake Vermilion)  
753-6277 Bar/Restaurant  
753-5707 Pizza

**8**

**HAROLD'S ARCTIC**

- Large selection of non-current sleds
- Most extensive parts & accessories inventory in the area
- 52 years in the business
- Full line of Arctic Cat clothing & accessories

**ARCTIC CAT**

Centrally located between  
Tower & Virginia  
**218-741-4275**

**9**

**GOOD OL' DAYS**

**OPEN DAILY**  
Mon-Sat 6 a.m.  
Sun 8 a.m.

*Featuring Minnesota's Best Bloody Mary!*

- 6 am breakfast Mon.-Sat. and 8 am breakfast on Sun.
- 5-7 pm happy hour Mon.-Fri.
- Daily meal specials
- Home made soups & chili
- Friday fish fry
- Pool table, dart board TVs

316 Main St, Tower  
**218-753-6097**  
[www.goodolddaystower.com](http://www.goodolddaystower.com)

**10**

**LOSSING'S POWERSPORTS**

**ski-doo can-am**

**Minnesota's Newest Ski-Doo Dealer**

• **New and Used Sleds** •  
*Located right off the Stony Spur Trail*

**Snowmobile Rentals Available**

30 North Dr, Babbitt • 218-827-2635

**11**

**MARJO MOTEL**

**Direct Access to Lake Vermilion and Local Trails**

**Cable TV • Internet**  
**Microwaves • Coffee**  
**Refrigerators**  
**Single & Double Rooms**

Tower, MN  
Hwy. 169 on the left as you enter Tower from the west.  
**218-753-4851**  
[www.marjomoteltowermn.com](http://www.marjomoteltowermn.com)

**12**

**Fortune Bay**  
RESORT CASINO

- ✓ **FOOD**
- ✓ **LODGING**
- ✓ **24/7 GAMING**
- ✓ **PREMIUM GAS**

**800.555.1714**  
**FORTUNE BAY.COM**

**13**

**The Vermilion Hotel**

**SNOWMOBILES WELCOME**  
**COMFORTABLE ROOMS**  
**AFFORDABLE RATES**

Cable & WiFi

320 S Hwy 53  
Cook • MN  
(218) 666-2272  
[vermilionhotel.com](http://vermilionhotel.com)

**14**

**Norman's One Stop & Motel**

On beautiful Pelican Lake  
ORR, MN

15 unit motel • Satellite TV  
Refrigerators • FREE wireless  
Sporting Goods • Bait  
Tackle • Maps • Gifts & More

4513 Hwy 53, Orr MN  
**218-757-3272**  
[normansorrnmn.com](http://normansorrnmn.com)

**15**

**JANISCH REALTY**

See Virtual Tours & Every Property On The Market On Our Easy Map Search!

**JANISCH REALTY**

(218) 780-6644  
[JanischRealty.com](http://JanischRealty.com)



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### LEIDING TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Leiding Township, County of St. Louis and State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at the Leiding Town Hall.

In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

The election poll hours will be open from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at which time the voters will elect by ballot:

One Supervisor for a term of 3 years  
One Clerk for a term of 2 years

The Board of Canvass will follow the election.

The Annual Meeting will commence following the Board of Canvass to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

The regular town board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Marie Milan, Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 28 & March 6, 2020*

### GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ELECTION

MN 205.16, subd 4

THE GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP ANNUAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020.

POLLS WILL BE OPEN 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. AT THE GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP HALL

OFFICES TO BE ELECTED: This March election will be for the election of:  
Supervisor Position 1---3-year term  
Supervisor Position 2---3-year term  
Clerk Position-----2-year term

Question #1 -----whether to adopt Option B – providing for the Town Clerk and Town Treasurer positions to be appointed by the Town Board, pursuant to the authority of Minn. Stat. 367.31, Subd.1  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

The election will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Greenwood Town Hall, 3000 County Road 77, Tower MN. In case of inclement weather, the election will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, with the same place and times. MS365.51 subd1

#### ANNUAL MEETING

The Greenwood Township Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at the Greenwood Town Hall at 8:15 p.m.

The Greenwood Town Board will meet immediately following adjournment of the Annual Meeting to pay bills and canvass election results.

Sue Drobac, Greenwood Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay,  
Feb. 21, 28 & March 6, 2020*

## EMPLOYMENT

### Good Samaritan Society of International Falls NOW HIRING! EVENINGS & MIDNIGHTS

**\$1,000  
Relocation  
Bonus!**

Registered Nurses

Licensed Practical Nurses

- Affordable Benefits
- Paid Time Off
- Scholarship Opportunities
- Competitive Wages
- Free Training Opportunities
- Student Loan Payback

Apply at [www.good-sam.com/careers](http://www.good-sam.com/careers)  
or call 218-283-8313 for more info!



The Good Samaritan Society is a  
drug free workplace.  
Equal Opportunity Employer: 3/6

### HELP WANTED

Full time office assistant/book-keeper. Must be well organized, efficient and upbeat. Knowledge of Quickbooks, Word and Excel a plus. Customer service experienced preferred. Call Docks on Wheels to schedule an interview- 218-365-6210. 4/10

### Experienced AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN

Full-time, M-F, benefits. Contact Lee Phillips. Waschke Family Chevrolet in Cook, 126 N Hwy 53, PO Box 549, Cook, MN 55723; 218-666-5901 or 800-238-4545. tfn



### HELP WANTED

We are looking to fill the following positions. Age and experience levels can vary. Full-time and part-time available.

- ❖ Parts & Service Manager
- ❖ Rigger
- ❖ Service Tech
- ❖ Gas/Dock/Yard Person

Aronson Boat Works, Pike Bay Dr., Tower  
Call, Text, or Stop In For Information

218-753-4190 tfn

## EMPLOYMENT



### Division Director – Northeast Regional Corrections Center (NERCC)

Arrowhead Regional Corrections is seeking a highly qualified individual to direct and manage activities and staff of Northeast Regional Corrections Center. Apply by: 03/11/2020

Apply online at  
[www.stlouiscountymn.gov/jobs](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/jobs)

*Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 3/6*

### Local Delivery Driver

**If you live in the Tower-Babbitt area this may be a perfect opportunity for you!**

Deliver fuel oil and propane to residents and businesses in the Ely, Lake Vermillion, Virginia areas. We're growing, expanding and we need good help. Class B license at a minimum but we pay more for Class A CDL with experience and a willingness to drive other equipment. Perfect job for someone wanting to get off the over-the-road or those who prefer a more stay-local routine and more family time. Good pay with benefits. Consistent schedule. Consistent work. OT available. We're a local, family-run business with family values. So if you're tired of working for "the corporation", come see us.

Applications at or resumes to:  
Edwards Oil and Propane, 820 Hoover Rd.,  
Virginia, MN 55792  
[www.edwardsoilandpropane.com](http://www.edwardsoilandpropane.com) 4/10

### Customer Service Representative North Star Insurance Agency

Part-time hours. Flexibility. Paid time off. Holiday pay. 401(k) match. Seeking the right person to join our professional team. Great opportunity for someone looking to work part-time. Training available. Assistance in getting licensed. Could grow into full-time if desired. Our agency is growing, this is a good time to get involved. Apply on Indeed or stop in for an application at 24 S. River Street. tfn



DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE  
RESOURCES & REHABILITATION

### Loan Officer Supervisor Working Title: Director of Business Development Permanent, Full-time Position Eveleth, MN

Oversee the delivery of the agency's Business Development programs. Direct, monitor, evaluate and report on all aspects of the agency's business development program. Monitor and maintain the agency's loan portfolio. Administer, coordinate and develop the agency's activities related to business development under guidance of the Executive Director of Development. Take a lead role in reviewing and evaluating applications for financing and make recommendations to the Executive Director of Development. Assist the Executive Director of Development in managing the agency's loan program in accord with agency and state policies, laws and regulations. Prepare and/or review legal documents for approved projects. Supervise personnel and assist in the formation and coordination of economic development initiatives and business outreach efforts in the agency's service area.

Learn more and apply online at  
[mn.gov/careers](http://mn.gov/careers)  
Job ID number is 38691

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

Application deadline: 03/06/2020  
*Equal Opportunity Employer 3/6*

## EMPLOYMENT

### HELP WANTED

Motivated employees for established local business. Must be reliable and a team player. Must enjoy working outdoors and be able to lift 50 pounds for a majority of the day. Duties could be delivery and assembly of boat lifts and docks or welding, painting, and decking. Call in person to schedule an interview – 218-365-6210. This is an opportunity for a fun and enjoyable season at Docks on Wheels. Compensation based on qualifications. 4/10



#### SEWING POSITION OPENING

Wintergreen Northern Wear creates quality outdoor apparel on the main street of Ely. We are looking for creative, talented individuals to sew our garments. Have previous sewing experience? We'll train you on our industrial machines. Livable wages and a cheery, clean work environment. Call 218-365-6602 or email [sola@wintergreennorthernwear.com](mailto:sola@wintergreennorthernwear.com) for more information. Apply by email or at our store located at 205 East Sheridan Street, Ely, MN. 3/6



#### FULL-TIME RETAIL STORE OPENING

Wintergreen Northern Wear creates quality outdoor apparel on the main street of Ely, and is looking for a friendly, outgoing and experienced individual to join our retail team! If you're looking for a dynamic position with competitive wages that will keep you busy full-time and year round, contact our manager at [carly@wintergreennorthernwear.com](mailto:carly@wintergreennorthernwear.com), by phone at (218-365-6602, or at our store located at 205 East Sheridan Street, Ely, MN. Preferred qualifications: Customer Service or Retail experience, love of the outdoors and computer-savvy.

Feel free to swing by for more information and to meet some of the crew! 3/6

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

NOTE	BASS	UTAHN	UPONE
AURA	AVOW	TAPAS	SANER
STORAGE	CAPACITY	OLEAN	
AGING	OKRA	TERNS	EIRE
LOSSES	EMU	ICECAPADES	
NEST	LACED	GOLAST	
KATE	CAPSHAW	TAKESTO	
EPOXY	LEO	ASPERSE	
GLOP	DATE	RHODA	RASPY
ELICIT	IMAGE	CAPTURE	
ONMARS	URN	WON	SORBET
STATE	CAPITAL	ENTOMB	
TYNES	SIGEP	FIDO	PEON
SHANGRI	EDU	SONIA	
ARABIAN	TIMECAPSULE		
NOMADS	CLOYS	NEHI	
AYE	CAPTAIN	FIT	INCASE
LANK	SALTS	OTIS	ERROL
OLDIE	PICTURE	RECAPTIONS	
GWENN	ICHAT	MALE	MMII
SEDGE	NOIRE	SLEW	PACE

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

7			6		5		3	
	4			9				5
		2	1			4		
3	6				8			4
		7	2			6		
9				1			5	
	5				9			7
		9	4				8	1
8				3		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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# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

## AUTOMOTIVE

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

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



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

## 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.

## FOR RENT

2 BR APARTMENT AVAIL. MARCH 1- Bay View Apartments in Orr. Call Dennis at 218-780-0200. tfn

## 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

## 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

**For All Your Feed & Seed Needs**  
HIBBING **FEED and SEED**  
**262-3049**

**Get Results!**



**Advertise in the Timberjay!**

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



## BUILDING SERVICES

**EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC**

*"Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home"*

**Superior Quality**

- Plank Paneling
- Trim
- One-Of-A-Kind Moldings
- Industrial Lumber

**218-744-1788**  
8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

## WANTED

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

## SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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.

## HELP WANTED

SUMMER KITCHEN HELP WANTED- Now hiring cook/bakers/kitchen assistant and cleaners. Join our happy kitchen at Camp Voyageur on Farm Lake. We do from scratch cooking and baking. If you appreciate the outdoors, are a quick learner, an independent worker and enjoy working with youth, contact us at: cvspirit@campvoyageur.com or 218-235-1975. tfn

PART-TIME MAIL CARRIER- Needed to substitute for two routes out of the Tower Post Office. \$90/day. Average 4-5 hours/day, and 2-3 days/week. Must be 21 and have car and drivers license, drug test required. Call 218-753-5797. 3/6

## EMPLOYMENT

**Equipment Operator Junior- Apply by 3/9/20**

**Heavy Equipment Mechanic Apply by 3/09/20**

**Building Maintenance Worker- Public Works Apply by 3/18/20**

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

*Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 3/6*

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

## Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

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

## MARINE

**Centrally Located On Lake Vermilion**



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](http://www.shamrocklanding.com)

**Gruben's Marina & Village**  
The Heart of Lake Vermilion

- Boat launch, rental, store & repair
- Cabins for a great, fun vacation

See us at: [www.grubens.com](http://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, Ercos Pontoons.  
Call 218-757-3150

**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 MONIA PROVEN  
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

**MOCCASIN POINT MARINE**

4655 Moccasin Point Rd  
Lake Vermilion  
**218-753-3319**

Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales  
Mechanic on Duty

[moccasinpointmarine.com](http://moccasinpointmarine.com)

**YAMAHA**

## MARINE

**Handberg's MARINA** Since 1936  
Boats • Family • Fun!  
**218-993-2214**

**YAMAHA** **EVINRUDE**  
ALUMINUMELDER **POWERPOW** **GODFREY**

**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**  
7401 Oak Narrows Rd • Cook, MN

Cabin rentals  
Year round boat storage and dockage  
Boat and pontoon rental  
Convenience store  
Gas, bait & liquor  
[timbuktumarina.com](http://timbuktumarina.com)

**TIMBUKTU MARINE** LAKE VERMILION  
**218-666-2276**  
2173 Vermilion Dr • Cook, MN

**Ranger** **Premier**  
Boats **Pontoon**  
**WEERES**

**3Boats** **MERCURY**  
**SUZUKI** **YAMAHA**  
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories  
[timbuktumarine.com](http://timbuktumarine.com)

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

## Super Crossword

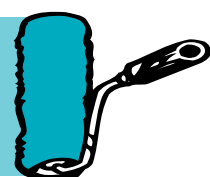
- ACROSS**
- 1 Sol, la or ti  
5 Low-pitched  
9 Salt Lake City resident  
14 Ahead by a single point  
19 Otherworldly glow  
20 Admit openly  
21 Spanish appetizers  
22 More sensible  
23 Datum for a hard drive  
26 Brand of fake fat  
27 Geriatrics topic  
28 Vegetable in Cajun cuisine  
29 Beach birds  
31 St. Patty's land  
32 Gains' opposites  
34 Australian avian  
35 Defunct figure-skating show  
37 Robin's place  
39 Woven together  
41 Take one's turn after all others
- 42 Actress married to Steven Spielberg  
47 Develops an affinity for  
48 Strong glue  
49 MGM lion  
50 Sling mud at  
54 Mushy food  
55 Itinerary info  
56 Morganstern of 1970s TV  
57 Hoarse  
62 Evoke  
64 Camera-to-computer upload  
66 Like some sci-fi aliens, location-wise  
67 Caterer's receptacle  
69 Got the gold  
70 Fruity frozen dessert  
71 Jackson or Lincoln, e.g.  
74 Lay to final rest  
75 Actress Daly and novelist O'Connell  
76 Largest frat in the U.S.  
77 Pooch name  
79 Lowly worker  
81 — la (utopia)  
83 College e-mail ender
- 84 Supreme Court's Sotomayor  
85 With 33-Down, arm of the Indian Ocean  
89 Voyager Golden Record, e.g.  
92 Roving sorts  
93 Is sickeningly sweet  
96 Old fruity soda  
97 Sailor's reply  
99 In shape  
101 Should it happen that  
106 Skinny  
107 Epsom —  
108 Redding with a Grammy  
110 Flynn of early films  
111 Classic tune  
113 Snapshot go-withs  
116 Edmund of "Miracle on 34th Street"  
117 Apple messaging software  
118 Like men  
119 Ovid's 2,002  
120 Swamp plant  
121 Bête —  
122 Multitude
- 123 Word hidden backwards in this puzzle's eight longest answers
- DOWN**
- 1 Vocally twangy  
2 Expenditure  
3 Three, in Lille  
4 Deserves  
5 Bit of luggage  
6 Chevrolet hatchback  
7 Collection for a wrench  
8 Hive cluster  
9 Actress Hagen  
10 Maneuver  
11 Each  
12 Strong dislike  
13 "It's Gonna Be Me" band  
14 Mil. hangout  
15 Sierra Nevada brew  
16 New York tribe members  
17 Least distant  
18 Cuba's Guevara  
24 Part of CIA  
25 Cook Deen  
30 Continuing dramas  
33 See 85-Across  
36 Kitty  
38 Snowball impact sound  
40 Extend — welcome  
42 Beer cask  
43 Galore  
44 Moniker for TV's Tim Taylor  
45 Make amends for  
46 Sod-busting tool  
47 — Il (Gillette razor)  
51 Stole's kin  
52 — stick (jumping toy)  
53 Utopia  
55 The "D" of CD  
58 Fate who cut the thread of life  
59 Secondary option list  
60 Heat to 212 degrees in advance  
61 As of now  
63 Old Toyota  
64 Prefix with 39-Across  
65 "It will come — surprise ..."  
66 East, in Bonn  
67 Go — smoke  
68 Bond girl player Diana  
72 Hot — oven  
73 "Tis —" ("So sad")  
74 Draw out  
77 Like women: Abbr.  
78 Same  
80 No, in Selkirk  
82 Lock holders  
84 Kind of piano  
85 Comparable things  
86 Sovereign's "I," often  
87 Revised  
88 Supporting  
90 "C — Cookie"  
91 Food tuna  
93 Tricolor cat  
94 Chinese fruit  
95 Car security system  
98 Easy putt  
100 Gossip tidbits  
102 Pinch into small folds  
103 Good smell  
104 Kind of boom  
105 — the Cow (milk mascot)  
109 Markdown  
112 Shanghai-to-Tokyo dir.  
114 Adaptable truck, briefly  
115 Church perch

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



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