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The TIMBERJAY



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CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19 touches nearly all of North Country

County working closely with area schools to prep for in-class learning

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- While county health officials focus on a recent surge in COVID-19 cases among young adults, newly released data from the Minnesota Department of Health reveals that since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, positive cases have been identified in

almost all of the towns in northern St. Louis County.

The department released zip code-level information last Thursday showing that the Tower area has had seven confirmed COVID-19 cases, one shy of the eight documented in Virginia.

Soudan, Ely, Cook, Orr, Babbitt, and Embarrass zip codes each have had at least one



confirmed case, and possibly up to as many as five. MDH only specifies an exact number when cases exceed five in a zip code. No COVID-19 cases have been found for residents in the Angora

and Crane Lake zip codes.

Of the cumulative 681 cases identified in St. Louis County, 550, or 81 percent, of those have been concentrated in Duluth, Hermantown, and Proctor, according to the county health department's online COVID-19 dashboard.

"For St. Louis County, the experience of the Duluth area and the experience of smaller

communities scattered across the Iron Range is distinct," Public Health and Human Services Director Linnea Mirsch said on Tuesday.

Mirsch noted a precipitous drop in the average age of diagnosed cases countywide as of late.

"Let's start with April, when

See...COVID pg. 10



REGULATION

Lamppa waits for EPA action

Testing errors allowed competitor to obtain coveted certification

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER—With the start of the heating season now just weeks away, the phones are busy here at Lamppa Manufacturing, which makes and sells the cleanest-burning wood furnace in North America. But the phones should be ringing a lot faster, and that's

See... LAMPPA pg. 7

Lamppa Manufacturing welder Rick Berens, top, works on a sauna stove Wednesday morning at the company's facility in Tower. The business also makes the world's cleanest-burning wood furnace in North America.

photos by M. Helmberger



GREENWOOD

Clerk skips board meeting

Had already reached weekly hours limit

by JODI SUMMITT
Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP- Greenwood Township Clerk Sue Drobac did not attend the Aug. 12 board meeting, a protest based on the fact she had already worked the maximum of 12 hours per week the board had set for her at the meeting in July.

The clerk had already put in those hours due to evening hours required for the primary election on Aug. 11, along with her regular office hours on Aug. 11 and 12.

At the July meeting, the board had cut the clerk's pay to a total of 12 hours times the equivalent of her previous "hourly" salary, which they based on her former regular office hours of 20 hours per week. At that time, Drobac informed the board she could not complete all her required clerk duties in the 12-hour-per-week timeframe.

The board said it was up to her what items not to complete in her more limited time, Drobac said.

Drobac sent an email to Chairman Mike Ralston prior to the meeting explaining her action. According to Drobac, Ralston responded to her claiming that her hours working for the election did not count toward the 12-hour weekly limit, since the 12 hours was only related to time spent on township business.

See...CLERK pg. 9

CITY OF ELY

Council treads lightly on fellow member's blight issue

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY - The City Council here Tuesday was hesitant to immediately address a continuing issue involving one of its own members over blight at a residential property, and

instead stood by a resolution they adopted late last year ordering remediation or summary enforcement.

Council member Paul Kess and his wife, Laurie, own an abandoned house at 106 E. Harvey Street that has steadily deteriorated over several years to the

An abandoned house at 106 E. Harvey St. in Ely, owned by city council member Paul Kess and his wife Laurie, has been deemed a public health hazard. The blighted property is subject to summary enforcement. photo by K. Vandervort

point where it was deemed a threat to public health and safety. An inspection conducted last September, due to a new complaint, found that the condition

See...BLIGHT pg. 8



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Community notices

Vermilion Dream Quilters to meet Sept. 3

REGIONAL- The Vermilion Dream Quilters will again meet outdoors on Thursday, Sept. 3 at the Hoodoo Point Campground pavilion, 5788 Hoodoo Point Road in Tower. Because of shorter daylight hours and probably cooler temperatures, we will begin gathering at 5:30 p.m. and start the business meeting at 6 p.m. Teresa Dolinar and Bonnie Harma will present a program on orphan blocks.

In case we need to gather under the pavilion rather than spread out on the grassy area, you must bring a mask. Other items to bring include a lawn chair, hand sanitizer, bug spray, your own food and beverage, and, of course, show and tell items.

Learn how to use social media, classes offered by NWFA

REGIONAL- Learn the basics for Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter and TikTok. Classes will be offered via Zoom on Fridays at 9 a.m. starting Aug. 7. Classes are free. You need to call or text Lisa Hyppa at 218-780-1151 for your Zoom invitation.

Social media classes are offered to the public through Northwoods Friends of the Arts. Volunteer Lisa Hyppa and other NWFA volunteers have had to invent novel ways to present art opportunities this year due to the pandemic.

The NWFA Gallery is located in Cook at 210 S River St. The gallery is staffed and open between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays. Saturday open hours are 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Thirty artists sell and display their work year round at this gallery. One event coming soon is the second annual Arts, Antiques and Antiquities sale on Saturday, Aug. 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To learn more about this non-profit membership arts organization, the website is nwfamn.org.

Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail ready to raise development funds

REGIONAL- Significant progress has been made toward creating a recreational trail between Cook and Tower in the beautiful, natural landscape south of Lake Vermilion. The trail will be a scenic route providing an opportunity for healthy, safe, non-motorized, year-round transportation and recreation for residents and visitors. The governing structure is in place and a master plan, including a conceptual route, is complete. A new organization, Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail, is ready to raise funds for construction in order to make the trail a reality.

In February 2018, the cities of Cook and Tower; the townships of Owens, Beatty, Greenwood, Vermilion Lake and Kugler; and the Bois Forte Tribal Government established a Joint Powers Board which is responsible for developing, owning and managing the Lake Vermilion Trail.

Securing funding for trail development is the next crucial step. In July 2019, the Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board submitted an application for a grant from the Minnesota Parks and Trails Fund, a result of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy amendment. Lack of matching funds for the development of the Lake Vermilion Trail was the primary reason no funds were granted from the Parks and Trails Fund.

In order to address the challenge of raising funds for trail development, Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail, a nonprofit corporation, has been formed. This new organization will be focused on fundraising, increasing community awareness, and providing opportunity for additional people to help bring the trail to reality. Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail is recruiting additional board members and other volunteers interested in supporting the trail by fundraising, promotion, or field reconnaissance. For more information, please contact Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail at lvtfinfo@yahoo.com.

More information about the trail can be found on the website at lakevermiliontrail.org and Facebook page.

COMMUNITY

Ely Folk School hosts blacksmithing class



Blacksmith students with instructor Phil Leino were Chase Alander, Bob Alander, Hunter Hicks and Jon Ridlon. photo by K. Vandervort

ELY - The Ely Folk School hosted an introductory blacksmithing event last Saturday.

"This class is the most basic with the objective of creating a classic 'S' hook using basic blacksmithing techniques," said instructor Phil Leino.

Four students learned the proper color or temperature of the iron to start forging, basic hammering techniques for elongating, bending and twisting metal. Their goal was to go home with a functional "S" hook. Basic forge safety and management was also discussed during the introductory class.

Leino will be teaching another introductory blacksmithing class on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 9 a.m. to noon. Tuition is \$40. Materials cost is \$10.

Go to www.elyfolkschool.org, or call 218-235-0138 for more information.

Leino grew up in Ely hearing stories about his blacksmith grandfather and working with his father fabricating metal tools. After graduating with a master's degree in botany and PhD in plant sciences, he picked up more metalworking skills along the way, which he has put to use making

equipment needed in his research, creating a functional forge at a high school in Idaho, and demonstrating blacksmithing at Living History Farms in Iowa.

He donated the first forge for the Ely Folk School, which was the first step of their blacksmith program. Leino has been instrumental in getting the Folk School blacksmith shop up and running.

"I'm intrigued by the process of taking a static material like iron and dynamically transforming it into something beautiful and useful," he said.

SALES

DNR holds online fleet auctions

REGIONAL- The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has canceled three live fleet auctions in Bemidji and Grand Rapids scheduled for later this year. Instead, auctions are now taking place online via MinnBid, the state's online auction website.

The auction began last week and will take place over the next 10-12 weeks. Over that time, different lots of equipment are available on one-week rotations. The DNR is using online auctions due to COVID-19 health and safety considerations.

"We are working with our partners at the Department of Administration and will resume live sales when we can do so in a way that protects the health and safety of customers and staff," said DNR section manager Paul Johnson. "For now, online sales are our best option."

The DNR has about 300 pieces of equipment that will be up for auction on MinnBid. Six to 12 pieces of equipment are listed for a duration of one week. The first pieces of equipment were listed on Aug. 7. Auction lots will only be available for viewing by appointment. Listed

lots in Grand Rapids can be viewed by appointment on Tuesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. To make an appointment in Grand Rapids, call 218-328-8965. Listed lots in Bemidji can be viewed by appointment on Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. To make an appointment in Bemidji, call 218-308-2631.

Once a winning bid is submitted and accepted using the MinnBid website, the bidder will be able to schedule a time to pick up the equipment where it is listed, at the DNR northwest regional headquarters in Bemidji or the DNR northeast regional headquarters in Grand Rapids.

During inspections and equipment pick-ups, staff will be encouraged to wear cloth masks and will maintain social distance from the public. Staff are required to wear masks under any circumstances where social distancing cannot be maintained. The public is also encouraged to wear masks when on site. Additionally, staff will wear gloves when handling auction items and paperwork.

Following the online auction, if a

successful bidder needs help loading equipment, staff will be able to help using a forklift as they would at a live auction.

The DNR prepares equipment for auction by removing all state stickers, decals and registrations, washing and vacuuming the road vehicles and addressing or making a note of any mechanical issues.

"DNR equipment auctions are a great way to find a new truck, trailer or even a new fun way to get outdoors — like on an ATV or snowmobile," Johnson said. "Our goal is to sell equipment while it still has good life left in it. This presents the best value for the buyer, and for the DNR."

The auction lots are available for viewing and bidding at minnbid.org. Registration is required before users are able to ask questions about lots through the system or before bids can take place via the MinnBid site. Head to minnbid.org/mobile/register to register for an account.

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COUNTY SCHOOLS

2142 releases plan for in-school learning

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

Contingencies in place for COVID cases and alternative learning modes

REGIONAL- The St. Louis County Schools unveiled a 32-page back-to-school plan on Tuesday outlining an extensive array of policies and procedures being implemented to ensure a safe and healthy return to in-class learning in district buildings in September.

The district school board approved a return to in-class instruction at a special meeting on Aug. 4, although at that time the complete back-to-school plan was unavailable. The district was well within the state-prescribed range of the 14-day average of new COVID cases for in-class learning at that time. And while a surge in total county cases subsequently pushed Duluth-area schools into the range of requiring a hybrid model, the average outside of Duluth, including ISD 2142,

actually dropped slightly as of last Thursday.

The back-to-school plan emphasizes safe health and sanitation practices. It describes possible modifications to schedules, routines, and use of physical spaces and outlines instruction and assessment practices that accommodate full in-class, hybrid, and distance learning models. It also addresses steps to be taken if a student or staff member exhibits COVID-19 symptoms. The plan is written to provide overall consistency throughout the district while allowing individual schools the flexibility to adapt to best meet their particular needs and circumstances.

Parents and students also may choose distance learning instead of in-person attendance and must notify the district by

Aug. 24 if they so choose.

A summary of key provisions that follows focuses primarily on elements for the district's planned return to in-person learning. The plan provides additional guidance if the district or one of its schools should have to shift to a hybrid learning model limiting attendance to 50 percent of building capacity and alternating between in-person and distance learning days.

Health highlights

► Parents will be responsible for screening their children's health daily and are required to report to their school if a child is experiencing COVID symptoms. A detailed screening guide is being provided to parents.

► Staff members must submit a daily health screening

survey before they report to work.

► All students, staff, and other people present in schools and district buildings or riding on school transportation are required to wear masks or face shields, except for preschool-age children in their classrooms.

► Bus seats will be marked to promote social distancing, and hand sanitizers will be available in all district vehicles.

► Schools will provide one cloth face covering for each student and students are encouraged to have at least two clean masks or shields with them in a school building. Additional disposable masks will also be available if needed.

► Non-essential building visitors will be limited. Student drop-off and pick-up will occur outside, although preschool

students may be walked to classrooms by their parents.

► Hand sanitizer stations will be available throughout school buildings, and posters placed at all hand-washing stations to emphasize good handwashing practices.

► Room configurations will be adapted as possible to provide for social distancing. Floor markings and signs will be used to help with social distancing and traffic flow in areas that may have congestion.

Possible COVID procedures

► A student with suspected COVID symptoms will be taken to an isolation room where they will be under visual supervision of a staff member until such time

See **SCHOOLS...** pg. 5

ELECTION 2020

Urbas withdraws; but name will still be on official ballot

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

With candidate's exit, Ely mayoral race is no contest

ELY – Mayoral candidate Eric Urbas pulled out of the race here last week, leaving incumbent Chuck Novak as the only contestant on the ballot for the Nov. 3 election.

In notifying the Ely City Clerk's office on the ballot withdrawal last week, Urbas cited health reasons for his decision.

Urbas' name will still appear on the Nov. 3 ballot, according to Ely Accounting Clerk Katie Richards. The nomination period ran from May 19 to June 2, and the ballot deadline was on June 4, she said.

Urbas confirmed the news

of his exit from the race over the weekend on social media.

"I want to announce that I am withdrawing from the Ely mayoral race due to health reasons," he said, citing a 15-year medical battle. "I am not going to dive into specifics. I just hope everyone can understand my reason. Thank you to everyone for all the support throughout this race. It is appreciated and humbling. If anyone wants their shirts signed, just get a hold of me."

An Ely native and 2007 graduate of Ely Memorial High School, Urbas continued his

education at the University of Minnesota-Duluth where he earned a degree in business administration with an emphasis in finance. He is employed with R&R Transfer.

In seeking elected office for the first time, Urbas said he "wanted Ely to survive." He said that the Ely community has missed opportunities to grow.

"I think a lot of people want to keep living in Ely and I think there are some opportunities to gain some incentives and pull some industries into town. There are more opportunities out there," he said when he threw

his hat in the ring. "Growing up in Ely, my family is in Ely, my grandparents are from Ely. I don't want Ely to fizzle away," Urbas said.

He told the *Timberjay* this week that at the beginning of summer he felt he could handle putting more on his plate.

"But, in the last month and a half I started going backward and I can't take on a role that I don't feel positive that I can do completely," he said.

Novak is seeking a fourth term in his second time as mayor. He also won the mayoral seat in 2006 but lost a re-election bid

two years later.

The city of Ely election this fall also features a city council race that includes just the three incumbents – Jerome Debeltz, Paul Kess and Ryan Callen.

As reported last week, the top three vote getters out of four candidates are vying for seats on the Ely school board. Those running include incumbent Tom Omerza and three newcomers, Darren Visser, Hollee Coombe and Rachel Brophy.

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Editorial

Don't close Thistledeew

Department of Corrections hasn't made the case for closing a successful facility

The Minnesota Department of Corrections, and the Walz administration, need to be much more transparent regarding the recently announced closure of the correctional facility in Togo long known as Thistledeew, as well as at Willow River.

While the DOC is portraying the closure as necessary due to budget constraints, the department has yet to provide a clear accounting of how the closures of these two northern Minnesota facilities will truly save money. As Rep. Julie Sandstede, DFL-Hibbing, who represents the Togo area, noted in our story on the closure last week, the inmates at these facilities aren't likely to be released. Instead, they'll be transferred to other facilities in the state, so most of the costs of housing these inmates will remain.

In either case, the decision looks penny wise and pound foolish. The very successful Challenge Incarceration Program, which is operated at both Thistledeew and Willow River, has proven its ability to save the state money by reducing recidivism. These are minimum-security facilities that have done an excellent job of providing direction and skills to offenders who can, in most cases, be turned around and reintroduced to society as productive citizens. Achieving that objective saves the state money on corrections and generates additional state taxes as inmates transition to gainful employment, and become taxpayers themselves, upon release.

The location of the Togo facility, in particular, is highly conducive to the success of the CIP. The tranquil surroundings make it an excellent place for offenders to engage in the kind of quiet introspection that can make a productive life change possible. Putting these individuals into much larger, noisier, and more dangerous facilities, is not a recipe for success.

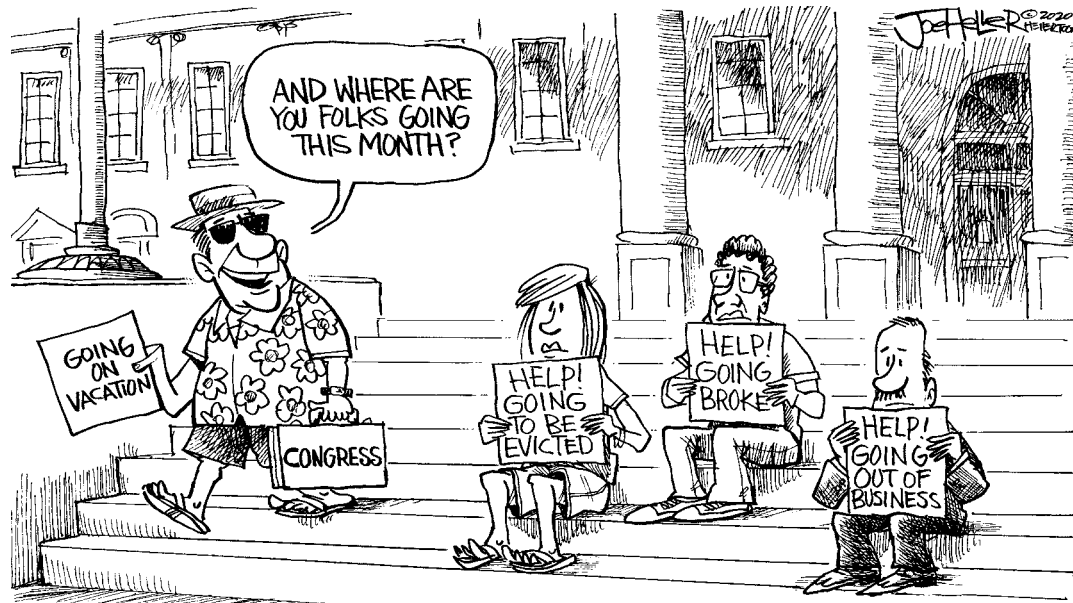
Other factors should also be considered. Gov. Tim

Walz has talked of his “One Minnesota” approach to governance, which is a concept with broad political support. Yet, targeting two corrections facilities in northern Minnesota for closure appears incongruous with that theme.

That's especially true given the enormous economic impact such a closure can have in a place like Togo, where solid middle-class jobs with good benefits are few and far between. A closure like this would barely cause a ripple in the metro area, but its impact is likely to be devastating in the small, closely-knit townships in the Togo area. At least 60 families would be directly affected by the closure and many will likely be forced to leave the area as a result. That will have implications throughout the area.

Before that happens, Gov. Walz should insist that the DOC demonstrate that this closure is truly necessary from a financial perspective. And the GOP-led Minnesota Senate should also explain why it has been unable to support supplemental funding requested by the DOC, which could negate any need for closure of these facilities. The senate districts that include both Thistledeew and Willow River are represented by GOP lawmakers. Are they raising concerns about the impact of these closures in their districts? If not, they should be.

The bottom line is clear. The impact of the closure of these facilities will be significant and the savings may very well never materialize. If the DOC has data to the contrary, they should be required to make their case publicly. The consequences are too significant for our area to simply give up a valuable local employer and a successful example of restorative justice with a collective shrug. Legislators in our region invariably tout the value of attracting good middle-class jobs. Let's make sure we don't lose the ones we already have.



Letters from Readers

Iron Range mayors fall for bait and switch?

I was so pleased to read the Iron Range mayors' thoughtful response to my work in Congress. As chair of the U.S. House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, I work with Democrats and Republicans to ensure hundreds of millions of acres of federal lands are managed, protected, and preserved for the benefit of the American people and for future generations. In July, the U.S. House passed my \$37 billion bill funding the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, and the Forest Service.

The Iron Range mayors state their commitment to the ethos of “watch your own bobber.” My job is to fund and protect federal lands throughout the country, including Northeastern Minnesota's Superior National Forest, Voyageurs National Park, and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Ensuring these public lands are properly managed, not exploited, is the “bobber” I am watching.

My colleague, Republican Rep. Pete Stauber, supports the Trump administration's efforts to roll back environmental protections, deny sound science, and relax or eliminate regulations on mining companies. I don't. Mr. Stauber supports sulfide-ore copper mining on federal lands in the Rainy River Watershed, footsteps from the BWCA. I don't.

My bill includes language to prohibit federal agencies like the Bureau of Land Management from funding the review or approval of any mine plans in the Superior National Forest for one year. Mr. Stauber and the mayors claim this language prohibits the expansion of taconite mining, except they fail to mention that there are no plans to review for taconite mining in the Superior National Forest. It's a desperate, phony argument — a scare tactic. Or a term bobber-watchers are familiar with: a bait and switch.

My language prevents the Trump administration from rubber stamping a Twin Metals mine plan because this administration has proven it cannot be trusted to conduct a comprehensive and transparent environmental review process.

Taconite mining is important, and I support the industry's success. But the threat of a Twin Metals mine destroying the BWCA, polluting waters in Minnesota and Canada, and saddling taxpayers with incomprehensible clean-up costs must be stopped. That way, Northeastern Minnesota's waters will remain clean, the fish will remain plentiful, and the Iron Range mayors can continue to watch their bobbers.

**U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum
Minnesota's Fourth District**

Thanks for family fun

To the lovely town of Ely, My family and I were in your area a couple of weeks ago and we loved your little town.

We enjoyed a tour of your community college, the wolf and bear center and, of course, your hidden jewel, the Pioneer Mine.

It was a little hard to find but once found it was awesome. Sera is amazing with his endless knowledge and energy. We would love to come back and see it develop into the next main attraction!

Thank you for being a part of some wonderful family memories.

**The Hartke Family
Lake City**

Thanks for the memories

I enjoyed the trip down the Little Fork River with Mr. Helmberger.

When I was first married in 1947, we had the first mobile home in the area. It was parked across the river from Samuelson Park.

I remember the old Harrigan bridge. Ice would bang against the bridge as water would be

so high in the spring. I can also remember water being so low one could walk across the river.

Thank you for the memories,

**Edna Jackopich
Widow of Louis Jackopich
Virginia**

GOP doublespeak on mail-in-voting

The *Timberjay* had a good editorial on mail-in voting. I would like to know the hard evidence that mail-in voting is fraudulent. It seems when the President and his minions make claims, every follower of his marches in lock step and agrees with the baseless misinformation they spew out of their mouths. My question is this: If you trust the Postal Service to mail out your paycheck, Social Security check, your bills.... then why wouldn't you trust that your mail-in voting ballot would be safe? The President, it seems, trusts the Postal Service to handle his absentee ballot! Oh that's right....it goes to Florida and that's Republican territory. The first online commenter at timberjay.com says he would march out to the polls to vote. Well, some people in this country don't have that luxury and if the Republicans get their way they will close some polls and make it more difficult for some to go out to vote in person.

**Brian LaFrenier
Embarrass**

We welcome your letters

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

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



Looking for the silver lining in difficult times

It's a lovely, quiet Sunday morning. Over my second cup of coffee, as I gaze out at the garden, I see beets waiting to be harvested and barren pea plants ready for composting. But I'm not feeling inspired to tackle anything. I can't seem to shake off a strange foggy feeling that my life is somehow



**KATHLEEN
MCQUILLAN**

lacking direction. What's the thread that weaves it all together now?

It's certainly not a feeling of boredom. Besides the garden, there are cords of freshly peeled birch ready to stack in the woodshed. The house and critters always benefit from more attention. With the

world in its current state, describe it however you will, there are lots of ways to contribute to try to make things better. And, despite the pandemic, I'm still connecting with family and friends. Not like pre-COVID days when we sat around the table telling tales, solving the problems of the world, and sharing hugs and high fives. But very much engaged! So there's plenty to keep me occupied. I think how I'm feeling now is something deeper.

Thinking back, when I was still employed, I seldom wondered what to do next. My

life seemed clearly mapped. The daily routine consisted of waking, readying to get out the door on time, clocking in at work and tackling the many duties associated with being part of a team, dependent and accountable to one another in ways we knew like the “back of our hands.” And, when the workday was through, I'd drive home, bracing to meet the needs of my family. Their hungry faces, the highs and lows of their day, the related celebrations and admonitions, and of course, the

chores. The theme of life back then was “learn how, and serve well” in the prescribed roles set forth for working moms!

Then came retirement! For the first time I was free to choose how to spend my precious time — a process of discovering who I am versus the person I am supposed to be. Overall, I think I passed that test. But it was so much more than just a test. It was a time of countless opportunities for meaningful face-to-face

See **POSITIVE...pg. 5**

Letters from Readers

It's been a long road to female empowerment

This year marks one hundred years of women's right to vote. Women in Minnesota began the fight for voting rights in the mid-1800s. In 1860 they were able to pressure the Minnesota Legislature to consider an amendment to the state constitution to give women the right to vote. That bill, however, remained in committee. In subsequent years, two more attempts were made with similar results.

In 1869, a bill to give women the right to vote was introduced in the state House of Representatives, only to be defeated by one vote. Shortly after that defeat, a bill to amend the state constitution giving women the right to vote on a separate ballot passed in both the House and Senate but was vetoed by Gov. Austin.

The 15th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified in 1870. That amendment specified that the right to vote could not be denied "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." The 15th amendment extended the right to vote to black males but not to any females.

Although women involved in the suffrage movement were routinely dismissed and at times ridiculed for their efforts, they went on to form the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association (MWSA) in 1881. The group began with just over a dozen women who distributed literature about suffrage at public events throughout the state. They recruited hundreds of women to join them. Their progress convinced the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA) to hold their 1885 annual convention in Minneapolis as national leaders saw opportunity for enfranchising women in the Midwest. Beginning in 1893, the MWSA repeatedly lobbied for passage of an amendment to the state constitution to remove the word "male" as a requirement for voter registration but were never successful. In 1875, however, they gained the right to vote in school board elections by the all-male state Legislature.

Building on the re-energized national woman suffrage movement, kicked off by the 1913 Suffrage Procession in Washington D.C., the MWSA

organized a suffrage procession in 1914 through the Twin Cities. Over 2,000 women attended.

The suffrage movement in Minnesota was largely a white woman's venture. But in 1914, an African American woman, Nellie Griswold Francis, left her job to concentrate on suffrage and racial discrimination. She was active in the leadership of her local NAACP chapter and was a prominent member of the Republican Party in Minnesota. She also founded the Everywoman Suffrage Club, for African American suffragists. In 1918, white suffragists rejected an amendment that would have secured women's suffrage for them, in exchange for excluding black women from the vote.

In all, over 30,000 Minnesota women were active in various suffrage organizations. MWSA efforts continued through 1919 when the state legislature finally recognized a woman's right to vote in a presidential election. Simultaneously, the federal legislative branch voted to approve the 19th amendment. On September 8, 1919, Minnesota became the 15th state to vote for ratification.

Minnesota suffragists did not wait long to celebrate. On September 9, 1919 a group of women entered the Senate chamber and sang the "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." That night, they capped off the festivities by cooking and serving an old-fashioned chicken dinner to "thank the men of Minnesota" who had given them the vote.

Once the amendment was ratified, the MWSA reorganized as the League of Women Voters, which is still active today. By August of 1920, 36 states had ratified the amendment, ensuring that across the country, the right to vote could not be denied based on sex.

Today organizations such as the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women and ERA Minnesota are continuing efforts to ensure that women are actively involved in public affairs. They are committed to the protection of women's rights and electing legislators who promote gender equity to local, state and federal office.

**Linda Sutton
Kay Vandervort
Ely**

Authoritarian mindset at work in Greenwood

I have followed the Greenwood Board of Supervisors for more than 15 years. The current makeup of supervisors is definitely unique. I would describe them as pathetic. Currently, led by the mendacious Mike Ralston, he and his hapless group of toadies "govern" in a way that can only be described as an authoritarian lock-down.

As Ralston mumbles his way through each meeting agenda, head down, the pre-determined vote on each agenda item is passed. For those of you who do not attend the board meetings, you should know that I cannot cite when a motion has failed with this board. Agreement equals bliss in an authoritarian state.

As the *Timberjay* made clear in a recent editorial referencing a ruling by an open meeting law judge, Mike "Mendacious" Ralston fails to accept, and denies, his guilt. Worse than that, he even lies to all he is addressing at board meetings. When he falsely describes how financially desperate Greenwood is, he is telling lies. He does not include all the funds on the balance sheet when he tells his lies. He just cherry-picks the accounts that support his flawed argument. At a board meeting, he proclaimed "I will need to raise taxes." He even had the previous treasurer pedaling a fabricated financial crisis. All the while the regime is spending the "rapidly dwindling reserves" on "important" projects and handing out donations to any organization that sends a letter asking for money. They spent \$4,000 on a water softener, \$2,000 on a lighting upgrade, \$3,500 on a dutch door, \$5,000 on a computer, turning down an offer of a FREE computer of the same value from the Blandin Foundation to provide public internet access.

The board voted down a donation from a homeowner without even knowing or asking about the value. Cameras to provide surveillance of the clerk, and the public, was another \$4,000. Interesting that there are no cameras protecting any other buildings or grounds areas. Why is that? Just ask Supervisor Carmen Deluca: "I just wanted to see who was coming and going

from the clerk's office".

There it is, what we knew all along. Authoritarian control. The same control that costs the taxpayers thousands in attorney fees to put together an Option B vote in an attempt to un-elect our Minnesota-nice clerk and allow the board to pick their own toadie. Option B failed. The voter's first choice won the day. Then, thousands more of your dollars to write ordinances to allow more authoritarian control over public information and discussion at board meetings. No wonder they will not release the attorney billings. If I was crying about upcoming money troubles, I sure would not be running around proclaiming that the sky is falling all the while spending taxpayer dollars on arguably unnecessary items.

For those of you who have previously stated that you are embarrassed to tell people you live in Greenwood, maybe tell them you live in Tower.

**Jeff Maus
Greenwood Twp.**

Clerk shouldn't have to accept this abuse

I am sure by now everyone is aware of the horrific way that the Greenwood clerk, Sue Drobac, has been treated by the current town board. What the board has failed to accept is that she is their equal. She is NOT their secretary. Sue has done an outstanding job, despite the way she has been treated. It seems that the board spent about \$6,500 on a Dutch door and a surveillance system so that "the public" could no longer go into her office, where business has been conducted for over 30 years, and they want to know "who goes to the hall." They despise the fact that she is a friend to both John Bassing and Jeff Maus. Both John and Jeff have long called for accountability and transparency in township government, something our township has had a problem with. It is even worse now that the board will not allow public correspondence to be read, nor can the public have any input at the virtual meetings. Cutting Sue's salary by 40-percent was a nasty, despicable thing to do. There was no effort to cut anything else — the fire department and board members' pay remains the same.

The \$35,000 recently spent on seal-coating the parking lot was hardly a "need." I cannot imagine how many thousands of dollars were spent with the attorney, figuring out legal ways to get Sue to resign. Sue has put up with more bullying and harassment than many of us could stand. Please continue to give her your support. If Sue were an employee rather than an elected official, I am guessing a quick "cease and desist" letter from an attorney would have put an end to their heinous behavior long ago. Unfortunately, she does not have that protection. The board members' email addresses and phone numbers are available on the township's website at greenwoodtownshipmn.com. If you are unhappy with their misogynistic bullying, please contact all of them to let them know they should do the right thing and restore Sue's salary to what she was getting when she was elected, and to just be nice. Also, maybe give Sue a call at the town hall to thank her for being so gracious.

**Barbara Lofquist
Greenwood Twp.**

Enjoying the Little Fork River

Thank you for your recent article about your trip on the Little Fork River. I enjoyed your article and photos. It sounded like an exciting adventure. I live on the river where you were paddling recently.

I am disturbed that someone is dumping trailer loads of urine-soaked straw and using it as an open sewer as you stated in recent article on the Rainy River. I know the local farmers around Range Line Rd. and I would like to keep an eye on this.

I enjoy the Little Fork and want to keep it as clean as possible.

**Paul Houston
Cook**

Where the
North Country
Sounds Off!

SCHOOLS...Continued from page 3

as the student is picked up or the district provides transportation home. Both are required to wear face masks, unless the symptomatic person has trouble breathing or is incapacitated. If medical care is required, 911 and parents will be called.

► Specific intensive cleaning protocols will be implemented for all areas the person is believed to have been in, including common areas such as restrooms.

► The district will notify the Minnesota Department of Health, and county and state

officials will assist in determining an appropriate response at the involved school.

Facility cleaning

► Custodial staff will clean and disinfect common areas such as entrances, restrooms, cafeterias, and bottle filler stations a minimum of three times a day.

► Classroom door handles and frames, light switches, tabletops, desks, chairs, cabinet handles, and sinks will be cleaned and disinfected before and after school and as needed. Teachers and paraprofessionals will assist custodians as needed.

► Playground equipment such as swing chains, slides, overhead bars, and grab handles will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Shared equipment in gymnasiums will be cleaned and disinfected between classes.

► Toys in classrooms that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used.

Scheduling

► Lunch schedules will be staggered to promote social distancing.

► Elementary recess will be scheduled for one grade level at a time.

► A seven-period day and modified day schedule for secondary students will be employed to accommodate in-school and distance learners.

Instruction

► Each student will be assigned an iPad or laptop computer and encouraged to clean them throughout the day.

► Benchmark screenings and assessments will be administered.

► In an effort to simplify distance learning, the district will utilize SeeSaw and Google Classroom for elementary stu-

dents and Schoology, Google Classroom and Infinite Campus for secondary students.

► Distance learning coordinators will facilitate interaction and assistance with families.

The complete district back-to-school plan can be accessed online by going to the district website at <https://www.isd2142.net> and clicking on the COVID-19 link in the menu bar.

POSITIVE...Continued from page 4

encounters that provided lots of emotional and intellectual fulfillment. Retirement reduced the number of those opportunities and the pandemic brought them to a near screeching halt. Although I really enjoy and even need my "alone time," I still miss those interactions!

I also miss the long, heart-to-heart talks with close friends over coffee at the local cafe. The ones that babbled along like a river with twists and turns, where we shared everything from innermost thoughts, favorite book titles, or our anxiety over some recent news report. The ones that also provided free counseling and reassurance when one of us would hit "the rapids". These are the kinds of conversation that foster the fundamentals of

human relationship — trust, intimacy, and empathy.

Now I find myself second-guessing my relationships. Wondering if they are surviving our current stresses and strains? So often now, my interactions are driven by what has to get done, versus the "real stuff" that resides under the surface. The stuff that requires long, and deeper, listening. Conversations now seem more cerebral. Maybe that's because it's harder to dive too deeply into that realm of the subjective.

According to experts, some 70-percent of human communication happens non-verbally — less in the words and more through body language, facial gestures, tone of voice, timing and vibration. So, imagine what

we're lacking when now we're relegated to phone, face-time and "Zoom" for the bulk of our communication. With the imposition of "social distancing," when it comes to deeper emotional connection, we're far more reliant upon our housemates — or ourselves — than perhaps we're used to. Challenging times, indeed! You've probably heard the adage, "behind every cloud there is a silver lining". So, if our grandmothers were correct, where do we find it now?

After sifting through the chaff of my scattered thoughts, I'm wondering if it might just be merely a fleeting insight. Perhaps during this time of unimagined isolation, with its moments of silence and fearful uncertainty, maybe we've been thrust into a

period of individual and societal reckoning with our deepest aspects — both personally and collectively. The parts that we trust. The parts that we doubt. The parts we know we should change but are stubbornly persistent. Even the embarrassing or shameful parts of the story. All the painful stuff that we try to avoid, and sometimes at great cost.

To some, this may sound familiar. There are lots of experiences in life that force us to examine our core, head on. But maybe nothing at such a massive scale as this pandemic, absorbing the attention of our entire nation and much of the world.

My next question is this. If we could shift gears and see this as an incomparable opportuni-

ty... if we could power down our screen time for a few minutes or hours.... what would we discover? Might we sense something missing, or identify something that's been there all along, but we'd never noticed? Something important that needs protection? Something we could agree needs our undivided attention.

Think about it. This may be the best and only time we'll have to take a deeper look and listen. This could be our chance to actually experience a "silver lining". Some might say I'm a little crazy. I say, let's go for it! What have we got to lose?

Week of Aug. 24

Monday
TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, at 9 a.m. Canceled until further notice.

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

Tuesday
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Sept. 15.

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

Breitung Town Board- Aug. 25 at 12 noon.

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

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

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

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ATTENTION TOWER RESIDENTS

Tower residents asked to complete household survey

Surveys being mailed soon to residents; return by self-addressed stamped envelope

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- Tower residents will soon receive a survey in the mail to collect community census information that will be used to help the city qualify for a low-interest loan to pay a portion of the costs for upgrades at the Tower-Breitung Water Treatment Plant. The project is being spearheaded by the Tower-Breitung Wastewater Board, which oversees the water and sewer systems that serve both Tower and Soudan. Each individual community then is responsible for the water and sewer lines that serve their residents.

The water treatment plant requires an upgrade to reduce bacterial issues with the Tower-Soudan water supply. The public water supply, which comes from wells, is seeing an increased level of organic matter, due to surface water infiltration into the wells. This requires

the use of additional disinfectants like chlorine, and the by-products of these disinfectants can create compounds that are harmful to public health when used over the course of many years. The wastewater board has already done the engineering studies needed to determine the most cost-effective treatment method. TBWWB applied for funding in the statewide bonding bill this past winter, but the Legislature never approved any of the year's bonding requests.

The city of Tower's 70-year old water main line that serves all city residents also needs to be replaced as part of this project.

The city is working to get a low-interest loan through the Minnesota Department of Health and to apply for grants to reduce the utility cost to each resident. One of the grants is through the St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG).

If the city receives this grant,

the amount the city needs to borrow will be reduced by approximately \$175,000 (\$350,000 total for Tower and Soudan). This translates to a savings of \$700 per utility customer over the life of the project payback period.

The city completed a similar survey last year, going door-to-door, but the grant application requires a couple of different questions this year. Due to COVID-19 concerns, the survey is being mailed out this year. The cost of mailing and return postage will be covered by the city's CARES Act grant funding, so it is no additional cost for the city budget.

All residents who receive the survey are urged to complete and return it in the pre-stamped envelope as soon as possible.

More than one survey form per household may be required if persons living in a house or apartment are unrelated. So, a survey form is needed for each "family" living in a single house

or apartment.

The survey results will be tabulated by St. Louis County CDBG staff, not by city staff. All information in the completed surveys are confidential. The simple survey asks for information on family income and family size. Cities with a certain percentage of low- and moderate-income families can qualify for CDBG low-interest loan funding.


If people have any questions, they can call Tower City Hall at 218-753-4070.

Soudan has already qualified for the CDBG grant program, from surveys done in previous years. Tower has qualified for this grant program in the past, but due to a poor response rate from the census ten years ago, did not automatically qualify, and needs to conduct current household surveys for the grant application.



Do-it-yourself summer fun...

SOUDAN- Chase Kvistad, a nine-year old from Soudan, built this motorized seaplane using parts from an R/C car. It drives, but it can't yet fly. He has also built a functional boat out of water bottle and the motor from an R/C car. He didn't get any help for his projects, other than borrowing his mom's screwdriver. "I just randomly want to do stuff," he said. photo by S. Ukkola



the TIMBERJAY

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Township filings for upcoming Nov. 3 election

REGIONAL- The following area townships hold their elections in November.

Kugler Township
Supervisor A (seat held by Jack Brandt, who is retiring): Julie Suihkonen

Supervisor B (seat held by Tim Kotzian, who is retiring): Ross Swanson

Clerk (seat held by Julie Suihkonen): Chris Suihkonen

Embarrass Township
Supervisor: Roy Worsham (incumbent)

Supervisor (second seat): Bernie Mettler, former board member

Clerk: Jennifer Boese (incumbent)

Eagles Nest

Township
Supervisor B: Skip Carlson, incumbent

Supervisor C: Frank Sherman

Supervisor D (two-year term): Kurt Soderberg

Eagles Nest moved to mail-in voting for the primary and general election this year. All registered voters were mailed their ballots. "This is different from absentee voting," said Eagles Nest Clerk Deb Siverhus. The ballots, like absentee ballots, have several security safeguards and have individual barcodes that are generated for each voter. Ballots could be returned by mail, or dropped off at county offices in Virginia or Duluth. Residents had voted to move to mail-in voting at the annual meeting in 2019. Siverhus said

the town board will revisit the issue in two years and decide whether or not to continue the mail-in method.

Voters seemed happy with the change, Siverhus said, and with COVID-19 they had worried about finding election judges and insuring safety at the polling place at the town hall. The county is covering the costs for the ballots and mailing at this time, Siverhus said.

Breitung, Greenwood, and Vermilion Lake all hold their township elections in March.

City of Tower filings

Councilor- two open seats with a two-year term: Sheldon Majerle (incumbent), Josh Zika, Joe Morin (current member Tower Planning and Zoning).

Councilor- two open seats with a four-year term: Dave Setterberg (incumbent), Kevin Norby (incumbent, newly-appointed to open seat on the council), and Steve Altenburg (current member Tower Planning and Zoning).

The election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Breitung Township hosting retirement party for Dale Swanson and Tom Poderzay

SOUDAN- Breitung Township will be hosting a "Happy Retirement" event for Maintenance Supervisor Dale Swanson and maintenance worker Tom Poderzay on Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 2:30 p.m. The event will be held outside of the community building, under a canopy. Social distancing will be observed. Cupcakes and beverages will be served.

Immanuel offers Drive-In Worship

TOWER- Immanuel Lutheran Church of Tower will be offering a Drive-In Worship service every other week using the Vermilion Country School parking lot. Services begin at 10 a.m., and all are welcome to attend!

Dates are set for Aug. 30, and Sept. 13 and 27. If it is storming, the outside service will be canceled and worship will be recorded at the church and sent out electronically as usual.

BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

• An Invitation •

Please join us in saying goodbye and wishing our employees a "Happy Retirement"

Dale Swanson and Tom Poderzay, Jr

will be moving on to their next and exciting journeys.

We will observe social distancing practices during this event.

Event will be outside under the canopy with cupcakes and drinks.

Breitung Community Center
Soudan, MN

Tuesday, August 25 • 2:30 PM



Beautiful woodworking and photography

Fridays 4-6 PM

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

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

Support groups
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous
AA - 7 p.m. Mondays, and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St., Ely
ELY WOMEN'S OPEN
AA - Every Monday at noon at Ledgerrock Community Church, 1515 E. Camp St., 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., upstairs 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 218-365-3359,

Tuesday Group
 ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesdays.
 All presentations are administered in a virtual presence until further notice due to the coronavirus pandemic. Send email to stevie-schon@gmail.com for more information.
Aug. 25 - Leah Rogue - Advance Care Planning
Sept. 1 - Jeff Pike, President of WICOLA - White Iron Chain of Lakes Association (A joint zoom meeting with Ely's Climate Change organization)
Sept. 8 - Krista Harrington-International Wolf Center

Breathing Out
 by Cecilia Rolando © 2020



flower exhibit
 bursts of color and of shape
 summer's specialty

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CITY OF ELY
Thoughts about the Ely Cemetery

by **BILL ERZAR**
 Ely Cemetery Committee

I have spent parts of last month checking gravestones and monuments at the Ely Cemetery. Some have fallen over, are leaning, have bases that are deteriorating, headstones that are loose from bases, or have broken components. Some need cleaning, and others are missing panels from the old cast metal type of monuments.

I walked, knelt at, and laid down at some markers to rub off the moss or lichens, or clear away overgrown grass and dirt to read the names on those weather-worn stones.

Many of our early Elyites, were of Slovenian and Finnish ancestry. So, I know a bit of Slovenian language engraved on the obelisks and monuments in the old Slovenian section, having listened to my Grandma Frances and Grandpa Frank Erzar speaking Slovenian everyday while living in their upstairs apartment with my folks, in the Zenith location, until I was around 12 years old when my Mom and Dad, Willy and Ruth (Kobe) Erzar built their house kitty-corner from center field of the high school baseball field.

I also tried to read and understand the inscriptions on the Finnish Stones, obelisks, and monuments. I've learned what some words in those languages mean and I've learned a bit about our town and its history. I need to learn more Finnish language.

These early immigrants, worked hard, had dreams, had heart aches and heartbreaks, devastating heartbreaks, such as mothers losing a child in childbirth and then dying themselves. Childbirth looked to be really tough in those days in the early 1900s.

Mothers and newborn children buried together. Makes you pause and think about those lives.

A 20-year-old, young man starting life, dying in the Section 30 Mine. One of about 214 young men that died in the Ely mines. It was tough, dangerous work.

My Dad, a WWII B-17 Flying Fortress ball turret gunner over Europe and Hitler's Germany, escaped a mudslide in Pioneer Mine in 1955 when I was seven years old. His partner, Joe Glinsek wasn't so lucky and was



The Northern Bedrock Historical Preservation group worked in the Ely Cemetery earlier this summer to reset five headstones, level 21 footstones, and clean another 74 stones. Jessica Fortney and Luke Sharman are the group's staff leaders. Crew members include, Kari Mishler, Julia Wickham, Kael Ortega, Krys Manchette, Matt Mangin, Katrina Carney, Lucienne Devitt, Adam Johnson, Jaci Bedtka, Blaez Kruger, and Elijah Been. photos by Bill Erzar



trapped and buried in the mud.

Many servicemen, young men just out of high school that died serving our country, are buried here. Some are buried overseas.

A 19-year-old Elyite, Edward Mattson, a U.S. Navy, Seaman 2nd Class, serving his country, being washed overboard from his ship, the U.S.S. North Dakota, in the frigid, stormy North Atlantic in January, 1918, in WWI, never to be recovered. I found a monument erected by the officers and crew of his ship for him.

One of my best friends, Tony Zupec, a Vietnam Veteran, died in a mining accident in 1970, a day after his 22nd birthday. A really sad and devastating day for me when I read the letter from my mom five days later, informing me about the accident while I was still in the Air Force.

I had just talked to "Butch" before Christmas, the month before, when I had my monthly phone call home. We didn't have much for phone service in those days, mostly every bit of news was received by U.S. Mail. I read the letter five times.

I couldn't believe it. Tony is in the Veterans Section, among many others.

Our Ely High School Class of 1966, had many of us that enlisted or were drafted and were in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces. Several other classmates are also buried here.

There are many burials, of Elyites, that died during the 1918 Flu Epidemic.

I remember my Grandpa, Frank Erzar, Sr., telling me about the buckboards, hauling people to the cemetery to be buried.

I came across the stones and monuments to some of these people when I was cleaning my Aunt Rose Mizera Erzar's parents' headstone. They got caught in a windstorm, capsized, out from their house on Shagawa, and Rose watched her mother and father drown in front of her in 1925 when she was 16 years old. Devastating!

There are kids, young adults, middle-aged, and some older folks buried there. Makes you pause and think about today's coronavirus.

I have been cleaning footstones of our son, Eddie, (a tragic loss), my mom and dad, brother Dan, Grandma and Grandpa Erzar and Kobe, my Godfather, Al Kobe, several other Erzar aunts and uncles, Howard and Frances Williams,

my Aunt Rose's brother, Frank Mizera (the lure carver and guide) and his wife, Josie, a niece, and a few others just about every year.

It makes me think about, not only about my relatives, but these other young immigrants who came here, to Ely, maybe in their late teens and early twenties, leaving their moms and dads, brothers and sisters, their homes, their families, their birth country, finding and scraping up money to pay for passage on some ship and coming across a stormy Atlantic, to find their way to what was a far-away land, to come to an unknown place in a land of hardship and toil.


Why? To escape possible tyranny, to find freedom, to start a new life, in a land of opportunity.

To me, the Ely Cemetery really does tell of the history of Ely, Winton, and the townships here. As chairman of the Ely Cemetery Committee, I walk these grounds and sometimes I feel I'm listening to these souls tell their story of building this city of Ely and surrounding area.

Their lives and hard work, in the mines, on the rails, in the woods, and the mills, and their commitment to build a new town, new schools, and a new opportunity for prosperity and freedom.

So, when you come to the Ely Cemetery, pause, read the names, read the inscriptions, think about these people and visualize their lives. Maybe you'll find a long lost relative or friend. Maybe you'll adopt a stone to help take care of.

But, above all else, the Ely Cemetery Committee reminds all of us to be respectful of these hallowed grounds. Walk these grounds and hear some of the story of Ely.



the TIMBERJAY

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Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
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Local teen gets recognition for trash cleanup efforts

Litter provides a way for grandmother and grandson to bond

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- If you're looking for a silver lining in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, you may find it if you keep your eyes open while driving around the streets of Cook.

There's a good chance you'll see Jody Refsdal and her 13-year-old grandson Carson walking along picking up any bits of litter they can find, and having loads of fun while doing it.

And thanks to a COVID-forced change in a summer youth work program, Carson recently received a cash reward in recognition of his community service.

"Carson and I have been picking up litter since he was little," Jody said.

With school in distance learning mode last April, Carson spent many of his days with Jody, and she decided to up the litter collection ante by making it a project for Earth Day.

When Cook City Administrator Theresa Martinson found out about

Carson's exploits, she told Jody she wanted the city to lend a hand.

"She said they would drop off some city of Cook garbage bags for us to use, and when their maintenance guys are out they would pick up everything," Jody said. "Over time, Carson and I filled probably 40 bags."

And Mayor Harold Johnston gave Carson his first big recognition, a personal letter of thanks and an "Outstanding Citizen" certificate on behalf of the citizens of Cook.

"Carson was over the moon," Jody said. "It was pretty exciting for him."

The next bit of recognition took a bit of COVID serendipity and more work on Carson's part.

Dawn Trexel is the executive director of the Summer Work Outreach Program, a Mt. Iron-based service organization that normally runs six-week community-based work projects for groups of 10 kids ages 11 to 14. Because of COVID-19, Trexel said SWOP couldn't do group-oriented activities

this summer, so looked for an alternative.

"We were trying to think of ways we could still encourage youth to get out on their own and work in their communities," she said.

What they came up with was a program that offered youth the chance to receive \$25 service awards for doing community service projects in their own communities.

SWOP doesn't offer its normal group-based program in the Cook area, but they opted to expand the award program to include the St. Louis County school system, making Carson eligible to participate, Trexel said.

"It just became a weekly thing that he did," Trexel said. "He used that as his community service part of his application."

As an additional part of the application, Carson had to research and write an essay about a career he was interested in pursuing. He chose defense engineering.

"He's an absolute Lego fanatic," Jody said. "We started looking at different engineering



Carson Refsdal, left, and his younger brother, Buckley, pause from picking up litter to smile for their grandmother's camera during an April excursion. photo by J. Refsdal

fields."

Working with the Defense Department on things like aircraft and vehicle engineering had the most appeal for Carson, Jody said.

His application was well received, and he recently was notified that he would be receiving the \$25 service award.

"One of the things he said in his essay was that he likes making Cook clean because when people come here they can see we're proud of our city," Jody said. "He thinks Cook is a really cool community. People here are friendly."

SWOP awards

SWOP is offering a second round of service awards, with applications due by Sept. 8. Complete details and application materials are available online at <https://swopyouth.com>.

Girl Scout garage sale coming Saturday in Cook

COOK- Members and leaders of Girl Scout Troop 1203 in Cook have big plans for the future, and they begin this Saturday, Aug. 22 with a huge garage sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 217 Second Street SE in Cook.

"To be honest, I'm a little overwhelmed – just the families alone have responded tremendously," troop leader Memory Malone said. "The amount of donations is overwhelming. My shed is probably going to burst at the seams by Saturday."

Malone recently took on leadership of the troop, at a time when COVID-19 restrictions have put some constraints on what activities the troop can do.

"It's been a very interesting experience," she said.

Nonetheless, the troop has taken a trip to the headwaters of the Mississippi River, and had a knife safety workshop on the deck at Malone's house, all emphasizing social distancing whenever possible.

It was a little harder to socially distance on an end-of-the-year pontoon boat party, Malone said, but the girls had great fun and had no health repercussions afterward.

A unique aspect of the troop, which currently has 10 members and a couple of prospective additions, is that nine of the girls, all upcoming sixth graders, have been together for years.

"Most of the girls started together in Daisies, in kindergarten and first grade," Malone said.

Not surprisingly, the troop is close-knit, and intends to stick together, which makes it possible to think about long-term plans, and the troop is dreaming big.

"We would like to save several thousand dollars to take them on a mission trip to a foreign country the summer between their junior and senior years," Malone said. "It's a great experience, and the Girl Scouts will help pay for it."

But the troop isn't

going to wait to be of service, as they're looking into possibilities right at home.

"I have an assistant troop leader who brought up the idea of having a service day here in Cook," Malone said.

While still in the planning stage, the event likely would involve assisting seniors with activities such as leaf raking or shoveling snow, Malone said.

Another idea brought up by the girls would be to hold a food drive for both people and animals.

But first comes Saturday's garage sale. Malone has given the girls some incentive to work hard that day.

"If we make greater than \$1,500 they get a pizza party," Malone said.

In addition to the garage sale, troop members will be selling lemonade, hot dogs, potato chips, and baked goods.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MCF-Togo rally set for Monday

REGIONAL- In response to the decision of the Minnesota Department of Corrections to close the Togo Correctional Facility to make up a systemwide \$14 million budget deficit, supporters have organized "Rally the Range for MCF-Togo," an event to be held Monday, Aug. 24 at 4:30 p.m. in Nashauk.

"Itasca County has been hit with multiple industry closures or shutdowns," an event flyer states. "COVID has crippled many small businesses. Our state can do better. Join us in our fight to keep the Togo facility open. Stay safe, practice

social distancing, but let your voices be heard! One Range, one voice."

Sen. David J. Tomasoni, DFL-06, Rep. Julie Sandstede, DFL-06A, Itasca County Commissioner Ben DeNucci, Nashauk Mayor Cal Saari, and former employees of MCF-Togo are among those who will speak at the event.

The rally will take place at the Nashauk Pavilion on First Street, about a block and a half north of Central Avenue. In the event of rain, the rally will be moved to the Nashauk Rec Center.

Park series hosts The Divas

COOK- Cook's free Wednesday evening concert series Music in the Park presents "The Divas" on Aug. 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the gazebo in the park.

"The Divas" are a musical performing trio with keyboard, guitar and percussion to enhance their killer three-part harmony. The music style goes from the 1940's to contemporary. Performers are Shannon Lee Gunderson, Sharon Rowbottom and Rosie Gams. They hail from Virginia.

Food is available by St. Paul's (Alango) Lutheran Church of Alango.

The final performance of the summer will be Sept. 2.



Last Friday in Cook could have been called "Bring Me a Brat!" day, as Cook Lions Club members were out and about delivering goodies from their brat shack at Zup's. Here, club president Steve Kajala stops to deliver brats and drinks to Suzie Holter at DreamWeaver Salon & Day Spa. Proceeds from the sales benefit Lions Club charitable activities. photo by D. Colburn

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LAMPPA...Continued from page 1

become a source of friction between the company and the federal Environmental Protection Agency, which is supposed to enforce laws and rules intended to keep the air clean.

That objective was the motivating force behind an Obama-era push to clean up wood furnaces, which were frequently responsible for poor air quality in many communities, particularly in the West, during the winter months. The fine particulates emitted by the wood-burning devices were contributing to a wide range of respiratory ailments in those communities and, in response, the Obama administration had promulgated new rules that required wood furnace manufacturers to dramatically reduce the emissions of their products or cease selling them in the U.S. market.

The strictest rules took effect in 2020 and, to date, Lamppa Manufacturing is the only furnace maker in the world to have indisputably met the standard, with its Kuuma Vapor Fire 100. The furnace not only met the rule — it beat the emissions standard by 40 percent.

Under the rules, that should have given Lamppa Manufacturing a literal corner on the market for new wood furnaces sold in the U.S. heading into the 2020 heating season. That expectation was part of the company's justification for its recent move into a new, much larger manufacturing facility and the hiring of additional workers. And while business has been good, due mostly to strong sales of the company's famed sauna stoves, wood furnace sales have lagged expectations. That's because the Trump administration has been slow to enforce the new rules for furnaces or clamp down on a Missouri manufacturer that claims to have met the new standards, even though federal officials now dispute that claim.

The company, known as Hy-C, insists that testing by Intertek labs confirms that its Fire Chief FC1000E and Shelter SF1000E wood furnaces have met the EPA's 2020 rules for emissions, and is prominently touting that claim as it continues to sell its product through major retailers. With a price tag that's less than half the cost of a Kuuma Vapor Fire furnace, the rival company's continued sale of its product as compliant with EPA rules has become a source of considerable irritation for representatives of Lamppa Manufacturing.

EPA: Testing may have been invalid

While the EPA did issue Hy-C a 2020 certificate for its Fire Chief and Shelter branded wood furnaces, federal officials have known for months that there were irregularities in the testing procedure under which the company received the federal agency's imprimatur. In fact, in a March 25, 2020 memo, Steffan Johnson, Measurement Technology Group leader with the EPA's Air Quality Assessment Division, recommends that three of the four required tests that Hy-C claims met the 2020 EPA standard be invalidated due to those



Lamppa Manufacturing in Tower is the only wood furnace maker in the world to have met strict EPA standards. photo by M. Helmberger

irregularities.

In some cases, the manufacturer and the testing lab operated the Hy-C furnaces contrary to the parameters set forth in the federal rules, which may have allowed the furnaces to appear to burn cleaner than they likely would under conditions in a typical home. In several cases, the testing lab operated the Hy-C furnaces based on directions provided by the manufacturer, even though those directions were contrary to the testing guidelines set out by the EPA. Yet, nearly five months later, Hy-C is

continuing to advertise its wood furnaces as compliant and representatives of Lamppa Manufacturing are increasingly frustrated that the EPA has failed to take steps to stop Hy-C from making claims that their own testing does not appear to support.

"It's definitely having an impact, especially this heating season," said Garrett Lamppa, who handles much of the marketing for the company, owned by his father Daryl Lamppa. "The problem the EPA has is they certified these things a year ago, even though they

only passed one of the four test burns," said Garrett. "If the American Lung Association or these other manufacturers who haven't been certified knew about this, they'd be up in arms."

In a June 30 email, EPA's Johnson puts the onus for the improper testing described in the March 25 memo on the company and the testing lab. "Some of what lies within this document is the responsibility of the manufacturer, some of it the lab should have taken steps to avoid," wrote Johnson responding to questions from Lamppa Manufacturing owner Daryl Lamppa and plant manager Dale Horihan.

Part of the problem, according to Garrett Lamppa, may be a lack of expertise on the part of the EPA officials overseeing the certification process. The competing furnaces ended up with certification, says Garrett, because the staff at both the EPA and the testing lab didn't catch the fact that the test burns had been done improperly. It was Daryl Lamppa, who is highly knowledgeable about the mechanics of wood-burning, who reviewed documentation of the testing and spotted the errors. He then alerted the EPA, prompting the agency to investigate.

Now, five months after the agency acknowledged testing errors that should invalidate three of the four test burns on the Hy-C

furnaces, folks at Lamppa Manufacturing are looking to understand how their competitor can continue to sell its product as meeting the 2020 standard.

When contacted by the Timberjay, EPA officials insist they're currently conducting an evaluation of the issue and will "determine any appropriate follow up actions," although they declined to provide a timeline for when those actions might be undertaken.

The EPA is responsible for issuing certifications, as well as monitoring compliance with the provisions of its wood heater program. In a statement provided on background, agency officials note that "failure to comply with these requirements may result in a revocation of their certification and enforcement action, including penalties as specified under the Clean Air Act."

That offers only limited comfort to Lamppa officials as the ramp-up to the heating season gets underway, with competing furnaces still for sale. "Those customers are buying these furnaces with the assumption that they're getting something efficient and clean burning and they're not," said Garrett. "It passed because they didn't test it correctly."

Horihan, while concerned about the situation, is less convinced that Lamppa will lose large numbers of sales to its cheaper competitor. The Lamppa furnaces are built much heavier, as a high-quality, long-term investment and Horihan believes that puts their product in a higher end slot in the market.

"I think it will impact sales to some extent, we're really selling to a different clientele for the most part," he said.

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TOWER BREITUNG WASTEWATER BOARD ATTENTION TOWER AND SOUDAN RESIDENTS

SMOKE TESTING & SEWER SURVEY TO BE DONE AUGUST 25, 26 & 27

Inspection crews will be conducting a physical survey of the sanitary sewer system in Tower and Soudan, Tuesday, Aug. 25 through Thursday, Aug. 27. This study will involve the opening and entering of manholes in the streets and easements. An important task of the survey will be "SMOKE TESTING" of the sewer lines to locate breaks or defects in the sewer pipe system. The smoke that you see coming from the vent stacks on houses or from holes in the ground is NON-TOXIC, HARMLESS, HAS NO ODOR, AND CREATES NO FIRE HAZARD.

The smoke should not enter your home unless you have defective plumbing or dried-up drain traps. If this occurs, you should consult a licensed plumber. In any event, if the harmless smokes can enter through faulty plumbing, the potential exists for dangerous sewer gases to enter your home. Should smoke enter your home, you may contact a member of the smoke testing crew working in the area, and they will be pleased to help and check with you as to where and why the smoke is entering your home. If you have any seldom used drains, please pour water in the drain to fill the trap, which will prevent sewer gases or odors from entering the building.

Some sewer lines and manholes are located on the backyard easement property line. Whenever these lines require investigation, members of the inspection crew will need access to the easements for the sewer lines and manholes. Homeowners do not need to be home and the workmen will not need to enter your house.

Photographs will be made of leaks occurring in the system. We anticipate the smoke testing will require approximately three days to complete. Your cooperation is appreciated. The information gained from this study will be used to improve the local sewer service in Tower and Soudan and may reduce the eventual cost to taxpayers.

Should you have any questions, please contact Matt Tichel, Wastewater Plant Operator, at 218-780-2560 or email: towersoudanwater@accessmn.com.

Thank You, Tower Breitung Wastewater Board

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 14 & 21, 2020

North Woods School preps for return to in-person learning

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

FIELD TWP. - Preparing for students to return to school in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic is unlike anything North Woods Principal John Vukmanich and his staff have experienced, but they're enthusiastically anticipating seeing students again as they go through the rigors of making the environment safe, healthy, and conducive to learning.

"The morale and attitude of the staff is positive," Vukmanich said on Tuesday. "I think they're ready to get back to as much normalcy as possible. I think the social part of school is super important, not just for the kids but for the staff as well."

Vukmanich was joined by district Superintendent Reggie Engebretson to talk about preparations at North

Woods. Students haven't been at the school since classes were suspended in mid-March, and Vukmanich said that the effects of the long layoff could show during the first few weeks of school.

"When kids come back in, they always come back with a summer regression, dependent on different activities kids do in the summer," he said. "That may be more apparent, so as we start the school year we're mindful that may present more of an extra challenge than a normal start would. I think the kids are going to be all over the board at the start."

As distance learning will be part of the plan since students in all grade levels have the option to do distance learning exclusively, Vukmanich said the school has been trying to use lessons learned last spring to make the process simpler and more effective.

"We're streamlining the number of technology platforms we're going to use, which will streamline the distance learning process for parents as well," he said. "High school will be primarily on Google Classroom, and elementary will be primarily on SeeSaw."

Vukmanich said that all classrooms with have an iPad to provide for utilizing Zoom for distance learning students to view classes in real time. Teachers will also be recording lessons for students to view.

Engebretson said that the district recently offered additional training for teachers in online learning, and that the district is planning to have distance learning coordinators to facilitate contact with students and parents, depending on the number of students who are utilizing distance learning.

And while staff have been busy rearranging

classrooms and putting up signs and laying down tape to promote social distancing and various health practices, Vukmanich hopes school will have a feeling of normalcy, too.

"We're planning on having classes in as normal a fashion as we can," he said. "We're not planning on isolating classes at this time. Our high school kids will still be going from class to class like they would in a normal year."

Vukmanich noted that the school's maintenance staff will have added responsibilities to ensure spaces and equipment are cleaned and sanitized.

"They're going to be doing more cleaning than normal," he said. "High-traffic, high-touch areas will be a minimum of three cleanings a day. They'll be making sure they clean the playground equipment every day, as well as the classrooms."

While some districts

and schools are choosing to have students eat lunch in their classrooms, Vukmanich said that's not the desired plan for North Woods.

"We're still hoping we can do hot lunch like normal, with appropriate spacing as they go through the line," he said. "Our hope is that we can still use the commons and space the students out, facing the same direction. They do eat in separate shifts already, but we have also started discussing about having kids' lunch times staggered."

As the school zeroes in on the number of students who will be attending in person, Vukmanich has been working with teacher teams to look at how to best configure their classrooms.

"We've been talking about physically spacing the kids as much as we can," he said. "That might look different in different rooms depending on how

many kids they have and whether they have desks or tables."

"Right now we're socially distancing to the best of our ability," Engebretson added.

Vukmanich said they're still developing plans for how to handle larger classes like band and choir.

Teachers are also being encouraged to utilize the outdoors for activities as long as weather permits, Vukmanich said.

Both Engebretson and Vukmanich said that they've received emails from parents wondering about various aspects of the plans. The district posted its comprehensive back-to-school plan on the district website on Tuesday, and emailed it to parents as well, and Engebretson said that she's getting as much updated information out as she can to help parents plan.

BLIGHT...Continued from page 1

of the two-story dwelling fails to meet the minimum requirements of city and state building codes.

Based on recommendations from Ely's building official Doug Whitney, the council adopted a resolution on Nov. 5, 2019, ordering several steps of remediation. While some of the blight conditions were corrected by a Jan. 1 deadline, another deadline passed last week without roof repairs being completed. And the city building official described additional blight conditions that have surfaced this summer.

Whitney presented his evidence of the uncompleted roof repairs and additional public safety hazard conditions Tuesday night and asked the council to weigh in.

"Now it is up to the council to decide what the next step is," he said. "We can raze the building, fine (the owner) or give him more time."

Whitney said that windows that were falling out last year were boarded over, but other windows on the dwelling are in disrepair. Loose siding on the house still exists.

Whitney then asked the homeowner if he had talked to any contractors about completing the work. Kess appeared disinterested in addressing the issue.

"I doesn't matter to me whether I comment on this or not," he said.

The building official appeared willing to give Kess another 30 days to get the roof work done if he had a roofer lined up.

Mayor Chuck Novak weighed in on the matter by saying, "Getting a contractor is tough up here."

Whitney responded that more than a dozen roofs were installed on houses around the city so far this summer.

Novak asked for the council to proceed on the matter with a motion.

Council member Angela Campbell said, "I have a concern because the property has stood vacant for more than 10 years. The property is a hazard. I am concerned for those citizens who are walking the sidewalks. I am concerned for the adjacent neighbor. This can't go on. It is unacceptable."

Novak reiterated that he did not know what



Missing siding and a generally run-down condition of an abandoned house at 106 E. Harvey St. that is owned by an Ely city council member.
photo by K. Vandervort

the next step should be because the council did not receive a recommendation.

"If we were in a big metro city, this would be a slam dunk because nobody knows anybody. Here we know everybody. That makes for a tough decision," he said.

Council member Albert Forsman noted that decisions on other properties around the city in similar states of disrepair "have been pushed back." He said that the council does expect results on these issues.

"Councilman Kess

knows this. We can't sit back idly forever on this," he said.

Forsman said he was "not willing to take action" right now. "You have to find a way to get this done or show some progress on this. We have to be responsible to all of our constituents," he said.

Council members continued to discuss the matter and the suggestion was made that the council could have regular updates on these issues from the

building official. Whitney seemed to agree that he could provide periodic updates on progress of blight condition orders.

Council member Heidi Omerza asserted that it should not be the building official's job to inform the council on progress.

"The onus is on the property owner to be contacting us. I don't think this is Doug's fault, is what I'm trying to say," she said. "I'm not willing to wait much longer on this."

Kess finally spoke up, saying he contacted "well over a dozen" roofing contractors.

"The coronavirus slowed everything down," he said, and added that it is difficult "to promise a drop-dead date on

someone else's labor."

City Attorney Kelly Klun reminded council members that they already issued an order on the property.

"Corrective action should have been taken by Aug. 15 or the city will move for summary enforcement of the order," she said. "How fast the city moves on this is contingent on the clerk-treasurer and building official. From the council's standpoint, you have already ordered it."

During the open forum portion of the agenda at the end of the meeting, Kess's neighbor Lottie Pinckney, of 114 E. Harvey St., voiced her opinion on the matter.

"I have monitored him since back in September," she said. "He has accused me that my stuff on my property is in his way to do things. Well, I am not accommodating Mr. Kess anymore. He doesn't have the gall to even talk to me about anything. There is no way he can do work without coming onto my property. I am not going to continue to accommodate him."

Pinckney continued, "(Kess) doesn't even live there. He uses it as his own personal storage unit. Rain has come down through the roof. Pigeons go in and out of there. My cat has caught all kinds of mice over there. For two months, he didn't mow his weeds or lawn. I had to call on this several times. I'm sick and tired of looking at that place. I would rather it be razed. He's had 10 years to do all this. And he's a council member? I shame him all the time on Facebook and I will continue that. I would never vote for him."

As he adjourned the meeting, Novak said, "This wouldn't be happening if it was next door to me."

The issue will be back before the council at their Sept. 1 meeting. The city clerk will likely move ahead with summary enforcement on the order unless an appeal is filed.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Vermilion Lake Fire awarded grant for breathing equipment

VERMILIONLAKE TWP— The volunteer fire department here has been awarded a \$73,333 grant from the federal Aid to Firefighters Grant program for the purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatus, or SCBA.

The department had identified replacement of SCBA, along with the replacement of the department's primary water tender, as its top two priorities last year. The department purchased a newer tender earlier this year with department

savings, and the federal grant will now cover the cost of the purchase of new SCBA.

"The new packs will have integrated PASS alarms, thermal imaging, and a tremendous amount of weight reduction over the department's current

SCBA," said Vermilion Lake Chief Steve Lotz. "That makes for less fatigue, more safety, and more effective firefighting, which wouldn't have been possible without the AFG dollars."

Vermilion Lake Township will be required

to provide a five-percent match as part of the proposal to purchase new SCBA for members of the department. No other area departments were awarded funding as part of this most recent announcement. Other AFG awards are expected

to be announced in the coming weeks.

The AFG program is funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with allocations from Congress.

CLERK...Continued from page 1

Drobac said Ralston told her she could present those extra hours, like for elections, election training, or clerk training, for pay. But Drobac told *The Timberjay* there was no board policy on that matter, and she had no idea if she actually would be paid for those hours. She had been told to limit her time to 12 hours per week, so she had.

Drobac also informed Ralston that Deputy Clerk John Bassing has sent a letter of resignation, which the board accepted.

In the letter, which was not read aloud at the meeting, Bassing told the board that he was resigning due to the fact he was not able to attend any trainings or put in time at the office without prior board approval.

"This renders my position in name only," he said.

Drobac also informed Ralston that she would be appointing Jeff Maus as her new deputy clerk. The board has no authority over the designation of either clerk or treasurer deputies. Drobac told Ralston that since Maus had not received any training yet, he could not take minutes, and that one of the board members needed to take minutes and then submit the typed minutes to Drobac.

In the past, Drobac said, she would work as long as was needed to complete her clerk duties, but now, as an hourly-paid clerk, she was limiting her time to her paid hours.

Ralston opened the meeting, held via teleconference, and said he would be taking notes, apologizing for any delays that might occur. All five supervisors plus new interim treasurer Belinda Fazio were present on the call.

There were numerous problems with supervisors not having all the materials they needed for the meeting. Drobac has left the meeting materials in the township office for supervisors to make their own copies, she said, since she had run out of time. She also had not had time to prepare an agenda and post it on the website, so Ralston had prepared the agenda, but never posted it online. She had made a digital copy of the packet available which was emailed to those who requested it.

The telephone connection once again was shaky. There was a lot of noise when supervisors started and stopped talking, and at one point it was very difficult to understand the chairman, with the connection cutting out every few words, and he had to switch to a different phone. At one point there was a loud flushing noise, origin unknown.

Belinda Fazio gave her first treasurer's report, noting the township had received \$137,187 in revenue last month. The beginning fund balance was \$535,378, disburse-

ments were \$27,145, and the ending fund balance was \$646,740. Receipts included \$89,182 in property tax apportionment, \$22,500 in a federal CARES Act grant, \$5,933 in township aid, \$5,606 in federal PILT payments (payment in lieu of taxes), \$5,000 fire department grant, \$4,000 for the second half payment for the fire contract with St. Louis County, \$1,912 in fire department training funds, \$1,714 in taconite tax relief, and assorted smaller payments.

The town board has yet to have a substantive discussion on the budget. Ralston had included some projections in the packet which showed the township's year-end unrestricted fund balance dripping from \$608,022 in 2020 to \$456,522 in 2022. Ralston said he was concerned to see the township's reserves

dropping below township annual spending.

"We have to be very careful with spending moving forward," he said.

Ralston said he would like to see township salaries cut for the treasurer and supervisors, equivalent to the cuts made last month to the clerk's salary. "But I don't think we should cut the fire department wages," he said. "Without a fire department there is no need for the township. We have a very stable fire department."

Supervisor Carmen DeLuca said he was not in favor of making any cuts at this time.

"I want to see this on paper," he said, noting he did not have a copy of Ralston's notes. "I am not voting for anything tonight."

"We have basically decimated our reserves," said Ralston. "I agree that

having a million dollars in the bank was too high, but now we are below what is recommended by the Minnesota Association of Townships."

Ralston agreed to postpone the budget discussion once again.

"We don't have to act on it tonight," he said.

When DeLuca tried to bring up the budget issue again, Ralston shut down the discussion and moved on to the next agenda item.

Other business

In other business, the board:

► Heard the board had received a considerable amount of correspondence from Lee Peterson concerning the Tower Ambulance Commission, including emails between Peterson and Timberjay Publisher Marshall Helmberger. Ralston noted the town-

ship was waiting for their attorney to review the final version of the contract, but noted the township was sending out their first half per capita payment of \$4,000 to the city of Tower.

► Heard from John Bassing that neither Paul Bunyan nor CTC was able to work with Greenwood Township on a broadband service grant this year. Both were committed to projects in other areas. The broadband committee was meeting with one other provider, but it would be too late to apply for the state Border to Border grant program this year.

"We are on hold until next year," Bassing said.

► Passed a motion to support and certify the 2021 levy for \$150,000. The town board had asked residents to approve a levy of \$250,000 without sub-

mitting a 2021 budget for review. But at the annual meeting, residents only approved \$150,000.

► Heard from Fire Chief Dave Fazio who said the department would like to look at again raising the PERA pension amount. The amount was raised from \$1,900 to \$2,500 earlier this year. Fazio said the department's current account is funding at almost 200-percent of its liabilities.

"That's a lot of money that can't go anywhere," he said, and said he would like to see the pension amount increased until the balance is closer to 100-percent funded. At this point the fund is healthy enough that it does not require any township contribution. In the past, the township has made annual pension payments.



Alex's 100th Birthday

"Raising the Roof for Alex"

November 10, 2020

A Hundred Years of Good Living...

In Serbo-Croatian... "Stotinu Godena Dobrog Zhevotah"

Whenever Alex Batinich would propose a toast, he would raise his glass and say, "Stotinu Godena Dobrog Zhevotah," words that truly represented how he lived his good life. Even though Alex didn't quite make the century mark, we are celebrating his 100th birthday by raising \$100,000 to finish the roof of the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center on the Main Street of Tower, MN. Alex, an Iron Ranger through and through, was born in Eveleth, MN on November 10, 1920. He was the son of Serbian Orthodox immigrants from Lika, Croatia, the region where most Iron Range Serbs and Croatians originated. He was a skilled carpenter, cabinet maker, a WWII Veteran, and a philanthropist who believed in supporting cultural and immigration history projects.

Alex, along with his wife Mary and other friends, founded the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center (LVCC), a 501c3 non-profit organization. They obtained the historic Saint Mary's Episcopal Church in Tower and Alex lived just long enough to see it moved to its current site on Tower's Main Street. He was a generous patron of this project and in his name and honor we are raising \$100,000 to finish the roof and "dry in" the building. Please help us.

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St. Mary's Episcopal Church being moved from its original site to its new Main Street location as the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center.

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We have already raised over \$30,000 and are requesting gifts of \$1,000 from those of you who feel you can be patrons for this project. Because that is a hefty amount, any donation will be welcomed. Many of Alex's friends are combining efforts to raise \$1,000 through projects including: making a quilt to raffle, designing a major league sports wall display, providing two property appraisals, boat rides, having a huge garage sale, doing a fall ice cream social/bake sale. Use your imagination. **Patrons Special Event.... Those donating \$1,000 or more will be honored at a reception at the Lake Vermilion home of Clayton Halunen, hosted by Clayton and his sister, Dawn Lynn Johnson. This event will take place in the spring or summer of 2021 or when Covid-19 allows.**

We thank the Iron Range Resource and Rehabilitation Board as well as the many generous donors who have made the current progress possible. We also want to honor all of the LVCC board members and donors who have worked tirelessly to reach this point. The Lake Vermilion Cultural Center should currently have \$63,000 more in funds than we have in our account. However, due to Covid-19 we had to postpone the Midsummer celebration and fundraising trips to Scandinavia and Australia as well as many local fundraising events.

• **Postponing of all those efforts makes this 100th Birthday Fundraiser essential** •

Send your memories and pictures of Alex to: LVCC, Box 659, Tower, MN 55790 or to: malexbat@gmail.com to post. Give us fun ideas for your fundraising efforts. Watch the progress at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center. **THANK YOU!**

"Raising the Roof for Alex" • A Lake Vermilion Cultural Center Fundraiser

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- Please call me about naming a space for a loved one in the LVCC



COVID...Continued from page 1

it was 65 years old," she said. "Now, in August, it is 24 years old."

Growth in the case numbers with people between 20 and 29 years has been a significant driver of the increase the past two months, Mirsch said, but in the past two weeks it's been those between six and 19 years-old who have had the largest number of new cases among any age group. However, the newer cases in that group are bunched at the older end of the range.

"The vast majority are in the 17, 18, and 19-year-old range," Mirsch said. "Only six percent are under the age of 10. The majority are associated with community transmission."

That trend and the data behind it are important as a return to school draws near. Mirsch said the department has been working with school officials throughout the county to help them understand how the data relates to their particular districts as they develop their health and safety plans.

"Every Thursday we are sending an updated data brief to all of our superintendents and heads of charter schools. Later this week we will be releasing our up-to-date zip code data," she said. "We're going to overlay our school district boundaries, again to provide the best information we can to school districts."

Mirsch said that school districts outside of the Duluth metro area were "solidly under" the bar for rolling out in-person learning in September.

Aubrie Hoover is a public health educator and the health department's liaison with school districts in northern St. Louis County. She said she's been fielding questions from teachers, administrators, and superintendents about how to work with the COVID guidelines.

With large metropolitan school districts around the country making headlines for students and staff being diagnosed with COVID-19 right at the outset of reopening, it's not surprising that one question on the minds of administrators has been whether they should have all students and staff pre-tested for the virus before school begins.

Hoover's data-driven answer to them has been no.

"Our numbers are relatively low," she said. "Our numbers today as they stand do not warrant a testing event prior to school opening, and that's actually a good thing. If anyone is sick, we're asking that they stay home and if they have symptoms that are COVID-like we're asking them to reach out to their healthcare providers."

Another prevalent question has been how schools should handle a suspected COVID case that's discovered after they reopen.

"St. Louis County has developed a case investigation team that will be working closely with MDH and their contact tracing team," Hoover said. "In the event someone in any one of our schools tests positive, these two teams would come in to work directly with the schools to determine who that positive case had interactions with."

If the contacts are 49 or fewer, individuals will

be contacted directly and referred to local health care providers. If it's 50 or more, Hoover said, the county and MDH would conduct a testing event for that school.

Mirsch and Hoover are also parents with school-age children, so they understand the things parents are wrestling with as they make decisions about whether or not to send their children back to school.

"This year there's no right or wrong answer," Hoover said. "Family by family, it's going to vary. Even within families they may be making different decisions for each of their children, depending on their needs."

Mirsch noted that

she's been hearing that a lot of districts are seeing about 20 percent of their families choose distance learning. Hoover said the resulting smaller in-person class sizes might make a difference for parents who are unsure about what to do.

"The schools are seeing a decrease in their class numbers," Hoover

said. "Where they had maybe 20 to 25, they're seeing under 20 this year. If you know your class is going to be smaller, you know your child is going to be interacting with less children."

As the department has conducted training for schools, and through her interactions with various districts, Hoover had high

praise for the collaboration among districts as they have shared tips and strategies.

"I've been in awe of the partnerships involved and the teamwork," she said. "They have put in so much work, and my appreciation is off the charts, especially as a mother of four with kids in school this year."

Mirsch said the department would continue to support local decisions, planning, and responses.

"These are big decisions for our schools and big decisions that impact children and families," she said. "We're just trying our best to be a good resource."

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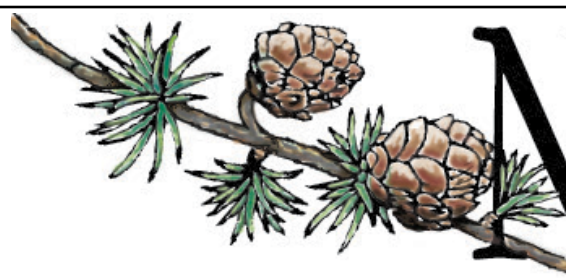


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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Ely cross country in training for upcoming season

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Ely runners in grades 7-12 were mostly bright-eyed and bushy-tailed Monday morning as they began their cross country fall training at the U.S. Forest Service Station parking lot here.

All athletes were run through a quick medical query and temperature checks before lining up for warm ups with Coach Jayne Dusich. Runners started out in jackets and sweatshirts as

temperatures hovered just below 50 degrees and long shadows were cast in the early morning sunshine.

Runners are alternating team training locations at the Forest Service and Van Vac Road boat launch as they gear up for the season. Practices are held in the early mornings Monday thru Thursday. Runners will gather even in drizzle, light rain or snow, but practice is canceled in thunder, lightning or pouring rain, Dusich said. “If they have a

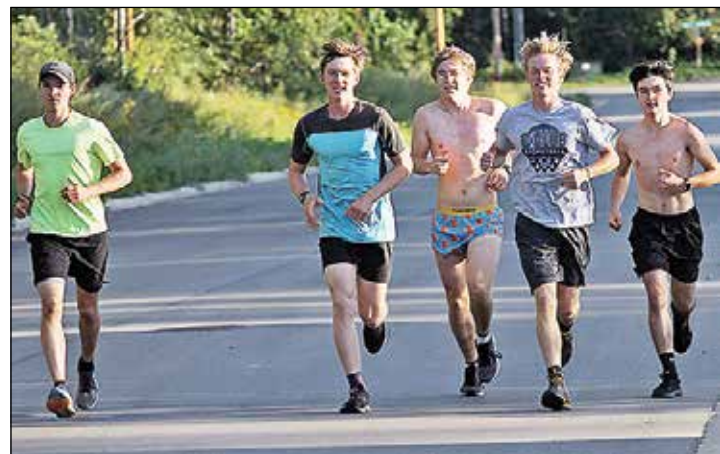
Right: Members of the Ely Cross Country team are building their endurance for the season just ahead.

photo by K. Vandervort

fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat or any other symptoms of illness, we want them to stay home, too, of course.”

The 2020 cross country season in Ely is one of few sports being conducted this fall

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



PERFORMING ARTS

Dance... in a world transformed

Reflections Dance Company pivots in the reality of a pandemic

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The Reflections Dance Company’s summer show was truly a lesson in resilience. “Home on Earth: COVID-19 Style” was introduced to local audiences this past weekend at Ely’s Historic State Theater. What wasn’t obvious was the drastic change of direction made by the dance students this past spring as the coronavirus turned their choreography world upside down.

Some 100 people over two days were treated to both a live showcase and a big screen film preview. The production was made possible by a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust with support from the Northern Lakes Arts Association. The full-length dance movie will be released on YouTube in December, according to Molly Olson, of Reflections Dance Company.

“It was a unique experience to pivot quickly from live classes and rehearsals to virtual ones this spring,” Olson said. “The process of creating choreography for the screen is different than creating for the stage.”

White Pine Productions filmed and edited the production with Jacob White as the videographer.

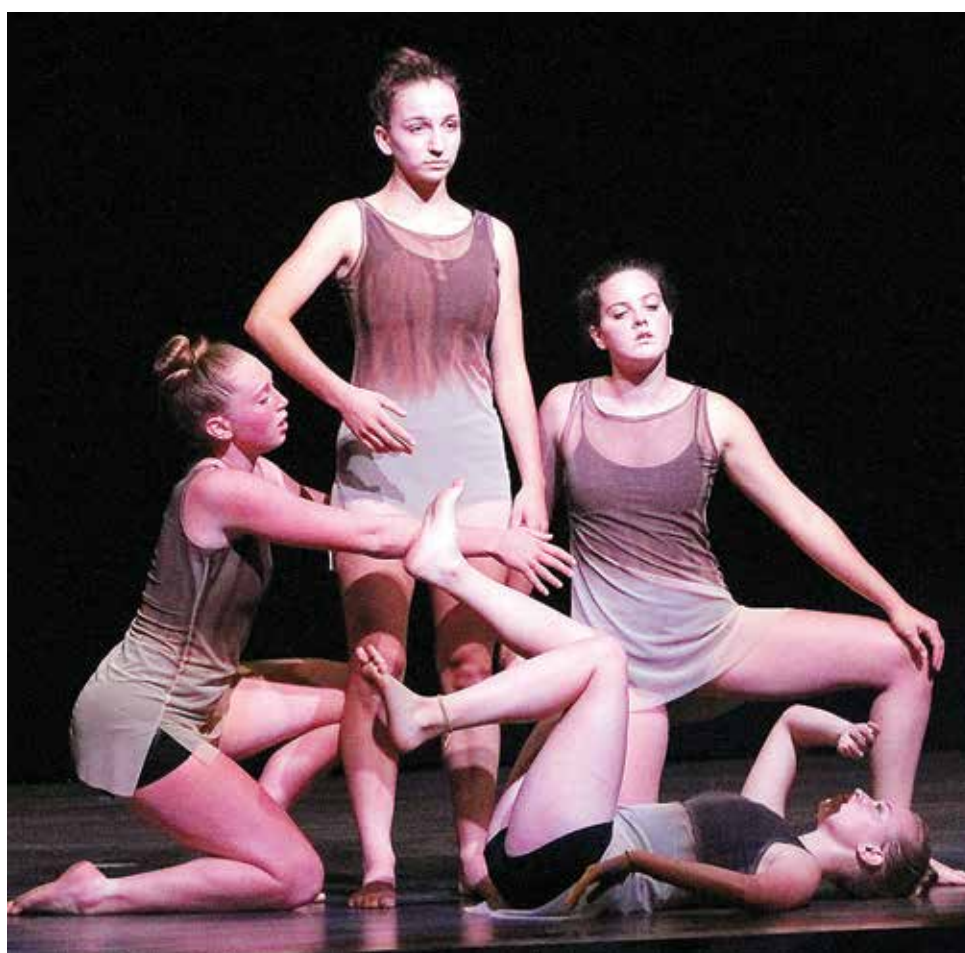
“We took some pieces and just recorded snippets of dancers moving to the music, then Jacob was able to mix these pieces together to create a feeling that matched the story in the music,” she said. “One of the pieces ends with footage of three dancers overlaid and fading out to show them as ghosts set to the song ‘Dance in the Graveyards.’ This effect would not have been possible live on stage, so it is yet another silver lining to living in the age of COVID-19.”

The music that was recorded for the film used layers of tracks with the instrumentals being recorded first, then the vocals added



Dancers Gracie Pointer, Brooke Pasmick, Phoebe Helms and Cora Olson shine during their recent performance.

photos by K. Vandervort



INNOVATION

Harvest Nation a finalist for Minnesota Cup award

Ag start-up plans facility in former Soudan physics lab

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA
Staff writer

TOWER– A chance meeting between Dani Pieratos and a Soudan Underground Mine State Park official last winter at a local food tourism meeting may turn into a double windfall for Harvest Nation. That meeting sparked an innovative plan for an indoor aeroponics farm in the mine’s former high energy physics lab, which is now one of 27 finalists in the 2020 Minnesota Cup Business Competition hosted by the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management.

Harvest Nation’s start-up business pitch centers around indoor food production through aeroponics, with direct sales to individuals and families as what’s known as a CSA, or Community-Supported Agriculture. That model represents an alternative to mainstream food distribution.

Its first farm, planned for construction in the Soudan Underground Mine, is a three-year pilot project that will expand into a full commercial venture in four to five years if it can prove the viability of the concept. The vision for the pilot project is to provide a local source of quality, healthy food direct to area families, while showcasing the future of aeroponic technology and indoor agriculture for long-term food and nutrition security.

Aeroponics is a relatively new method of soil-less food production that uses a constant misting of plants with water and nutrients, to achieve rapid growth.

“The beauty of the underground space and why it’s so great for Harvest Nation is that it has fairly constant temperatures throughout the year and great height capacity,” said Pieratos, sales and marketing director for Harvest Nation. The aeroponics system would go up 30 feet, perfect for the underground room’s 40-foot

See **HARVEST...**pg. 2B

See **DANCE...**pg. 2B

CALLING ALL RANCH HANDS

Team penning and ranch sorting event set for Aug. 28-30

EMBARRASS- The inaugural Danny Theel Memorial Team Penning and Ranch Sorting Event will be held at the Embarrass Region Fairgrounds from Friday, Aug. 28 through Sunday, Aug. 30.

Team penning begins on Friday at 4 p.m. and goes until dusk. The event continues on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ranch sorting will be held

Sunday from 10 a.m. to noon for beginners (non-competitive) and 1 to 4 p.m. with prizes awarded.

Buckles and cash prizes will be awarded to top teams in both events. Food will be available onsite and primitive camping is available.

Team penning has become a popular attraction and is a fun spectator sport, with plenty of action and laughs. Riders try to

herd three calves into a small fenced-in area at the opposite end of the arena. They get 30 seconds, and the calves may or may not cooperate. Teams are judged on their time and number of calves that are penned.

Ranch sorting is another timed event, this time with a team of two riders who attempt to sort 10 head of cattle in numerical order from one pen to another.

Cost to enter either event is \$10 per horse and rider. There are three riders for team penning, and two for ranch sorting.

There is no admission charge for spectators.

This year, the event is being held in memory of Danny Theel, who passed away last April. Theel was an active volunteer for the Babbitt Ambulance and Fire Department and volun-

teered many years with the St. Louis County Rescue Squad. He was the vice-chairman of the Embarrass Region Fair Board. He was active in competitive ranch sorting and team penning. The Embarrass Fairgrounds are located at 4855 Hwy. 21, Embarrass. For more information, contact Lori Lilienthal at 218-780-7477 or Jeff Anderson at 218-780-3449.

DANCE...Continued from page 1B

after that.

"The singers were able to record in their homes, while the other musicians met and stayed physically distant while playing," Olson said.

"We were able to accommodate dancers who needed to be filmed in small groups so that we could keep socially distant, and use Jacob's expertise to combine the footage so that all dancers could appear in the pieces," she said. "Our older dancers did meet for rehearsals in person at outdoor loca-



Johnnie Hyde (choreographer), Tara Johnson, Molly Olson, Maria Paschke, and Crystal Poppler perform a number. photo by K. Vandervort

tions and that helped them prepare for the live show as well as the filming. Using

family groups and people who had already been in a quarantine bubble together

gave us the ability to still incorporate some lifts and group work."

The live show featured just four or five dancers onstage at a time, so the company was able to physically distance. The audience was limited in numbers and wore protective face masks.

"The challenges we faced were numerous, but the dedication of the people involved in the show ensured that the movie is creative and still interesting to watch," Olson added. "We are so fortunate to have a group of talented individuals who love being part of the

Reflections productions."

The dance company featured Brooke Pasmick, Phoebe Helms, Cora Olson, Kahsha Hyde, Gracie Pointer, Johnnie Hyde, Tara Johnson, Molly Olson, Maria Paschke, and Crystal Poppler.

The musicians were Irene Hartfield (musical director, keyboards, vocals, production), Jef Cerniak (bass), Joey Kenig (guitar, vocals, songwriting), Sarah Mason (vocals, percussion), and Karin Schmidt (vocals, percussion).

HARVEST...Continued from page 1B

ceilings.

"It's cool we can continue the legacy of futuristic technologies down there," said Pieratos.

"After a successful pilot and perfecting our business model we are looking to go full commercial in the mine by year four and at peak will be able to serve up to 1,500 to 1,600 customers."

"I feel very confident," Pieratos said about getting the space. "We are negotiating an MOU (memorandum of understanding)."

Last year, Harvest Nation did not advance beyond the semifinals in the Business Cup competition. The team, which includes four women, all members of the Bois Forte Band, is ecstatic that their

progress last year did not go unnoticed. Pieratos said she believes this unique growing space design utilizing the underground mine helped them make it to the finals this year.

The team received technical assistance from DesignU, a self-operated entrepreneurial club organized by U of M students, to co-create modular grow bins that can accommodate a larger variety of crop sizes, which equates to more cost-effectiveness in their operation. Pieratos described the space as like an upside-down tent that can accommodate different root depths.

Division winners will take home \$30,000 in seed capital, with a single finalist winning \$50,000. Harvest Nation is com-

peting in the "Impact Ventures" category against two other startups, one which trains and recruits African-American teachers in the Twin Cities, and the other which aims to help those who cannot afford their bail by crowd-sourcing bail insurance amounts up to \$5,000.

In a press release last spring, Harvest Nation announced that they are fundraising for a three-year pilot demonstration project starting with 100 customers, which is now expected to cost \$1.89 million for the full three years. Fundraising was stalled due to available funding channels being redirected to immediate COVID-19 relief efforts.

So far, Harvest Nation has received \$35,000 from

the Blandin Foundation and was awarded \$15,000 last year through DEED for the best Native American business in the running for the Business Cup.

The team is gearing up to reignite fundraising efforts this fall. They plan on opening a crowd-funding campaign and are also seeking private donors to reach their \$1.89 million goal. They are also working with private foundations to try to raise half a million dollars, and then will move to attract private investors.

Commitments help, too. For those interested in pre-registering to be one of Harvest Nation's first CSA customers, they have an easy online sign-up procedure. There are no fees involved. There is

no obligation to commit to participating in the program at the time of actual registration for the pilot program. If you reside on the Iron Range or Bois Forte Reservation and see yourself making use of Harvest Nation's production, fill out a pre-signup form online at <https://bit.ly/2XzCrTY>.

They are also working on taking EBT and SNAP to make their foods more affordable to those who need it most.

Harvest Nation sees itself as a long-term food security and nutrition solution. Once financing is secured, the farm anticipates eight months until its first full production cycle.

There is no date just yet as to when this pilot farm will start. When it's

time, Harvest Nation will launch a crowdfunding platform to pre-sell subscriptions to the farm. It anticipates it will cost about \$55 per week for a subscription produce box, and customers will have the choice to pay a year's subscription upfront or make monthly or bi-weekly payments online.

For questions or comments, please contact Denise by calling 218-421-9665, or by email at denise@harvestnationinc.com. To stay up to date on the progress of the Minnesota Cup competition, follow @MinnesotaCup on Instagram and Twitter, and sign up for their newsletter by emailing hellomncup@umn.edu

RUNNERS...Continued from page 1B

because of public health orders from the Minnesota State High School League due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Meets will be limited to no more than three teams, and a limited number of meets are planned for this season, according to Ely School Athletic Director Tom Coombe.

Ely athletes on the

swimming team, based in Babbitt out of Northeast Range High School, also started practice this week. Swim meets will involve no more than two teams, according to Coombe.

ISD 696 officials this year approved the addition of a girls soccer cooperative with Mesabi East. Practice also started Monday. One Ely athlete

signed up to participate.

The Ely Memorial High School dance team welcomes a new coach, Desirae Cram, but their season has been pushed back until winter.

The 2020-2021 school year in Ely begins Monday, Sept. 8 with in-person learning.

DISCOVER



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Obituaries and Death Notices



James Boney Jr., "Gi we gah bow"

James Boney Jr., "Gi we gah bow," Eagle Clan, 71, of Eagan, originally of Nett Lake, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020, in Minneapolis. He was a member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa and the Grand Medicine Society, and was honored with traditional burial rites. A Traditional Wake was held on Tuesday, Aug. 18 at the Nett Lake School. A Traditional Service was held on Wednesday, Aug. 19, also at the Nett Lake School. The Spiritual Leader was Billy Blackwell and Spiritual Advisor was Vern Adams. Casket bearers were "Chief" Pete Boney Jr., Anthony Juliano, John Juliano, Jim Morrison, Brad Johnson and Matthew Boney. Honorary Casket bearers were Jeffrey Boney, Vernon Boney, Kyle Juliano, Jason Boney, Andyr Jerome and Zachary Boney. Burial was in the Woodenfrog Cemetery in Nett Lake.

Military Honors were accorded by the USMC Honor Guard, Bois Forte Honor Guard, the Orr American Legion Post 480 Honor Guard and the Cook VFW Post 1757 Honor Guard. To honor James, please donate to any Veterans service of your choice. Arrangements were with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

James was born on Feb. 26, 1949, in Nett Lake, to James Sr. and Nancy (Woodenfrog) Boney. He attended grade school in Nett Lake and attended Orr High School. He went on to graduate from Pawnee High School in Pawnee, Okla., in 1967. In 1968, he attended Haskell Indian Nations

University in Lawrence, Kansas. In 1969, he joined the United States Marine Corps and served in the Vietnam War from 1969-1970. He served in the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines as a machine gunner MOS, earning a Purple Heart and Combat Action medal. He worked at various jobs in Oklahoma City, Okla., landscaping jobs in Denver, Colo., and retired from the United States Postal Service after serving 18 years in Minneapolis.

He was an avid sports fan, especially of the Minnesota Vikings and Minnesota Twins. He was a good bowler, earning several trophies, and traveled to many tournaments in Oklahoma City, Okla., Las Vegas, Nev., Aberdeen, S.D., and Minneapolis. He and his son enjoyed bowling together and dominating the pins. He enjoyed harvesting wild rice, going to powwows, casinos, sporting events, and spending time with his family and friends. He was a member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

James is survived by his aunt, Jennie Woodenfrog; sisters Irene Boney and Mary Ann Juliano; longtime companion, Francelia Roy; son, Jeffrey Boney; grandchildren, Zachary Martin Boney and Alyssa Grace Boney; chosen daughter, Makayla John; numerous nieces and nephews; and many friends.

He is preceded in death by his father, James Boney Sr.; mother, Nancy (Woodenfrog) Boney; uncles, William Woodenfrog, Anthony Boney and John Woodenfrog; aunt, Mary Woodenfrog Strong; brothers, Peter Boney Sr., Arnold Boney, Kenneth Boney and John Boney; and sister, Julie Wilde.



Mary Ann Berg

Mary Ann Berg, 90, a longtime resident of Tower, died on Friday, Aug. 14, 2020, at her home on Eagles Nest Lake. A Funeral Mass was held on Wednesday, Aug. 19 at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower with Fr. Nick Nelson as the celebrant. Interment was in Lakeview Cemetery in Tower. The family wishes to extend thanks to Emily Hadrava, CNP, and to East Range Hospice for the care and compassion they extended to Mary. Family services were provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

Mary Ann was born on June 15, 1930, in Soudan, the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Tekautz) Gornick. She was a graduate of Tower High School and the Duluth School of Business. Mary Ann was united in marriage to Donald Berg at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower.

Mary Ann worked as a homemaker. She also worked at the State Bank of Tower, Vermilion Lumber, Boyer True Value, and Vermilion Fuel & Food. She was a member of St. Martin's Catholic Church, where she served on St. Mary's Circle and the Catholic Women's Club. Mary Ann was a member of the Senior Citizens of Eagles Nest. She enjoyed being at the lake, playing "Penny Canasta" and socializing with friends.

Mary Ann is survived by her children, Robert (Jane) Berg of Tower, William Berg of Ely, Mary Jo (William) Coldwell of Florida, James (Jill) Berg of Tower and Dawn (Brad) Dahl of Virginia, Minn.;

sister, Margie Ahearn of Arizona; grandchildren, Allen (Shannon) Berg, Ryan (Heather) Berg, Kyle (Malissa) Maki, Christopher (Kelsey) Coldwell, Katrina (Bob) Harmelink, Adam Berg, Nathan (Abby) Dahl, Kara (fiancée Chris) Dahl and Jared Dahl; great-grandchildren, Branden, Emily, McKenna, Cameron, Carter, Kira, Perrie, Rory and one "on the way"; special friend, Jeff Szalapski; and numerous extended family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald in 1987; and brother, Joseph Jr.



Dr. Robert Junnila

Dr. Robert "Bob" Douglas Junnila, 74, of Tower, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020, at his home. A memorial service for immediate family will be held at the island cabin on Lake Vermilion. A celebration of Bob's life will be scheduled in 2021 at the Greenwood Township Community Center with food, music, pickle ball, and other outdoor activities.

Bob was born on Nov. 13, 1945, to William and Helen Junnila in Wooster, Ohio. Bob spent his youth in Storrs, Conn. He attended high school in White Bear Lake. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and served honorably from 1969 to 1971. Bob was a graduate of Hamline University (1967), Case Western Reserve University (1979 MD-PhD), and Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Medicine (1979-1983 OB-GYN residency, Chief Resident).

He practiced OB-GYN at Park Nicollet Medical Center in Minnetonka from 1983 to 2010. His later career would take him to St. Cloud, Minn., New Zealand, and Virginia, Minn. Bob made lifelong friendships with many of his colleagues and health-care professionals.

Besides spending time with family and friends, Bob had a passion for the outdoors, fishing, traveling, and collecting rocks and historical artifacts. He was known for his humility, kindness, generosity, work ethic and adventurous spirit.

Bob is survived by his wife of 48 years, Colleen; sons, Brian (Elizabeth) and Brad; granddaughters, Camryn, Audrey and Emma; and brother, Tom (Phyllis).



Ellen C. Tausk

The goodness in you brings out the goodness in others. That is the story of Ellen Charlotte Tausk, 85, of Downers Grove, Ill., who died on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2020. Ellen's last moments were a symbol of everything that mattered most to her in life. She was surrounded by love from her husband of 64 years, Ed Tausk, and her three beloved children. They all held her hand as she took her last precious breaths and went on to her new life with God. Family and friends met for a Funeral Mass on Tuesday, Aug. 18 at St. Mary's of Gostyn Church in Downers Grove, Ill. Interment followed at Assumption Catholic Cemetery in Wheaton, Ill. Her family asked everyone to wear bright colors as a way to honor Ellen's joyful spirit. Arrangements were by Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale, Ill.

To carry on her

mission of seeking and supporting goodness in others, her children have set up the Ellen Tausk Kindness Foundation. Each year, the foundation will choose to help a family in need. Donations can be sent to The Ellen Tausk Kindness Foundation, Chase Bank, 1 South Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

Ellen was born on Sept. 15, 1934, to Anton and Peggy Rakowski. She grew up in Chicago along with her five brothers and sisters. She met Ed at work and they married shortly after that. They had three children, Teri (Chuck) Goudie, Ed Tausk Jr. (fiancée Wendy Jurek) and Colleen (Steve) Gebavi. Ellen was very much a part of her grandchildren's life and helped raise all of them. They are Caylen (Joe) Bufalino, Brittany (Chase) Davidson, Chas (Julie) Goudie, Keegan Goudie, Grace Goudie, Austin Tausk, Danny Tausk, Carley Tausk, Kyle Gebavi, Braden Gebavi, Ethan Gebavi and Garrett Gebavi. Her great-grandchildren brought her incredible happiness in recent years. They are Henry Bufalino, Leo Bufalino, Brooks Davidson, Walker Davidson and Claire Goudie.

Ellen was known for making every person feel special. Her home was always welcome to all and her kids' friends were thought of as family. She could strike up a conversation with anyone she met and make everyone feel like they had a special relationship with her. She was very close to her faith and lived with an incredible zest for life. She did her first half-marathon at the age of 75 and won first place in her age bracket.

Ellen is survived by her husband, Ed; three children; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sister, Patricia Serritella; and brother, Tony Rakowski.



Ethel Roderick

Ethel "Doris" Roderick, 95, of Cook, passed away on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2020. A Celebration of Life will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 27 at the Littlefork Lutheran Church in Field Township. Burial will be in the Field Cemetery, followed by a luncheon at the church. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Doris was born to Carl and Sigri (Holter) Scott on March 15, 1925 in Cook. She grew up and attended school in Cook, graduating from Cook High School in 1942. Doris met her future husband, Donald, in high school. He had come with his parents from Mason City, Iowa, to work on a farm in Cook. The couple

were united in marriage on Sept. 27, 1944, in Cook. The young couple moved to the cities where Donald worked construction. Doris and Don raised their children in the cities, but returned every summer to spend time at their cabin on Lake Vermilion. After the couple retired, they spent their summers at the lake cabin and wintered in Florida. Sadly, Donald passed away in 2003.

Doris loved to sew and she constructed many quilts; every grandchild had a quilt made by grandma. Doris enjoyed cross stitching, doing crossword puzzles, and picking blueberries. She was an excellent cook and baker; every person in her family would get a German chocolate cake for their birthday. Doris passed some of her cooking talent down to her family; she taught them how to make her famous lefsa. When Doris was in Florida, she spent hours walking the beach picking seashells.

Doris was a quiet and caring person. She also had a sharp, quick sense of humor and would often "knock the socks off" of her caregivers with her

jokes. She also had her own funny sayings, like "up to your ear-balls", and her family would laugh and tell her that it was "eyeballs", grandma.... "eyeballs". Doris was loved and will be dearly missed.

Doris is survived by her children, Barb (Gary) Boutto, Donald Roderick, Bev (Warren) Rutledge, Janice (Randy) Rogers and Joanne (Benny) Svien; grandchildren, Dawn (Todd) Seopa, Dean (Amy) Boutto, Dee Ann (Brad) Sandberg, Donnie Roderick, Allison (Kyle) Koester, Megan (Tyrell) Eckdahl, Andrew (Heather) Rutledge, Jeffrey Rogers, Timothy (Jen) Rogers, Benjamin (Christine) Conklin, Jonathan (Megan) Conklin and Cassie (Joe) Winter; and 20 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband of 58 years and four months, Donald Roderick; brother-in-law, Bob Roderick; and sisters-in-law, Mildred Roderick and Agnes Scott.

Carol E. Abramson

Carol E. Abramson, 78, of Orr, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Burial will be in the Leiding Cemetery, with lunch to follow at the Orr American Legion Hall in Orr.



Gary F. Rolloff

Gary Fredrick Rolloff, 81, of Orr, passed away on Sunday, June 7, 2020. A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday Aug. 26, 2020 at 2 P.M. at Calvary Lutheran Church in Orr. To leave an online condolence visit www.mlakerfuneralhome.com.

John Manick

John "Weasel" Manick, 62, of Orr, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Monday, Aug. 10, 2020. A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 21 at the Orr American Legion Hall in Orr. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

He is survived by his children, Jennifer Manick and Jesse (Hannah) Manick; the mother of his children, Lori Johnson Manick; grandchildren, Kaden and Jace Manick; brothers, Mike Manick, Rick Manick, Dan (Linda) Manick, David (Sandra) Manick, Bill Manick, Robert Manick and Joe (Michelle) Manick; sister, Sandra (Dave) Georgeson; and many nieces and nephews.

George J. Stalboerger

George J. Stalboerger, 88, of Babbitt, passed away on Monday, Aug. 10, 2020, at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth. Graveside services were held on Tuesday, Aug. 18 at Argo Cemetery in Babbitt with Deacon Greg Hutar officiating. Military rites were accorded by the Ely Honor Guard. There was a potluck gathering at the Hideaway in Babbitt after the service. Arrangements were with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife, Darlene Potter Stalboerger of Babbitt; son, Mark of Babbitt; daughter, Sue (Paul) Scherer of Embarrass; grandchildren, John Scherer, Jason Stalboerger and Lisa Jantz; and great-grandchildren, Luke, Blake, Hailey, McKinzie and Ove.

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Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods



THE ODONATA

Dragons on the wing

Embarrass nature enthusiast captures the beauty of a remarkable insect family

For most residents of the North Country, our knowledge and interest in dragonflies can be as fleeting as their appearance over the dock, the patio, or the garden. I've always looked at the dragonflies as my allies when I'm working in my vegetable beds. By early June, the mosquitoes and deer flies are typically out in full force, which can make it pretty miserable to spend time outdoors, at least here on the edge of the Lost Lake Swamp.

But then the dragonflies arrive, having emerged from the watery world in which they live most of their lives, to spend a few weeks putting the fear of the dragon into those pesky biting bugs. Often, they arrive like a squadron of fighter jets and, just like magic, the deer flies seem to disappear.

For a long time, I was content to cheer them on, without paying much more attention.

It was much the same for many years for David Smith and Suzanne Winckler, who spend the warmer months on their former Finnish homestead in Pike Township. They've been students of the natural world for years. We're friends, as well. We've birded together numerous times, visited remnant prairies in northwestern Minnesota together, and searched for early summer orchids in the Lost Lake Swamp.

Yet, up until this year, the subject of dragonflies never really came up. It's now their newest obsession.

"It's a little embarrassing I've overlooked them all these years," said Suzanne, who initially followed David's lead into the world of these remarkable insects, but has since found them to be as fascinating as he does. Longtime, avid birders, they more often train their binoculars on these smaller subjects these days. Even with binoculars, however, it can be difficult to identify dragonflies in the field. So, David has begun photographing them as well, which makes identification



MARSHALL HELMBERGER



All photos by David Smith

Top: A White-faced Meadowhawk perches with its abdomen raised to reduce overheating in the sunny meadows where this species likes to hunt.

Above: A mating pair of Common Green Darners in what's known as the "wheel position." The female, (below) is held in place by claspers at the tip of the male's abdomen.

Above: A Blue Dasher is among a number of species of dragonflies that rest their wings in a forward position.

Left: An Ebony Jewelwing is one of about 25 species of damselflies found in the North Country.



Wildflower Watch

This week's featured flower
SPOTTED TOUCH-ME-NOT



Look for the **Touch-Me-Not**, otherwise known as Jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis*, near water, where it often grows in small patches. It's called Touch-Me-Not because the seed pods, once mature, can "explode" if even lightly touched, sending the tiny seeds scattering.

The dangling, yellow flowers resemble a "horn of plenty" and have numerous tiny red spots, mostly towards the opening of the flower.

This is a valuable nectar source for hummingbirds in late summer. It's also useful for humans, as the sap found inside the translucent stems is a common remedy for the itch and sting and nettles or poison ivy.

Outdoors in brief

DNR asks hunters not to shoot collared bears

REGIONAL — The Minnesota bear hunting season opens Tuesday, Sept. 1, and the Department of Natural Resources is asking hunters to avoid shooting marked research bears.

These bears are marked with distinctively large, colorful ear tags and have radio collars.

Researchers with the DNR are monitoring about 20 radio collared black bears across the state, especially in bear hunting zones 27, 25 and 45, and in parts of the no-quota zone. Most of them are in or near the Chippewa National Forest between Grand Rapids and Bigfork. Others are near Voyageurs National Park or around Camp Ripley.

"We're asking hunters to avoid shooting these valuable research bears. These collared bears give us much of the data we use in bear management," said Dave Garshelis, DNR bear research scientist.

Trapping new bears every year to replace the ones killed cannot substitute for long-term data on individuals.

The bear's coat often hides the collar, especially in the fall, and most of the collars are black. But all collared bears have large (3 by 2 inch), colorful ear tags so hunters can simply identify a collared animal by these large tags, whether or not a collar is visible. The tags should be plainly visible when a bear is at a bait, or on trail cam photos.

DNR officials recognize that a hunter may not be able to see a radio collar or ear tags in some situations. For this reason, taking a bear with a radio collar is legal; however, waiting a few minutes to get a clear view of the bear's head would reveal whether it has large ear tags, which indicates that it is collared.

Any hunters who do shoot a collared bear should bring the collar to a bear registration station and call the DNR Wildlife Research Office in Grand Rapids at 218-328-8879 or 218-328-8874 to report shooting a collared bear.

Fishing reports

Ely area

Walleye fishing slowed considerably this past week as several fronts blew through the area. Still several anglers reported a excellent trolling bite. Deep diving crankbaits that reach 15-30 feet were key to anglers success. Anglers simply trolled over large flats or open

water during the evening hours. Lake trout fishing has been good this past week. Anglers have been catching lakers trolling spoons with leadcore or with down riggers. Anglers have been trolling over deep water fishing 20-30 feet down.
Courtesy of Arrowhead Outdoors, Ely

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday				Saturday				Sunday				Monday				Tuesday			
81 60				73 55				74 54				73 53				71 47			
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.
08/10	73	58	0.09	08/10	75	58	0.19	08/10	75	57	0.74	08/10	75	54	1.51	08/10	75	56	0.65
08/11	76	45	0.00	08/11	75	46	0.00	08/11	75	55	0.00	08/11	79	52	0.00	08/11	75	47	0.00
08/12	80	48	0.00	08/12	79	49	0.00	08/12	79	56	0.00	08/12	79	52	0.00	08/12	78	50	0.00
08/13	79	51	0.00	08/13	79	49	0.00	08/13	78	56	0.00	08/13	73	57	0.00	08/13	78	51	0.00
08/14	77	62	0.23	08/14	75	61	0.30	08/14	75	59	0.78	08/14	72	61	0.92	08/14	76	63	0.65
08/15	75	57	0.76	08/15	75	55	1.17	08/15	71	56	0.81	08/15	73	54	1.02	08/15	73	55	1.40
08/16	75	49	0.01	08/16	75	48	0.00	08/16	72	56	0.00	08/16	75	54	0.00	08/16	74	48	0.00
Total 13.32				YTD Total 13.91				YTD Total 19.06				YTD Total NA				YTD Total 15.41			

DRAGONS...Continued from page 4B

far easier. "I've always wanted to know what I was looking at but was always frustrated trying to remember details in order to identify them in a guide," said David. "When I started taking photos of insects, it made all the difference. You can sit at home at your leisure and figure out what these things are."

Dragonflies make a particularly appealing target for his photography, both because they're large for insects and because they are often brightly colored. Suzanne offers a more superlative description: "They are absolutely stunningly gorgeous," she said.

The couple's interest in dragonflies now extends well beyond their backyard in Embarrass. They observe and document dragonflies during the winter months near their home in northwestern Mexico. And they recently traveled to northern Wisconsin to look for species they hadn't found here in Minnesota.

Just as birders go "birding", they even have a name for their treks in search of dragonflies.

"We call it 'odonating,'" said Suzanne, a reference to the family of insects, Odonata (pronounced OH-doh-nah-tah), which includes the dragonflies and their close relatives, the typically-more delicate damselflies, both of which appeal to David and Suzanne. The North Country is home to about 70 species of dragonflies and another 25 species of damselflies.

David, a retired research cell biologist for the Mayo Clinic, is detail oriented and that's where he finds the most satisfaction



Above: David Smith, camera in action, on a recent hunt for an Elfin Skimmer in an Embarrass bog.



Above right: A Green-striped Darner captured in flight.



Right: A Kennedy's Emerald in the process of emerging from its nymph case.

from his newfound interest. "As you really look at the detail, you just get fascinated by the beauty of these creatures," he said.

For David, in particular, the interest in Odonates goes beyond just hunting, photographing, and identifying species he hasn't seen before. He's also delved into learning much more about the lives of the species he finds. While there isn't a vast literature on the Odonata, there are certainly some books that David has found extremely helpful as he pursues his newfound passion. You'll find more on his recommended books at the end of this story.

The number of books on the subject is likely to continue to increase as interest in the

Odonata grows. Some have compared "dragonflying" as it's more often described, to the early days of birding, and it has attracted a wide spectrum of interest, from the casual to the hardcore.

David admits he's moved beyond mere casual interest. "You could call me an enthusiast," he said. His involvement now includes corresponding with some of the top experts in the world on the Odonata, whom he has found to be remarkably accessible and encouraging of his work.

"Turns out all these people are extremely nice, at least as long as you're talking about dragonflies," he said. "They're interested in novel reports, and share in the excitement of seeing

something unusual." While David hasn't found anything out of the ordinary in Minnesota, at least not yet, he's had more interesting finds near his winter home in Alamos, Mexico, so he's had plenty to talk about with some of the field's top researchers.

It's all helped to fuel his interest in the hunt for new Odonata, and both he and Suzanne are routinely exploring new habitats around the North Country. Suzanne, a semi-retired journalist and longtime birder, notes that Odonates are often as tied to specific habitats as birds. The damselflies, in particular, are found along streams, but even within that broad category of habitat are numerous micro-habitats, that depend on the type of vegetation found streamside, or whether the location is sunny or shaded. "It's fun to go into all the different habitats and have an idea of what might just turn up where," said Suzanne.

There's also the question of when. While most of us recognize that dragonflies are only active in the summer here in the North Country, the summer can actually be divided into many of

its own "seasons" when you can expect to find certain Odonata. These insects spend the vast majority of their lives as underwater nymphs, and only live as modern day dragons for a few weeks each summer. Certain species emerge for their reign in the sky in early June, only to be replaced by other species in turn as the summer wears on. With many dozens of species, it's a lot to learn, but for now David and Suzanne are eagerly soaking it all up.

And their hunt for new species shows how interest in Odonates can lead to new explorations. David is now on the hunt for a highly specialized species of dragonfly, known as the elfin skimmer, which at just three-quarters of an inch in length, is the smallest dragonfly in North America. They're found almost exclusively in alkaline or calcareous floating bogs. He's now researching the locations of such formations in hopes of adding one of these tiny, bright blue dragons to his Odonata life list.

For Suzanne, delving into the world of the Odonata, is simply an extension of her and David's longtime interest in the natural world. "I can't imagine not having that base of interest in what's around me," she said "It's what makes life rich."

Books on Odonata

- Dragonflies of the North Woods*, by Kurt Mead
- Dragonflies and damselflies: A natural history*, by Dennis Paulson.

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DRAIN

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- Remove drain plug and open all water draining devices
- Trash unused bait

DRY

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF ORR CALL FOR BIDS 1990 International Tender Truck

September 9, 2020. Bids will be opened at the Orr City Council Meeting on Monday, September 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

The City of Orr solicits bids for a 1990 International Tender Truck with 3,300 gallon water tank. Truck has a Cummins 400 engine; 13 speed transmission; and high mileage. Vehicle is to be sold "AS IS". Any questions or to inspect, call Orr City Hall at (218) 757-3288

The City of Orr reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Winning bidder must agree to remove lights and sirens.

Cheri Carter
Clerk/Treasurer
City of Orr

Sealed bids will be accepted by the City of Orr, Clerk's Office, 4429 Highway 53, PO Box 237, Orr, MN 55771, until 3:00 p.m., on Wednesday,

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 21, 28 & Sept. 4, 2020

ST. LOUIS COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

St. Louis County intends to expend Title III funds for hazardous fuels reduction on private property bordering federal U.S. Forest land in the Britt and Burntside Lake areas. The funds will be expended in 2020 and 2021. Please contact St. Louis County Emergency Management if any concerns or questions at (218) 726-2936.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 21, 2020

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POSITION OPENING

Ely Public Schools Paraprofessional

Ely Public Schools is looking for a Paraprofessional beginning the 2020-2021 school year; background check required.

Qualifications include:

- AA Degree or two years of college required
- Preferred experience working with school age children
- Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting.

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us

A complete application must include the following:

- District Application
- Resume
- College Transcripts
- 2 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us

Starting Rate of Pay: \$16.57/hour

Hours: 6.5 hours/day

Deadline to apply: August 27, 2020; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 21, 2020

POSITION OPENING

Ely Public Schools Foreign Language Teacher Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

Ely Memorial School is looking for a Foreign Language Teacher beginning the 2020-2021 school year; competitive salary and fringes as per the master agreement. Background check required.

Qualifications include:

- Current Minnesota teaching license with German background preferred
- Previous teaching experience preferred
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us

A complete application must include the following:

- District Licensed Application
- Resume
- Copy of official transcripts
- Current Minnesota teaching license
- 3 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us. Contact Memorial Middle School/High School Principal Megan Anderson at manderson@ely.k12.mn.us or call (218) 365-6166 ext. 1726 with any questions.

Start date: September 1, 2020

Deadline to apply: August 27, 2020; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 21, 2020

POSITION OPENING

Ely Public Schools Substitute Teachers

Ely Public Schools is looking for substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year. With a college degree you can qualify to obtain a short-call substitute teaching license. The District can help you in this process.

Qualifications include:

- Bachelor's Degree to qualify for substitute teaching license is acceptable
- Experience working with children is preferred
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us

A complete application must include the following:

- District Licensed Application
- Resume
- Copy of official transcripts
- Current Minnesota teaching license, if available
- 2 letters of recommendation

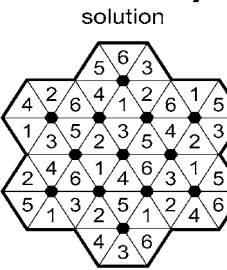
Contact Superintendent Erik Erie at eerie@ely.k12.mn.us or Mary Wognum at mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us or call (218) 365-6166 ext. 1727 with any questions. For licensing information from the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board, go to <https://mn.gov/pelsb/aspiring-educators/apply/>.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 21, 28 & Sept. 4, 2020

Sell It HERE

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SNOWFLAKES solution



Super Crossword

Answers

T	I	N	I	E	S	T	D	O	T	H	O	P	E	D	P	A	G	E		
A	L	I	T	T	L	E	A	R	I	A	V	A	M	O	O	S	E	S		
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P	Y	R	E	N	E	S		S	T	Y	X		N	E	A	T	E	S		

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Actor Carrey
- Weapon of mouse destruction
- Zits
- Man-mouse link
- Midwestern state
- Addition sign
- The national pastime
- Node
- pro quo
- British patrolman
- First lady before Michelle
- Old MacDonald's place
- Twistable cookie
- Fort Dix, for one
- Sea (Fr.)
- Gray matter
- Snapshot
- You might run on one to get home
- "The lady - protest too much"
- Drench
- Cow catcher
- Underground chamber
- Close
- Villainous look

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
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32			33					34				
			35					36				
37	38	39				40						
41					42	43					44	45
46					47					48		
49					50						51	

- Street
- Piercing tool
- Crony
- Poise
- Organization
- Unfeeling
- Catch sight of
- Continental coin
- Mawr College
- Bausch's partner
- Vicinity
- Candid
- Grenoble girl-friend
- La Scala
- Leg bone
- Renunciation of a faith
- Perches
- Reverberate
- Rorschach sample
- de corps
- Smear
- Tibet's capital
- Dressed
- Nevada city
- Bigfoot's cousin
- Goblet feature
- Medic
- Big bother
- Seek damages
- Em halves

DOWN

- Task
- 401(k) alternative
- Costume party guests (Var.)
- Leg bone

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

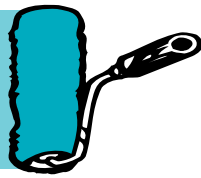
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CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Chris Homyak & Flavia Alvarez Maldonado, the new owners of "Clearview General Store" in Lutsen, MN from Steve Bragg, Business Broker

Chris has been in Lutsen for 12 years and Flavia 7 years, and now move to business owners. They are extremely excited about the opportunities that Clearview General Store has to offer and hope to expand their offerings in every department. This fall they are adding a new Grab & Go section up front as well as expanded produce options and look forward to continuing to serve the local community, friends and family, and visitors from all over.

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EMPLOYMENT

POSITION OPENING
Ely Public Schools
Noon Supervisor

Ely Public Schools is looking for a Noon Supervisor to supervise students at lunch and recess times for 172 student contact days. A background check is required.

Qualifications include:
 > Preferred experience working with school age children
 > Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us

A complete application must include the following:
 > District Application
 > 2 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us

Starting Rate of Pay: \$10.58/hour
Hours: Up to 6 hours/day
Application review to begin: September 2, 2020; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 21 & 28, 2020

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