



Tour the cedar trail...See /4B

**Inside:**  
**TAAS expands staff...** See /3  
**Football, volleyball resume...** See /1B  
**Dry conditions return...**See /4B

# TIMBERJAY



VOL. 31, ISSUE 38 September 25, 2020

\$1.00

## THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

# COVID-19 hits return-to-learn plans

### Two cases in Ely as school shifts to hybrid learning protocols

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – Two weeks after the 2020-2021 school year started under an in-person learning model, a drastic uptick in regional coronavirus cases forced ISD 696 administrators to transition to a hybrid learning protocol.

The Ely Safe Learning Plan Advisory Council last Thursday reviewed updated

Greater St. Louis County and local coronavirus data and agreed with the ISD 696 administration’s recommendation to move to the hybrid learning plan. The new protocols took effect on Monday, Sept. 21.

However, just a day after the advisory

See...ISD 696 pg. 7



### VCS briefly shifts to distance, but staff tests negative for virus

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER - Vermilion Country School switched to distance learning mode on Monday as they awaited testing results for two staff members who developed symptoms of illness over the weekend.

The switch meant the VCS fall camping trip to the High Adventure

Camp in Ely is put on hold, after two staff members fell ill with symptoms of what could have been COVID-19.

“The kids are going to think we never want to do these overnight trips,” said Vermilion Country School Administrator Frank Zobitz. “A lot of them were looking forward to it, and it is a perfect week weather-wise. Unfortunately, canceling

See...TOWER pg. 7

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# New digs for Crapola

### Quirky Ely granola business moving ‘world headquarters’ to former Plum Bun location

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – The popular local granola business known as Crapola is relocating its world headquarters.

However, Brian Strom denied speculation last week that the successful worldwide operation he owns with his wife, Andrea, is moving to a more exotic

See...ELY pg. 8

**Crapola World Headquarters will stay on First Avenue until the new digs are ready.**  
photo by K. Vandervort

**Right: Andrea and Brian Strom creatively announced their recent building purchase in Ely.** photo by B. Strom



## PUBLIC HEALTH

# Coronavirus hits North Country

### More deaths in two care facilities linked to virus

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- The deaths of nine residents of St. Louis County long-term care facilities from COVID-19 in the past week have been reported by county health officials as the coronavirus pandemic continues to extend its reach into the region.

Nine of the ten county deaths reported between Thursday, Sept. 17 and Wednesday, Sept. 22 were residents of long-term care facilities. Seven of them were women— two in their seventies and five in their nineties. Two men, one in his seventies and the other in his nineties, also died in long-term care.

Ely Carefree Living, The Waterview Woods in Eveleth, The Waterview Pines in Virginia, and Heritage Manor in Chisholm, are four of the six long-term care facilities in St. Louis County on the state’s current list of COVID-affected facilities. The other two are in the Duluth area. Neither the county or the state discloses the number of cases or deaths

See...COVID pg. 9

**More**  
Saliva testing site open in Duluth Page 8

## TRADITIONS

# T. Pattenn Café marks 85 years in Orr

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

ORR- It’s been 85 years this month since Myrna and Wayne Pattenn invested in the Orr-based café originally started by Harry Seccombe in 1922, and T. Pattenn Café owner Tara Pattenn is happy to be

carrying on the family tradition of delicious home-cooked meals and pastries with two more generations of the Pattenn family working with her.

But if you think T. Pattenn Café is all about great food and nothing more, you’re missing one of the cornerstones

of Tara’s vision for the eatery. She’s not only the owner – Tara Pattenn is also very much an employment skills mentor and trainer for the youth of the community.

“Pattenn’s has always hired teenagers, high school kids, all the way back to my grandma and grandpa,”

Tara said. “My boyfriend, Dale, his older sister grew up working at Pattenn’s for my grandmother. I’ve had many generations of Shermer families down to Marty’s three girls. All three worked for me going through school. It’s what

See...ORR pg. 8



Tara Pattenn is flanked by her children, Jessica and Johnny, at the family’s Orr eatery.  
photo by D. Colburn



**Canoes and kayaks are in stock! Visit us for all your paddling and gear needs. 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.**  
**218 - 365 - 6745**

**Outlet Store OPEN for the season.**  
**10a.m. - 6 p.m. every day.**

Thank you for your continued support, The Piragis Staff

Contact The Timberjay

218-753-2950  
editor@timberjay.com





## Community notices

### Pancake breakfast for the Embarrass Fair, Oct. 3

EMBARRASS- A pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Embarrass Region Fair Association, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Support the Embarrass Region Fair by enjoying all-you-can-eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, fruit cup, juice, and a bottomless cup of coffee the first Saturday of each month through May at the Timber Hall. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children (6-10 years), and children under 5 years eat free.

### PACER to offer virtual workshops

REGIONAL- PACER, a non-profit out of Minneapolis whose goal is to support disabled children and their families, is offering several online workshops beginning Wednesday, Sept. 30. Workshops are available for both parents and children. Topics for parents include how to increase independence, and navigating distance learning and telehealth visits. The student workshops include volcanoes, coding, and video games. Visit <https://www.pacer.org/workshops/> for more information.

### ECHC weekly clinic continues

ELY- Ely Community Health Center continues to operate a weekly medical clinic on a Tele-Health platform for virtual evaluation. It will continue this mode of operation indefinitely. "This is available for all basic medical evaluations, consultations, and for the renewal of prescriptions," John Erickson said. "You can schedule an appointment by sending us an email at [director@elycommunityhealth.org](mailto:director@elycommunityhealth.org), leaving a message on our voicemail at 218-365-5678, or filling out the online request for appointment at <https://bit.ly/ECHCTelehealthAppointment>. Leave a call back number or an email address so we can reach you. When required we can mail you a "Vitals at Home" kit so you can monitor your personal vitals in advance of your assigned Tele-Health appointment. We will let you know if the medical evaluation you are requesting will require that this kit be made available in advance of your appointment." The Ely Community Health Center continues to assist community residents with health insurance applications for both MA, MinnesotaCare and MNsure.

### New funds available to help people with rent, mortgage or utility bills during pandemic

REGIONAL- St. Louis County has received an additional \$3.2 million to assist people who are struggling to pay their rent, mortgage or utility bills due to hardships caused by the pandemic. This is in addition to the CARES Act funds that the County is also allocating to help individuals in need.

This latest funding is from the COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program (CHAP) and is for St. Louis County residents who are not in subsidized housing and whose income is at or below 300 percent of federal poverty guidelines.

This is in addition to CARES Act funds, which can assist with rent, mortgage or utilities for all types of housing, as well as other financial hardships due to COVID-19.

United Way 211 is serving as the initial contact point for anyone wondering if they're eligible or interested in applying. People can call 2-1-1 from anywhere in the county to get started, or text MNRENT or MNHOME to 898-211.

"We want the people of St. Louis County to know that there is a lot of help available in the form of CARES funds, CHAP funds, and even the more traditional Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance," said Commissioner Patrick Boyle, who chairs the Health and Human Services committee. "If you are in need, call 2-1-1. Staff will help sort through each individual situation to determine eligibility, and which program can best help."

More information is available at [stlouiscountymn.gov/cares](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/cares) or by calling 2-1-1.

## HEALTH

# Don't let pandemic become a "twindemic"

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital will offer flu shot clinics



by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY- As public health officials look to fall and winter, the specter of a new surge of COVID-19 gives them chills. But there is a scenario they dread even more: a severe flu season, resulting in a "twindemic," according to Jon Erickson, executive director of the Ely Community Health Center.

"Even a mild flu season could stagger hospitals who are already coping with coronavirus cases. Though officials don't know yet what degree of severity to anticipate this year, they are worried large numbers of people could forgo flu shots, increasing the risk of widespread outbreaks," he said.

The concern about a "twindemic" is so great that officials around the

world are pushing the flu shot even before it becomes available in clinics and doctors' offices. Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has been talking it up, urging corporate leaders to figure out ways to inoculate employees.

The CDC, which usually purchases 500,000 doses for uninsured adults, this year ordered an additional 9.3 million doses.

"We strongly encourage everyone to consider getting their flu shot as early as possible this year," Erickson said. "Most private and public health insurance policies cover the entire cost of these."

The Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital will host two flu vaccine clinics next month.

The clinics are scheduled for Saturdays, Oct. 3

### Flu shot clinics at the Tower Civic Center, Oct. 7 and 13

REGIONAL- Flu shots are available now in Cook and Tower from Scenic Rivers. A special flu clinic is being planned indoors at the Tower Civic Center on Wednesday, Oct. 7 and Tuesday, Oct. 13, both from noon to 4 p.m. Please pre-register at the Tower clinic by calling 218-753-2405. Scenic Rivers Cook Clinic is also planning a flu shot clinic with dates to be determined. Call the Cook clinic at 218-666-5941 to schedule a flu shot.

and Oct. 24, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at EBCH.

These clinics will be "drive-thru" clinics where the hospital staff will ask people to enter on the backside of the hospital in their vehicle. There will be a registration tent set up by the green business office awning. Once registered, the patients will pull up to a second tent near the Rehab Entrance to get their shot.

There is no cost for these immunizations, although if you are over 65 years old and request the senior high dosage immunization, the staff will ask for a copy of your Medicare card.

If you have any questions, please contact Erickson at 218-365-5678 or at [director@elycommunityhealth.org](mailto:director@elycommunityhealth.org).

## EDUCATION

# Colleges and universities of Minnesota State waive application fee for all or part of October

REGIONAL- For a limited time, prospective students can apply for admission to any of the colleges and universities of Minnesota State without paying an undergraduate application fee. The offer is part of Minnesota State Week and College Knowledge Month – promotions that are both intended to encourage students to take the first steps in their higher education journey.

Minnesota State Week is a promotion that has been held in June for the past two years, but is for

the first time being added to the line-up for October, to drive student awareness and virtual and in-person campus visits, as appropriate. Fall Minnesota State Week will be held Oct. 12-16 to coincide with MEA week and the many admissions events happening at the colleges and universities in mid-October. The week will feature special statewide promotional programs and a social media campaign.

The colleges and universities of Minnesota State will celebrate these initiatives by waiving

the undergraduate application fee students often pay when they apply for admission, for all or part of October. Applications may be completed online at <https://minnstate.edu/> (with the single online application, students can apply to one or several Minnesota State colleges or universities) or by contacting the college or university being considered. Most Minnesota State colleges and universities are waiving undergraduate application fees for the full month of October. Some are waiving fees

from Oct. 25 - 31 only. Application fees for qualified low-income students and active duty military service members deployed overseas can always be waived at every Minnesota State college and university.

If prompted for a promo code, applicants should use "CKM2020."

For more information, contact any of the Minnesota State colleges or universities, or visit [www.minnstate.edu/minnstatewk](http://www.minnstate.edu/minnstatewk).

Committed to construct our mine with a union workforce,

Committed to quality local job creation,

Committed to Northeast Minnesota communities.

[www.twin-metals.com](http://www.twin-metals.com)





CITY OF TOWER

# Tower ambulance service shifts to rebuilding mode

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

Nine new responders hired this month, new business plan in the works

TOWER— The hiring of nine new ambulance personnel earlier this month has boosted the active roster for the Tower Area Ambulance Service to the highest number in some years, and provides the service the capacity to look at revisions to the costly paid-on-call program implemented in 2018 by former ambulance director Steve Altenburg.

The new hires include seven emergency medical technicians, or EMTs, and two emergency medical responders, or EMRs. All come with the required training, and some bring considerable experience from other area ambulance services to Tower, according to ambulance director Dena Suihkonen. While some live in the Tower-Soudan area, others live in Cook, Embarrass, Babbitt, and Britt.

“With the changes and upheaval, many who applied did so based on seeing the need,” said Suihkonen. “They are coming to do what EMS does... help.”

The hirings come as the TAAS is working on a business plan that could lead to changes in how the service staffs its operations. The current pay rate for paid on-call staff,

set by Altenburg in 2018, is much higher than other small ambulance services and that has put financial stress on the TAAS, which is likely to run a substantial deficit this year. That’s due, in part, to the nearly \$160,000 final payment for the new ambulance that the service ordered in 2018. At the same time, the TAAS experienced a substantial decline in emergency runs in the immediate aftermath of the COVID-19 shutdown beginning in late March, which has cut revenues.

The decline in emergency calls was a widespread phenomenon, affecting ambulance services across the country as the public largely hunkered down at home for weeks. While the number of emergency calls has since rebounded, the uptick is unlikely to make up for the losses earlier in the year. As of the end of August, the TAAS was down 69 runs over the same period last year.

At the same time, the TAAS has sharply reduced the number of inter-hospital transfers it accepts to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to staff as well as due to questions about the financial benefits of



the transfers. Several analyses of the costs associated with transfers have found that the non-emergency runs provide the TAAS little actual profit in many cases, once the depreciation of ambulances and other costs are taken into account. The city agreed earlier this year to pay \$1.64 per mile driven on non-emergency transfers into the city- and township-funded ambulance replacement account, a commitment that further diminished the financial benefits of transfers to TAAS’s operating margins.

The financial concerns over the current paid on-call system and its higher-than-normal pay structure are key issues in the current business planning process, which is being facili-

tated by Betsy Olivanti with the Northeast Minnesota Business Development Center. “The business plan is still in the draft stage,” said Suihkonen. “As with any plan that has merit, doing our due diligence and using the most accurate data will create a plan to show us the best route forward.”

The business planning will examine three different models to determine which one best meets the needs of the community and provides financial stability. “We’ll look at the data to determine the future of the service.”

Suihkonen said all of the new hires were aware that the TAAS may implement significant changes based on the outcome of the business planning and any ultimate decisions by TAAS leadership and the city council. “In the interviews, we advised them that a business plan is in process and that this could change the look and pay scale of the paid on-call program and every single applicant was perfectly fine working for us within a different model or pay structure,” Suihkonen added.

While adjustments to the paid on-call system are likely, Suihkonen said she’s taking a

wait-and-see approach. “I’m not here to force any type of model,” she said. “The business plan will dictate the best future route with the paid on-call model. Until all the data has been looked at, I’m not comfortable making assumptions on its future.”

## Reduced overtime

The new employees will also allow the TAAS to staff its operations without incurring much overtime. While former director Altenburg suggested to some hires in 2018 that they could expect 60 hours per week, he refused to acknowledge an overtime obligation. But city officials in Tower now recognize that potential liability, and are planning to staff to sharply reduce or eliminate overtime. Other area ambulance services already routinely limit paid-on-call hours to 40 per week for exactly that reason.

The new hires include the following:

EMTs: Dana Blaeser, Lisa Hanover, Teresa Lanyk, Robert Peterson, Ariana Picard, Taunya Teska-Erickson.

EMRs: Jason Picard, Karen Schultz.

# TEDA to explore active senior apartments

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER— The Tower Economic Development Authority has commissioned a study to determine if there is sufficient demand for active senior apartments as part of a redevelopment of the city’s Main Street. The apartments would

include first floor commercial space facing Main Street, to remain consistent with current city zoning.

Twin Cities-based Maxfield Research will conduct the study. Compeer Financial, which provides grants to assist rural economic development in its service territory, is providing grant funding to cover the cost

of the study.

Participants in a 2016 community visioning session sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Community Development Corporation, identified expanding housing opportunities for seniors as a high priority. The group’s active members have since become the TEDA board, and it is now in a position to

potentially undertake such a project, if the study shows sufficient demand.

TEDA is tentatively exploring the vacant land located just east of the Timberjay office as the likely location for the apartment complex.

While final decisions on such a project will be contingent on the findings of the study,

along with TEDA’s ability to access funding, the TEDA board is currently considering market rate housing designed for active seniors who wish to remain in or relocate to the community without the hassles of home ownership. The location of the apartments would allow seniors

See HOUSING...pg. 5

## REAL ESTATE

**VERMILION LAND OFFICE**  
Real Estate • Appraisals

**Looking To Buy Or Sell?  
Give Us A Call!**

[www.vermilionland.com](http://www.vermilionland.com) • [info@vermilionland.com](mailto:info@vermilionland.com)  
Tower: 218-753-8985

**RE/MAX Lake Country**  
218-757-3233  
[www.TheLakeCountry.com](http://www.TheLakeCountry.com)

**Elbow Lake-\$159,000** 530 ft of shoreline on 3.83 acres with towering pines. **MLS#136256**

**Orr-\$449,000** Pelican Lake cabin on 51 acres and 4,975 ft of lakeshore. **MLS#139481**

**Elbow Lake-\$89,000** 35.25 wooded acres on Elbow Lake with 1,900 ft of shoreline. **MLS#139433**

**Orr-\$349,000** Well-established hardware store in downtown Orr on Pelican Lake. **MLS#139467**

**Long Lake-\$219,000** Remote lake cabin on 13+ acres with 700 ft of shoreline. **MLS#137218**

**#1 NOBODY IN THE WORLD SELLS MORE REAL ESTATE THAN RE/MAX**  
\*As measured by residential transaction sides.

**(218) 666-5352**  
[info@bicreality.com](mailto:info@bicreality.com)  
[www.bicreality.com](http://www.bicreality.com)

**ELBOW LAKE-PENDING** 3 BR, 2 BA home w/open KIT/DR/LR on 1.0 acres w/485 ft of lksh. **MLS# 139914 LISTED AT \$365,000**

**COOK** 80-acre parcel with a mix of mostly wooded high and low land. Featuring a spring-fed stream. Electrical service 1/4 mile away. **MLS# 139680 \$95,000**

**TOWER** Approx. 10-acre undeveloped parcel near Lake Vermilion. Large level, cleared building site. **MLS# 140165 NEW LISTING! \$89,000**

**LITTLE FORK RIVER FRONTAGE!** 525 acres of undeveloped land bordered by two county maintained roads and river. Little Fork River is considered one of the premier river destinations. **MLS# 140051 \$499,000**

LOCALLY OWNED/NATIONALLY FOCUSED  
OUR BROKERS/AGENTS  
HAVE 100+ YEARS  
COMBINED EXPERIENCE

**Edina Realty**  
a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate

**TIM LILLQUIST, Realtor**  
Serving Lake Vermilion, Tower, Soudan, Breitung, Cook, Ely and surrounding communities  
612-834-5769 (cell)  
[timlillquist@edinarealty.com](mailto:timlillquist@edinarealty.com)

**NEXT TIME COME HOME!**

**JANISCH REALTY** 218-780-6644

**Let's Make Sold Happen For You Too!**



# OPINION

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

## Editorial

### Reversing field

Spring forward, fall back for  
prep sports caters to the masses

Chalk one up for the court of popular opinion. The masses have revolted, and the rulers have relented.

Just a month and a half ago, the Minnesota State High School League board of directors, after extensive deliberations and scrutiny of all the available relevant information on COVID-19, made a difficult but well-reasoned decision to move the football and volleyball seasons from fall to spring.

On Monday, to use relevant phraseology, after listening to one of the nation's top sports doctors and deliberating for hours they reversed field and brought both sports back onto the fall calendar.

So, what changed in the past six weeks? Perhaps John Millea, MSHSL staff writer, said it best on his Preps Today podcast after the meeting.

“Since Aug. 4, when the initial decision was made, nothing has really changed when you talk to medical professionals,” Millea said.

However, some things have changed. We've seen the overall case numbers in Minnesota grow by leaps and bounds the past two months, surpassing 90,000 this week. A good portion of that can be attributed to increased testing, but state health officials have for weeks been warning of an increase in community spread. Over the weekend, the state established a new record for single-day positive COVID-19 cases. The Trump administration has been openly critical of Minnesota's level of cases relative to other states.

What also has changed is that school is now in session, and state health officials confirmed on Monday that 351 schools have been hit with coronavirus cases. Closer to home, an increase in COVID-19 cases in Ely caused the school district there to turn away from full in-class learning for middle and high schoolers in favor of a hybrid model with limited attendance. The day after that decision was made, two positive COVID-19 cases were confirmed in the school.

Meanwhile, due to a late summer surge, 15-to-19-year-olds now account for more overall COVID-19 cases in St. Louis County than any other age group except 20-to-24-year-olds.

What hasn't changed in six weeks is that the

coronavirus is as present a threat now as it was when the MSHSL chose to risk the ire of all by moving football and volleyball to the spring because it was the prudent move for the health and safety of the participants.

Given that none of the medical considerations have changed, what did? Simple: the intensity of the fire under the feet of the board.

Schools and parents let their dismay be heard. They pointed out, rightly, that all of the states surrounding Minnesota were playing football and volleyball this fall, and that numerous others had reversed decisions to delay them. They railed about how student-athletes were being deprived of all of the benefits these competitive sports provide, even though they would have seasons, just not in the fall. They took to the phones, sent emails, and went on social media to plead their cases to school administrators, the MSHSL, and anyone who might remotely affect the decision.

That the MSHSL board deliberated for hours before reversing their decision is sufficient evidence that they weighed more than just public opinion. But there's little doubt that when four out of five schools responding to their survey said they wanted football and volleyball back in the fall, the MSHSL was predisposed to listen to its dues-paying members.

Still, people are unhappy. State health guidelines will keep volleyball fans from watching their teams in person – no spectators are allowed for indoor matches. Larger schools aren't happy that they have to limit football crowds to 250 people. And those who believe the MSHSL is crazy and negligent for reversing itself flooded their phone lines with angry calls after the decision on Monday.

Was the MSHSL right to make the switch? From a pure public health perspective, probably not. There will be kids who get COVID-19 and there will be schools that are affected, that would not otherwise have been if they had left well enough alone. Kids, schools, families, and communities affected by a collective inability to simply delay the desire for competition for six months. Let's hope it doesn't become too much of a price to pay for the sake of playing games.

JOE HELLER 2020 HELLER@TIMBERJAY.COM



## Letters from Readers

### We enjoyed our hike on the Cedar trail

Our thanks to the *Timberjay* for the recent tourist information and to all the local residents, including the Helmsbergers, for their work on the new Cedar trail. We enjoyed our recent hike. We are appreciative of the efforts put forth by members of the community. Hiking boots recommended.

**Carol and Craig Beveroth  
Lake Vermilion**

### Is broadband really a dead horse in Greenwood?

Many months ago, the Greenwood Town Board appointed Supervisor Byron Beihoffer as their lead person when it came to issues concerning broadband. Since that time Beihoffer, as well as Supervisors Carmen Deluca, Larry Tahija and Paul Skubic, have been negatives in trying to promote bringing broadband to Greenwood.

Only Supervisor Ralston has understood how important it is to bring this infrastructure to our township and we thank him for that. At the last town board meeting, Supervisor Ralston asked Supervisor Beihoffer if he had any comments on broadband to which he said and we quote, “I've done some talking around the neighborhood and nobody really seems to be enthused about it and kinda acts like it is a dead horse in Greenwood Township. The two questionnaire companies that were put out we only got about 10-20-percent response so it kinda looks like the community is not really that gung ho on it. A lot of people I talk to - they don't want to be spending two to three million on hooking up internet when they're satisfied with what they've got.”

His statement is either deliberately inaccurate or delusionally uninformed, since he has not attended the last 11 regional broadband meetings. If he had studied the various grant opportunities available or simply read the local newspapers, he would have found that the cost to townships is

either zero or about one percent of the project. He also claims that locally people are satisfied with “what they've got” i.e. Frontier.

Come on Byron, we have quit counting the number of people we have talked to who have had trouble holding land line phone service/internet, and to have the problem corrected, it has taken days waiting for a service person. There are even areas in our township that Frontier can't provide DSL service for lack of the infrastructure required.

We need to bring in broadband to provide competition to the failing monopoly we now suffer from, for telehealth, distance learning, work from home, business, and for safety.

All these reasons have been amplified because of the pandemic we now must endure. It has become clear from news reports and real estate associations that having broadband in your home increases its value by nearly three percent. With all these considerations, our town board should be aggressively seeking providers to bring their service here just as has been and currently is being done in Kabetogoma, Ray, Black Duck, Morcom, Cook, Side Lake, Wuori, Sandy, Pike and Cherry. If left up to four members of the Greenwood Town Board, broadband could become a dead horse. Don't let that happen - call them and let them know you want to connect with the 21st century.

**Drs. JoAnn, John and Kate  
Bassing  
Greenwood Twp.**

### Our economy is not “roaring back”

Pete Stauber and Peter Navarro wrote a letter extolling the President's achievements in miners' wages and adding miners' jobs since gaining office. The miners' wages are contingent on contract negotiations and miners' jobs are the result, I believe, in companies' demands for their product. The two have nothing to do with Donald Trump. Just my opinion. Loggers are having a rough go now with mills shut down. They operate on a thin

margin as it is and if they're sitting on a lot of tracts of stumpage and can't cut the trees, they lose money. On September 1, Steelworkers District 11 Director Emil Ramirez stated in his letter that Trump failed American workers.

Recently, Vice President Mike Pence visited Duluth for a Trump campaign rally. Pence claimed that President Trump stood for American jobs, workers and miners and has made America great again.

On August 28, a group of six mayors from the Iron Range wrote an endorsement of Trump's reelection. Our union believes those mayors are misguided and don't fully understand the nature of the economics of the industry or the Iron Range. Just drive down the main streets of Virginia and Eveleth and count the shutdown businesses. It hardly seems like the “roaring back to life” that these mayors describe.

Unfortunately, nothing could be further from the truth.

**Brian LaFrenier  
Embarrass Twp.**

### May there be peace and justice on the Iron Range

Five generations of my family have lived on the Iron Range. The last of my grandparents to arrive was my maternal grandmother with her seven-year-old son in September of 1920. Had they tried to come to the United States a few years later, they would have not been allowed in. Immigration laws passed in the 1920s severely limited entry to those from eastern and southern Europe.

I know my family history, how poorly they were treated and how communities were divided. To see the same division 100 years later would amaze, shame and trouble our immigrants. How fortunate for us that we have benefits, prosperity and freedoms because of them. Regardless of our race, nationality, religion or politics, may there be peace and justice on the Iron Range.

**Christine Rukavina Rudy  
Washington, D.C.**

## Two strong women, the best of America

Molly Ivins is one of my all-time favorite political writers, a bodacious, six-foot tall Texan, unapologetically liberal and optimistic. I've recently been re-reading her book, “Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?” Molly worked for a number of newspapers during her career, including the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* and the *New York Times*, but she always returned to Texas.



**BETTY  
FIRTH**

his IQ slips any lower, we'll have to water him twice a day.” Some subscribers and advertisers canceled and demanded

lured her back from her *Times* beat in Colorado by promising that she could write about whatever she wanted and say whatever she wanted to. The title of her book came from the time when she wrote of a local congressman, “If

her resignation, but instead the *Herald* backed her up, renting billboards around Dallas that said, “Molly Ivins can't say that, can she?”

Longtime colleague and former Texas Agricultural Commissioner, Jim Hightower, said, “Molly was not just a big woman and big personality, though she certainly was both of those things, but she had a heart bigger than a No. 10 washtub and a brain hotter than the sun.” She was described as devastatingly honest and was particularly known for lampooning redneck politics and the Texas legislature,

the “Lege,” which she said was the finest free entertainment in Texas. Corruption was just the way things were, and arguments on the floor would devolve into yelling, insulting mothers and wives, throwing chairs, and fistfights, but once, in the midst of it, four members stood on the speaker's dais and sang, “I Had a Dream, Dear” in four-part barbershop harmony. “Ya' gotta' love 'em. Who would ever need to write fiction?”

She also poked fun at the well-heeled, who spent \$20,000 on dresses for debutantes, nor did she leave the Democrats

unscathed. In 2006, she said the Democratic party was gutless and spineless, unwilling to call the right wingers to account for “ruining the American military, the economy, the middle class, and our reputation in the world. Everything they touch turns to dirt, including Medicare prescription drugs and hurricane relief.” She urged them to focus in on the important issues: getting out of Iraq, securing full public campaign finance to “drive the moneylenders from the halls of Washington,” and

See **IVINS...pg. 5**



# Letters from Readers

## An open letter to Gov. Walz and legislative leaders

As leaders of chambers of commerce on Minnesota's Iron Range we see the damage the COVID-19 pandemic and associated shutdown have dealt to our area economy. As of July 31, 2020, our county's unemployment rate is 8.6 percent, up from 4.0 percent as of July 31, 2019. Our county's number of employed people fell from 97,840 to 91,104 over the past year. We need everyone to focus on creating jobs and stimulating our rural economy.

Our elected officials can demonstrate they share this interest in our economic recovery by passing a bonding bill. This legislation will pour money into public infrastructure projects across the state and help our economy rebound. The bill

means jobs for our workers, purchases from our area suppliers and increased usage of our hotels, restaurants, and other businesses at a time when many desperately need the help.

We understand some elected officials have a deep concern over how Gov. Walz is exercising his emergency powers. However, this is the wrong time to hold up a bonding bill for unrelated political reasons. Our communities, on the Iron Range and across Minnesota, need the economic stimulus a bonding bill will provide.

If Minnesota passes the currently discussed \$1.3 billion bonding bill it will mean huge benefits for our communities. Here are some of the local projects currently included in the compromise proposal:

- \$9.5 million for the public safety complex in Virginia
- \$1.9 million for a public safety facility in Chisholm
- \$1.8 million for improve-

ments at the International Falls airport

➤\$3 million to improve rail and road intersections in Koochiching County

➤\$1.3 million for a behavioral health crisis center in St. Louis County

➤\$1.8 million for capital improvements to the Correctional Center in Willow River

➤\$2.6 million for sewer improvements at the Correctional Center in Togo

➤\$3.25 for capital improvements at the Arrowhead Regional Corrections center

➤\$1 million for improvement to historic buildings in Eveleth

➤\$1.3 million to help construct the second phase of the Hibbing Mine View

➤\$5 million for a water system on the East Range

➤\$1.5 million for water infrastructure in Buhl

➤\$750,000 for sewer improvements in Nashauk

➤\$2 million for stabilization ponds in Floodwood

➤\$10.7 million for wastewater treatment in Two Harbors

➤\$1.3 million to cleanup a closed landfill in Brookston

➤\$950,000 towards Phase I planning of the Voyageur Country ATV trail

➤\$1.1 million to the Trailhead Center in Silver Bay

➤\$5.8 million for design and construction at Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park

➤\$2 million to mitigate the danger at the Canisteo and Hill Annex Open-Pit Mine

➤\$5 million for the Soudan mineshaft rehabilitation

Now is the time for our elected leaders to put politics aside and pass a bonding bill. In normal years we might be able to afford politicians' political gamesmanship with the bonding bill, but this year we cannot. These projects mean jobs and investments in our communities.

On the Iron Range we understand how to focus on priorities and work across party lines to get things done. As local chambers of commerce we work with each other and with our members to help improve our economy and grow jobs. Our local legislators know how important this bonding bill is to our area and support it. We urge those hailing from the rest of the state to put politics aside and do what's right for Minnesota—pass this bonding bill.

- Erik Holmstrom**  
President/CEO  
Chisholm Area Chamber of Commerce
- Shelly Hanson**  
President  
Laurentian Chamber of Commerce
- Shannon Kishel-Roche**  
Executive Director  
Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce

## ENGAGED CITIZEN

# Are we going to accept criminality in northern Minnesota politics?

by KEITH STEVA  
Timberjay Contributor

Are we going to accept criminality in northern Minnesota politics?

In Minnesota it is a crime to remove political candidate campaign signs, particularly on private property. Yet we are experiencing such criminal activity in the Cook area, where the Northern Progressives and North of the Divide DFL Network have been noting that signs for Biden/Harris, Quinn Nystrom, and Tina Smith have been disappearing.

Some examples will illustrate the nature of the thefts. A Biden/Harris yard sign was taken from Hwy. 53 by the North Woods School. A Biden yard sign was taken on Beatty Road.

This is not a casual exercise. A huge four-by-eight-foot sign was taken from Hwy. 53

just north of Cook. That sign, put up last Friday evening, was anchored with 2X4s dug into the ground with a post hole digger, framed with 2X4s and 2X2s. It was on private property and within sight of the owner's house. The thieves had to use tools to get it out of the ground or a log chain to pull it out. The sign was stolen overnight. The owner called the sheriff and filed a report.

So, we have serious folks out there stealing and doing damage. A member talked to his neighbor, who's a big Trump fan and has run for Congress in the past. He wasn't in favor of this kind of behavior. He was asked to call Pete Stauber and have him make a statement condemning such illegal activities, and the neighbor said he would.

Also, please note that while we have not been made aware of it, it is possible that Republican

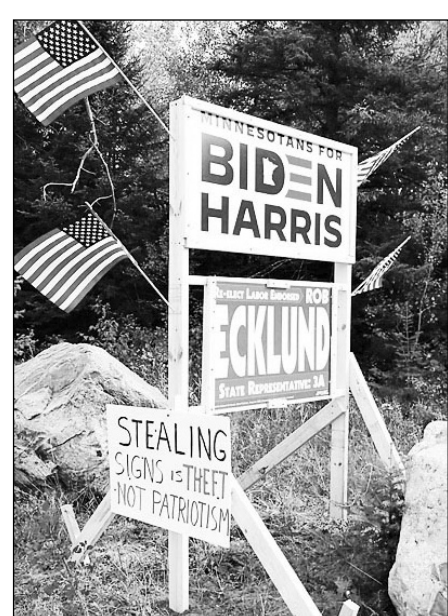


signs have been removed or damaged. If you see someone stealing or damaging political signage, regardless of which party's signage is involved, please file a report with the sheriff. As a suggestion, if you have a trail camera, consider using it to monitor any signage you may have in your yard to collect information as to the identity of those performing this illegal activity and provide it to the sheriff as well.

Tampering with U.S. mail, such as removing absentee ballots, is another concern and it is a federal felony offense. If you are voting using absentee ballots, you may want to per-

sonally deliver it to the post office and deposit it securely. If you mail it, check with the Secretary of State to ensure it has been received. If it hasn't been received by the election date, you may need to vote in person. Yes, if it hasn't been received you can go to the County Auditor on election day and vote in person. You tell them that you sent in an absentee ballot, but the system doesn't show that it arrived, and they will invalidate your absentee ballot and let you vote at that time.

It appears political criminality is now the norm in northern Minnesota. We all need to work together to stop it.



**Political signs on display with an additional sign reading, "Stealing signs is theft, not patriotism," in response to an alarming number of signs stolen.** submitted photo

## HOUSING...Continued from page 3

easy access to downtown shopping and medical services at the Scenic Rivers Clinic.

"Providing housing in the community is one of the most effective methods of creating economic development in Tower," said TEDA Executive Director Marshall Helmberger. "When we can make a place for new residents, it means they bring their collective buying power to the community and that's a shot in the arm for our Main Street."

TEDA has identified housing in general as a top priority and has

taken steps this year to address the issue. TEDA acquired a tax-delinquent residential property from St. Louis County earlier this year and utilized the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation's residential redevelopment grant program to pay the cost of demolition of the mold-infested residence. TEDA is now exploring options to build a new home on the site.

TEDA has also been working closely with the city council to address blight in the community, which affects the willingness of residents to invest in their

properties. "And most blighted properties are also vacant, which means they are not providing homes for new residents or space for businesses to operate," noted Helmberger. "We need that to change if Tower is going to make progress."

TEDA has also accessed funding to help commercial property owners improve their facilities, recover from recent pandemic-related closures, or expand their businesses. The IRRR recently awarded TEDA a \$50,000 grant under the Taconite Area Community

Relief program, which TEDA will now make available through its commercial lending program. While the prior city administration had drained TEDA's commercial lending account, TEDA has since taken steps to replace those funds through grants and by helping to facilitate repayment of delinquent loans approved by the previous city administration. TEDA now has approximately \$74,000 available for low-interest commercial lending.

Altogether, TEDA has brought more than \$67,000

into the community through grants for redevelopment and trail construction so far in 2020.

Depending on the results of the market study, TEDA may host a community meeting later this year to seek input from seniors who would be interested in relocating to a market rate senior community in Tower. Watch for announcements on that event.

## IVINS...Continued from page 4

instituting single-payer health insurance to give everybody decent healthcare.

The Bush family, or "Bushwazee," gave Molly priceless material, as they jockeyed for power in Texas, Florida, and national politics. As I was reading her references to Bush with his inane comments and dyslexic slips, I realized with a start that the timeframe was the late 80's, and she was talking about H.W. not Dubya. (She is credited for giving him that nickname.) I knew I hadn't liked him, but I'd forgotten he could be kind of goofy, too. I kept believing since the Reagan first four years that "now everyone's going to get it," when Ronnie's gears were clearly slipping, and his wife was fatuously advising, "Just say no." But to my astonishment, he was reelected, and then, bizarrely, lauded and lionized by the Republicans to this day. Then H.W. Bush said that his difficulty running against Michael Dukakis was "the vision thing,"

being unable to clarify his ideas and principles, followed by a less than brilliant move: choosing Dan Quayle as a running mate. Dan Quayle, who said many incredibly entertaining things until you remembered he was a heartbeat away, right? As part of his address to the United Negro College Fund, whose slogan is "a mind is a terrible thing to waste" he said, "What a waste it is to lose one's mind. Or not to have a mind is being very wasteful. How true that is." In an interview with Sam Donaldson in 1989, he said, "I stand by all the misstatements that I've made." We finally did elect a Democrat who made it eight years, and then Gore caved from a battle over the election, and we ended up with George W. "Aren't they ever going to get it?" I muttered, no doubt as Molly was doing the same thing, and we had no idea what we were in for in 2016.

One reason Molly is my hero is that she could take material like that and make you laugh

at it, rather than tearing your hair out, while never missing the point that it really might be a better situation to have some intelligent, thoughtful people in charge. Well, maybe she did tear her hair out. She certainly drank a lot of beer that provided lubrication for discussions with politicians that kept her in the know, and she did admit her struggle with alcoholism. I do think the power of her values kept her in the fray, pursuing what she thought was important and never giving up hope that it was possible.

This last week we lost another amazing woman, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who finally succumbed to cancer after battling it in several forms over the years. She was a tireless fighter for gender equality and for the rights of all human beings. She was as tiny as Molly was tall, and was as ladylike as Molly was not, but they had a lot in common in their determination to work and fight for what they

believed was right.

Ginsburg had first been on the other side of the bench, arguing cases that were to become legal landmarks. From 1973 to 1978, Ginsburg argued six cases, winning five. As a justice, her opinions were tightly composed, with straightforward declarative sentences and little jargon. Her dissents received the most attention. Playing to the crowd, she took to switching the decorative collars she wore with her judicial robe on days when she would be announcing a dissent. She even wore her "dissenting collar" the day after Mr. Trump's election.

She attacked specific areas of discrimination and violations of women's rights to send a message to the legislatures about what they can and cannot do. She felt that major social change should come from Congress and other legislatures, not from the courts. She worked with President Obama to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009,

the first piece of legislation that he signed.

Molly said the real reason she was optimistic about politics in the U.S. was because she grew up in the South and watched the civil rights movement create change. She witnessed how fast things can change and how much difference government action can make in the lives of people. She said, "It was not something where, you know, beneficent white people decided it was time to change things. It was poor black people who got up and walked. That is something I've never forgotten. You can change this country. It's our right to change it." Molly Ivins never lost faith, nor did Ruth Bader Ginsburg, may they rest in peace.

The public is invited to an event on Sunday, Sept. 27, at 4 p.m. in Ely's Whiteside Park to honor and remember Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Feel free to bring quotes, stories, and signs.



**Week of Sept. 28**

**TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY**

**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 Oct. 20.

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

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

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

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



**First week fun:** Clockwise from top left: Kindergarten students line up to go back inside after morning recess. Para Laura Rosendahl helps River on the swings. Older elementary students played a lively game of soccer, a new playground favorite. Emmett (left) and Cassius (center) wait for snack-time.  
photos by J. Summit



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

**Jeb Kotzian promoted to Lt. Colonel in U.S. Army Reserve**  
REGIONAL- Jeb Kotzian was recent promoted to Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. The 45-year-old from Tower, has been a nurse anesthetist in the Army Reserve for the last 17

years. Kotzian also has earned his doctorate in nurse anesthesia from University of Minnesota. Kotzian was recently deployed to Afghanistan on a 10-month deployment. He is the commander of a reserve unit based in Wisconsin. He has served on multiple overseas deployments including in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Kotzian lives in Elk River with his wife, Bobbi, and their four children. He is the son of Tim and Nancy Kotzian, of rural Tower. When not serving in the Army Re-

serve, he works at several hospitals in the Twin Cities area.

**St. Martin's Adoration**

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower will have Monday's Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist from 2 - 8 p.m.

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church rummage sale**

SOUDAN- St. Paul's is hosting a Church Fundraiser Rummage Sale, located at 24 First

Ave. in Soudan (right across from Soudan apartments) on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Estate Sale extravaganza: "tons" of puzzles (25 cents each), camping and fishing supplies, much miscellaneous, no clothing. This sale is a fundraiser for St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

**Samantha Warren graduates from Bemidji State University**

BEMIDJI - Samantha Warren, of Embarrass, graduated from

Bemidji State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in the Spring of 2020 with Summa Cum Laude honors. Bemidji State University, located amid the lakes and forests of northern Minnesota, occupies a wooded campus along the shore of Lake Bemidji. Enrolling around 5,000 students, Bemidji State offers 70 undergraduate areas of study and eight graduate degrees encompassing arts, sciences and select pre-professional programs.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**the TIMBERJAY**  
The Tower-Soudan Timberjay and Cook-Orr Timberjay are published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is [editor@timberjay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Visit our website at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).  
Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

**Publisher** Marshall Helmberger  
**General Manager** Jodi Summit  
**Cook-Orr Editor** David Colburn  
**Ely Editor** Keith Vandervort  
**Staff Writer** Stephanie Ukkola  
**Office Manager** M. M. White  
**Graphics/Ad Sales** Scarlet Lynn Stone  
**Ad Sales/Sports** Jay Greeney

**Official Newspaper:**  
City of Orr, City of Tower, Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, Crane Lake, ISD 707.

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

**Subscriptions Available:**  
St. Louis County: \$37 year Elsewhere: \$52 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover. Please specify Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr or Ely edition.  
NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$100 year or \$10 per month.  
Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$29.95/year; details at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

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

**AEOA Senior Dining; carry-out only**

TOWER- Vermilion Country School and AEOA sponsor a senior dining site at the charter school in Tower.

Due to COVID-19 safety precautions, meals will be available for carry-out only between 12:15 and 12:30 p.m. Diners need to wear a mask and sanitize their hands once they enter the building to pick up their meal. Diners are encouraged not to loiter once in the building. Other safety precautions may be implemented at any time.

New this year, senior diners will need to have an account at the school. To set up an online account, stop in at the school office. Jolene Herberg will set up your account, and then diners will make payments in the school office, not to Cindy Pettinelli in the kitchen. Reservations are appreciated the day before, or morning of, but walk-ins are always welcome. Seniors age 60 and older who have registered for the program and their partners qualify for special pricing of \$4.50 per meal, but all ages are welcome at the regular rate of \$6.25. There are no income guide-

lines. Call the school at 218-300-1447 for reservations, or call AEOA at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 7323 for the one-time registration process.

**Week of Sept. 28**  
Monday: BBQ pork sausage burger, vegetable  
Tuesday: Sloppy Joe, tater tots  
Wednesday: Rotini with meat sauce, garlic bread, salad  
Thursday: Sweet and sour chicken over brown rice, dinner roll  
Friday: Pizza, salad.

**HYDRANT FLUSHING**

**City of Tower will be flushing hydrants**

**Tuesday, Sept. 29 starting at 8:30 a.m.**

**Residents should expect discolored water.**

**SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS**

**Area Solid Waste Facility site hours**

<b>Northwoods Transfer Station</b> 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm	<b>Cook Transfer Station</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm
<b>County 77 Canister Site</b> 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm	<b>Soudan Canister Site</b> 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun 8am-5pm
<b>Embarrass Canister Site</b> 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	<b>Aurora Transfer Station</b> 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facility</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

*Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th*

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



**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,

**Arts grant apps  
due Wednesday**

**E L Y**  
Applications for the  
Donald G. Gardner  
Humanities Trust's  
second grant cycle  
of 2020 are due on  
Wednesday, Sept. 30.  
Grant forms and  
eligibility requirements  
are available on the  
Gardner Humanities  
Trust website at [www.gardnertrust.org](http://www.gardnertrust.org), or  
contact Keiko Williams  
at 218-365-2639.

Completed appli-  
cations can be mailed  
to the Trust office at  
P.O. Box 720, Ely, MN  
55731 or dropped off  
at the Ely City Hall,  
Clerk's Office, at 209  
E. Chapman Street.

**Play Bingo at  
Senior Center**

**E L Y** - The Ely  
Senior Center, 27 S.  
First Ave., hosts bingo  
every Wednesday, 1-3  
p.m. The public is  
invited.

**Breathing Out**

by Cecilia Rolando © 2020



temperature drops  
coverings over gardens  
grapes are sweetening



**Trailhead project dedicated**

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**  
Ely Editor

**E L Y** - The city of  
Ely's west end develop-  
ment reached a milestone  
last week and officials  
celebrated with a rib-  
bon-cutting ceremony to  
mark the progress made  
on the first phase of the  
expansive project.

The cornerstone of the  
project will be a trailhead  
and visitor center at the  
city's west entrance that  
brings together recreational  
trails from across north-  
ern Minnesota. Extended  
city streets, workforce  
housing, hospital expansion  
and other develop-  
ments in the area will also  
highlight the economic  
development in the city.

"We are finally com-  
missioning this project of  
ours that has been in the  
making for a while," said  
Ely Mayor Chuck Novak  
as he spoke to dozens  
of dignitaries and resi-  
dents who gathered in the  
shadow of the city's water  
tower to mark the occasion  
last Friday.

The initial phase of  
the project was funded in  
2018 with \$1.3 million in  
state bonding money. "We  
have all the infrastructure  
in from Highway 169 to  
Conan Street for water and  
sewer, storm sewer," he  
said. "We have curb and  
gutter and asphalt all the  
way to Harvey Street and  
open for business."

The yet-to-be-built  
trailhead visitors building  
will service three separate  
recreational trails with the  
one building and parking  
area. The existing Taconite  
Trail for snowmobiles,  
Prospector Loop for ATVs  
and Mesabi Trail for bicy-  
cles will all meet at the  
new Ely facility. "We'll  
take care of the hikers,  
bikers, snowmobilers and  
ATV riders," Novak said.  
"They can park here and  
we'll get them downtown



**Robert and Carolyn Wolters, above, have a home on West Harvey Street near the city of Ely's west end development. City officials and regional and state legislators, top, gathered last Friday to dedicate the city's new trailhead project.** photos by K. Vandervort



**State Rep. Mary Murphy and Ely City Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski study infrastructure plans for the city's west end improvement project.**

to spend all their money  
and go home broke."

City officials are  
waiting on approval of  
an additional \$2.8 million  
state bonding request to  
complete the project.

State Sen. Tom Bakk  
said he is hopeful that  
a bonding bill can be  
approved in the next month  
or so. He thanked his  
state Republican cohorts,  
including State House  
majority leader Rep. Kurt

Daudt, who traveled to Ely  
on Friday to get a first-hand  
look at the project "That  
shows that they are very  
serious about projects like  
this," Bakk said.

"It is always challeng-  
ing to get to the (bonding  
bill) finish line when there  
is so much competition  
for state dollars for public  
infrastructure. We will  
do our best to make this  
happen so we can come  
to a groundbreaking next

spring."

Daudt stressed his  
optimism for getting a  
bonding bill passed this  
fall. "We have some con-  
cerns about the deficit and  
what's ahead for the state.  
Like everyone else, we  
have to figure out how we  
are going to pay for what  
we do and we are working  
through that right now. I  
think we're close," he said.

**Virtual field tour  
explores role of  
prescribed fires**

**REGIONAL**-Dovetail  
Partners will host a  
virtual webinar address-  
ing how fire was used in  
the Arrowhead region

of Minnesota, pre-Eu-  
ropean settlement, to  
maintain and encourage  
healthy forests, plant  
communities, and wild-  
life habitat.

Learn how present  
day land managers are  
embracing this knowl-

edge and are reintro-  
ducing fire to improve  
forest health and natural  
habitat in our native  
boreal forests.

Lane Johnson, his-  
torical ecologist and  
geographer from the  
University of Minnesota  
Cloquet Forestry Center,  
will be featured. The  
program will also include  
a virtual walk in the  
woods.  
This virtual webinar

is Wednesday, Sept. 30  
from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The  
event is free, however  
registration is required  
and space is limited.

Registration and  
event details: [https://  
www.eventbrite.  
com/e/104431491402](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/104431491402).

For more infor-  
mation, contact Gloria  
Erickson at [gloria@dovetailinc.org](mailto:gloria@dovetailinc.org) or 218-365-  
0878.

**the TIMBERJAY**

*The Ely Timberjay* is pub-  
lished weekly on Friday by The  
Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414  
Main St., P.O. Box 636, Tower,  
MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718,  
Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is  
218-753-2916. E-mail address is [editor@timber-  
jay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Visit our website: [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).  
Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office  
in Tower, Minnesota. **POSTMASTER:** Send  
address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box  
636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning  
community editions are published each week for  
Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

Publisher	Marshall Helmsberger
General Manager	Jodi Summit
Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
Cook-Orr Editor	David Colburn
Staff Writer	Stephanie Ukkola
Office Manager	M. M. White
Graphics	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Ad Sales	Jay Greeney

**Official Newspaper:** City of Tower, City of  
Orr, Townships of Bearville, Crane Lake,  
Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake,  
Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

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

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

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

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

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

**SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS**

<b>Northwoods Transfer Station</b> 9384 Hwy 21 N, Ely/Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm	<b>Aurora Transfer Station</b> 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
<b>Embarrass Canister Site</b> 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	<b>Soudan Canister Site</b> 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facility</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

*Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th*

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

**Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust**

**We are now accepting 2020 Arts Grant Applications**  
for Individual Artists, Project & Youth Grants,  
Scholarships & Operational Funding

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

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:  
12:00 noon on Wed., Sept. 30**

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact  
Keiko Williams, Executive Director, by the end of August,  
for help and review of their applications.  
Call 365-2639 or email [info@gardnertrust.org](mailto:info@gardnertrust.org)  
Youth Grant applicants must call Keiko by Monday, Sept. 14  
to schedule a grant review meeting.



STUDENT ANGLER TOURNAMENT TRAIL

# Student anglers score well in state bass event

## Pelican Lake draws big crowd for season-ending tournament

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

ORR- In the summer of COVID-19, Jake Panichi's baseball dreams were popped like a bubble when the league he would have played in canceled the season due to the virus.

So what's a guy to do when he can't play baseball?

Go fishing with your brother was the answer, and not just any kind of fishing. They went tournament fishing on the Student Angler Tournament Trail circuit.

North Woods 11th-grader Jake and his younger brother, eighth-grader Louie, both participated in the series.

"I did all the tournaments with my brother, and one with Mason Clines," Jake said.

But the season's culminating event last weekend, the state team championship, happened to be on familiar territory - Pelican Lake in Orr.

Mason, a 10th grader, said that the opportunity was too good to pass up.

"It was a tournament locally, and we said let's just get a team together and fish it," he said.

State tournament teams consist of six anglers paired in three boats, so the Panichi brothers and Clines went

recruiting. It didn't take any arm twisting to get eighth-grader Micaden Clines, Mason's brother, to sign on. Micaden said he liked fishing but hadn't ever done a competition.

Eighth-grader Alex Burckhardt said he was a regular fishing partner of Jake and Louie, and fishing Pelican Lake was almost second nature.

"I've lived on Pelican Lake my whole life," he said. "So forever. I fish a lot with Jake and Louie out on the lake, so it was some of the same spots as normal."

Another 11th-grader Alex Hartway, rounded out the six-man squad, which adopted the name North Woods Fishing Team for the weekend.

More than 30 teams from around the state descended on Orr for the weekend, most arriving early to scout out the lake for promising locations for smallmouth and largemouth bass, the designated prey.

Fishing began in earnest Saturday morning, and a unique feature of the catch-and-release tournament was the use of an app to record and calculate catches in real time. Contestants simply had to snap a picture of a fish using an approved ruler, and the app calculated the weight and added it to their virtual creel



The North Woods Fishing Team took fifth place in a state tournament this past weekend at Pelican Lake. Team members are, from left, Alex Hartway, Alex Burckhardt, Mason Clines, Micaden Clines, Jake Panichi, and Louie Panichi. The Clines brothers attend Mountain Iron-Buhl schools, while the others are North Woods students. photo by D. Colburn

immediately while also updating team standings.

While it's easier that the old-fashioned end-of-the-day weigh-in, Mason said it added another element to the competition.

"It's a lot more stressful because you can see where you are, how close you are, who's catching you," he said. "It's a lot more pressure because you can see everything that's going on, right? At some point when you were out there fishing, all of a sudden we're like, oh, my gosh, we've really got to step it up."

The urgency was amplified because the North Woods team was lurking

near the top of the leaderboard from early on, sitting in third place at the end of the day Saturday. Alex B., who paired up with Louie, said that they were having success using chatterbaits and jigs. Louie, however, said the fish were slower to hit than during the summer.

"It was too cold and fish went deeper, I think," he said.

For Micaden, the competition wasn't just another day on the lake.

"You've got to keep pushing the whole day, not take breaks, not mess around," he said. "You stick to fishing a lot more."

Alex H., who was paired with Jake, said that when they headed out Sunday, he didn't change strategies from what he was doing Saturday. And for his first time fishing in a tournament, he found the pace to his liking.

"It was a lot better than I expected," he said. "I thought it would be more high pace."

The sky was hazier and the wind blowing more briskly on Sunday, and as the day progressed the North Woods team found themselves in a battle to hang onto their position in the tournament, slipping from third to fourth. While

the tried stepping it up in the final hour, Minnetonka edged past them by just nine-hundredths of a pound to claim fourth place, relegating the home team to fifth.

Jake said that their overall strategy might have prevented them from challenging for the top spot.

"We did not spend any time fishing smallmouths and all the teams ahead of us had quite a bit of smallmouths," he said. "Largemouths were our thing. If it was a largemouth tournament, we definitely would have been at the top."

### NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# The learning that comes from human interaction



JOHN VUKMANICH

FIELD TWP- It is with much anticipation that we have begun the 2020-21 school year. Although it is no doubt a strange and challenging time, we are just happy to be back in school and to have the opportunity to see our students in person.

Sending your kids back to school right now "live and in person" isn't for everyone. We understand. Really, no hard feelings. Things will get back to normal eventually. There is so much information out there regarding COVID that seems contradictory that I think even the most diligent of us is struggling to know what information is accurate. Opinions on how schools should be operating are all across the board as well, but we simply have to follow the rules that we are expected to.

That being said, I could go on and on about COVID and the different models that we will need to consider based upon the number of cases per 10,000 people, but I would rather focus on something different. As a teacher would ask, "How many of you have learned

something different about yourself or your family during COVID? Please raise your hand." Back to that later.

I receive a large number of emails. Tons. Not all are from teachers, parents, and kids. Many are from education businesses and the like. I'm not sure how they found me way up here in Northeastern Minnesota, but educational consultants in New Jersey are apparently well aware that North Woods School exists and that I am the principal.

Today, an email title caught my eye. Usually I delete the "telemarketer" messages, but this one I opened because of the title. It read "Reframing the COVID Slide." The "COVID Slide" is the term used to address what is perceived as the loss of learning that is occurring due to school closures from the pandemic.

Don't get me wrong, school is important. Learning is important. The subjects that we

teach are important. But do you know what is more important, in my opinion?

Human interaction. Educators put a lot of pressure on themselves to ensure high levels of academic achievement. Others put pressure on us too. If you work at a job where you deal with the public from all walks of life, you know that what fits for one doesn't always fit for all. At school, we try to balance it all and make sure that our kids receive the educational pieces they need to move forward in their lives.

We also want to ensure that they learn the value of problem solving and teamwork. These are the two top qualities that employers are looking for, along with dedication and work ethic.

Back to raising your hand. If you followed directions, your hand was actually still up. Sorry about that! I had asked if you had learned some-

thing new during the pandemic. If you raised your hand it may have been because you had a chance to connect more with your kids. You may have had a chance to experience the outdoors more, or other forms of recreation due to the limitations in place. Maybe you cooked more with your family, took road trips, played more board games, or started a new hobby. What many of us learned through the pandemic is that relationships matter to us more than anything.

The same goes for school. Yes, content and academic subjects in education are important, but ultimately kids gain many things from school that are not academic at all. Kids benefit from the connections they make with staff. Most students do not recall their favorite teacher from a standpoint of, "Wow, Mrs. Nelson was my favorite teacher because nobody had a grasp on academic content like her." We re-

member our teachers for helping us and believing in us and holding us to a high standard.

Our kids will eventually recover academically from the "COVID Slide," and when we get through this to the other end of the tunnel, my hope is that we place more value on our relationships and interactions with each other. As we move forward

and as things get back to normal, let's try to be kind to each other and value each other.

Lastly, those of us who work in education value your support and understanding. We do not have all of the solutions or answers for the uncertainty of the present time, but we love working with kids.



## the *TIMBERJAY*

*The Cook-Orr Timberjay* is published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950] and Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website: www.timberjay.com.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Cook/Orr, Tower/Soudan, and Ely.

Publisher General Manager Cook-Orr Editor Ely Editor Staff Writer Office Manager Graphics/Ad Sales Ad Sales/Sports	Marshall Helmberger Jodi Summit David Colburn Keith Vandervort Stephanie Ukkola M. M. White Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney
---	---

**Official Newspaper:**  
City of Orr, City of Tower, Townships of Bearville, Crane Lake, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

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

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



**SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**  
BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

## Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

<b>Ash River Trail Canister Site</b> 11391 Ash River Trail Winter Hours Sat: 12:30pm-4:30pm	<b>Kabetogama Lake Canister Site</b> 10150 Gamma Rd Winter Hours Wed: noon-4pm Sat: 8am-noon	<b>Sturgeon Canister Site</b> 8380 Hwy 73 Hours Sun: 10am-4pm
<b>Orr Canister Site</b> 4038 Hwy 53 Winter Hours Tue, Thu: 9am-noon Sat: 8am-noon	<b>Portage Canister Site</b> 6992 Crane Lake Rd. Winter Hours Tue, Sat: 1pm-4:30pm	<b>County 77 Canister Site</b> 2038 County Rd. 77 Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm
<b>Cook Transfer Station</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm	<b>St. Louis County Environmental Services Department</b> <b>1-800-450-9278</b> Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facilities</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am-1pm		3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am-1pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th



# ISD 696...Continued from page 1

council met, district officials were notified by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) of lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in a member of the Washington Elementary and a member of the Ely Memorial community, throwing the learning plan adjustment into potential chaos.

**I S D 6 9 6**  
Superintendent Erik Erie confirmed Monday morning that there are two cases of COVID-19 in the Ely school community.

"We were notified by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) on Friday of a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 in a member of the Washington Elementary and a member of the Ely Memorial Community," he said.

He would not reveal the identity of the people who reported positive with COVID-19, and would not indicate if the cases involve students, staff, teachers or any other employee of the school district.

"I had a long talk with our administrators, and we are not releasing any more information," Erie said.

The person(s) were last in attendance at the school on Friday, Sept. 11.

"We have worked with the MDH to identify those who had close contact with the case(s), and have communicated with them individually," he said. "The risk of exposure for other individuals present in the building on that date is no greater than the risk of contracting the virus in the general community."

Erie addressed the privacy versus public health dilemma the district is in.

"We understand that this may create unease in our community and might add to people guessing about the situation," he said. "The sensitivity of the information played into our decision. We are trying to avoid the stigma surrounding the pandemic and at the same time trying to protect the privacy of all involved. We have taken action to clean and sanitize the facility and are working closely with MDH to monitor the situation."

Erie added, "If you were not identified to have close contact with the positive case you should still monitor for symptoms of illness, but do not need to stay home unless symptoms develop. If symptoms develop, stay home and consult with your physician to determine if medical evaluation is needed."

### Hybrid learning plan

Despite the reporting of COVID-19 cases in the school, Erie said the transition to the hybrid learning model this week continued. Beginning Tuesday, students in the Memorial building, grades 6-12, began following the hybrid plan which involves a schedule of some days in school and other days at home. Students in the Washington building, grades K-5, continue with all in-person learning.

The advisory council, consisting of district

administration, teachers, staff, school board members, parents, students, local medical staff and community members, meets weekly to advise the school district on the issues surrounding COVID-19 as it relates to the local school system and community.

Erie explained that updated coronavirus case data was reviewed along with the protocols spelled out in the school district's "Restart Blueprint," and any changes or improvements were considered. District administration members Erie and principals Megan Anderson and Anne Oelke are authorized by the ISD 696 School Board to make any learning plan adjustments as agreed upon by the advisory council.

The St. Louis County public health COVID-19 dashboard indicated a steady yet alarming increase in the number of cases per 10,000 people in recent weeks from 4.87 to 10.87 to 13.74 last Thursday for Greater St. Louis County.

According to the ISD 696 learning model protocols, COVID-19 case rate increase drives what learning models will be in place. A case count ratio from zero to nine (per 10,000 people) puts Ely schools in complete in-person learning model. A case count ratio of 10 to 19 triggers a move to hybrid learning for secondary students and in-person for elementary students. A case count ratio of 20 to 29 triggers a

transition to hybrid learning for all students. Larger case count ratios trigger a move to distance-learning models.

"One new thing added this week, not something we should necessarily base our decisions on, but hard to ignore, is the 31.47 (cases per 10,000) in our ZIP code," Erie said. "We are certainly not the highest but we are higher than other neighboring communities. We certainly do look at that and other local data, too."

The St. Louis County Public Health regional support team recommended that ISD 696 remain in an in-person learning mode until there are three-weeks of data set trends to consider, Erie said. "That is a change from last week when they said we should look at two weeks of trends. That is what they are telling school districts to do," he said. He noted that that recommendation came from the state Department of Health to St. Louis County health officials.

Erie noted that, as of last Thursday, most neighboring school districts, looking at the same data (13.74 cases per 10,000), are staying with in-person learning.

Erie asked the advisory council to consider the story in the Sept. 18 issue of the *Timberjay* that a local senior living facility had reported four deaths on its COVID-19 webpage, although the report did not specifically say the deaths were from COVID-19.

"We have people in our community that certainly work (at Carefree Living), and some of the are parents of our students," he said.

According to Ely 6-12 principal Megan Anderson, Essentia Clinic officials had recommended moving to the first-tier hybrid learning model.

Paula Schultz, of Essentia Clinic, praised the continuing communication between the school district and the local medical community.

"I think the administration as a whole is supportive of going to a hybrid model," Erie said. He noted that 1,942 COVID-19-related deaths have been reported in Minnesota since March. "Out of that, there have been 1,408 deaths of those in long-term care," he said. "We are very fortunate that so far we have not had a student or a faculty member in Minnesota die from COVID-19."

Erie stressed that county public health officials recommended that Ely school officials wait another week to consider more data trends before transitioning the learning model. "It is totally up to our district and this is a district-level decision," he said. "It is our district that is responsible for keeping our students and employees safe as best we can."

Following a discussion with advisory council members, the administration team recommended that the hybrid learning plan model be initiated as

soon as possible.

Ely students in grades 6-12 were not in school on Monday to allow teachers and staff additional planning time to prepare and transition to the modified learning protocols.

Students in grades 6-12 are divided into an A Group and a B Group. Those students in the A Group attend school in person on Mondays and Tuesdays, and stay home on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Those students in the B Group will stay home on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and report for in-person learning on Thursdays and Fridays.

As mentioned above, all elementary students, grades K-5 will continue with in-person learning five days a week, and staff will continue to enforce social distancing of six feet. "They are working hard with our young learners to create safe, responsible habits in regards to stopping the spread of COVID-19," Erie said in a letter to parents.

"Parents, please help us to continue to create a safe learning environment for our students, staff, and community," Erie continued. "In order to have students back for in-person learning, we need all community members to do their part and be sure that your students are being responsible including wearing face masks in public, avoiding large social gatherings, and practicing safe social distancing."

# TOWER...Continued from page 1

the trip was our best option, out of concern for everyone's health."

Two staff members contacted Zobitz over the weekend, reporting symptoms which may or may not have been COVID-19 related, and both were tested on Monday. On Wednesday, both staffers reported that their COVID-19 tests were negative. In-person schooling is set to resume on Monday. Staff and students had prepared for possible switches between in-person and at-home learning during the first couple of weeks of school. The school was able to deliver classroom assignments as well as food to students during the distance learning episode.

As of Wednesday, Zobitz said, no other staff or students have reported feeling sick.

School staff and stu-

dents had been set to leave this week on the overnight camping trip.

This is the second time COVID-19 issues have forced cancellation of a school overnight trip. Last March, a week-long trip to the Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center in Sandstone had to be canceled when schools were shut down statewide. Plans are to reschedule that trip this school year. The fall camping trip, Zobitz hopes, will also be rescheduled. Zobitz told students and their parents that the disruptions caused by COVID-19 will continue. "We need to adapt and change at a moment's notice, which is not always easy to do," he said. "I realize you may be feeling apprehensive about this news. We want to remain as transparent as the situation allows."



## Drive-Thru Flu Shot Event

ELY-BLOOMENSON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

TWO ALL-DAY  
FLU SHOT EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 3, 8-4pm  
Saturday, Oct. 24, 8-4pm

GET YOUR FREE FLU SHOT FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR VEHICLE!





**Ely-Bloomenson  
Community Hospital**

Visit our website for more information and to download a copy of our consent form.

Please wear your mask while in your vehicle.

(218) 365-3271 • www.ebch.org • 328 W. Conan St. • Ely, MN 55731

KELLY KLUN  
Attorney At Law

Estate Planning

- General Questions
- Wills
- Trusts
- Power of Attorney
- Health Care Declaration
- Cabin Succession Planning

Complimentary 15 Minute Consultation



Minnesota State Bar Association  
Certified Specialist  
Real Property Law



1 E. Chapman Street  
P.O. Box 240 • Ely, MN 55731  
218-365-3221 • 218-365-5866 Fax  
www.klunlaw.com



PUBLIC HEALTH

# State's first COVID-19 saliva testing site opens in Duluth

REGIONAL- A pilot saliva testing site for COVID-19, the first of its kind in the state, was slated to open Wednesday at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC).

The site offers free saliva tests to any Minnesotan who believes they need to be tested, including those who do not have symptoms.

The pilot is a collaboration between the state Department of Health and New Jersey-based Vault Health, which makes the saliva test.

"Our saliva test is one of the most reliable COVID tests available with a 99-percent effective

## Free testing available for anyone who wants it

rate," said Jason Feldman, co-founder and CEO of Vault Health. "It's comfortable to take and can be done without in-person interactions, meaning no risk of virus transmission and no need for PPE to conduct the test."

Vault Health will operate the Duluth site, as the team has experience running sites like this all across the country. Vault is hiring local staff to work at the testing sites and lead daily operations. For now, the tests will be shipped to Vault Health's New Jersey lab. Results are typically

provided by email within 24-48 hours of arriving at the lab for processing.

When a Minnesota-based lab in Oakdale opens in mid-October, tests will be processed there. The new lab will be capable of processing as many as 30,000 samples a day.

The site will be open five days a week, Wednesday through Friday from noon to 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. While it is open to walk-ins, people are encouraged to make an appointment in advance to prevent crowding and long

lines. Appointments can be made through the registration website. Thirty minutes of free parking in the lot outside the testing site is available.

Individuals will be asked to provide insurance information if they have it, so that the state can bill the insurance company. If a person does not have insurance or insurance doesn't cover some or all of the cost, the state will cover the difference, so testing remains completely free to everyone.

Those who come for a test should avoid eating,

drinking, chewing, or smoking anything for at least 30 minutes before providing a sample. Once at the site, they will self-administer the test by spitting into a funnel attached to a small tube. Clinic staff will monitor the collection process to ensure there is enough saliva to be tested.

"Our battle against COVID-19 is far from over," said Minnesota Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm. "The high number of new cases we've seen in recent days shows the outbreak could quickly spread out of

control, so it's important to stay a step or two ahead. Increased access to testing and identifying positive cases as early as possible is a critical way to keep schools and the economy as open as possible."

The state plans to open as many as nine more sites across the state like the one planned for the DECC.

To schedule an appointment or for more information about the saliva testing site in Duluth, please visit COVID-19 Community Testing: Saliva Testing at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/testsites/saliva.html>.

## ELY...Continued from page 1

locale such as New York, Los Angeles, London, Tokyo, or even Babbitt.

"We're just moving up the street a few blocks to a bigger place," he said Saturday morning as he prepared boxes of their granola product to be delivered all over the world.

The Stroms just closed on their purchase of the Robertson Building, at the corner of Sheridan Street and Fourth Avenue, that recently housed the Plum Bun Bakery.

"We needed more space," Strom said. "Our new facility will more than double our production capability, and we will have a better commercial vehicle access for deliveries and shipping."

Crapola is well known around these parts as a fun way to eat healthy. The Stroms brainstormed their idea for a business back in 2007.

As their website indicates, the couple was living the country life on their off-grid homestead in northern Minnesota. That's when a silly conversation turned into inspiration for their granola business.

"One day I said something like, 'Wouldn't it be funny if we made cranberry apple granola and called it Crapola?' I say lots



of things like that, but for some reason the idea actually became a reality. Next thing I knew, a business was born. Be careful what you say in front of your wife. It could change your life forever," he said.

Crapola combines five organic grains, nuts, dried cranberries and apples, sweetened with maple syrup and honey, promising, according to the package, that it "makes even weird people regular."

Before long, and without advertising, they had gotten a product of their own creation on store shelves.

"We began to get orders from more stores, and growing the business turned into a full time job," Brian said.

They outgrew their rental kitchen and built their own production facility in 2009. They



Brian and Andrea Strom started their Ely granola business in 2007. They plan to move into a new facility next year at Sheridan Street and Fourth Avenue. photo by K. Vandervort

outgrew that and five years ago they moved into a bigger facility in downtown Ely that was part of the Ott family's renovation project at the James Drug building. There they enjoyed much more visibility and even expanded into a retail coffee shop where visitors can watch the production of their many varieties of Crapola.

Strom said their production and distribution needs have grown "unbelievable" in the last couple of years.

"Even in this weird year of

2020 we had a record-breaking sales day," he said. "I was concerned a bit earlier this year when everything shut down, but our mail-order business really shot up with all the panic buying going on."

He didn't confirm any direct connection between their increased Crapola sales and the record-breaking toilet paper sales.

"I'll just say that we try to keep everyone regular," he said.

Strom said he ordered a new oven as he prepared to close on

the building purchase.

"Our current oven can fit inside the new one we're getting," he said.

They hope to open their new facility next spring.

"We are in this for the long haul and this is a great opportunity for us to purchase our own place. When we moved into the James Drug building, we got a taste of the retail business and really liked it. We felt more part of the community and hope to continue on that."

## ORR...Continued from page 1

we do. I pride myself on hiring teenagers to give them a start in the working

world." It's a task that's often much harder than getting

up at 2 a.m. to prepare the café's signature "big donut" for the customers who roll in at 6 a.m.

"Hiring teenagers is extremely rough," Pattenn said. "It's hard to keep them focused. But I'm giving them a start on the working world, trying to teach them good work habits, work ethics, and getting them ready for the rest of their life when they move on to the bigger cities and bigger jobs."

Tara said she's a tough but understanding teacher.

"The more they learn now, the better they will succeed later," she said. "But I also am not a 'do as I say' person, I'm a 'do as I do' person. I'll show you how to do it. I work alongside them."

And as for her children and grandchildren who also work there?

"I'm tougher on them," Tara laughed. "They're my children. They are expected to rise

above, and if I turn my back they are my other eyes, which means they have to toe the line and do as they know I want them to do so they can teach the rest of them."

She then turned to her daughter, Jessica, and asked, "Am I harder on my family than I am on my employees?"

Jessica's answer began with a hearty and knowing laugh.

"Yes, she's hard on us, and she knows we can take it so she's not going to go soft on us," Jessica said. "But she wants us to do our best."

Tara's son, Johnny, also works in the café, and Jessica's three children are involved in restaurant operations, making three generations working at T. Pattenn Café at once.

Thirteen-year-old Nia does dishwashing and waiting tables, while 10-year-old Kayson helps with putting away freight, busing tables, and clean-

ing and sanitizing. And as for five-year-old Zada?

"She walks around looking cute and bossy," Jessica said.

Jessica knows that as her children grow older the lure of the world outside of Orr might take them away, but she's hopeful one or more will carry on with the family tradition.

"I'm hoping they'll I want to keep working with us, but if they want to go off and make their own legacy, then I hope that's what they do," she said.

### Rising from ashes

The family tradition could have come to a crashing halt in June 1994 when the restaurant was consumed in a massive fire that also destroyed a grocery store and another café. Tara admits she gave some thought to packing it in, but one thing kept T. Pattenn's alive.

"The desire to keep the family name going," Tara said. "And instead of rebuilding, we opted to buy this building."

The café reopened later in the fall and has been running nonstop since then. Tara credits the restaurant's continued success to their commitment to always using fresh ingredients for their products, maintaining

high quality in food and customer service, and keeping solid favorites on the menu while mixing in regular special items.

Jessica has a simpler explanation - Tara.

"She loves helping people, she loves sharing her love of everything," Jessica said. "You don't get up at two in the morning every day and make donuts because you don't want people to enjoy it. It's the interactions, it's letting people know that she cares. People know if there was something to come up and they needed her that she'd be there."

And what would Tara like to see going on with her restaurant 15 years from now when they celebrate the 100th anniversary?

"I just don't think that far ahead," she chuckled. "I totally don't. I take it day by day."

No big gathering has been planned to celebrate the current anniversary because of COVID-19 concerns, but Tara hasn't let the milestone go completely unmarked. She's been passing out T. Pattenn Café insulated mugs this month, and serving up an extra slice of love with each and every meal.

**Into Fall Savings**

**2019 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 Crew Cab Short Box LT 4x4**

**All Star Edition!**  
MSRP \$50,470  
**Sale Price \$41,998**  
SAVE \$8,472  
Available 3.39% APR Up To 72 Months / No Payments Up To 120 Days\*\*

**2020 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT AWD**

MSRP \$32,440  
**Sale Price \$26,499**  
SAVE \$5,941  
OR Choose 0% APR\*

DISCLOSURES: \*On approved credit with GM Financial. 0% APR available up to 84 months. Not compatible with some other offers. \*\*3.39% up to 72 months AND 120 day payment deferral on new vehicle purchase and approved credit. Not compatible with some other offers. Restrictions apply. See dealer for details. Take delivery from dealer stock by 09/30/2020.

**PREOWNED DEALS!**

2019 NISSAN SENTRA SV.....Great gas mileage!.....	\$13,990
2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE PLUS...Nicely optioned..	\$27,990
2018 DODGE JOURNEY GT AWD.... 3RD row seating!.....	\$23,990
2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT AWD.....GM Certified.....	\$21,990
2018 CHEVY SILVERADO LT CREW 4X4...Fresh trade-In!...	\$38,990
2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT.....Nicely equipped.....	\$15,990
2017 BUICK ENCORE PREFERRED AWD...New arrival!...	\$17,990
2016 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER SPORT...Heated seats.....	\$16,990
2015 CHEVY IMPALA LTD.....Only 11K miles!.....	\$14,990
2014 CHEVY MALIBU LS.....Low miles.....	\$11,990
2013 CHEVY IMPALA LTZ.....Fresh trade-In!.....	\$ 8,990
2012 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE....Just arrived!.....	\$10,990

**WASCHKE FAMILY CHEVROLET • COOK**

Les Hujanen, Lorn Koski, Calvin Jolly, Terry Carlson

HOURS: M-F 8am-6pm, Sat. 9am-2pm  
126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, MN • 218-666-5901 • 1-800-238-4545

**Northwoods Splendor!**

**Stay with Us**

**Rooms start at \$110**  
Includes continental breakfast!  
Book Online:  
[vermilionparkinn.com](http://vermilionparkinn.com)

Close to lakes, trails, state parks, casino  
218.753.2333 • 30 Center St., Soudan MN



# COVID...Continued from page 1

in individual facilities, and facilities are not required to release such information, although they may choose to do so.

The Timberjay confirmed through online obituaries that one of those deaths was at Ely Carefree Living, bringing the number of obituary-confirmed COVID deaths since Sept. 11 at that facility to five. Spectrum Health Companies CEO Merle Sampson, operator of Ely Carefree Living, has not responded to repeated requests from the Timberjay for additional information. On Sept. 15, Spectrum reported four deaths at the facility on its COVID-19 webpage but did not specifically state the deaths were due to COVID-19. The website also indicated additional COVID-19 patients at the facility.

The Timberjay also identified an additional obituary-confirmed COVID-19 death of a man in his nineties at The Waterview Woods in Eveleth who died over the weekend.

State Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm confirmed a recent increase in COVID cases in long-term care facilities during a Monday press conference.

"We have seen an uptick in cases among long-term care residents again," Malcom said. "It appears quite strongly through our case investigation process that long-term care cases now are not resident-to-resident transmission in the facilities but are health care workers being exposed in the community and unknowingly bringing the virus into the facility. We do expect with this high level of cases there will continue to be transmission to higher risk groups as well, that likely will drive up hospitalizations."

## Schools

A day after Ely Public School announced last week that they were switching from all in-school learning to a hybrid model of limited attendance for middle and high schoolers due to a surge in local coronavirus cases, the district received confirmation of two positive COVID-19 cases in the school. (See separate story on Page 1.)

Schools in ISD 2142 remain free of any positive COVID-19 cases, according to comments made by Superintendent Reggie Engebritson in response to queries at Tuesday's school board meeting. Engebritson acknowledged that numerous students have been sent home with symptoms that could be associated with COVID-19, but that none have been reported as testing positive. She reviewed established procedures the district will use in the event a positive

case is identified and indicated that preserving confidentiality of health information would limit the type of information that would be disclosed.

As of Monday, 351 Minnesota schools "have been impacted by COVID," according to state infectious disease prevention director Kris Ehresmann. She said 263 schools have reported one case of COVID-19, 81 have had between two and four cases, and seven have had five or more.

## Bois Forte

Aggressive steps taken to quell a recent coronavirus outbreak on the Bois Forte Reservation appear to have been successful, as no new cases have been reported since

a Nett Lake resident tested positive on Sept. 5.

"We tip our hats to the community for doing their part in helping slow the spread of this virus," senior executive coordinator Louise Isham said.

Sixteen cases were identified during the outbreak, bringing the cumulative total of tribal cases to 17, ten at Nett Lake and seven at Vermilion. According to a Sept. 15 announcement from community health nurse Teri Morrison, all affected individuals had recovered, were no longer contagious, and had been released from isolation.

However, tribal leaders aren't taking anything for granted. The Nett Lake and Vermilion gov-



ernment centers remain closed to the public, but services are accessible remotely or by appointment, Isham said.

The Native Hearts Fitness Center and Vermilion Wellness Center are offering limited open hours, and key fobs allowing after-hours access have been disabled, Isham said.

Both the Nett Lake and Vermilion Medical Clinics are open by appointment, and the number of people who can accompany patients to appointments is restricted. Isham said people should call ahead if they have questions regarding visits.

Bois Forte pharmacies are also open for curbside service for those who call ahead with their needs, Isham said.

"The Bois Forte Tribal Government continues to hold bi-weekly Tribal Emergency Response Committee (TERC) meetings in an effort to help slow the spread of the coronavirus and to keep the community informed," Isham said.

"Current restrictions are evaluated daily and will continue in the effort to keep employees and members of the community safe. The pandemic is constantly changing and so will the steps taken to keep the coronavirus at bay."

Additional encouraging news comes in the form of tribal services to youths.

"The Boys and Girls Clubs opened on Monday and seem to be doing well," Isham said. "The staff have been maintaining a cleaning regimen and other precautions to keep the youth safe. Bois Forte Head Start, Early Head Start, and Childcare are opening Monday, Sept. 28."



## CHECK OUT THE FALL SAVINGS ON OVER 150 CARS, TRUCKS AND SUV'S AT FORD OF HIBBING!

THESE TRUCKS ARE SALE PRICED & THEY ARE LOADED WITH HEATED SEATS & REMOTE START!

## PRESIDENTS AWARD WINNER!

FORD OF HIBBING HAS RECEIVED FORD MOTOR'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SALES PERFORMANCE & CUSTOMER SERVICE! ONE OF ONLY SEVEN WINNERS IN MINNESOTA!

### 2020 ESCAPE SE AWD

<b>\$29,945</b> MSRP	
<b>-2,000</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-2,679</b> FOH DISCOUNT	
<b>-750</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-750</b> SELECT INV. CASH	

22 TO CHOOSE FROM!  
(Prices may vary due to optional equipment)

## EVERYONE'S PRICE

# \$23,766

-1.000 TRADE IN ASSISTANCE-MUST TRADE IN A 1995 OR NEWER CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV

\$22,766 CONDITIONAL PRICE




#24409

ECOBOOST, HEATED SEATS, ALUMINUM WHEELS

### 2020 F150 XLT SPORT CREW CAB 4X4

<b>\$51,920</b> MSRP	
<b>-2,000</b> SPORT/NAV DISC	
<b>-3,750</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-4,671</b> FOH DISCOUNT	
<b>-750</b> SELECT INVENTORY CASH	



#24340

### EVERYONE'S PRICE


## \$40,749

-\$1,750 TRADE IN ASSISTANCE-MUST TRADE IN A 1995 OR NEWER CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV

\$38,999 CONDITIONAL PRICE

### 2020 F150 XLT SPORT SUPERCAB 4X4

<b>\$49,910</b> MSRP	
<b>-2,500</b> SPORT/NAV DISCOUNT	
<b>-3,750</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-4,461</b> FOH DISCOUNT	
<b>-750</b> SELECT INVENTORY CASH	



#24151

### EVERYONE'S PRICE

## \$38,449


-\$1,750 TRADE IN ASSISTANCE-MUST TRADE IN A 1995 OR NEWER CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV

\$36,699 CONDITIONAL PRICE

SPORT PKG, ECOBOOST, HEATED SEATS, SIRIUS XM RADIO
SPORT PKG, ECOBOOST, VOICE ACTIVE NAVIGATION, CLASS IV TRAILER HITCH

### 2020 EXPLORER XLT 4WD

<b>\$45,525</b> MSRP	
<b>-1,000</b> DISC	
<b>-500</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-2,500</b> BONUS CASH	
<b>-3,029</b> FOH DISCOUNT	
<b>-750</b> SELECT INVENTORY CASH	



#23827

### EVERYONE'S PRICE


## \$37,746

-1.000 TRADE IN ASSISTANCE-MUST TRADE IN A 1995 OR NEWER CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV

\$36,746 CONDITIONAL PRICE

### 2020 EDGE SEL AWD

<b>\$40,195</b> MSRP	
<b>-1,250</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-2,500</b> BONUS CASH	
<b>-2,747</b> FOH DISCOUNT	



#24582

### EVERYONE'S PRICE

## \$33,698


-1.000 TRADE IN ASSISTANCE-MUST TRADE IN A 1995 OR NEWER CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV

\$32,698 CONDITIONAL PRICE

ECOBOOST AND HEATED SEATS
VOICE ACTIVE NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS/STEERING WHEEL, BLIND SPOT SYSTEM, PANORAMIC VISTA ROOF

### 2020 F150 XLT CREW CAB 4X4

<b>\$50,350</b> MSRP	
<b>-1,750</b> CHROME DISC	
<b>-3,750</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-4,853</b> FOH DISC	
<b>-750</b> SELECT INVENTORY CASH	



#24249

### EVERYONE'S PRICE

## \$39,247

-\$1,750 TRADE IN ASSISTANCE-MUST TRADE IN A 1995 OR NEWER CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV

\$37,497 CONDITIONAL PRICE

### 2020 FUSION S

<b>\$24,860</b> MSRP	
<b>-4,500</b> CUSTOMER CASH	
<b>-1,685</b> FOH DISCOUNT	



#12259

### EVERYONE'S PRICE

## \$18,675


CHROME PACKAGE, ECOBOOST, HEATED SEATS, SIRIUS XM RADIO, BUYERS OAC

BLIS W/CROSS TRAFFIC ALERT, LANE KEEPING SYSTEM

\*Must Finance with Ford Motor Credit, APR's as low as 5.9% for Qualified Buyers, OAC. \*\*\*Must Trade in 1995 or Newer Car, Truck or SUV.

TONS & TONS OF PRE-OWNED VEHICLES!							
<b>2015 FIESTA SE</b> 31K Miles <b>\$8,478</b>	 #23795A	<b>2012 TOUAREG TDI AWD</b> Pan Roof <b>\$16,879</b>	 #24178B	<b>2007 OUTLOOK XE AWD</b> <b>\$4,900</b>	 #7514M	<b>2017 JOURNEY CROSS ROAD AWD</b> <b>\$18,737</b>	 #7590
<b>2014 MERCEDES C-300 4MATIC</b> <b>\$16,476</b>	 #7578A	<b>2014 MKS AWD</b> w/Pan Roof <b>\$16,388</b>	 #7596	<b>2018 EDGE SEL AWD</b> 20K Miles <b>\$27,980</b>	 #24020A	<b>2017 EDGE SEL AWD</b> <b>\$20,923</b>	 #7609
<b>2004 F250 LARIAT SUPERCAB V10</b> <b>\$7,900</b>	 #24091A	<b>2019 ESCORT TITANIUM AWD</b> <b>\$17,980</b>	 #7608	<b>2016 TRAVERSE LT AWD</b> <b>\$16,863</b>	 #24537A	<b>2007 F350 KING RANCH DRW</b> <b>\$14,949</b>	 #24497A
<b>2016 F150 REG CAB XL</b> <b>\$19,980</b>	 #24422A	<b>2014 FOCUS SE</b> <b>\$6,833</b>	 #23878A	<b>2015 FUSION SE</b> 22K Miles <b>\$13,900</b>	 #23980A	<b>2012 ELANTRA GLS</b> <b>\$4,959</b>	 #7534B
<b>2013 JOURNEY SXT</b> <b>\$8,968</b>	 #7584A	<b>2019 HYUNDAI TUCSON AWD</b> 20K Miles <b>\$17,980</b>	 #7568	<b>2006 CROWN VIC LX</b> <b>\$3,980</b>	 #24,549A	<b>2006 SIENNA LE</b> <b>\$3,900</b>	 #24316A
<b>2012 F150 CREW LONGBOX</b> <b>\$14,944</b>	 #24482B	<b>2012 COMPASS 4X4</b> <b>\$7,341</b>	 #9368B	<b>2006 ESCAPE HYBRID 4X4</b> Only 97K Miles <b>\$6,980</b>	 #24415A	<b>2014 TERRAIN SLT AWD</b> Leather, Roof <b>\$11,975</b>	 #24247A
<b>2011 SILVERADO LT Z71</b> <b>\$12,942</b>	 #24182B	<b>2016 MKC AWD W/ PAN. ROOF</b> <b>\$20,842</b>	 #7592	<b>2014 LEXUS IS 250 AWD</b> <b>\$15,900</b>	 #7573A	<b>2017 ESCAPE SE 4WD</b> <b>\$17,359</b>	 #7595
<b>2015 ESCAPE SE</b> w/chrome xxx <b>\$15,730</b>	 #7593	<b>2013 ESCAPE S</b> <b>\$8,980</b>	 #24161B	<b>2004 SIERRA SLE</b> <b>\$5,900</b>	 #24,180A	<b>2013 Tacoma Crew TRD</b> <b>\$24,653</b>	 #24,027A

Call  
753-2950  
to subscribe  
to the  
Timberjay!





# NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY

## Saturday, September 26, 2020

**MARJO MOTEL**  
 Cable TV • Internet  
 Microwaves • Coffee  
 Refrigerators  
 Single & Double Rooms  
**Tower, MN**  
 Hwy. 169 on the left as  
 you enter Tower from the west.  
**218-235-1051**  
 www.marjo-motel.com

**McDonald's**  
 Welcome Hunters & Anglers!  
 Cook, MN

**FIVE SEASONS Sports**  
 601 Hat Trick Ave.,  
 Eveleth, MN  
**744-5871**

**Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union**  
  
*Safe Hunting & Fishing to All!*  
 Offices in: Tower, Embarrass,  
 Aurora, Vermillion, Nett Lake  
 505 Main St., Tower  
 218-753-4311

**eba**  
**Good Luck Hunters & Fishermen!**  
 Cook Building Center  
 10 N. River Street • Cook, MN  
 218-666-5344

**ZUP'S FOOD MARKETS**  
**WE PROCESS VENISON**  
 COOK • HWY 53  
 218-753-2725

**Fortune Bay RESORT CASINO**  
 1430 Bois Forte Rd  
 Tower, MN 55790  
 (800) 992-7529  
 fortunebay.com

24 Hr. Physician  
 Staffed  
 Emergency Room  
 218-365-3271  
*Safe Hunting & Fishing to All!*  
**Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital**  
 328 West Conan, Ely  
 www.ebch.org

**BAYVIEW Bar & Grill**  
 OPEN: FRI-SUN at NOON  
 218-753-2964  
 2007 Co Rd 77 • Tower, MN

**State Farm**  
 Agent: TIM JOHNSON  
 "For all your insurance needs."  
 120 Hwy. 53, Cook, MN  
 218-666-5504

**THE VERMILION CLUB**  
 Pizzas, Steak, Seafood,  
 Burgers, Salads  
 FULL BAR  
*Safe Hunting & Fishing to All!*  
 3191 Old Hwy 77  
 Tower • 218-753-6277

**NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY**  
 HUNT • SHOOT • FISH  
 YOU HELP RAISE OVER  
**\$100,000**  
 DOING WHAT YOU LOVE TO DO  
 Through licenses and excise taxes, hunters, shooters and anglers help generate over \$100,000 every 30 minutes for fish, wildlife and habitat programs.



TAKE THE PLEDGE AND CELEBRATE THE OUTDOORS  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2020**  
 NHFDAY.ORG

Wildlife Reading, Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, NSSF, Yamaha, Hook Barrel, NWTF, Ducks Unlimited, RMEF

**Hunting Facts**

- Since 1957, hunters, anglers, and recreational shooters have raised \$57 billion for wildlife and conservation.
- Hunting supports more than 525,000 American jobs.
- There are 9.2 million hunters over the age of 16 in the United States.
- More people hunt each year than play soccer, tennis, or baseball.

**Begin with the Basics Fishing 2020**

Before embarking on your fishing adventure, take some time to plan for success. It's important to remember you'll need a fishing license for the state you plan to go fishing in, and to familiarize yourself with the fishing laws or regulations for the species you plan to catch. Lastly, selecting proper tackle and learning how to release your catch contributes to sustainable fishing efforts upheld by any genuine angler.

**D'ERICK'S TOWER LIQUORS**  
 Wishing you a great hunting season!  
 218-753-4071  
 602 Main St., Tower

**Prudential**  
 Steven Kajala  
 5 N. River Street  
 Cook, MN 55723  
 218-750-0310

**NORTH STAR CREDIT UNION**  
*SAFE HUNTING & FISHING TO ALL*  
 24 Hour ATM  
 24 South River St, Cook, MN 55723  
 218-666-5940  
 www.NorthStarCreditUnion.org

**JOE'S MARINE & REPAIR, INC.**  
 25 W Chapman, Ely  
**365-6264**  
 Good Luck Hunters & Fishermen!

**VERMILION FUEL & FOOD**  
 Licenses  
 Sporting Goods  
**SOUDAN STORE**

**Pelican Bay FOODS**  
 Groceries, Fresh Meat & Produce, Deli, Fuel  
**WELCOME HUNTERS!**  
 Hwy. 53, Orr, MN  
 218.757.3900

**GOOD LUCK HUNTERS & FISHERMEN!**  
 Open: M-Sat 6 a.m.  
 Sun 8 a.m.  
 316 Main St, Tower • 218-753-6097

**Cook VFW**  
**Welcome Hunters!**  
 Conveniently located in downtown Cook  
**218-666-0500**

**Cook Optical**  
 Quality Eye Care for less Stop in & Compare  
 23 E Vermillion Blvd, Cook, MN  
**218-666-2879**

**Merhar's ACE Hardware**  
 Hunting & Fishing Licenses  
 48 E Chapman St, Ely  
 218-365-3129

**ambnk.com**  
 Located in Cook and Orr  
 12 Northeastern Minnesota Locations  
 facebook.com/ambnk  
*We Wish You A Safe Hunting Season!*

**Waschke FAMILY CHEVROLET of COOK**  
 218-666-5901 • 1-800-238-4545  
 126 N. Hwy. 53, Cook, MN  
 HOURS: M-F 8 am-6 pm, Sat. 9 am-2 pm  
 www.waschkecook.com

**Northwoods Collision Center**  
 Good Luck Hunting & Fishing!  
 1140 E Main St, Ely  
 218-365-5095 • Open: M-F 8-5

**ZUP'S FOOD MARKETS**  
**SPORTSMEN..**  
 ..Pack the Shack with food favorites from Zups!  
 315 MAIN ST, TOWER  
 218-753-2725

**BIG REALTY**  
 Good Luck Hunters & Fishermen!  
 219 S. River Street  
 218-666-5352

**ARONSON BOAT WORKS**  
 Good Luck Fishermen & Hunters!  
 6143 Pike Bay Drive  
 Lake Vermillion • 218-753-4190  
 www.aronsonboatworks.com

**Vermillion Park Inn**  
 Stay with Us!  
 • Breakfast Included •  
**218-753-2333**  
 30 Center St, Soudan

**LOSSING'S POWERSPORTS**  
 ski-doo can-am  
 Check Out Our NEW EQUIPMENT!  
 30 NORTH DRIVE  
 BABBITT, MN 55706

**VERMILION LAND OFFICE**  
*Safe Hunting & Fishing to All!*  
 Highway 169  
 Tower, MN  
 218-753-8985

**ARROWHEAD OUTDOORS**  
 Ice Fishing Houses & Guides Available This Winter!  
 1810 E Sheridan, Ely  
 218-365-5358

**Ubetcha Antiques & Uniques**  
 ARTISAN • VINTAGE • ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES  
 ubetchaauctions.com  
 601 MAIN ST., TOWER  
 218-753-3422





# NorthCountry

Serving northern St. Louis County since 1989

## SPORTS

# Better late than never?

Football and volleyball to compete this fall as high school league reverses course

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- Area schools are suddenly gearing up for sports seasons they didn't anticipate before spring. That comes in the wake of the decision by the Minnesota State High School League board of directors on Monday, to move football

and volleyball back to their traditional fall season, reversing a decision they made just six weeks ago to decrease the threat of exposure to COVID-19 for athletes, coaches, and spectators.

The decision was met with widespread enthusiasm.

"I'm excited that we have a 'for sure' season

and a set of games," North Woods head football coach Joel Anderson said on Tuesday. "I think it's something that's owed to our kids, owed to our seniors. The morale is high, player participation is good, and we're excited to be back to playing football."

"I am hopeful our football and volleyball teams will be competing

soon," Ely ISD 696 Athletic Director Tom Coombe said. Monday's MSHSL board meeting drew keen interest throughout the

See **SPORTS**...pg. 2B



Right: A sign company worker assists with the installation of Ely's new sports scoreboard this week. photos by K. Vandervort



## ATVAM CONVENTION

# A DAY ON THE TRAIL

Pandemic doesn't dampen enthusiasm for annual ATV gathering

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

REGIONAL - ATV riders from all over the state and beyond took to the trails around Ely and the surrounding woods last weekend as part of ATV Minnesota's Fall Ride and Rally.

The local Prospector ATV Club hosted this year's event, toned down a bit due to the coronavirus pandemic, but that didn't stop hundreds of riders from participating in as many as a dozen guided rides.

The weekend kicked off Friday with a pancake breakfast outside at Timber Hall, followed by a VIP ride from Embarrass to Tower that included an outdoor catered lunch at McKinley Park overlooking Lake Vermilion. Later that day, the city of Ely hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its trailhead project. On Saturday, ATV riders hit many of the area trails for a handful of guided tours.

The rides and events were part of the annual convention of the ATV Association of Minnesota, or ATVAM.

COVID-19 forced the Prospector Club to scale back on some event activities, but they will get a reboot next fall when the state convention returns to Ely.

Rod Potter, president of ATV Minnesota, welcomed riders and guests at McKinley Park in Tower.

"Our legislators and local officials all worked to make this happen," he said,

as he introduced U.S. Rep Pete Stauber.

"These trails take a lot of behind-the-scenes work by many folks," he said. "One of the things we need is continued funding and I assure you that funding from the federal level will be there. This is how we recreate in northern Minnesota."

He also noted that riders from all over the state and other parts of the country were present for the convention.

"When I talk about fighting for our way of life, this is the love we have for northern Minnesota," he said.

A parade of politicians and community leaders took the microphone. State Sen. Tom Bakk spoke of the importance of the interconnecting trail systems, including for bicycle riders, snowmobilers, hikers and ATV'ers, in northern Minnesota.

"My first snowmobile was a 1964 Scorpion, and back then there were at least two sleds in every yard," he said. "Pretty soon they disappeared because there was no place to ride. We went through a long period of time when snowmobile registrations just fell off a cliff."

Volunteers, including those from the Cook Timberwolf Club that was chartered in 1965, began building trail systems, according to Bakk

"All those clubs were really responsible for bring-

See **RIDE**...pg. 2B



Above: Riders make their way down an ATV trail during last weekend's ATVAM ride and rally event, held in the area. submitted photo

Below: Participants gather for lunch at McKinley Park on Lake Vermilion.

Bottom: Rep. Pete Stauber pokes the air during comments at McKinley Park. photos by K. Vandervort



## CROSS COUNTRY

# Grizzlies 8th-grader dominates varsity field

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

FIELD TWP- In a high school cross country season turned topsy-turvy by COVID-19 accommodations, an eighth-grade runner from North Woods showed her older peers how its done last Thursday by winning the varsity girls division race in a triangular meet at Chub Lake.

The South Ridge combined ISD 2142 cross country team matched up against runners from Carlton-Wrenshall and Moose Lake-Willow River-Barnum in a meet restricted to three teams by state league coronavirus restrictions. North Woods runner Addison Burckhardt made the most of the opportunity while leading the South Ridge girls team to victory.

Burckhardt toured the circuit in a time of 21:28, more than 45 seconds faster than runner-up Emma Cid of C-W, who timed in at 22:16. Burckhardt's teammate Evelyn Brodeen was hot on Cid's heels for third with a

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

## SWIMMING

# 400 freestyle a bright spot for NE Range

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

BABBITT - The Northeast Range/Ely varsity girls swim team of Anna Larson, Morgan McClelland, Cedar Ohlhouse and Kelly Thompson scored the Nighthawks' only first-place finish, in the 400 Freestyle Relay, last week in a dual meet here against Duluth Denfeld.

Denfeld amassed 46 points and NER/Ely had 31 points.

The local team had a time of 4:29.50 to take the win. The second-place Nighthawks team in that event, Emma Fedders, Alice Wolter, Lauren Olson and Grace Sundell, had a time of 5:03.85.

See **SWIM**...pg. 2B



RIDE...Continued from page 1B



Left: Sen. Tom Bakk speaks to the crowd assembled for lunch at McKinley Park for the annual ATVAM event, sponsored by the Prospector Trail group. photo by K. Vandervort

ing snowmobiling back to what it is today," he said. "That won't happen here with ATVs because this time, you guys are in

front of the decline by providing places for people to ride," Bakk said. "We have a system of old logging roads up north that are pretty spectacular."

Bakk noted that that he is authoring legislation to get ATVs allowed in Minnesota's state park system.

"I need some help from some of my friends in the legislature to get that passed,"

he said.

He spoke of acreage set aside at the nearby Lake Vermilion Park for a new ATV campground to be located on the other side of Highway 169 across from the park entrance. "There is a provision in this year's bonding bill for about \$5.8 million to build that campground," Bakk said. "It will be the first of its kind in the state where ATV'ers can

come and camp and connect to all the trails to Ely, Crane Lake and elsewhere."

Bakk boasted that his first ATV, a 1982 Honda Big Red model, is still running.

"It was a Cadillac. It had electric start. I still have it. It was the best piece of equipment I ever bought," he said.

SPORTS...Continued from page 1B

state, as the league's teleconferencing system hits its maximum capacity of 500 participants. Countless others followed the live Twitter feed of MSHSL staff writer John Millea, who said in a podcast following the meeting that he had added over 3,000 followers to his account because of the issue. Others kept track of developments through the Let Them Play MN Facebook page, a group advocating for a return to normalcy for school sports that has attracted nearly 20,000 followers.

While little has changed in terms of medical information related to COVID-19 and sports since the board's Aug. 2 decision to move football and volleyball to the spring, several things contributed to the MSHSL convening a special meeting Monday.

Thirty-seven states, including all of the states surrounding Minnesota - Iowa, Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota - have already been playing high school football. In collegiate football, the Big 10 Conference recently rescinded a decision to cancel its football season, joining most other major

college conferences in resuming competition.

Meanwhile, in a survey of MSHSL member schools, four out of five responded that they wanted football and volleyball put back into the fall semester.

"This is what the majority of people wanted," Millea said on TalkNorth's Preps Today podcast. "There are a minority of people that are mad the decision was reversed. I think most of it was just outside pressure on this board. When they made the initial decision Aug. 4, none of our surrounding states had made any decisions about fall sports. Subsequently they all just decided to go ahead with their fall sports. I think the last nail in the coffin was the Big 10 bringing football back. That just adds to the pressure."

State Health Commissioner Jan Malcom gave a measured statement of approval to the decision at a Monday afternoon press conference.

"From a pure public health risk protection perspective, we know there is a lot of viral activity in the community, and it's at

a high enough level that we would prefer not to have events that would gather more people and create more opportunity for transmission," Malcom said. "However, we know outdoor environments are safer, and we certainly know how important these activities are to the student athletes, to their families, and to the community. It's a risk calculation and there are certainly trade-offs in risks and benefits. Even though we might weight the scales a little differently in terms of that risk-reward trade-off, we certainly recognize there are positives to youth sports as well. We respect the high school league's decision."

**New seasons**

The plan, which fits within COVID-19 guidance of the Minnesota Department of Health, will have an approved football season beginning on Monday, Sept. 28 with the first of six regular season games scheduled for the week of Oct. 5. A planned two-week football postseason will begin the week of Nov. 16.

Volleyball will begin an 11-week season on Sept. 28 with a limit of 14 dual matches that can begin

on Oct. 8. Two weeks of postseason play would begin the week of Nov. 30.

While many are disappointed that state championships aren't a part of the postseason picture, Millea said they wouldn't be viable in the current environment.

"Anybody who is holding out for state tournaments this fall, I think you're barking at the moon a little bit because I don't think that's in the cards," Millea said. "There are no dollars in the current budget for fall state tournaments that can't pay for themselves. Each sport has been given a two-week time frame for playoffs. Normally section tournaments take at least that long, so I can't see any way we're going to be able to have state tournaments like we're used to in football and volleyball."

But local school representatives still welcome the opportunity to compete.

"In most years, if somebody had told me I'd be playing in November I'd have been ecstatic," Anderson said, referring to the traditional month for a state championship run. "I wish this decision would have happened sooner. It's going to be

interesting to be playing football throughout the entire month of October and into November. After [Monday's] vote, my focus has shifted to preparing for now instead of March."

The Ely and North Woods football teams will both have three home and three away contests, with the postseason format still to be determined. Ely's first game will be at South Ridge on Oct. 9, while Anderson was awaiting final approval before releasing the Grizzlies' schedule, which will likely have a game scheduled Oct. 9 as well.

Ely Superintendent Erik Erie said what is on the minds of every coach and school administrator who wants to ensure a safe competitive experience for student-athletes and spectators alike.

"We will be following strict protocols for the coronavirus by the league, the Minnesota Department of Health and our school district," he said.

Current Department of Health standards will prevent spectators from attending indoor volleyball matches and will limit total spectator capacity at football games to 250 or less, although efforts

are being made by some to have those restrictions eased or eliminated.

**Other sports**

Six MSHSL activities are currently taking place across the state, including girls tennis, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls soccer and girls swimming and diving. Those activities began on Aug. 17 with additional safety protocols and practices as well as modified seasons, which decreased the length of the season by 20 percent and the number of contests by 30 percent.

The decisions related to fall sports could offer some clues as to what may be ahead for winter sports, including hockey, boys and girls basketball and Nordic skiing in Ely. All are currently scheduled to begin practice sessions in November, with games and contests starting later that month or early-December, depending on the activity. Approving the complete calendar for the remainder of the school year will be addressed by the MSHSL board at an Oct. 1 meeting.

*Ely Timberjay Editor Keith Vandervort contributed to this story.*

RUNNERS...Continued from page 1B

time of 22:23, edging out teammate Jillian Sajdak who placed fourth with a time of 22:29. Other South Ridge runners in the top ten included Ana Ridge,

9th, 23:34, and Maddie Ellefson, 10th, 23:37.

South Ridge handily won the girls team competition with 27 points. C-W placed second with

47, and MLWRB finished third with 51.

In the boys varsity race, Jeremy Zupancich turned in the best finish for South Ridge, placing

second with a time of 18:21. Two more South Ridge runners finished in the top ten, including Sam Serna, 6th, 19:27, and Alex Burckhardt, 7th, 19:27.

With teammates Johan Burnett and Carter Obey also tallying points, South Ridge finished second overall with 39 points, closely behind

meet winner MLWRB with 33. CW had 60 points.

SWIM...Continued from page 1B

Other second-place NER/Ely finishers, by event, name and time, included 200 medley relay, Esther Anderson, Lauren Olson, Morgn McClelland,

Alice Wolter, 2:26.78, 200 freestyle, Kelly Thompson, 2:26.03, 200 individual medley, Cedar Ohlhauser, 3:01.33, 50 freestyle, Kelly Thompson, 30.31,

500 freestyle, Morgan McClelland, 6:30.31, and 200 freestyle relay, Anne Larson, Cedar Ohlhauser, Morgan McClelland, and Kelly Thompson, 1:59.10.

The Nighthawks were set to travel to Chisholm on Thursday, Sept. 24, and return home on Saturday, Sept. 26 to host Cloquet.

**Ethnic Creations**  
Handmade gifts from the past to the present

**Classes • Custom Orders**  
**Weaving • Felting • Quilting**  
**Needle Arts**

**Open Monday & Tuesday from 10-4**  
7148 Cty Rd 715, Embarrass, MN 55732  
**218-741-1536 or 218-750-0475 (cell)**  
[www.finnishethniccreations.com](http://www.finnishethniccreations.com)  
[debwiitanen.etsy.com](http://debwiitanen.etsy.com)

**Ely Community Health Center**

**Open Every Thursday 5:30-7 p.m.**

Providing NO COST basic healthcare and referrals  
111 S 4th Ave E, Ely  
Volunteer opportunities also available

**NORTHERN COMMUNITY RADIO**  
KAXE 91.7 FM Grand Rapids  
89.9 FM Brainerd  
KBXE 90.5 FM Bagley/Bemidji

Independent, nonprofit community radio serving Northern Minnesota.

**NOW BROADCASTING IN ELY**  
**103.9 FM**

**Memories of the Early Days**  
A fascinating look back at the early history of the Lake Vermilion area  
Written by Marshall Helmberger • Published by the Timberjay

**Back By Popular Demand!**

**A Regional Favorite**  
STOP IN TODAY OR CALL...

**Just \$29.95** + Tax

Don't miss your chance to own Lake Vermilion's most definitive history!

Pick up book(s) at Timberjay office in Tower or have book(s) mailed, for \$39.95 each.

**BOOK ORDER FORM**

The Timberjay  
P.O. Box 636, 414 Main St  
Tower, MN 55790 • 218-753-2950

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel.# \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Information VISA MC DISCOVER  
Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Billing address if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Books \_\_\_\_\_

**Book Total - Pick Up \$29.95 + tax (\$32.16) Book Total - Mail \$39.95**

Total charged to credit card \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by check \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Pick Up  Mail



Obituaries and Death Notices



**Raymond A. Stefanich**

Raymond Anthony Stefanich, 79, of Soudan, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020. Services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

Ray was born in Tower and graduated from Tower High School. He married Rosemary Zavodnick in 1961 and they began their lives together in Soudan, where they raised their two sons. Ray had a long career in mining, working at Reserve Mining as a certified fabricator and later as a warehouse manager at LTV. Some of his favorite pastimes were hunting, fishing, spending time with family at the cabin at Wolf Lake, and playing pinochle with his brothers.

He was most happy traveling with Rosemary locally and nationally, listening and dancing to polka music. They especially enjoyed visiting with friends at Nick's in Gilbert and the annual polka conventions in Cleveland and Chicago.

Ray is survived by his sons, Raymond John (Angela) of Burnsville and Mark of Soudan; grandchildren, Andrew of Burnsville and Jillian (Stephen) Bova of Tewksbury, Mass.; great-grandchildren, Joey and Sofia Rose of Tewksbury, Mass.; brothers, Greg (Gerry) and Ted; sisters, Carol Dyhr (Tim), Dorothy Vesel (Vince) and Mary Jo Wiermaa (Jay); sister-in-law, Jo Ann; special friends, Pam and Ron Jr. Abrahamson;

and many other family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Ann (Inky); his wife of 56 years, Rosemary Zavodnick Stefanich; and brothers, Joseph and Nicholas.

**Penny L. Hiltunen**

Penny Lynn Hiltunen, 73, of Tower, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020, at her residence. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 25 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan with Pastor Greg Anderson officiating. Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery in Tower. Due to COVID-19, attendance will be restricted to family members only, with face masks required. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

Penny was born on Feb. 25, 1947, in Milwaukee, Wis., the daughter of Clifford and Muriel (Korpi) Thierer. When she was a young girl, the family moved to Soudan where she grew up and attended the Tower-Soudan schools. Penny was united in marriage to William Hiltunen on April 24, 1965, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan. They made their home in Tower, where they had since resided.

She worked as a cook at Parkside Homes in Soudan for 21 years and later in the laundry at Fortune Bay Resort for nine years. Penny enjoyed reading, gardening and baking. In her earlier years, she and Bill enjoyed snowmobiling and spending time on the lake. Penny was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Soudan, where she was an active and dedicated worker with the women of the church.

Penny is survived by her loving husband of 55 years, Bill Hiltunen of Tower; son, Patrick

Hiltunen of Hibbing; daughter, Heidi (Bruce Rossi) Hiltunen of Lake Vermilion-Tower; granddaughter, Tiana Ruzsak; brothers, John (Rhonda) Thierer of Duluth and James (Teri) Thierer of Pike-Sandy; brother-in-law, Don Crayne of Vermilion Lake Township; brother and sister-in-law, Tom and Sue Hiltunen of Virginia; sister-in-law, Connie Hiltunen of Virginia; numerous nieces and nephews; great-nieces and great-nephews; special cat, Samantha; and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clifford and Muriel Thierer; brother, "Duff" Thierer; sister, Mary Ann Crayne; and nephew, Zach Thierer.

**Shirley M. Riemer**

Shirley Marie Klun Riemer, 79, of Ely, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020, at Carefree Living in Ely. She died of complications attributed to COVID-19. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

As these are extraordinary times, there will not be a funeral or memorial at this time. The family will look to next summer to hold a celebration of life when things are deemed safe and proper to do so. They would like to recognize the amazing women and men at Carefree Living. They are all heroes. In lieu of cards or flowers, they would ask for a few simple things. Wear a mask. This disease is real. Be kind to one another and keep each other safe. And lastly, vote.

She is survived by her sons, Mark (Ramon) and James (Natalie); grandson, Cole; Laura Achurch; and many loving nieces and nephews.

**Edith R. Tedrick**

Edith "Edie" Renee Richards Tedrick, 75, of Ely, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020. A private family burial has been planned at this time. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her sons, Gary (Sue) Tedrick and Pete (Kayla) Tedrick; grandchildren, Tyler, Ashley, Lillian and Wyatt; and great-granddaughter, Arabella.

**Lois Struna**

Lois Struna, 92, of Ely, passed away at Carefree Living in Ely on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020, after a stroke and a recent positive test for COVID-19. The family wishes to thank all the staff at Carefree Living for being such an important and loving part of their mom's life for the past several years. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

**Elizabeth K. MacMillan**

Elizabeth "Liz" Kay Starkman MacMillan, 76, of Ely, died on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald Douglas MacMillan, 78, of Ely, on July 11, 2015. A celebration of life for Ron and Liz will be held at a later date.

They are survived by their sons, Patrick (Louise) MacMillan and Michael (Stacey) MacMillan; brother, Carl (Paulette) Pietila; grandchildren, Blake (Breanne), Brooke, Brittany, Alexis and Isabel; and great-grandchildren, Anna, Sophie and Blake.

**Mary Ann Trancheff**

Mary Ann Markovich Trancheff, 90, a lifelong resident of both Ely and Lake Vermilion, passed away peacefully at Carefree Living in Ely on Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020, a victim of COVID-19. The family wishes to thank the staff at Carefree Living for their excellent and compassionate care of Mary Ann over the past five years. You are all truly heroes. In accordance with her wishes, there will be no funeral services. Private family interment will be arranged by Kerntz Funeral Home in the Ely Cemetery.

She is survived by her sons, Michael (Rebecca) Trancheff of Blaine and Patrick (Ellen) Trancheff of Tower, grandchildren, Megan (Dan) Sailsbury of Lino Lakes, Kirsten Trancheff of Blaine, Brian (Elina) of Tower and Laura Trancheff of Minneapolis; great-grandchildren, Calvin, Max, Jonah, Ella and Mille; brother, Matthew Markovich of Ely; and brother-in-law, Matthew (Jean) Trancheff of Long Island.

**Raymond A. Nickolson**

Raymond Alexander Nickolson, of Ely, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2020, at Carefree Living in Ely. He died among caretakers who put their lives at risk every day to make dying during this horrendous time a little less painful. COVID-19 took his life a little sooner than his body wanted but his mind was ready to let go. The family is comforted in knowing his struggle with dementia is finally over and he can now be at peace. They are postponing a memorial for Ray until next summer or until there is a COVID-19 vaccine and it is safe to gather. Family arrangements have

been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

Please direct any memorial contributions to Ely Carefree Living to provide Personal Protective Equipment during this pandemic. When making the donation please specify that it is in memory of Ray Nickolson and direct to Ely Carefree Living, 140 S 2nd Ave. W, Ely, MN 55731.

**Gloria Smuk**

Gloria Bianchi Smuk, 81, lifelong resident of Ely, passed away at Carefree Living on Friday, Sept. 11, 2020. Sadly, she was a victim of COVID-19. Interment was on Saturday, Sept. 19 in the Ely Cemetery, with a procession from St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Family arrangements were entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by two daughters, Christine Tournat and Julie Smuk; son, Mark Smuk; grandchildren, Damian Tournat, Lisa Schuh and Kenneth Grigsby; and great-grandchildren, Jonathan, Ruby, Sullivan and Kayson.

**Raymond Tkalcich**

Raymond Tkalcich, 70, of Ely, passed away at his home on Sept. 1, 2020, after a five-year battle with cancer. Interment will be at the Ely Cemetery. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by John and Eden Tkalcich, Joe and Tami Tkalcich, Travis, and his "significant friend," Ann Spangler.



**RANGE JEWELRY & GIFTS**  
In-store jewelry & watch repair  
Cash for Gold & Silver  
218-827-2515  
33 Central Blvd. Suite 200  
Babbitt Shopping Center

**RANGE L.P. GAS**  
Call Us For All Your LP Gas Needs!  
Hoover Rd., Virginia 741-7393  
1613 E. Camp St., Ely 365-8888  
24 Hour Emergency Service  
• Toll Free • 1-800-862-8628

Call 753-2950 to subscribe to the Timberjay!

**WORLD'S #1 HOT AIR WOODBURNING FURNACE!**  
.45 gr/hr. emissions  
99.4% comb efficiency  
99% smokeless burns  
**833-660-1064**  
lampmfg@gmail.com lamppakuuma.com

**ART GALLERY** NORTHWOODS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS  
Local arts and crafts for viewing and sales  
210 S River St, Cook MN 55723  
Open: Thur-Fri: 10 AM-4 PM, Sat: 9 AM-1 PM  
nwfamn.org@gmail.com • www.nwfamn.org

**TOWER FARMERS MARKET**  
VARIETY LOCAL FRESH  
**STILL OPEN THIS WEEK!**  
Friday 4-6 PM

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

**Fall & Winter Hours**  
Effective September 27  
Mon.-Sat. 8-6, Sun. 8-3

**Scenic Rivers Clinics**  
**COVID-19 Testing Available**  
Curbside COVID-19 testing available Mon-Fri at our Cook and Tower Clinics. If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19 through someone with a known positive test result, please call to schedule a testing appointment.  
Testing will not be completed without an appointment.  
Scenic Rivers will not bill patients for testing.  
Insurance coverage will be processed when available.  
**Cook Medical and Behavioral Health** 20 5th St SE Open Monday - Saturday (218) 666-5941  
**Cook Dental** 12 S River Street Open Monday - Friday (218) 666-5958  
**Tower Medical, Dental, and Behavioral Health** 415 N 2nd St, Suite 2 Former High School Building Open Monday - Friday Medical/BH: (218) 753-2405 Dental: (218) 753-6061  
1-877-541-2817 www.ScenicRiversHealth.org 24 Hour Emergency Care Available Through Cook Hospital





# Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

## DROUGHT

# Dry conditions, low water linger

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The effects of drought are creeping back into the North Country after frequent rains in late July and August temporarily eased conditions here. The impact is most noticeable along the border, where moderate drought continues to persist.

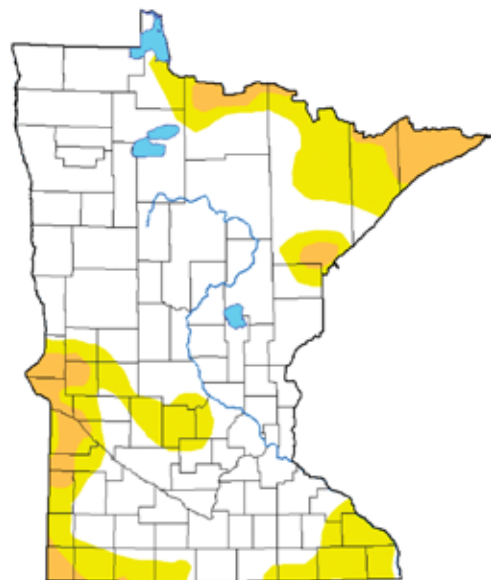
According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, northern Koochiching, a small portion of northwestern St. Louis County, much of northern Lake

County and all of Cook County remain in moderate drought. Meanwhile, all of northeastern St. Louis County is listed as abnormally dry, the lowest category of drought.

Precipitation has varied dramatically across the region over the past few months. Total precipitation in the area ranges from more than 23 inches so far this year in Celina, west of Cook, to just 15 inches in the Ely area, which is normally wetter than Cook. The Ely area is running 6-8 inches below average for this time of year.

**Right: The latest drought map from the U.S. Drought Monitor. Light orange designates moderate drought while yellow designates abnormally dry.**

The lack of rainfall near the border is evident by the low water levels in border rivers. The Basswood River is running below what is known as Q90, which means it is currently lower than it



See **DROUGHT...** pg. 5B



DEEP WOODS

# Cedar trail comes to life

Guided hikes on Tower's new trail set for next weekend

**T**OWER— Word is getting around about the new Ancient Cedars hiking trail network, which volunteers are close to finishing here. The roughly one-mile-long main trail is cleared, marked, and open for visitors, and other alternate trails and spurs are cleared but may not be fully marked as of this week.

Temporary maps are now in place at intersections and interpretive and directional signs have been ordered and should be in place by October.

Not that visitors have been waiting for those amenities to explore the trail. In fact, volunteers who are continuing to finalize work on the trail are reporting steady traffic as more and more folks from across the area are venturing out to see the spectacular woods and dramatic rock outcrops in this unique area, located on the south edge of Tower.

Last week, a group of 22 members of the Ely Field Naturalists walked the new trail. Group leader Bill Tefft, of Ely, said the group loved the trail, although they lost track of the route at one point and had to double back. Trail volunteers say they hope to have clearer trail markings in place by this weekend, in addition to the temporary maps.

The trail volunteers will also be hosting two guided walks on the trail, on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3 and 4. The Saturday hike is set for 10 a.m., with an afternoon hike on Sunday, at 2 p.m.

All interested hikers should meet in



MARSHALL HELMBERGER



**Top: Members of the Ely Field Naturalists make their way up a hill along the route of the new Ancient Cedars Trail in Tower.**

**Above: The group pauses at an overlook, with Lake Vermilion visible in the background.**

submitted photos

the parking lot near the train depot and civic center at those times and be dressed for the weather. Sturdy shoes or hiking boots are recommended and hiking sticks or poles may be of assistance as well. It's a wilderness-type trail and the terrain can be rugged in some locations, so take your time and watch your footing.

The trailhead starts about four-tenths of a mile from the train depot. To reach it, take the Mesabi Trail east about three-tenths of a mile, to the intersection with the Iron Ore snowmobile trail. Turn right onto that grassy trail and go just over one-tenth of a mile, crossing the wooden snowmobile bridge. You'll find the trail-

head about 50 feet beyond the bridge, on the left. The first 500 feet of the trail is on boardwalk as it crosses a wetland area, but you'll find upland hiking the rest of the way.

The trail is open for hiking in the spring, summer, and fall, and will become a snowshoe trail for the winter months. For anyone who hasn't already taken a look, don't miss the guided hiking opportunities next weekend.

The trail is a joint effort of the Tower Economic Development Authority, the Wagoner Trails Club, and Friends of Vermilion Country School. The trail clearing and boardwalk construction were completed with all volunteer labor. Funding for the boardwalk materials and signage came from the North St. Louis County Trails Task Force, which is funded by the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation. Additional funding came from Lake Country Power's Operation Round-Up®.

## PUBLIC SAFETY



# Fatal OHV crashes reach decade high

REGIONAL — As the state's number of fatal accidents involving off-highway vehicles (OHVs) reaches the highest level in more than a decade, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds riders to play it safe and take proper safety precautions.

"We're seeing riders of all ages and abilities out on the trails this year, which is great," said Jon Paurus, DNR Enforcement Division education program coordinator. "For the most part, people are taking the proper precautions and riding safely. Unfortunately, one seemingly minor mishap can be the difference between a positive memory and a life-changing catastrophe."

Fall is one of the busiest times of year for OHV riding, and DNR conservation officers want to make sure all riders make it home safely at the end of every ride. The number of fatal accidents to date already outpaces many years' annual totals.

As of Sept. 3, 19 people in Minnesota have died in OHV accidents this year. By comparison, the average number of fatalities annually for the past decade is 18.

The number of registered OHVs — which includes all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), off-highway motorcycles and off-road vehicles — continues to rise in Minnesota. The total in 2019 was 329,275. ATVs are the most popular type, and so far this year there are nearly 24,000 new registrations.

As they work to keep the trails safe, conservation officers across the state report increased numbers of interactions with OHV riders. Among the most common issues they're encountering are people riding too fast, riding where they're not supposed to ride, and failing to obey traffic signs. In addition, there's been a concerning trend of riders under the age of 18 not wearing helmets.

OHV riders should keep the following in mind before hitting the trail:

➤ Ride only on designated trails. Stay to the right and travel

See **DEATHS...** pg. 5B



HUNTING

# High female bear take could impact recovery

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— A sharp increase in the number of female bears taken by hunters so far this fall represents a likely setback in the ongoing effort of the Department of Natural Resources to recover the state's bear population. Females comprised the lion's share of the hunter harvest in northern St. Louis County, and that will impact the reproductive capacity of the population, at least in the local area, according to DNR biologists.

Wildlife managers believe a relatively poor year for wild foods is the primary cause of both the high harvest and the higher overall percentage of females among those bears registered.

Hunters sharply trimmed the state's bear population back in the late 2000s, as a combination of the high number of permits issued by the DNR and improving hunter success rates, cut estimates of the state's bear population nearly in half.

The DNR sharply reduced the number of bear permits in more recent years, but hunters have continued to keep the pressure on the bear population, which has shown little sign of recovery. And this year's hunt is unlikely to help matters, with a harvest that is likely to be the highest in more than a decade. "We are on track for 3,200 to 3,300 bears total for the season," stated Dan Stark, large carnivore specialist with the Department of Natural Resources. That's nearly 50 percent above last year's total harvest of 2,340 bears.

Statewide, hunters are still registering somewhat more males than females. As of last week, registrations included 1,409 males, or 54 percent, compared to 1,191 females, or 46 percent. In a more typical year, hunters will take about 60 percent males and 40 females. The situation is worse

in northern St. Louis County, where 54 percent of the bears registered by hunters so far this year have been females. "That's sky high," said Tower Area DNR Wildlife Manager Tom Rusch. "From a population growth perspective, that's not what you want to see."

The higher registrations of females is not a surprise. "The high harvest of females we are seeing is exactly what happens during a year of food failure," said Andy Tri, a biologist with the DNR's bear research program. "When food production is poor, older reproductive females are far more likely than normal to come into baits." While the DNR has yet to complete its food surveys, Tri said it appears that north-central and northeastern Minnesota experienced the worst years for bear foods, most likely an effect of the early summer drought.

According to Tri, the DNR has been using a lower number of permits in recent years to "build resiliency into the population" in anticipation of poor food years. "We know that food failures occur, and we've been planning for it," he said.

The impact of this year's hunt may be reflected in next year's permit numbers, although Tri said it's still too early to tell. "We still need to get all the sex-age structure information from the harvest analyzed for the full picture, so any decisions on the quota won't be made until the bear committee meeting in February or March," Tri added.

## LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday				Saturday				Sunday				Monday				Tuesday			
68 48				67 45				61 44				57 42				54 35			
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.
09/14	63	30	0.00	09/14	62	29	0.00	09/14	63	40	0.01	09/14	63	30	0.00	09/14	64	30	0.00
09/15	63	30	0.00	09/15	63	29	0.00	09/15	61	40	0.00	09/15	64	52	0.00	09/15	62	31	0.00
09/16	68	50	0.00	09/16	67	48	0.00	09/16	64	50	0.00	09/16	57	37	0.00	09/16	66	47	0.00
09/17	60	24	0.00	09/17	60	25	0.00	09/17	57	32	0.00	09/17	54	27	0.00	09/17	59	24	0.00
09/18	54	21	0.00	09/18	54	20	0.00	09/18	52	30	0.00	09/18	59	25	0.00	09/18	54	21	0.00
09/19	59	21	0.00	09/19	61	20	0.00	09/19	58	30	0.00	09/19	72	41	0.00	09/19	59	28	0.00
09/20	71	45	0.00	09/20	71	45	0.00	09/20	71	43	0.00	09/20	70	52	0.00	09/20	70	40	0.00
Total	14.75			YTD Total	15.24			YTD Total	22.11			YTD Total	NA			YTD Total	17.52		

### Outdoors briefly

#### Take a Kid Hunting this weekend

REGIONAL— Getting youth outdoors in pursuit of squirrels, rabbits and other small game is the focus of Take a Kid Hunting Weekend on Saturday, Sept. 26, and Sunday, Sept. 27. During the weekend, adult Minnesota residents accompanied by a youth younger than age 16 may hunt small game without a license, although they must comply with open seasons, limits and other regulations.

Hunting small game is a great way to introduce kids to hunting. Kids learn how to search for game sign, properly handle firearms and access hunting land—all without too much time sitting still and being quiet. Anyone who wants to learn

how to hunt can find helpful how-to guides on the DNR website.

#### Waterfowl season opens Saturday

REGIONAL— Minnesota's regular waterfowl season opens a half-hour before sunrise on Saturday, Sept. 26. The duck season structure this year is similar to recent years. The waterfowl seasons are based on a federal framework that applies to all states in the Mississippi Flyway. Regulations for waterfowl hunting, including Canada goose, sandhill crane and other migratory bird hunting, are available wherever DNR licenses are sold and on the DNR waterfowl hunting page.

#### Register now for wolf open houses

Registration is open for virtual open houses that will offer opportunities for people to hear about wolves in Minnesota and share their thoughts as the Minnesota DNR updates the state's 20-year-old wolf management plan.

Each open house takes place from 6-8 p.m. and will focus on a particular geographic area. The open house for northeastern Minnesota is set for Thursday, Oct. 8.

Attendees must register for the open houses on the DNR website and are encouraged to submit questions in advance on their registration form.

### DEATHS...Continued from page 4B

at a safe speed.

- Ride sober.
- Wear protective gear including goggles, long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle boots, gloves and a DOT-approved helmet.

- Avoid riding on paved roads except to cross when done safely and permitted by law.
- Kids need active supervision

- OHVs aren't toys.
- Complete a safety course.

For more information about riding safely, see [mndnr.gov/ohv/atv-safety.html](http://mndnr.gov/ohv/atv-safety.html).

### DROUGHT...Continued from page 4B

would be 90 percent of the time. As of Monday, the river was running at 267 cubic feet per second. Anything below 354 cfs is considered at Q90. The current water levels in the river are the lowest they have been since September of 2011, when drought enabled the Pagami Creek fire to become one of the largest wildfires in modern Minnesota history. Fire

danger in the region is currently listed as moderate, according to the Department of Natural Resources.

The Rainy River is also below its Q90, running at 4,410 cfs, or significantly below its Q90 cutoff of 4,960 cfs.

Meanwhile, the Vermilion River is running at 119 cfs, which is right at the river's Q90. Just to the

west, the Little Fork River, whose watershed has seen more precipitation, is still within its normal ranges, although its level is on the decline after a late summer bounce as a result of significant rain.

The latest extended forecast calls for above average temperatures and only modest chances of precipitation.

# CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY.

**CLEAN**

- Boats, PWCs, trailers, and gear
- Remove all weeds, mud, and hitchhiking contaminants from axles, wheels, undercarriage, motor, prop, skis, wakeboards, ropes, and life jackets before leaving

**DRAIN**

- Water from boat, bilge, motor, ballast tanks, and bladders. PWCs - run motor for 10 seconds to blow water out of jet drive
- Remove drain plug and open all water draining devices
- Trash unused bait

**DRY**

- Everything at least five days before going to other waters
- (Or) Decontaminate with high pressure water (120°F or warmer)

**STOP INVASIVE SPECIES!** LEARN MORE AT [CLEANDRAIN.DRY.ORG](http://CLEANDRAIN.DRY.ORG)

**BIRD SEED**

HIBBING FEED and SEED

262-3049

**PETERSEN DRILLING**

Since 1948  
Wells  
Water Systems

- PUMPS
- WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

1-800-662-5700

Spring Park Rd.  
Mt. Iron, MN 55768

Subscribe to the TIMBERJAY!

Call 218-753-2950



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Attn: Vermilion Lake Township Voters Change to Mail Balloting for Elections

On July 17, 2020, the Vermilion Lake Town Board adopted a resolution authorizing mail ballots for all elections for the Township of Vermilion Lake. Going forward, all elections for residents of the Township of Vermilion Lake will now be done by mail-in ballots processed by the St. Louis County Auditor's Office.

As long as you are a registered voter you will automatically receive a ballot in the mail approximately 30 days before the election and a postage paid return envelope to return your ballot. If your mailing address is a P.O. Box or you are a snowbird and you have your mail forwarded, you would have to register to receive an absentee ballot, because mail ballots are not forwarded.

If you prefer to vote in person, you would be able to vote at any time during the absentee period (46-days prior to the election) or up to 8:00 p.m. on election night. You could vote at the County Auditor's Office at the following locations:

St. Louis County Auditor's Office, Virginia Government Services Building, 201 South 3rd Ave West, Virginia, MN 55792

St. Louis County Auditor's Office, St. Louis County Courthouse 100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 214, Duluth, MN 55802

If you vote in-person seven days prior to election night, you have the option of placing your ballot directly into a ballot tabulation machine. If you vote prior to that during the absentee period, you would place your ballot in an envelope and it would be processed by the absentee ballot board.

If you have any further questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,  
Crystal Alaspa

Township of Vermilion Lake, Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 11 & 25, Oct. 9 & 23, 2020*

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
ST. LOUIS COUNTY

DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
69HI-PR-20-74

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Douglas William Lenzen, Aka Douglas W. Lenzen, Aka Doug Lenzen Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on October 13, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., a hearing will be held in the Hibbing

Courthouse at 1810 12th Ave E, Hibbing, MN 55746 (and/or by video conference at the Court's discretion), for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the Decedent, dated August 19, 2009, and for the appointment of Patrick Daniel-James Lenzen, whose address is c/o Rachel Caplan at 1172 Highway 5, Cook, MN 55723 as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets,

to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

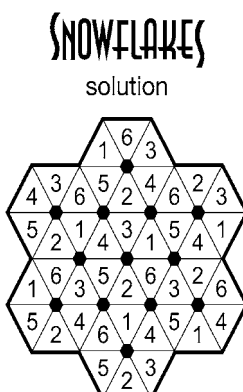
If you have an objection to this case, please contact Court Administration at 218-726-2460 option #6 for further instructions as these hearings are currently held remotely due to the pandemic.

Mark M. Starr  
District Court Judge, Probate Division  
Amy Turnquist, Court Administrator  
Debra Thorstensen, Deputy Court Administrator

September 8, 2020

Attorney for the Petitioner  
Sipila Law Office LLC  
412 1st St S,  
Virginia, MN 55792  
218-741-5000  
ange@sipilaw.com

*Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 25 & Oct. 2, 2020*



## EMPLOYMENT



**living well**  
THERAPY

### PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Living Well Physical Therapy currently has an exciting opportunity for a physical therapist to be part of our expanding team and work in a private practice setting in Northeast Minnesota. The qualified candidate will have strong manual therapy skills, experience in working with a wide variety of clients, and excellent customer service skills. Benefits will include a competitive wage, paid sick and holiday time, health care benefits, matching 401K, and continuing education funds.

Interested candidates should please  
call Patrick at 218-343-6253.  
Or e-mail [patrick@living-well-therapy.com](mailto:patrick@living-well-therapy.com)

## Township of Eagles Nest

**Attn: Registered Voters of the Township of Eagles Nest  
RE: Change to Mail Balloting for Elections**

On April 21, 2020, the Township of Eagles Nest Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution authorizing mail-in ballots for all elections for the Township of Eagles Nest. **Going forward, all voting by registered voters in the Township will be done by mail-in ballots processed by the St. Louis County Auditor's Office.**

As long as you are a registered voter, you will automatically receive a ballot in the mail approximately 30 days before the election with a postage paid return envelope to return your ballot. **If you get your mail at a post office box or if you are a snowbird and you have your mail forwarded, you would have to register to receive an Absentee Ballot, because mail-in ballots are not forwarded or delivered to a Post Office Box.**

If you prefer to vote in person, you would be able to vote at any time during the absentee period (46-days prior to the election) or up to 8:00 p.m. on election night. You could vote at the County Auditor's Office at the following locations:

St. Louis County Auditor's Office,  
Virginia Government Services Building  
201 South 3rd Ave West  
Virginia, MN 55792

St. Louis County Auditor's Office,  
St. Louis County Courthouse  
100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 214  
Duluth, MN 55802

If you vote in person seven days prior to election night, you have the option of placing your ballot directly into a ballot tabulation machine. If you vote prior to that during the absentee period, you would place your ballot in an envelope and it would be processed by the absentee ballot board.

If you have any further questions please contact me at 612-708-6823. There will be no one at the town hall on Election Day. **Any questions, call 612-708-6823 or email [eaglesnestwp@citlink.net](mailto:eaglesnestwp@citlink.net)**

Sincerely,

Deb Siverhus, Clerk of Eagles Nest Township

*Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2020*

## EMPLOYMENT

### BARTENDERS, COOKS, SERVERS

The Landing, in Cook, is now hiring bartenders, cooks, and servers. Come join a great team with a stellar reputation and a fantastic base of loyal customers.

Apply to [info@onlakevermillion.com](mailto:info@onlakevermillion.com) or call 763-221-1151. tfn

### Experienced AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN

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

### Cook Building Center

Now Hiring Full Time  
Delivery Driver/Yard Employee

Overtime every week 45-55 hours. Paid Time Off, 401k Match, Health Insurance, Cell Phone. Send resume to [info@cook-buildingcenter.com](mailto:info@cook-buildingcenter.com) or stop in to fill out an application. tfn

### FT MAINTENANCE ASST.

**Breitung Township is accepting applications for a Full-Time Maintenance Assistant.**

Please visit our website at [www.breitungtownship.org](http://www.breitungtownship.org) for job description and application.

Interested applicants can also call the Clerk's Office at 218-753-6020 for job description and application as well.

Applications must be in to the Clerk's Office by Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2020, at 4 pm. 10/2

### POSITION OPENING

**Ely Public Schools  
Temporary Paraprofessional**

Ely Public Schools is looking for a Paraprofessional for 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](http://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](mailto:mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us)

Starting Rate of Pay: \$16.57/hour

Hours: 6.5 hours/day

Deadline to apply: October 6, 2020; open until filled.

*Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 25 & Oct. 2, 2020*

**Call about  
our rates  
3 Editions –  
One Low Price!  
218-753-2950**

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

© 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.



# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

## HAIR CARE

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

VERMILION SHEAR IMAGE- Open Tues.-Fri., 9-5. Main St., Tower. 218-753-2928. tfn

## HOSPICE

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

## LICENSE BUREAU

COOK LICENSE BUREAU- TEMPORARY HOURS DUE TO COVID-19 Open: M-W-F 9am - 3pm. Mail in or drop off only at this time. Call with any questions, 218-666-6199 Email: cookdep159@gmail.com

## SUPPORT GROUPS

Ely AA OPEN GROUP MEETINGS- in person meetings, Wednesdays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 915 E Camp St., Ely

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

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

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

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

BABBITT AL-ANON- meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the upstairs of Woodland Presbyterian Church.

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

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

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

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

ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 231 E Camp St., Ely. Enter through side door.

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

HIV/AIDS? For confidential compassionate local support call the Rural AIDS Action Network, toll-free 1-888-647-RAAN(7226).

## DOG GROOMING

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

## BUILDING SERVICES

### EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC

"Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home"

Superior Quality  
• Plank Paneling  
• Trim  
• One-Of-A-Kind Moldings  
• Industrial Lumber  
**218-744-1788**  
8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

## WANTED

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

## HOUSE FOR RENT/SALE

FOR RENT IN SOUDAN- 3 BED, 1 BATH- 2-stall detached garage. \$600/month or \$59,900 for sale. CD considered. Avail. Oct. 1. Call 612-718-1890. 10/2

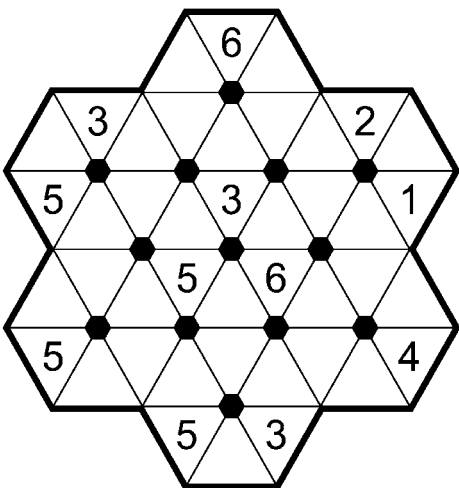
## SCRAMBLERS

solution  
1. Float 2. Supply;  
3. Margin; 4. Ingest  
Today's Word  
**FAMILY**

## SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆◆◆  
◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

© 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

## FUNERAL SERVICES

### Range Funeral Home



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

## Answer

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

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

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

## MARINE

**ARONSON BOAT WORKS**  
LAKE VERMILION, TOWER  
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169  
Hours:  
Mon-Sat: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM  
Sun: 9 AM-3 PM  
Mercury, Lund, Honda  
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

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

**Handberg's MARINA**  
Sales • Service  
Rentals  
General Store  
218-993-2214  
www.handbergs.com

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

**YAMAHA**

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

## MARINE

**TIMBUKTU MARINA**  
ON LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2131  
7401 Oak Narrows Rd - Cook MN  
Cabin rentals  
Year round boat storage and dockage  
Boat and pontoon rental  
Convenience store  
Gas, bait & liquor  
timbuktumarina.com

**TIMBUKTU MARINE**  
LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2276  
2475 Vermillion Dr - Cook MN  
Ranger Boats  
Premier Pontoon  
WEERES  
Boats  
MERCURY  
SUZUKI  
YAMAHA  
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts,  
docks, trailers and accessories  
timbuktumarine.com

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

## Super Crossword

## LIVING A LIFE OF E'S

**ACROSS**

1 Renounces the throne  
10 Hexa- plus two  
14 Best results possible  
20 Right Guard, e.g.  
21 Oom- (polka sounds)  
22 Drink of beer after a shot  
23 2014 Oscar show host  
25 In a position facing  
26 Standing in good —  
27 "Put it — tab"  
28 Tiny charge carrier  
29 In times past  
30 Grazing site  
32 Sociologist who coined "survival of the fittest"  
36 La-la lead-in  
39 Mushroom variety  
41 Tavern  
42 Author and activist on Alabama's state quarter  
45 Little — (tots)  
46 Appends

50 Egg shapes  
51 Get defeated  
52 "Kapow!"  
54 Bar garnish  
55 Kosovo citizen  
56 LXX / X  
57 He wrote "He's Just Not That Into You" with Liz Tuccillo  
61 Ticklish red Muppet  
62 Dawn direction  
64 A, in Argentina  
65 Part of many German names  
66 Suffix with lion or seer  
67 Player of Colonel Klink on "Hogan's Heroes"  
72 — -pitch  
75 "The Catch" network  
76 Wedded  
77 Verve  
78 Verge  
82 "The Pink Panther"  
86 "— you with me?"  
87 End a flight  
88 Bird-related  
89 Tahiti, par exemple

90 Posterior  
92 Egyptian peninsula  
93 Vapor  
94 Guitar's kin, for short  
96 Longtime "What's My Line?" panelist  
98 Amer. body with 100 members  
102 "Aladdin" figure  
103 Cagey  
104 1965-66 poet laureate  
108 Chichi retreat  
110 Coop cackler  
111 PC key  
112 Mani- —  
113 "There Is Nothin' Like —"  
117 Not tardy  
119 "Nurse Betty" star  
124 Vexes  
125 A hat hides it  
126 Deviations  
127 Drive home  
128 Finds to be refined  
129 Small-stakes poker

**DOWN**

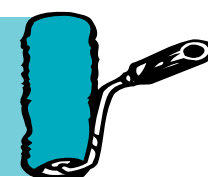
1 Fruit drinks  
2 Boxing prize  
3 Portion (out)  
4 Utopian  
5 Denounces  
6 Ending for dull or drunk  
7 — kwon do  
8 Mem. of the U.K.  
9 Canonized Fr. woman  
10 Where drinks are on the host  
11 Monterey County city  
12 "— playing our song"  
13 Balking beast  
14 Ink-squirting sea creature  
15 Gives a ring  
16 "I taut I — a puddy tat!"  
17 Newton who was knighted  
18 Come together  
19 Enthusiasm  
24 —easter (storm type)  
28 Currently has the stage  
31 Just fine  
32 Hint-offering columnist  
33 Architectural add-ons  
34 Twiddled digit  
35 Zora — Hurston  
36 The ones there  
37 Make merry  
38 Make fearful  
40 Trust  
43 Bodily joint  
44 Brain wave test, for short  
47 Sup stylishly  
48 Blockbuster rented them  
49 Places  
52 Nota —  
53 Top competitive effort, informally  
54 Novelist Sarah — Jewett  
56 "Live" and "learn," e.g.  
58 Shah or czar  
59 She played Miss Brooks  
60 Lena of song  
63 Gremlin's kin  
68 Be worthy of  
69 Bodily joint  
70 Appointment calendar  
71 Vestige  
72 Inbox junk  
73 Jeans-maker Strauss  
74 Big elevator name  
79 Copenhagen citizens  
80 Make twisty  
81 Uplift morally  
83 Devour  
84 Claims on property  
85 That miss  
91 "Bus Stop" playwright William  
92 Move aside  
94 Of no help  
95 Smallville's Clark  
96 Drinking sprees  
97 "— the season to be jolly"  
99 Dishonors  
100 Emerge  
101 — -weenie  
104 Bazaar units  
105 Creed part  
106 PC key  
107 Fritz out  
109 Writer — Rogers St. Johns  
114 Not "fer"  
115 Come together  
116 Irish Gaelic tongue  
118 "— done it!"  
119 Frat letter  
120 Electric jolt  
121 Ending for ethyl  
122 Chaney of old chillers  
123 Run after K

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20									21				22							
23									24				25							
26									27				28				29			
			30		31			32	33				34				35			
36	37	38		39		40				41										
42			43						44			45			46	47	48	49		
50								51				52	53			54				
55						56				57	58			59	60					
61					62			63		64				65				66		
			67	68						69			70				71			
72	73	74			75				76				77				78	79	80	81
82			83					84				85		86			87			
88								89				90	91				92			
93								94	95								97			
104	105	106																		
110																				
117																				
124																				
127																				





# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



## YOU CALL, WE HAUL!

Cement Trucks, Building Materials  
Septic-pumping Trucks, Dirt  
Well-drilling Equipment  
Propane Delivery

Carl Anderson

**Anderson Barging, Inc.**

Cell 218-780-4955

www.andersonbarging.com

Covering all of Lake Vermilion

## DO YOU NEED PLANS?

North Country's Premier Design and Drafting Service

- Custom Homes
- Garages
- Remodels
- Additions
- Site Planning

**CADline Design**

218.827.8166 - Office  
218.349.6838 - Cell  
plans@cadlinedesign.us  
www.cadlinedesign.us

Your source for Building Plans,  
Site Planning and CAD Drafting Services



In Business Since  
• 1979 •

Call Now To  
Schedule Your  
FALL Work!

It's a great time to be outdoors!



"Fetch us" for  
your fall  
projects!

Landscaping  
Services, Patios,  
Garden Design,  
Retaining Walls,  
Yard Restoration

(218) 365-6037 • 2331 Old Hwy. 169, Ely  
1/4 mi. east of 88 & 169 • greenstonenursery.com



Real Estate  
Closing Services,  
Title Insurance  
& Abstracting

**Northeast Title Company**  
has competitive rates and  
professional services assuring  
peace of mind for our  
customers before and after  
closing. We take pride in our  
service and have a proven  
history of being a leader in the  
industry. Customers can expect  
quality services and products  
along with a professional  
staff that takes pride in every  
closing. Our warm, friendly, and  
professional approach in all of  
our transactions ensures our  
customers a level of comfort that  
is unmatched in the industry.

**ELY OFFICE**  
545 E Sheridan St • Ely, MN 55731  
Phone (218)365-5256  
**Angie Mikulich**  
Licensed Closing Agent

**VIRGINIA OFFICE**  
612 13 St S • Virginia MN 55792  
Phone (218)741-1515  
**Jodee Micheletti**  
Owner/Licensed Closing Agent

**COOK/SURROUNDING AREAS**  
Phone (218)666-3174  
**Sharon Maronick**  
Licensed Closing Agent

www.netitle.com

## The FINISHED LOOK

Building & Remodeling  
On Land or Over Water

Licensed and Insured

218-235-7305

Handyman Services

## END of SUMMER CLOSEOUT

2x6 - 6'

Cedar Dock Boards

On Special \$9.99 each

While supplies last!



Phone/Fax: 218.666.5344  
Hours: Mon. Fri: 7-5, Sat: 8-12  
eric@cookbuildingcenter.com

## FALL GRILL SALE!

Traeger Grills  
& Wood Pellets



ON  
SALE!

We are a UPS Shipping Drop-Off

## VERMILION LUMBER

HOME OF THE PROFESSIONALS

218-753-2230

302 Main St., Tower, MN

M-F: 8 AM-5 PM; Sat: 8 AM-Noon



## TIP-TOP CHIMNEY SERVICE

Repairs,  
Inspections,  
Minor Roofing Repairs,  
Liners and Caps

tiptopchimney@gmail.com

218-290-5370 Rick  
Insured



Custom made by DOW  
Building Heavy Duty Docks  
in Ely for 42 years

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM!  
Quality Shorefront Products

Factory Dealer of  
DAKA & Shoremaster Products  
www.docksonwheels.com

2195 Twin Lakes Road  
5 miles west of Ely  
on Hwy 169

218.365.6210 Call Bob  
for a FREE ESTIMATE



Check Out Our  
New Products!

Quality & reliable  
marine sales & service



Open: Mon-Fri, 9-5  
Sat. 9-Noon  
8327 Unity Dr., Virginia / Mt. Iron  
218-741-8532

Get  
Results!



Advertise  
in the  
Timberjay!

## FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Delivered Redi-Mix Concrete  
Septic Tanks

We have: Concrete Steps & Sidewalk Pavers,  
Crushed & Washed Rock, Sand,  
Garden Soil, Crushed & Screened Gravel,  
Different Types of Concrete Blocks.  
**FREE ESTIMATES** for site development,  
roads, fill and excavations.

Celebrating  
Over  
47 Years!

From Ely to Tower-Soudan  
and Virginia, using local gravel pits  
to support all your needs.

**FOREST CONCRETE  
PRODUCTS**



1715 E. Sheridan, Ely, MN 55731  
office 218-365-6161 • plant 218-365-4030  
fax 218-365-6985 • cell 218-341-3197

## BEAR RIVER ELECTRIC

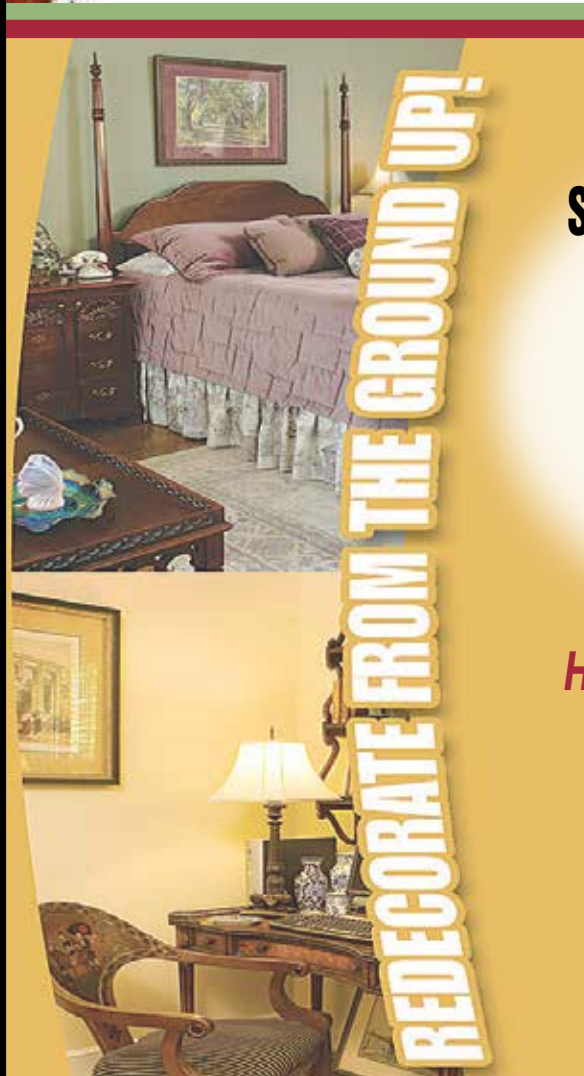
12896 Hwy. 1, Cook, MN Lic EA756990  
Shawn & Diane 507-272-3882

## Super Crossword

Answers

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

## Turn your HOUSE into a DREAM HOME!



We've got it all...

Sauna Stoves • Cabinets Carpet  
Tile • Flooring • Countertops  
Storage Systems

Vinyl Flooring • Bathrooms  
Area Rugs • & Much More!

HARVEST THE EXPERTISE AND  
VALUES WE CAN OFFER!



**Leaf Filter**  
GUTTER PROTECTION

INSTALLS ON NEW & EXISTING GUTTERS

BEFORE LeafFilter AFTER LeafFilter

15% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE AND 10% OFF SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS + 5% OFF TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS!

Promo Number: 285

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-855-845-8425

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\* Offer valid at estimate only. CSLB# 1035795 DGPL #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218254 License# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132133A License# LEAFF-NWR22J License# WV056912 License# WC-29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC\_0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 1314H09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H

Subscribe Today!  
(218) 753-2950

BIG Enough to Serve you; small Enough to Know You



8401 Enterprise Drive N., Virginia/Mt. Iron  
(1/2 Mile West on Highway 169) • 741-6690



HOURS: 9-5 M-F



floortoceiling.com/virginia