

Don't miss this year's North Country Christmas magazine...inside

It's a Wonderful Life radio play...See /3  
Y Store intersection meeting... See /1B

# The TIMBERJAY



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989

VOL. 32, ISSUE 47 November 26, 2021 \$1<sup>00</sup>

## CITY OF TOWER

# Businesses frustrated over rash of break-ins, thefts

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

The Vermilion Fuel and Food store is just one of several Tower businesses affected by recent break-ins. photo by M. Helmberger

TOWER— When a burglar fled Vermilion Fuel and Food in the early morning hours last March 3, he left a veritable trail of bread crumbs to his hideout. Apparently, a hole in the bag that the thief had brought along to carry his loot allowed a variety of stolen items, including lottery tickets

and candy, to fall out as he rode his bicycle— yes, his bicycle— back to the Vermilion Housing apartments, where he was staying.

It didn't take sheriff's deputies long to pick up the scent, which led them to the thief's door.

When deputies viewed video

footage, they were able to spot the young man. Terry Wagoner, who owns and operates Fuel and Food, recognized him immediately.

Sounds like an open and shut case?

See...CRIME pg. 9



## SUPPORTING THE ARTS

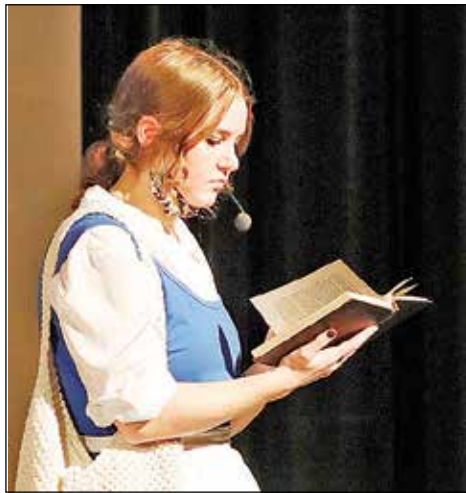
# Beauty

and  
the



# Beast

Timeless classic marks the return of the Ely high school musical



by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - "Beauty and The Beast" opened to a sold-out audience last Friday night at Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theatre and played to two more packed houses Saturday and Sunday. The annual Ely Memorial High School Musical returned after a COVID hiatus.

"Beauty and the Beast" has become a timeless classic for performers and audiences of all ages," said Musical Director Sarah Mason.

Thirty-plus excited middle and high school students told the story of an arrogant young prince and his castle's servants after they fall under the spell of an enchantress, who turns him into the hideous Beast until he learns to love and be loved in return.

Belle, the female lead, was played by senior Sidney Marshall. "Her character is a spirited, headstrong village girl

See...BEAUTY pg. 12



Ely High School students Sidney Marshall and Bryce Fairchild played the lead roles in 'Beauty and the Beast', performed at Vermilion Community College last weekend. photos by K. Vandervort

## COVID-19

# Booster shots now available to all adults

Cases likely to keep rising in county into December

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- All fully vaccinated Minnesota adults are now able to get COVID-19 booster shots, following an expansion of eligibility announced Friday by Gov. Tim Walz.

Walz wasted no time in acting upon Friday's recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control that booster shots be available to anyone 18 and older.

"Cases are rising, community spread is high, and Minnesotans are moving indoors for the winter as the weather gets colder and the holidays approach," Walz said. "Health officials and researchers agree that booster shots help increase protection against COVID-19. Now is the time for Minnesota adults to roll up their sleeves and get their booster shot when they're due."

The CDC stopped short of saying everyone 18 and older should get a booster. The guidelines vary according to the type of vaccine an individual received. The recommendations are:

If you are 50 years old and older and you received either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, you should get a booster a minimum of six months after completing your initial two-dose vaccination series.

If you are 18 and older and received

See...COVID pg. 10



## HEALTHCARE

# Bridge to Health clinic opens in Cook

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- Who could have guessed that pollen wafting through the skies of Georgia would someday bring a new and innovative medical practice, Bridge to

Health P.A., to Cook?

Dr. Brittany Debeltz, APRN, DNP, FNP-BC is the owner and clinician at Bridge to Health, a certified family nurse practitioner familiar to many in the area through her past work with the Bois Forte Medical Clinic at Nett Lake and, more

Dr. Brittany Debeltz is the owner and clinician at the new Bridge to Health clinic in Cook. photo by D. Colburn

recently, Scenic Rivers Health Services, based in Cook.

Deciphering the alphabet soup following her name gives clues to Debeltz's passion for rising to the top of the nursing profession. Originally a bachelor-degreed RN, she replaced those letters with APRN, Advanced Practice

See...COOK pg. 9



**Your Holiday Shopping Destination**  
**Gifts for Everyone who loves the Outdoors**

**WINTER GEAR AND GUIDES AVAILABLE FOR RENT**

You'll find it all at Piragis Northwoods Company 105 N Central Ave.  
piragis.com 218 - 365 - 6745 boundarywaterscatalog.com

**Contact The Timberjay**

218-753-2950  
editor@timberjay.com





Community notices

Range of Voices choral concerts, Dec. 10 and 12

REGIONAL- Range of Voices will present two concerts featuring a mix of winter and Christmas songs. The concerts will be held Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. at Chisholm Baptist Church and Sunday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. at Gethsemane Lutheran in Virginia.

Ice Candle and Holiday Gathering set for Dec. 18

EMBARRASS- A display of candles will take place at the Embarrass Cemetery on Saturday, Dec. 18. Christmas goodies and coffee will be served at the town hall at 4 p.m. along with crafts for the kids. Come to enjoy the holiday spirit and beauty of ice candles.

Donations of cookies or bars are welcome and are greatly appreciated. Volunteers are also needed to place candles at the cemetery that afternoon. Call the clerk's office at 218-984-2084 for any questions or to volunteer.

Vermilion Dream Quilters are holding a Holiday Party on Dec. 2

TOWER- Vermilion Dream Quilters will hold their traditional holiday party at the Vermilion Club at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 2. Please make your reservations with Kathy Sacchetti by Nov. 26. Her contact information is in the November meeting minutes e-mail. Donations for Operation Santa will be accepted if you would like to participate. Planned activities include a wrapped gift exchange of \$15 and a make-and-take holiday-themed craft led by Michele Sherwood.

Holiday Craft Show in Tower on Saturday, Dec. 4

TOWER- Friends of Vermilion Country School is hosting a holiday craft show in Tower on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. This annual event showcases many local artisans, along with other home-based businesses. The show features a mix of hand-crafted gift items, holiday baked goods, and other great gift ideas. The event is being held in conjunction with several other holiday open house and sale events at businesses on Tower's Main Street.

A few tables are still available; call Jodi at 218-753-2950 for more information.

Friends of Vermilion Country School is the booster club for Vermilion Country School, a grades 7-12 charter school located in Tower that serves students from a 30-mile radius.

DECEMBER 2021 HOLLY-DAYS



Join us for these fun events:

 **WEDNESDAY, December 1**  
**SENIOR'S DAY**  
-30% off store-wide for Seniors 55+  
-Free TeaDrops all day

**SATURDAY, December 4**  
**BAKER'S DAY**  
-30% off store-wide on ALL bakeware

**SATURDAY, December 11**  
**KID'S DAY!**  
Bring the kids, we'll help them shop  
-\$3/ \$5/ \$10 tables of available items  
-Treats for adults (read "wine") while you wait

**SATURDAY, December 18**  
**COOK'S DAY!**  
Let us help you select the perfect gift!  
-\$10 off every \$50 purchase

**WEDNESDAY, December 22**  
**STOCKING STUFFER'S DAY**

**THURSDAY, December 23**  
**PANIC DAY!**  
-Gift cards in all sizes  
-\$10 off EVERY \$50 purchase

101 E Chapman St, Ely • 218-235-6135  
PotluckVintage@gmail.com



NORTHWOODS PARTNERS  
Festival of Trees begins on Thanksgiving

ELY- The much-anticipated Northwoods Partners Festival of Trees is at long last upon us. With the generous assistance of our community of supporters, and a little holiday magic, the lobby of the Grand Ely Lodge will once again be transformed into a winter wonderland, complete with beautifully-decorated Christmas trees, wreaths, and a holiday boutique. This year's holiday event will run Nov. 25 through Dec. 5.

The magic begins at dawn on Thanksgiving morning, when the trees will be lit for the first time; they will remain lit until noon on Dec. 5. Bidding on the decorated trees and wreaths begins on Thanksgiving evening at 5 p.m. The Holiday Boutique also opens at 5 p.m. and is



submitted photo

full of beautiful hand-crafted holiday must-haves and

giftable items. Back by popular demand are Buy it

Now items and the Chairs for Care. Each chair has been designed by local artists and crafters. Bidding and the boutique close at noon on Sunday, Dec. 5.

While this holiday magic lasts only 11 days, it continues throughout the year in the hearts of those who participate and support the Festival of Trees. Most of all, the magic continues in the lives of area seniors who are helped by Northwoods Partners every day.

If you have any questions regarding Northwoods Partners Festival of Trees, please contact Lisa Porthan at 218-365-8019.

Please note that due to COVID restrictions and the ongoing positive caseload in our area, there will not be a Thanksgiving evening lighting ceremony this year.

VIRGIE HEGG HOSPICE PARTNERS  
Annual Lights of Love Campaign is underway

REGIONAL- The 31st annual VHHP Lights of Love campaign, the largest fundraiser of the year, begins in November to commemorate National Hospice Month and National Family Caregivers Month. Last year's Lights of Love raised approximately \$5,800. Fundraising goals are achieved through the dedicated efforts of the Board of Directors working together with a community of supporting individuals and businesses. You are invited to continue the tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones by supporting VHHP through this Lights of Love campaign.

The VHHP mission is to bring comfort care services to enrolled hospice patients and their families, as well as hospice eligible patients in local communities. VHHP sponsors two education scholarships for students enrolled in the North Woods School and Tower enrollment area and pursuing a medical career, and one for college students.



The Tower-Soudan Singers will carol at the Lights of Love event in Tower. file photo

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

month of January, unless otherwise indicated on the attached form.

Please mark your calendars and join VHHP for the Lights of Love tree lighting and caroling which will take place at the Cook Gazebo on Friday, Dec. 3 at 5:30 p.m., at the Orr Center on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 6:30 p.m., and on Sunday, Dec. 5 at the Tower Civic Center at 4 p.m.

For more information about Virgie Hegg Hospice

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

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS  
Ely area Christmas celebrations

ELY - The Christmas season is here and the Ely Chamber of Commerce and other organizations are planning festive events for the 2021 holiday season.

"Shine Bright Ely" starts on Thanksgiving. Instead of downtown stores being open, business windows and storefronts up and down Ely's main street are welcoming folks with sparkling lights, animation, and holiday themes.

There is no traditional holiday parade this year, marking another transition in the city's end-of-year event calendar.

"Small Town Christmas" and "Shop Local" weekend start Friday, Nov. 26.

"Ely is well known for locally made, unique

products. Everything from tasty granola, Dorothy's root beer, Gene Hicks or Northern Grounds coffee, to outdoor clothing and winter specific gear: knives, bags, packs, toboggans, snowshoes, sleds, dog harnesses and collars are available," Ellen Cashman, Chamber events coordinator, said.

"The stores are filled with north woods-style gifts, art work, artist-made cards, home improvement items, and a lot more for everyone on your gift giving list," she added. "Shop Local Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Shopping local means going home with your purchases, not waiting to see if your online purchases arrive on time."

Back by popular

demand this year are the Chairs for Care. Each chair has been designed by local artists and crafters. Bidding and the boutique close at noon on Sunday, Dec. 5. For more information on Northwoods Partners Festival of Trees, contact Lisa Porthan at 218-365-8019.

Holiday sleigh rides will be offered Friday and Saturday, Nov. 26-27, at Echo Valley Stables, 2231 Robich Road, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at a cost of \$7 per person. Rides are approximately 20 minutes. Outdoor COVID-19 protocols will be followed. No sign-up is required. Call Ely Community Resource, 218-365-5254 for more information.

Ice skate with Santa

Claus on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 5-7 p.m. at the Ron Castellano Arena in Babbitt. The event is hosted by the Babbitt Figure Skating Club. Come out and join them for free skating, dinner, hot chocolate, fire with s'mores, and a coloring contest. A festive-wear contest will also be held.

The chamber's annual Mrs. Claus Party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 11 at the Grand Ely Lodge. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be outside welcoming children and families for drive-thru goodie bag pick-up from 1-2 p.m. The traditional indoor event will be held indoors at the GEL from 2-3:30 p.m. and will include craft tables, a visit with the jolly couple and goodie bags.



**HOURS: MON-SAT: 9 AM-5 PM**  
• CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY •

Wishing You and Your Families  
A Happy Thanksgiving!





129 N. Central Ave., Ely • 218.365.4653  
ElySurplus.com

**WE BUY CLEAN USED VEHICLES**

**2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT Crew Cab 4x4**



MSRP \$49,915  
Customer Cash-\$1,000  
Cyber Cash\*\*-\$500  
**NOW \$48,415**  
\*And Get 2.49% APR



\*2.49% APR up to 72 months on approved credit with GM Financial. Not compatible with all offers. \*\*Cyber Cash not compatible with all offers. Must take delivery by 11/30/2021.

**NEW INVENTORY ARRIVING DAILY**  
**PRE-OWNED DEALS**

2018 Chevrolet Tahoe LT 4x4....Nicely Equipped!... **\$50,990**  
2016 Chevrolet Traverse LT AWD...Fresh Trade In!.. **\$31,990**  
**View Our Full Inventory at [www.waschke.com](http://www.waschke.com)**



**WASCHKE FAMILY**  
**CHEVROLET • COOK**

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





**MEALEY'S**  
GIFT & SAVORY SHOP  
ELY, MINNESOTA  
Est. 1987



Wishing everyone a  
Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving



**CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY**  
124 N. Central Ave., Ely • 218.365.3639  
[mealeysinely.com](http://mealeysinely.com) • Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5



CRIME

Ely man charged in gun and vehicle crimes

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – A 25-year-old Ely man faces three felony burglary charges, a felony theft charge, and two fire-arms felony charges in connection with several reports of burglaries and thefts in the area dating back to August.

Troy Allen Stahl, 1125 E Camp St., was charged last week in St. Louis County Sixth Judicial District Court in Virginia.

Stahl was allegedly involved in the theft of as many as 10 guns, reportedly

taken from a storage facility in Ely, stolen vehicles, and stolen fishing equipment, according to court documents. Each of the felony charges carries a maximum penalty of five to 20 years in prison and/or fines exceeding \$160,000.

According to the criminal complaint, released by the Ely Police Department, Stahl was suspected of involvement in the reported theft of a vehicle in Ely on Aug. 24. Stahl initially denied the accusation. The vehicle was later discovered in Winton, and in the vehicle was a crossbow

covered with a snowmobile tarp, also reported missing.

In September, a burglary at a local storage facility was reported to Ely police that indicated as many as 10 firearms were taken. Another burglary at another nearby storage facility was reported in October where several items were taken, according to police.

On Nov. 8, an Ely resident reported to police that bow fishing equipment and a speaker were taken from her garage, and she suspected that Stahl was involved. The next day,

Ely police responded to an Ely residence where St. Louis County Sheriff’s Department was recovering a stolen vehicle.

The Ely Police Chief said he was directed to an antique cash register that the owner of the house said belonged to Stahl. While police were still there, Stahl walked up to the residence and, according to the complaint, he was arrested related to the stolen vehicle. Stahl indicted that “he wanted to tell the truth about what had been going on and that it would incriminate him big time.”

In an interview with police, Stahl reportedly confessed to the vehicle theft in August and breaking into the storage units. The report said Stahl admitted to police that he was “running guns to Virginia,” and specifically admitted to taking two shotguns from the storage unit to sell them for money. He also told police that he “borrowed” the bow fishing equipment, but also admitted he did not have permission to borrow it.

The report indicated that Stahl has a prior burglary conviction from 2015.



submitted photo

Stahl remains in jail awaiting a court date.

ENTERTAINMENT

NLAA presents ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ radio play

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

Online streaming and live performances begin Dec. 2



ELY - Northern Lakes Arts Association is pleased to announce its first radio play, Philip Grecian’s “It’s a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play.”

This authorized adaptation is taken from the original 1946 film by Frank Capra. Grecian, an alumnus of the Colorado Creede Repertory Theatre, has worked as a writer/director for film, video and audio productions, according to the local production’s director, Vince O’Connor.

“Grecian’s televised live radio version of

Dracula earned him an Emmy in 2010, as well as a Videographer Award of Excellence and a Platinum Hermes Creative Award,” O’Connor said.

“This beloved American holiday classic

comes to captivating life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve,” he said.

O’Connor, with musical direction by Irene Hartfield, presents the retelling of the story of George Bailey, the unsung, big-hearted hero of small-town Bedford Falls and his lovable, bumbling guardian angel.

The radio play involves more than 60 speaking roles played by a cast of 13. Cast members include Grayson Scoggin, Katie Paige, Gil Knight, Karin Schmidt, Cade Thibodeaux, Vince O’Connor, Julie Maystadt, Irene Hartfield, Crystal Poppler, Gabe Mann, Tracy Thibodeaux, Alison Poppler, and Brennan Rue.

Additionally, almost all sound effects will be created live by Greg Mann.

In another first for NLAA, three of the performances will be exclusively

streamed live through On The Stage.

“This is an all-in-one online platform designed by theatre professionals with real tech industry experience, leveraging expertise in both the creative and tech sectors,” O’Connor said.

Dates for performances, streaming online only, are Thursday, Dec. 2, at 7p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, at 2 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. Tickets for the streamed shows are \$5 per ticket plus a small ticket fee.

Dates for live perfor-

mances at the Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater are Friday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. Tickets for the live shows are \$10 per ticket plus ticket fee. Tickets are available online at bit.ly/nlaatkts

“It’s a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play” is produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Co. of Woodstock, Ill..

REAL ESTATE



KELLER WILLIAMS  
CLASSIC REALTY NORTHWEST


*The NorthMnLakes Group*

David Lanari Realtor® 218.750.8345

www.northmnlakes.com • david@northmnlakes.com

Serving Lake Vermilion & Surrounding Area

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



Sales are great!  
**WE NEED  
NEW LISTINGS!**  
Contact us for a free  
property evaluation.

218-666-5352 info@bicrealty.com www.bicrealty.com

**LAKE VERMILION** 4 acres w/dock. Evaluated for future septic system. Water-access property, 5 minute boat ride from Timbuktu Marina. **MLS# 141336 \$139,000**


**COOK** 11+ acres undeveloped w/views of Frazer Bay. Several flat and level bldg. sites w/potential for panoramic lake views. **MLS #141098**  
**SALE PENDING! \$74,900**

**BABBITT** Updated 3 BR, 2 BA energy efficient home w/large 720 sq ft garage and large fenced in back yard. Open kitchen/dining and large living room windows. **MLS #142346 \$108,000**


**ELBOW LAKE** 18+ acre home/cabin site w/approx. 3,600 ft of lakeshore. Public landing site minutes away. A wide variety of tree cover. **MLS# 129868 \$140,000**



*Wishing you and your family  
a very Happy Thanksgiving  
from all of us at B.I.C. Realty*



**We sell the North!**





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-\$69,000** 2.3 acre boat access lot on Elbow Lake, with 228 ft of lakeshore. **MLS#141517**

**Orr-\$36,900** Hunter's delight! Rustic cabin with gas lights on 2.75 wooded acres bordering public lands and near Pelican Lake. **MLS#142492**

**Cook-\$44,900** 40 acres bordering hundreds of acres of state land to the west and south. **MLS#142465**

**Ban Lake, Orr-\$295,000** 2,940 ft of shoreline and 57 wooded acres. Remote! **MLS#140881**

**Echo Trail, Buyck-\$569,000** 3 BR, 2,900 sq ft custom timber frame home, hickory cabinets, granite flooring, 1,600 sq ft wrap-around deck, 4-stall garage and solar system along with back-up generator. **MLS#141606**



**#1**  
NOBODY IN THE  
WORLD  
SELLS MORE  
REAL ESTATE THAN  
RE/MAX



\*As measured by residential transaction sides.\*



NEXT TIME COME HOME!



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

### Reaching for justice

The GI Bill did great things,  
but it failed black Americans

To understand the quandary America faces over race, consider the fictional analogy of an annual 200-meter foot-race between a white guy and a black guy. Because of a rule in place for generations, the white guy is allowed to start the race 40 meters down the track.

Some have complained about the unfairness of this head start for years, and over time those calls grew louder. Some argue that the white guy should begin the race back at the starting line, but others object. Sure, the white guy has an advantage in the race again this year, but why should this particular white runner be penalized for decisions made in the past? The race should be run as it's always been.

Others call out to let the black guy move down the track so he starts at the same place as the white guy. Others object, arguing that the black runner shouldn't receive preferential treatment. As Chief Justice John Roberts famously argued, "The way to stop discrimination on the basis of race is to stop discriminating on the basis of race." Which sounds good rhetorically, even as it leaves the white guy with his 40-meter advantage.

Still others argue that the white guy doesn't have a head start at all, and that any suggestion that he has an unfair advantage is un-American, and should, most certainly, never be taught in schools.

Most white Americans have a vague sense, at best, of the injustices that black Americans have faced over the centuries. Yes, they may have heard of slavery, which officially ended a long time ago, but the journey to equal rights and equal treatment under the law for blacks in America is far from over. And even if a black person today runs the race as fast as the white runner, they can never make up for the fact that the white guy had a head start.

And let's be clear. The white guy has a head start in America, in so many ways. But for today, let's just consider one. We celebrated Veteran's Day earlier this month and some lawmakers in Washington used the occasion to, once again, introduce legislation to compensate the descendants of black veterans of WWII, who were routinely denied the benefits of the GI Bill. We've written in the past about how the GI Bill was one of the greatest and most effective investments ever made in America's future, by helping to send millions of young American servicemembers to colleges and universities after they came home from the war. With their newfound skills and education, they sparked enormous advances in technology and innovation and created

what was, by the 1960s, the most prosperous nation on Earth. That same GI Bill also allowed millions of American families to buy their first home, helping them to build wealth that would provide advantages to their children and their children's children.

Yet, even though an estimated 1.2 million black Americans served in WWII, relatively few were able to take advantage of the GI Bill, because racist southern lawmakers in Congress at the time implemented measures specifically designed to prevent black GIs from receiving the benefits made available to white servicemembers. That meant many black GIs were denied the educational benefits that allowed white servicemembers to advance themselves economically. It meant most black GIs were consigned to rental housing because they couldn't take advantage of the VA mortgages routinely available to white GIs. This denied so many black families the opportunity to build intergenerational wealth through home ownership.

This isn't critical race theory. It's American history, and it isn't even history as so many blacks continue to face discrimination to this day. The only question is whether America is willing to do anything to address the systemic injustice that this country has long imposed on its black citizens. It's too late for most of the WWII vets, but providing some financial compensation to the descendants of those veterans could help, at least in a small way, to right an historical wrong that blocked the path to a better life for so many black families in America.

When we hear the term, "reparations," this is what we're talking about. A way to repair the damage that government policies and societal biases have unquestionably wrought on people of color for generations. Many Americans, unfortunately, say they oppose such reparations under the false belief that everything is a zero-sum game. Or, that a benefit provided to one group, even to address historic injustice, somehow takes away from others. It is that false belief that is fueling the anger over trumped-up issues like critical race theory.

We all need to remember the words of the late, and much-missed, Paul Wellstone, who never missed a chance to note that "we all do better when we all do better." When we lift black families, native families, or the families of any other disadvantaged group, we make all of our communities better and stronger. And it's how we build an America that truly lives up to its promise.

JEFFREY HELLER © 2021 HELLER TOON.COM



## Letters from Readers

### Too many Heffalumps and Woozles in Congress

Big Bird has been in the news of late—he received his COVID shot on Sesame Street—a good example for easing a child's anxiety about getting an important shot! But there are grown men and women in Congress who have criticized Big Bird for being a good role model for children. And last week in the House of Representatives we have over 200 members who are, in the words of A. A. Milne and Winnie the Pooh, WOOZLES and HEFFALUMPS, very scary people who condone violence against a fellow member and our President. SHAME on them!

Woozles and Heffalumps should be chased out of the halls of government and replaced with folks who have our children's best interest and morality in mind.

**Elizabeth Urban**  
Eagles Nest Twp.

### Turn off the TV and get vaccinated

If only we could get to these cocksure people who tell everyone, "Hey - I had COVID last year. No big deal. I'm tougher than these wimps."

The problem is, this bug keeps getting tougher and meaner. The next time you get infected - if you stay unvaccinated - it's going to be a lot rougher.

Expect to be hospitalized - if there's room for you.

There may not be, and we may not learn how to handle the next round in time to help you out. Worse yet, we may have a president who doesn't want people to know how bad the situation is. Again.

If you stay unvaccinated, you can expect to get fully infected again with the next new variety within 16 months.

It's just the way this bug works. Think of it like you would some creep who comes around beating up your kids, gets thrown in jail, and then comes back to town. Next thing you know, he's doing the same thing again. Do you just brush him off, figuring

"He's not bothering me, why should I worry about it?"

How many times does he have to come around before you do something effective? The longer this thing continues to evolve, the worse it gets.

The 1919 flu disappeared for reasons that aren't quite known, apparently having to do with its own evolutionary dead end rather than actually running out of people to infect. On the other hand, people did take it seriously enough to enforce mandatory quarantines with guns and truly extreme measures.

There's the story of one small town in Colorado that was shooting to kill in order to enforce its own quarantine. The only exception was the mail, and even then they made the postal worker leave the bags and pick up the outgoing mail outside the edge of town. The virus got in anyway, apparently on a saddlebag, and wiped them out.

A hundred years is long enough to lose the shared memory of how bad it was, especially in a mobile and changing society. Even more so when its single biggest source of information is being driven by unregulated greed. They keep your eyeballs and ears by making you mad and scared, and then sell you to their advertisers. Tucker Carlson and friends are vaccinated, and requiring anyone who comes near them to be both vaccinated and masked.

The only cure is to turn them off and actually think for yourself.

Maybe this whole exercise is ridiculous, because writing for people who read newspapers is preaching to the choir. The people who need to be reached are sticking to the drug that makes them feel better. So, they just laugh at us, and turn the volume up.

Their beliefs are just as good as anyone else's facts - right?

**Dave Porter**  
Minneapolis

### See who's at fault for our deprivation

A FLOWER OPENS AND  
TURNS TO FOLLOW THE SUN.  
Around 550 million years ago  
single cell organisms evolved to  
develop light-sensitive receptors  
to detect the light of day and dark

of night. The light of the sun, warmed and nourished a seed to root, a flower to sprout, grow and bloom. Beauty is found in the eye of the beholder, but light makes it real.

A MIND OPENS AND  
TURNS TO FOLLOW THE  
LIGHT OF REASON. A beacon of light illuminates necessary evidence to overcome darkness of prejudice and bias, resentment and bigotry. Truths are revealed by distinguishing fact from fiction and separating belief from reason to nurture and actualize the workings of democracy.

"SEEING THE LIGHT"  
MAY BE THE DAZZLING  
GLARE OF DELUSION. Threatening the life of the U.S. President, falsely shouting fire in a crowded theater or inflammatory speech that incites violence is not protected free speech. A closed mind doesn't see the open book of lying, cheating and stealing, but willingly supports the treasonous "dirty work" of a megalomaniacal ex-President.

BLIND FAITH CANNOT  
SEE THE RAYS OF DOUBT  
AND QUESTION. Blind obedience cannot see what unfolds in open view. Trump has telegraphed seditious intent and deed by inciting violent insurrection based on false claims of voter fraud. Confirmation bias allows one to see and hear only what supports their preconceptions.

TO OPEN THE EYES OF  
OTHERS, ONE MUST OPEN  
THEIR OWN. Whose wealth, power and interests escapes our attention in this time of Trump turmoil and tempest? The One-Percent and Corporate control of the economy have deprived family, worker and small business of their share and equity. History informs, let's learn from it, so that past is not prologue to overcome the forces of darkness in moving toward the light.

**Harold Honkola**  
Winter Haven, Fla.

Where the  
North Country  
Sounds Off!

## Listen, listen, and you shall hear...

Four years ago, I wrote a column about listening and received several appreciative comments about it. However, I've noticed there's still a lot of not listening going on in the world out there, so I thought I'd give it another go. With the hol-



**BETTY  
FIRTH**

idays coming up, what better time to brush up on your listening skills in what might be challenging social situations?

Listening well is not that complicated, but I think we often do it badly. Sometimes it's because we're talking too much, but a lot of the

time it's because we're thinking too much and just not paying attention. Our minds are busy with our own thoughts, plans, and concerns, so we're really not hearing even though it looks like we're listening.

Here's a list of the right-off-the-top behaviors to avoid: 1) Interrupting; 2) Distractedly looking at other people or activities going on around you; 3) Checking your phone or other devices, including the TV; 4) Fidgeting with

stuff or shifting position repeatedly; 5) Responding inappropriately with vague comments. Examples of the latter, which you might think indicates good listening, are "I hear you" or "I'm with you, buddy," when you're just spitting out meaningless words. If you hear yourself repeating certain phrases frequently, they're probably generic cliches devoid of much meaning: "Bummer. I'm all over that. Got it. Awesome. Supercool." The

list is endless and shifts with current word trends, often fostered and popularized by TV shows.

Interruptions come in many forms, but probably the all-time favorite is sharing your own story, or lacking that, the story of someone you know or a friend of a friend, or a story you heard on Facebook: "Boy, I get what you're going through. That happened to me (a friend, family member, a faceless Facebook strang-

er,) so I know that's gotta' be tough." Usually when we're interrupting, we may think we're offering understanding and compassion, but probably underlying that is a level of discomfort. We're uncomfortable with what they're telling us for a variety of reasons, (or we may just be bored) and we really just want the person to stop talking or switch to safer (or more interesting) territory: "How 'bout

See **LISTEN...**pg. 5



Letters from Readers

Twin Metals  
needs your help

Since 2012, Twin Metals Minnesota has spent at least \$450 million exploring and preparing studies and defending lawsuits brought by people who oppose its proposed underground copper-nickel mine. In November 2019, TMM submitted its Mine Plan of Operations to the BLM and its Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet to the Minnesota

DNR. The process will eventually lead to the issuance of state and federal permits which will allow it to begin developing its mine in the Rainy River Watershed of the Superior National Forest. In preemptive attempts to kill TMM’s proposed mine before the permitting process is finalized, lawsuits have been brought by mining opponents against the Minnesota DNR to invalidate the nonferrous mining rules. The DNR has been ordered

by the Minnesota Court of Appeals to review the state’s nonferrous mining rule and is accepting public comment thereof through Dec. 8, 2021. It’s critical that the DNR receive comments from TMM’s mining supporters during the comment period, asserting that the siting rule and the comprehensive environmental protection provided in state and federal law is adequate, and that a ban on mining is not necessary. It is important that

commenters provide substantive information as to why the siting rule should or should not be changed; comments that only focus on support for or opposition to mining, without providing information for the DNR to consider, will not assist the DNR in its decision making regarding the adequacy of the existing nonferrous mine siting rule. Comments to the Minnesota DNR may be submitted, through an online form: <https://survey.mn.gov/s.asp?k=163595161979> or by U. S. Postal Service to: MN Department of Natural Resources, ATTN: Nonferrous Mine Siting Rule, 500 Lafayette Road N, Box 45, St. Paul, MN 55155-4045. The facts and substantive information that will be the basis for your assertions and argument that the siting rule and the comprehensive environmental protection provided in state and federal law is adequate and that a ban on mining is not necessary, are

contained in seven example letters. To access the example letters, email us at [upnorth-jobs354@gmail.com](mailto:upnorth-jobs354@gmail.com). We will email the examples to you for you to submit one, two, three or all seven letters to the DNR. We are available to answer any questions you may have by telephoning us at 218-365-3324. **Gerald M. Tyler  
Up North Jobs Inc.  
Ely**

COMMENTARY

Global water crisis affects us all

Here in the United States we have grown accustomed to thinking we will always have access to plentiful, clean water. We just assume we can turn on the tap and get all the water we need.

But in much of the world, water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning isn’t something to take for granted. Even in the U.S. and other developed countries, climate change and surging consumption could put our water security at risk. This is an issue we need to take seriously. The World Meteorological Organization, an agency of the



LEE  
HAMILTON

United Nations, warned in a recent report of a “looming water crisis” in which more frequent and extreme weather events will put a

serious strain on the world’s water supplies and systems. The numbers in the report are staggering. Two billion people live in “water-stressed countries” that can’t provide basic water and sanitation services. Some 3.6 billion people lacked reliable access to water at least one month in 2018; the figure could

rise to 5 billion by 2050, more than half the world’s population. Over 11,000 weather- and climate-related disasters have taken place in the past 50 years, causing more than 2 million deaths and \$3.6 trillion in damages. Since 2000, flood disasters have increased by 134 percent, with their heaviest impact in Asia. Drought has increased by 29 percent, causing the most deaths and economic losses in Africa. A lack of clean water prevents proper sanitation, and contaminated water causes cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, typhoid fever, and other deadly diseases. More than 800,000 people, including nearly 300,000 children under age 5, die each year from diarrhea that could be prevented by good

hygiene, according to the World Health Organization. It’s tempting for us to think these problems are confined to the developing world. But climate change doesn’t spare those of us who live in developed nations. In Europe, record flooding this year killed hundreds of people and shocked climate scientists. Increasingly powerful storms have ravaged U.S. coastal cities from New Orleans to New York. Drought in the American West brought another season of devastating wildfires and hamstrung the region’s agricultural and recreation industries. Western North America, in fact, was labeled a “global water crisis hotspot” in the World Meteorological Organization report.

Water shortages often lead to conflict, as nations and groups compete for scarce resources. Wars, flooding, and drought displace millions of people, creating new crises as nations struggle to accommodate refugees and migrants. It’s also tempting to think it’s someone else’s job to fix water problems in other regions. But, as the world’s most powerful and wealthiest country, we Americans have an obligation to lead. As a major producer of greenhouse gases that cause climate change, we contributed to the problem. What can we do? The problem isn’t simply a matter of too much or too little water; it’s that we’re not managing our

resources effectively. Water management systems are “fragmented and inadequate,” in the words of the World Meteorological Organization. It calls for more investment in integrated water management systems to better conserve and manage water. Too often we waste water and fail to develop the infrastructure to manage it. As part of that effort, we must do more individually and as a nation to stem climate change, which is bringing the water to a head. We can and must step up to the challenge. If we do not, disaster awaits.

LISTEN...Continued from page 4

those Vikings?” “Can you believe this weather we’re having?” We are living in an era of spinning opinions instead of actual entertainment or news. How many radio and TV talk shows exist that feature people spewing their opinions, some valid, some just bloviating. How many “listening shows” are there? As the internet has dominated the way people spend their time, newspapers, news programs, and entertainment that are expensive to program have all suffered. It’s much cheaper to do call-in shows, asking John and Jane Everyday Citizen to share their experiences and opinions, and much more expensive to pay actual investigative reporters with experience and expertise to delve into issues in depth; much more expensive to take responsibility for the accuracy of the information being broadcast or published. And, of course, there’s all the social

media options, begging you for your opinions with a simple click to “Like” or “Dislike”; you don’t even have to use words...just thumbs up or down sends your mini-bite of opinion out into the world clamoring to hear what you think. Well, actually, no human is clamoring, but only the algorithms that you’re feeding the fodder they crave. If you really want to go in depth, you’ll add some emojis. What does all that have to do with listening? Nothing, that’s the point. You don’t have to listen to anybody, just scan their comments and spew your opinions with no threatening, in-your-face rebuttal. (As I get to do with this column.) So, if you’re doing any of those behaviors listed above, just stop it. You know how. That’s just the first step, but it will be helpful. The next steps are more difficult, but I have confidence we can all do it.

When someone is speaking, keep eye contact with them, even if they’re across the room. Give them time to complete their thoughts. Avoid competitive conversations. If you notice that you and others are just waiting to pounce with your comments or arguments, take the initiative to shift the energy: “Hey, wait, I’d like to hear what else Susan has to say. The proverbial donkey (or elephant) in the room, is the political partisanship that has become so intense and ingrained in our country. It may be a good idea to avoid discussing politics, but that doesn’t mean you have to avoid your friends and family members who have very different views. Let’s try to remember that they are human beings with the same basic needs and desires that we have, wanting health, happiness, and security. But how do we handle those glaring differences? Perhaps imagining that

you just met these people and you’re curious about who they are, what they’re interested in, and what experiences they’ve had in their lives. You may think you know everything about them, but chances are you do not. If you’re having a family dinner that you think could go south, invite a couple new people to the table, and chances are the family will behave better. If they’re good conversationalists, the newcomers will be asking the kinds of questions that you could be, too. Excellent listening really means you are paying attention to people, really noticing who they are. Harvey Jackins, the founder of Reevaluation Counseling, (aka co-counseling) said, “Everyone needs to be listened to for at least fifteen minutes a day to share what has gone well and what could go better.” How often do you get that? At least fifteen solid minutes of

being completely listened to without interruptions or comments of any kind? I think that’s why we are so often spouting off, sharing our stories and opinions at the expense of listening well, because we so want to be heard. When we truly listen, we are acknowledging the

importance of another’s thoughts and feelings, joys and concerns, indeed, of their very existence. When we are listened to, we are no longer invisible. The three magical words we all love to hear? “Tell me more.” Have a lovely Thanksgiving.



the

TIMBERJAY

Copyright © 2021 by *The Timberjay*. *The Timberjay* (PN 16025) is published weekly on Fridays, 51 weeks per year, by *The Timberjay Inc.*, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Business/Editorial Office at 414 Main St., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Call (218) 753-2950 to subscribe. E-mail address is [editor@timberjay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Periodicals postage paid at Tower, Minnesota.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790.

This award-winning community newspaper published each week serves the communities of 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 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: \$39 year Elsewhere: \$54 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover/AmEx. 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 and payment at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

Moving? Questions about your subscription?

Call the Tower office at (218) 753-2950.

Now More Than Ever...

Week after week, the Timberjay’s top notch editorial staff, photographers and design professionals bring the region’s best news coverage to your door.

The Timberjay is your best choice for news of the North Country

That’s why we’re the one “the locals” read.

Subscribe Today • We can send a gift card!

(218) 753-2950 or online at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com)





Week of Nov. 29

**Monday**  
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 **2:30-5:00 p.m.** Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Dec. 21.

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.

Tower/Soudan Community Bible Study- Thursdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at the Tower Elementary School cafeteria. All are welcome. Call 218-984-3402 for more info.

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

**St. Paul's offer First Communion instruction, Nov. 28**  
SOUDAN- Pastor Greg Anderson at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Soudan is offering instruction for First Communion to willing participants on Sunday, Nov. 28 during the 8:30 a.m. church service. Questions, call Susan at 218-780-1560.

**Red Hat Belles to meet Dec. 3**  
GREENWOOD TWP- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet Friday, Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m. at the Vermilion Club for their annual Christmas Luncheon. The group will order off a limited menu. Members are asked to bring an unwrapped gift for Operation Santa and a non-perishable food item for the Tower Food Shelf. Please RSVP by Nov. 29 by calling Kathy at 218-753-2530. New members and guests are always welcomed.

**Tree trimming gathering at LVCC on Dec. 1**  
TOWER- Help decorate the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center on Wednesday, Dec. 1 at 1 p.m. The Christmas trees are set up, the lights are on, and we need help hanging bulbs and wrapping packages.  
LVCC needs your extra and unused Christmas tree ornaments. There are boxes on the deck on the south side of the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center on Main Street. Please put your unused and extra tree ornaments in them so that we may hang them on our trees. Coffee an' will be served in the Halunen Lobby where we will be wrapping boxes in weatherproof wrapping to put under the outdoor trees. Also, if possible, bring small empty boxes, scissors, and tape.  
Any questions, email Mary Batinich at [malexbat@gmail.com](mailto:malexbat@gmail.com).

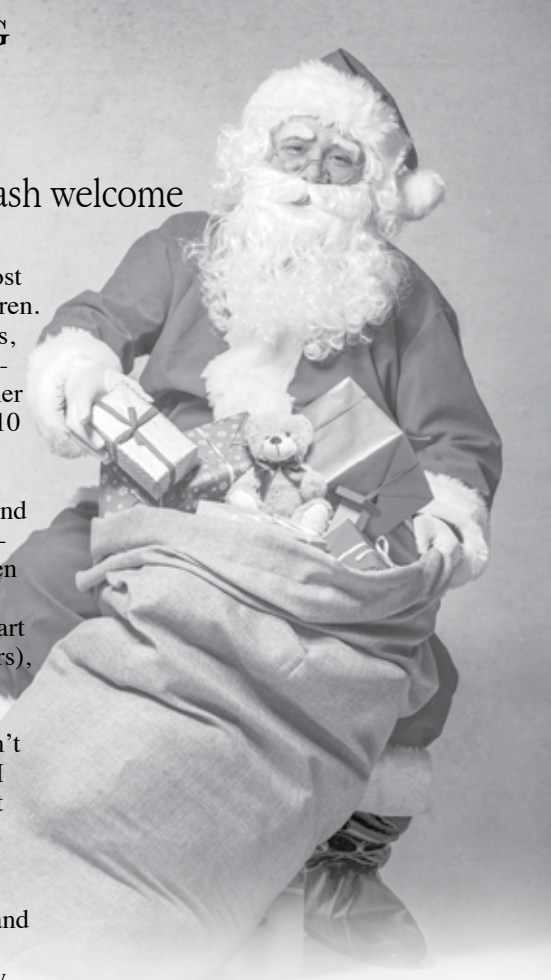
COMMUNITY GIVING

Operation Santa toy drive underway

Donations needed by Dec. 16: toys, gift cards, clothing, and cash welcome

TOWER- Donations have started to come in for this year's Operation Santa toy drive, but we still have a long way to go to reach our goal. We are expecting to at least match last year's tally of 195 children. We are also hoping to be able to do our shopping online if possible, so early donations are especially appreciated.  
Operation Santa is a local fundraiser which purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year's total of 195 children was a new record, and thanks to everyone's generosity, we had gifts for all!  
Take advantage of the great deals, many of which are being offered right now, to bring some joy into a child's life. Supply chain issues are expected to cause shortages of toys this holiday season, so it is best to shop early.  
We have started to receive some donations, but much more is needed to make sure every child in our community receives gifts and warm clothing this Christmas season.  
The effort is organized by the Timberjay and the Tower Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)  
Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made

a very generous donation to the Tower Soudan Civic Club to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the children.  
We are looking at donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15). Stocking stuffer type gifts and holiday candy are also appreciated. We are always in need of gifts for infants and babies (must be labeled as safe for children under three). Gift ideas for children include games, action figures, building toys, dolls with accessories, craft sets, art supplies (including crayons and markers), sporting goods (basketballs, footballs, playground balls, sleds), puzzles, cars and trucks, and science kits. Please don't worry about picking out the right gift; I promise there will be a child on our list who will love whatever you pick out!  
If you purchase a toy that uses batteries, please also send a spare set! Donations of batteries (especially AA and AAA) are appreciated.  
We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food shelf. We do assemble gift bags for the senior citizens who use the food shelf, so small gifts for them are appreciated also, such as boxes of Christmas candy, candles, puzzles and puzzle books, holiday scented lotions and soaps, holiday décor, and warm socks.  
Donations can be dropped off at the



Timberjay in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 21. Families who use the Tower Food Shelf and have not yet signed up, can call Jodi at the Timberjay at 218-753-2950, or email [editor@timberjay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com).

SAFETY LESSONS



Tower-Soudan elementary students got a fun lesson in electrical safety with an engaging performance of the National Theater for Children's Safety Circus play. The performance was sponsored by Minnesota Power. Pictured are Ms. Holen's first grade class posing with the actors after the show. photo by J. Summit

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Soudan recreation area planning session set for Thursday, Dec. 9**  
SOUDAN- Breitung residents are invited to join in a planning session to make improvements to the Soudan rink and park. The meeting is set for Thursday, Dec. 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Breitung Town Hall. Coffee an' will be served.  
For questions or comments, call Stephanie at 218-410-6001.  
Plans currently include new hockey boards, updates to the warming shack, additional playground equipment, paving the parking lot, improvements in accessibility, and other features and landscaping like disc golf or bocce ball courts. The project will largely be funded with grant dollars. Detailed cost and funding information will be available at the meeting.

**Open House planned for new businesses at 615 Main Street**  
TOWER- Tenants at the newly-renovated 615 Main Street building are hosting an open house on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. So far, there are five businesses that will be located in the building. The large building, formerly Classy Cars, has undergone a major renovation after being vacant for well over a decade, and not operated as a business for at least 30 years.  
FlexSpace, which is owned by building owner Miranda Kishel, is a coworking space with an open work area and two private offices. The space offers fiber optic internet, and can be used by the day or by the month with 24/7 access. Pricing starts at \$10 for a day pass. More information is on the website at [www.theflexiblespace.com](http://www.theflexiblespace.com) and the membership signup page is at [members.theflexiblespace.com](http://members.theflexiblespace.com).  
Little Blessings Gift Shop and Beauty Counter owner Toni Monsivais is opening her second location here in Suite 102. She has a storefront on Main Street in Cook as well. Toni has a great variety of gifts, books, affirmation signs, gift baskets, and chemical free makeup products from the Beauty Counter brand.

Harbor View Health and Wellness, owner Beth Debeltz will be sharing information about her spa. This business will be opening sometime after the new year in Suite 103.  
The Aura Boreal owner Kim Yankowiak is opening in Suite 104. Kim will be doing Reiki sessions by appointment. She is a Reiki Master and teacher who works with both people and animals. Her website is under construction at [TheAuraBoreal.com](http://TheAuraBoreal.com).  
Little Green Pantry, owned by Lisa Smith, is opening in Suite 105. This is a healthy foods market that sells groceries without chemicals, preservatives, added sweeteners, or colorants. It was created around the idea that we should be able to read and understand the ingredients labels on the things we eat. Customers will be able to shop in store or online with pickup. She plans to add delivery options in the future. Her website is [littlegreenpantry.com](http://littlegreenpantry.com)

**Embarrass appoints Jack LaMar as new supervisor**  
EMBARRASS- Jack LaMar was appointed supervisor on a 2-0 vote at the regular Embarrass Town Board meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 10. He was immediately sworn in and joined Chairman

Gene Wright and Supervisor Bernie Mettler at the table for the remainder of the meeting.  
LaMar has been an Embarrass resident since 2013, and active in the community. He is employed as an Operating Engineer for JLL (Jones, Lang, Lasalle) and co-owns and operates Early Frost Farms with his wife, Ericka. He is also the official Embarrass weather reporter for the National Weather Service.  
The supervisor's seat had been left vacant by the resignation of Roy Worsham. It will be an open seat in the 2022 election.

**Lights of Love ceremony set for Dec. 5 in Tower**  
TOWER- Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners Outdoors Lights of Love Tree Lighting will be held on Sunday, Dec. 5 at 4 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. Carol singing with the Tower-Soudan Singers will follow, along with an opportunity to make donations to the Virgie Hegg Hospice program. Coffee an' will be served outdoors.





SUPPORTING THE ARTS



More than 30 Ely Memorial school students presented *Beauty and the Beast* last weekend at the Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater. The cast told the story of an arrogant young prince and his castle’s servants after they fall under the spell of an enchantress, who turns him into the hideous Beast until he learns to love and be loved in return. photos by K. Vandervort

Ely school presents ‘Beauty and the Beast’



Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2021



out on grey water  
rowing with november winds

struggle to reach nets

Libraries

Ely library

Hours: Monday — Friday,  
9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Closed on Saturday,  
Sunday, and holidays  
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**  
**OPEN AA - 7:30**  
p.m. Wednesdays and  
Saturdays, in-person,  
First Lutheran Church,  
915 E. Camp St., Ely.  
**SUNDAY NIGHT AA -**  
at St. Anthony’s Catholic  
Church is cancelled.  
**ELY WOMEN’S OPEN**  
**AA -** Every Monday  
at noon at Ledgerrock  
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., at  
Woodland Presbyterian.  
**CO-DEPENDENTS’**  
12-step support group,  
noon Fridays,  
St. Anthony’s Catholic  
Church, Ely.  
**ADULT BASIC**  
**EDUCATION GED**  
- Study materials and  
pre-test available. Call  
218-365-3359, or  
1-800-662-5711.  
**CAREGIVER**  
**SUPPORT GROUPS:**  
Babbitt: 3rd Monday of  
Month: 6-7:30 p.m. at  
Carefree Living  
Ely: 4th Monday of  
Month: 10-11:30 a.m. at  
Ely-Bloomenson Hospital  
Conference Room B

Ely Police Department Activity Report Oct.15-31, 2021

Arrests/Citations

➤Traffic Stop- Individual arrested for Third Degree DWI.  
➤Attempt to Pickup- Individual arrested on a warrant.  
➤Assault- Individual arrested for Third Degree Assault.  
➤Domestic Assault- Individual arrested for Domestic Assault.  
➤Disturbance- Individual issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct.

Complaints

➤Suspicious Activity- Officers were contacted about a vehicle that was idling for a long time in a parking lot. The vehicle left the area prior to officers’ arrival.  
➤Medical- Officers were contacted about a dog that bit a person. The dog was lodged at the vet for an observation period. This case is under investigation.  
➤Order Violation- Officers were contacted about a violation of a court order. This case was referred to the attorney’s office for charging consideration.  
➤Found Property-

Officers were contacted about property that was located outside of a business. This case is pending owner identification.  
➤Security Alarm- Officers were contacted about a security alarm at a local business. Officers determined this to be a false alarm.  
➤Unknown Trouble- Officers were contacted about an individual that had mice in her residence. Officers assisted setting up traps to remove the little pests.  
➤Scam- Officers were informed about a scam relating to Publishers Clearing House. Friendly reminder: Never give out personal information to unknown people.  
➤Garbage- Officers were contacted about an individual dumping garbage on city property. The individual was located and the garbage was cleaned up.  
➤Scam- Officers were contacted about a scam requesting gift cards.  
➤Theft- Officers were contacted about the theft of a windshield. Officers determined this

to be a misunderstanding.  
➤Lost Property- Officers were contacted about a lost phone. The phone was located and returned to the owner.  
➤Gas Leak- Officers assisted the Ely Fire Department with a gas leak.  
➤Information- Officers received information on a person working in the Ely area that may appear suspicious.  
➤Suspicious Activity- Officers located a suspicious vehicle behind a closed business. Officers determined the individual was experiencing a mental health crisis and was transported to the hospital.  
➤Security Alarm- Officers responded to a security alarm. Officers were informed the alarm was false and the proper code was given to cancel.  
➤Check Welfare- Officers were contacted about an individual that was in a vehicle and appeared to be sleeping. Officers arrived and determined the male to be fine.  
➤Open Door- Officers located an open

door at a business while patrolling. Officers determined the door was left open.  
➤Information- Officers were contacted about odd behavior around a residence. This case was referred to the property agency.  
➤Check Welfare- Officers were requested to check on a person not answering their phone. Officers located the person who had their phone off.  
➤Garbage Complaint- Officers were contacted about a dresser that had been on a property for over a week. Officers contacted the owner and it was moved.  
➤Suspicious Activity- Officers were contacted about glass on a walkway. Officers cleaned the glass off the walkway.  
➤Check Welfare- Officers were contacted about an individual that was sleeping in a vehicle. Officers contacted the person and they agreed to find an appropriate place to sleep overnight.  
➤Extra Patrol- Officers were requested for extra patrol around

a residence while the owners were out of town.  
➤Check Welfare- Officers were requested to check on an individual that was confused. Officers located a family member and they got the individual home safe.  
➤Animal Disturbance- Officers were contacted about two dogs in a vehicle. Officers determined the dogs were in good health and the dogs were being cared for properly.  
➤Parking Complaint- Officers were contacted about a vehicle parked in an alleyway. Officers contacted the owner and the vehicle was moved.  
➤Mental Health- Officers were contacted about an individual that was having self-harm thoughts. Officers were assisted by family and put a safety plan in place.  
➤Animal Disturbance- Officers were contacted about a dog that was running around the neighborhood. Officers arrested the dog and the dog was brought to doggy jail for the night.



# Council reaffirms support for Cook charging station

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- Electric vehicles and a possible charging station for Cook was on the agenda for a second consecutive meeting of the Cook City Council on Nov. 18.

Lou Pliml, taking the place of his father, George, who had been scheduled on the agenda, came well-prepared with background and technical information about different types of charging stations and indicated that the feasibility of installing one at Zup’s Market is continuing.

“What we’re looking for is any sort of support for the city to help facilitate and move this along,” Pliml said.

The council had already indicated at its October meeting that it would be in favor of having one or more charging stations in Cook, provided that city incurs no costs in their installation and operation.

In response to a question from Mayor Harold Johnston, Pliml noted that there are various options that could be used for people to pay when they stop for a charge, including a credit card reader

similar to gasoline pumps, a “touch-to-pay” phone app, or a prepaid subscription service. And as for the charge for a charge?

“That’s up to the person who installs the charging station,” Pliml said. “They set the prices.”

Council member Elizabeth Storm reported on research she had done since the October meeting to identify other cities in the region with charging stations. Of particular note, Storm said, is a slow charging station in Ely that is “open and free to anybody.”

Storm said that the Ely charging station was financed through money Minnesota received from a \$2.9 billion settlement with auto maker Volkswagen in 2016 for cheating on emissions testing. After a lengthy and informative discussion, council members once again affirmed their overall support for electric vehicle charging stations in Cook.

In other business, the council:

- Approved signing a certificate of substantial completion with KGM Contractors for the Cook Community Center project.
- Accepted a \$1,600 donation from a private

donor designated for “city improvements.”

- Received a copy of the November library report from Library Director Crystal Phillips. Among items reviewed in the report was an action taken by the Library Board at its Sept. 14 meeting to discontinue charging overdue fines on Cook Public Library materials.
- Approved payments of \$140,039 to Lenci Enterprises for work completed through Oct. 25 on the new snow removal equipment building at the airport, and \$18,780 to SEH, Inc. for work related to the project.
- Heard an update from council member Elizabeth Storm about new art installations outside the library as part of the “It stARTS on River St.” community art initiative.
- Approved liquor license renewals for the Old Muni and Cook VFW.
- Authorized a letter confirming the city’s participation in the Central Iron Range Brownfields Program Coalition and expressing support for a grant application by the city of Virginia to be submitted to the EPA on behalf of the coalition.



Saturday was a busy day in Cook, beginning with the second day of the St. Mary's Catholic Church Holiday Bazaar (top). Shoppers had plenty of choices, and Sloppy Joes and soup were good excuses to pull up a chair and chat. In the late afternoon and evening, many of the same folks showed up at the Cook VFW, where (bottom) Marty Yourczek tops off a bowl of chili for the Friends of the Parks chili feed fundraiser for Veterans Riverfront Park. Drawings for gift baskets, a gun, and a 50/50 raffle added fun and additional revenue for the event.

photos by D. Colburn

## NORTH WOODS SCHOOL FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

### A Honor Roll

**Seniors**  
Erik Aune  
Morgan Burnett  
Ty Fabish  
Trey Gibson  
Erik Hagen  
Alex Hartway  
Abby Koch  
Michaela Luecken  
Sean Morrison  
Jacob Panichi

**Juniors**  
Cooper Antikainen  
Kohen Briggs  
Loren LaFave  
Kaden Ratai  
Karah Scofield  
Steven Sopoci

**Sophomores**  
Evelyn Brodeen  
Jonah Burnett  
Annabelle Calavera  
Brandon Cook  
Addy Hartway  
Alexandra Holm  
Evan Kajala

Helen Koch  
Riley Las  
Zefrym Mankowski  
Autumn Swanson

**Freshmen**  
Addison Burckhardt  
Alex Burckhardt  
Ryder Gibson  
Aidan Hartway  
Sierra Schuster  
Amber Sopoci  
Lydia Trip

**Eighth Grade**  
Lincoln Antikainen  
Lauren Burnett  
Josephine Carlson  
Brynn Chosa  
John Danielson  
Isabelle Koch  
Victoria Mathys  
Matthew Miller  
Isabel Pascuzzi  
Sadie Spears

**Seventh Grade**  
Alethea Bangs  
Corralyn Brodeen  
Kate Cheney

Emarie Gibson  
Andrew Hartway  
Carson Johnson  
Ella Kruse  
Sophia Mathys  
Cash Rutchasky  
Merilee Scofield  
Kaycee Zupancich

**B Honor Roll**  
**Seniors**  
Haley Bogdan  
Ethan Byram  
Tyler Chiabotti  
Bryce Chosa  
Joshua Copeland  
JessieAnne Drift  
Christopher Fairbanks  
Samuel Fealy  
Michelle Hagen  
Joseph Hoagland  
Kadence Holland  
Carter Holman  
Drayvin Isham  
Reuben Isham  
Sierra Jensen  
Nathan Martinson  
Nathan Palm  
Abbigail Shuster

Cole Snidarich  
Arianna Swinson  
Kaya Tschida  
Olivia Udovich  
Lillian Voges  
Brianna Whiteman  
Jaden Whiteman  
Ajay Zakrajshek

**Juniors**  
Brenden Chiabotti  
Jared Chiabotti  
Dylan Cochran  
Thomas Debeltz  
Brielle Hujanen  
Braden King  
Hannah Kinsey  
Lane Kneen  
Grace Koch  
Benjamin Kruse  
Garrett Lappi  
Kiana LaRoque  
Dillon Musakka  
Anya Pearson  
Victor Schelde  
Elias Smith  
Jacob Swanson  
Brian Swinson  
Avery Thiel  
Emily Trip

**Sophomores**  
Hannah Cheney  
Madison Dantes  
Sean Drift  
Talise Goodsky  
Emily Grah  
Cadense Nelson  
Victoria Olson  
Jessy Palmer  
Tiauna Peltier  
Madison Taylor  
Trinity Vidal  
Anna Wilson

**Freshmen**  
Kalvyn Benner  
Rory Bundy  
John Carlson  
Ella Cornelius  
Talen Jarshaw  
Brielle Lindgren  
Sheyenne Schuster  
Dakota Schwarzenberger  
Richard Swinson

**Eighth Grade**  
Sophie Arvila  
Isaiah Briggs  
Levi Chaulklin  
Brittin Lappi

Blaze Markwardt  
Scott Morrison  
Rogelio Noyes  
Payton Scofield  
Megan Taylor  
Abijah Tibitondwa

**Seventh Grade**  
Alexander Boone  
Jermaine Boshey  
Grace Bundy  
Presley Chiabotti  
Kaelyn Ehrbright  
Collin Grah  
Khloe Holland  
Augustine Jacobson  
Jett Lambert  
Jordanna Lambert  
Elijah Lindgren  
Barbara Littlewolf  
Aiyeshia Mohamed  
Michael Nuthak  
Victoria Phillips  
Aubrey Smith  
James Yernatich

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### NWFA preps for December sale

COOK- The Wolfe Den at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook will host a special garage sale throughout the month of December, and NWFA is accepting more donations for the event.

Donated art, antiques and curiosities are sought for others to enjoy and purchase. If folks have some nice, lightly-used non-clothing items to donate to this NWFA fundraiser sale, please bring them to the gallery at 210 S River St. on Nov. 29-30 or Dec. 1-2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations that do not sell may be reclaimed after the sale if the item is listed and labeled with name and phone number.

And don’t forget to shop for “new to you” items from Dec. 3 through Dec. 31. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., not including Thanksgiving, Christmas Day or New Year’s Day.

### Class on Dec. 3 features holiday giving items

COOK- With the holiday season upon us, Northwoods Friends of the Arts is offering “Gift Bags, Tags and Trim-mings,” a new Curious and Creative Art Class on Friday, Dec. 3 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the gallery at 210 S River St., presented by Brenna Kohlhas.

Participants will make packaging with scrap-booking paper, glue and ribbon. Brenna will supply ribbon, glue, dies and a die-cutting machine.

Bring your favorite paper scissors, and if possible, the following: a bone folder (a tool used to fold/score paper), a score-board and a pad of 12-by-12 inch card stock, or at least eight sheets of patterned paper or card stock.

Brown paper bags can also be recycled into beautiful gift bags. The class will make as many various sized boxes and bags as time and paper allows. Class size is limited to ten, so text or call Brenna at

218-290-5903 to register. There is minimal fee of \$10 for NWFA members and \$20 for non-members. The fee is due at the beginning of the class.

NWFA recommends that students wear masks for the class.

### Christmas Tea planned for Dec. 6 at First Baptist

COOK- The women of First Baptist Church of Cook will host “A Christmas Women’s Tea” in the newly renovated fellowship hall on Monday, Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

This year’s theme, Christmas Around the World, will provide a taste of how other cultures celebrate this special season that is so dear to all of us. Come join us for a delightful evening of familiar carols, worship, fellowship and refreshments. Invite a friend, a neighbor or even a “stranger” to attend this special event.

### Thank You Cook Hospital and Care Center, and Scenic Rivers Health Services

Through five and a half years at the Cook Hospital and Care Center, and Scenic Rivers Health Services, our Aunt, Theo Sigford, received professional and compassionate care. Your direct, full-time care for her began with her recovery from two major surgeries, rehabilitation, and, eventually, comfort care as her health continued to decline.

The evolution of her care through failing health was complicated by the unprecedented challenges of the Covid pandemic that continues to threaten older people, especially those in group living situations like care facilities. Through these uncharted times staff was consistently professional and compassionate under the most difficult circumstances. We know how difficult this often was for you, and we appreciate how hard you worked to make Theo more comfortable and make it easy for us to help support her as she faced her health struggles.

Thank you for your constant search for the safest and least restrictive support you always sought to provide, and thank you for taking such good care of our Aunt Theo.

Dodd Demas, Stella, Kris, Ray, Ann, and Folke





Using video footage from a neighboring business, Anderson recognized the vehicle used in the heist, a blue Ford Explorer that he had seen before around town. He followed them home one night, to the

He suffered further losses in the past year as a result of another Tower resident who regularly posted "closed" signs in front of the car wash. Anderson figures the individual has cost him thousands of dollars in lost business. Like many of the others, that individual was identified through video surveillance footage, but law enforcement officials said while the individual was clearly a significant nuisance, it didn't appear he was actually breaking any laws. The sheriff's office

Wagoner estimates that his burglar, who forced his way into the store while it was closed, took about \$1,200-\$1,500 worth

Law enforcement officials face questions and frustrations from crime victims all the time. When asked about the Fuel and Food case, St. Louis County Sheriff Ross Litman, urged patience and noted that knowing the identity of a perpetrator isn't the same as having a case ready to prosecute. "Much like everyone, we too have an opinion

Sometimes, the case is made relatively early. That was the case with the late night break-in at Zup's Grocery in late 2018. Video footage showed a single individual, who broke in and stole

Anderson said he was told limited resources and a burgeoning case load of more serious crime, often puts cases like his on the back burner. “Talking to one of the prosecutors, I was told these kinds of crimes are small potatoes overall,” he said. “But they’re harmful to me, to businesses in town and the community,” he added.

And while there were family friends who were nurses that Debeltz looked up to, those many clinic visits were instrumental in choosing a direction for her

"As a nurse practitioner, you don't need a

As a primary care provider, Debeltz pro-

Individual monthly memberships range from \$40 to \$75, dependent on age, with an initial registration fee and discounts for groups of two or more. As an example, a 30-year-old patient who signs up for a \$70 membership could have separate visits for an annual physical, weight loss counseling, blood pressure monitoring, and a minor medical procedure during the month without paying anything more. With insurance plans,

Savings with Bridge to Health's direct primary care model may also come when a patient can adjust the level of health insurance they have, Debelitz said. By using Bridge to Health for office-based services, patients may be able to choose health insurance plans with higher

Debeltz also has a per-visit fee structure for those who would like to use Bridge for Health but don't want to sign up for a membership.

Bridge to Health is located in the North Office center at 1817 Highway 53 in Cook. Detailed information about membership, services provided, pricing and more is available on the Bridge to Health website at [www.bridgetohealthpa.com](http://www.bridgetohealthpa.com), or by calling 218-282-4925.

# Ethnic Creations

Handmade gifts from the past to the present

**Gifts in Weaving, Woolens,  
Quilting & Needle Arts  
Classes & Custom Orders**

**Open Monday & Tuesday from 10-4**  
 7148 Cty Rd 715, Embarrass, MN 55732  
**218-741-1536 or 218-750-0475 (cell)**  
 dlw715@yahoo.com debwiitanen.etsy.com

---

## Virginia Fire Chief Lewis to speak on EMS/ALS at Greenwood

With Greenwood Township's population increasing, especially during the summer, and the area's regional population aging, the need to provide better emergency medical services including advance life support is becoming a necessity.

Chief Lewis will discuss where we are currently with regards to response times and survivability, as well as, where and how we can improve EMS and ALS care.

**Greenwood Town Hall  
December 2, 2021 at 6 PM**

*Public invited*



COVID...Continued from page 1

either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, AND you live in a long-term care setting, you should get a booster a minimum of six months following your initial two-dose vaccination series.

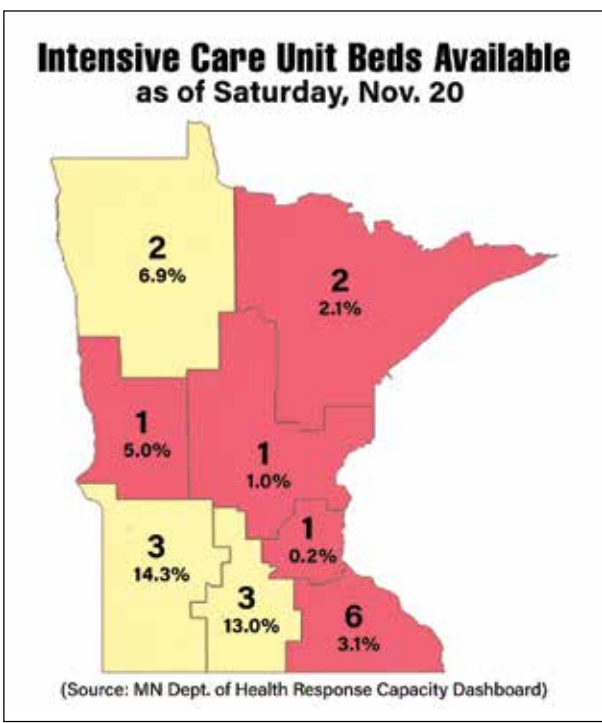
If you are 18 and older and received the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you should get a booster a minimum of two months following your initial dose.

If you are between 18 and 50 and received either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, you may choose to get a booster, based on your individual risks and benefits, a minimum of six months after completing your initial two-dose series.

Those seeking a booster don't have to have the same brand of vaccine they took initially. Any of the three vaccines can be used for a booster shot.

"Boosters are an important part of keeping protection against COVID-19 high in adults and helping to mitigate some of the intense COVID-19 spread we are seeing right now, which is extremely important given our tight hospital capacity," said Minnesota Department of Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm.

Support for getting boosters to pump up waning immunity can be found in the Minnesota data for breakthrough cases of COVID-19 among the fully vaccinated, which amount to roughly 40 percent of



the new cases diagnosed each week.

With the number of Minnesotans with at least one vaccination approaching 3.6 million, health officials anticipated breakthrough cases would increase in the overall share of new cases, but fully vaccinated people continue to be at much lower risk for serious illness, hospitalization, and death than the unvaccinated.

Through the first week in October, the most recent period available for breakthrough data, unvaccinated people were four times more likely to contract COVID-19, 14.7 times more likely to be hospitalized, and 18.1 times more likely to die than fully

vaccinated people who experience a breakthrough case.

Hospitals jammed

Dozens of Minnesota hospitals had no beds available at the end of last week as the latest COVID-19 outbreak is taxing hospital capacity in a manner not seen since the November/December 2020 surge.

Regionally, intensive care beds continue to be scarce, with just two available on Nov. 18 throughout northeast Minnesota, and six hospitals having none available. Across the entire northern two-thirds of the state, hospitals reported only six ICU beds were still available.

The shortage is affecting patient care here in the

North Country. Nichole Chiabotti, director of nursing at Cook Hospital, said finding ICU placements for patients there who need them is hard.

"We are having increased difficulty finding ICU placement across the state and as a result, we often times have to transfer our patients much farther away than usual," Chiabotti said. "Sometimes finding an available ICU bed takes many hours. If we do find an ICU bed, finding an appropriate ambulance to bring the patient there is also a challenge right now."

The pandemic has led to the scarcity of beds, but COVID patients constitute only about 30 percent of those receiving ICU care. Seven in ten ICU patients are there for other serious health conditions, but the additional capacity that might have handled others like them has been taken up by COVID patients. Compounding the problem, COVID patients stay longer in ICU care. While the average length of an ICU stay prior to the pandemic was 3.8 days, according to the Society for Critical Care Medicine, one study found ICU COVID patients had an average ICU stay of 13-14 days. One ICU COVID patient staying that average time could potentially prevent three to four non-COVID patients from getting the intensive care they need.

"Anyone in our region that is critically ill or injured

will be impacted due to lack of ICU beds statewide," Chiabotti said. "We do not have any ICU beds in Cook. In the past, we have always been able to stabilize patients and send them to a higher level of care quite easily. That is no longer the case. We still have every capability of stabilizing our patients, however, getting them to a higher level of care quickly is no longer a reality most of the time. We will always do our absolute best to provide the care we can, but with limited staff and resources, we don't have the capability to provide ICU level of care here."

Fifty-one of Minnesota's hospitals also reported Nov. 18 that they had no vacancies of any kind, and hospitals anticipate the space crunch will continue, as increases in hospitalizations typically lag behind increases in cases by two to three weeks.

The hospital situation in the Twin Cities reached the point last week that Gov. Walz asked for and received two U.S. Department of Defense medical teams, 44 personnel in total, to provide assistance and relief for doctors and nurses at Hennepin County Medical Center and the St. Cloud Hospital. The state has already been utilizing National Guard personnel to assist with staffing issues in nursing homes that have created a bottleneck in transferring COVID patients to long-term care settings.

Local data

Numbers have been rising steadily in St. Louis County, and if projections from the Mayo Clinic are any guide, residents will be seeing more of the same. The Mayo Clinic model indicates daily cases could increase by 20 percent through the first week of December.

On Nov. 14, the seven-day case average for the county stood at 157.1, an increase of over 50 percent since Nov. 1. The bi-weekly case rate for northern St. Louis County remained high at 81.12, 31 points above last year's trigger for schools to be serving all children through distance learning.

Ely had 32 new weekly cases in the state report of Nov. 18, by far the highest among the six zip codes monitored by the *Timberjay*. Tower tallied 12 new cases, while 11 cases were reported for Cook. Embarrass had nine, Orr had three, and Embarrass had two.

Ely schools continued to tally new cases last week, with Superintendent Eric Erie reporting a total current case count of 21 on Nov. 18. ISD 2142 stopped disclosing building COVID case information in September. North Woods School has been on the state's list of schools reporting cases, but could be prepared to come off if it has one more two-week period with less than five cases.



### Physical Therapy Clinics in Floodwood, Tower & Duluth

Poor balance, falls and limited activity are common issues facing older adults. We will work with you to create an individual program to address your specific areas of concern.

Most falls are preventable. The staff at Living Well Physical Therapy can help you restore your mobility and live your best life.

PHONE: 218-481-7603  
WEBSITE: living-well-therapy.com

FALL PREVENTION

CITY OF ELY  
Council OKs maximum levy increase

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – Despite having two months to sharpen their pencils, the Ely city council budget committee couldn't find even one dollar to cut from the proposed budget they presented in September, so property taxpayers here are looking at a 4.52-percent levy increase next year.

City council members last week approved a final 2022 tax levy of \$1,977,900, an increase of \$85,600 from the 2021 budget.

Council member Paul Kess noted that the maximum levy of 4.52 percent was set in September. The actual budget and final tax levy will be presented at the Truth-in-Taxation hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at the maximum amounts. City residents will have an opportunity to sound off on the property tax increase at that time.

The proposed 2022 city budget is available for viewing online ([www.ely.mn.us](http://www.ely.mn.us)) or at City Hall.

In September, Kess said, "We are hopeful we can bring this down."

Last week, as he tried to explain the property tax increase, Kess said, "Our budgets are pretty tight. There is not much slack there unless we cut personnel or services. For now, we remain a well-managed city and 4.5 percent (increase) is not extraordinary."


In the 2022 budget, proposed to increase from

\$3,636,200 to \$3,893,200, property taxes make up about 13.5 percent of revenues. Local Government Aid is projected to increase from \$2,448,500 in 2021 to \$2,497,100 next year.

In the property tax summary, the General Fund shows an increase of nearly 10 percent, from \$480,000 to \$527,100 for next year. The Library fund increases 2.23 percent, from \$340,700 to \$348,300. The Cemetery fund is projected to rise from \$34,500 to \$36,100. Debt service is proposed to decrease nearly 6.5 percent, from \$311,500 to \$291,400. Capital project costs show an increase of 7.35 percent, from \$558,900 to \$600,000. Equipment replacement also shows a nearly five-percent increase, from \$166,700 to \$175,000.


The levy increase was unanimously approved.

In other business, the city council approved a recommendation from the Projects Committee to award the hazardous material testing at the Community Center to Braun Intertec for \$4,230.



### Ask Brock the Doc

Current COVID-19 Update



**Q: How bad is COVID-19 in our community right now?**  
**A:** Currently, the number of positive cases is close to the levels we experienced during last year's peak. It is extremely important to follow the guidelines to keep ourselves and our families and friends safe with the holidays approaching.

- Wear masks
- Wash hands
- Socially distance
- Get vaccinated or get the booster

If you are experiencing symptoms, get tested immediately.  
If your symptoms are severe or affecting your breathing, seek medical attention.

**Q: If our hospital is full, why can't we transfer people to another hospital?**  
**A:** COVID-19 positivity rates are high across the state of Minnesota. Hospital resources statewide are at a critical level. This includes bed and human resource availability. There must be staff available to care for the patients in beds. This lack of staffing is a crisis across the nation.

**Q: What is happening with surgery at EBCH?**  
**A:** Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital has decided to suspend scheduling any elective surgeries for the time being. Medically necessary surgeries will be scheduled and performed as needed. If you currently have a surgery scheduled, our Surgery Team will be contacting you with complete details. We expect this change to last until mid-December.

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital wishes everyone a safe and healthy Thanksgiving.

Dr. Brock Urie is an Emergency Room Physician and the Chief Medical Officer at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital. Dr. Urie graduated from the University of MN Duluth, with his Bachelor's Degree in Biology and attended Medical School at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine. He completed his Residency in Emergency Medicine at Western Michigan University's School of Medicine in 2015. During residency, Dr. Urie served as a flight physician and county medical control physician, and a clinical instructor of Emergency Medicine.

[ebch.org](http://ebch.org) | 328 W. Conian St. Ely, MN 55731 | 218-365-3271

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is committed to caring for and enhancing the health and well being of the community it serves.



### Bed & Breakfast

Retreat & Conference Center  
30 Center St., Soudan MN



**Attractive Rooms**  
(private and shared baths)  
**Continental Breakfast**  
**Near Snowmobile Trails**  
**Near Lake Vermilion**  
**& Giants Ridge Ski Resort**

**Book online at [vermilionparkinn.com](http://vermilionparkinn.com) or call 218-753-2333**

### SHOP MAIN STREET • TOWER

**Ubetcha Antiques & Uniques**  
601 Main St. Tower

**Uffda Thrifts & Gifts**  
603 Main St. Tower

**Shop small all weekend - We Pay Your Sales Tax!**  
**November 26-28**

**20% OFF • ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE**  
**Dec 3-5 • Everything in Both Stores**

Open All Year Daily 10 AM – 5 PM • 218-753-3422



HARD WATER SPORTS



The Ely Hockey Association recently hosted a Try Hockey For Free session at the Ely Ice Arena, More than 30 hockey newcomers participated in the event. For more information on the organization's learn to skate program, go to [www.elyhockey.com](http://www.elyhockey.com). photos by K. Vandervort



Above left, Violet Udovich, 11, already has eight years of ice skating experience. Sydney Pliett, 6, above right, gets fitted with a hockey helmet.



Winners of the 2021 Timberjay Newspaper Turkey Give-Away

- ORR**

  - ReMax – Tom Kennebeck
  - Orr Municipal Liquor Store – Not available
  - Pelican Bay Foods – Rosie Hoffer
  - Lumber Orr Hardware – Tom Moes
- Piragis – Not Available

Dee’s Bar – Wayne Minier

Ely Auto Service – Not Available

Grand Ely Lodge –
- Becky Ewinski

Ely Flower & Seed – Joan Grennell

Ely Surplus – Marcia Kauppi

Mealey’s Gift & Sauna
- Shop – Louise Schmitt

Front Porch Coffee & Tea – Laurie Cramer

Merhar’s Ace Hardware – Jim Wicklund

Range Cenex Ely –
- Rich Posey

**BABBITT**

Zup’s Grocery – Candis Nihart
- Range Cenex Babbitt – Pat Lassi

- COOK**
- Cook Hospital & Care Center – Dan Karakas
  - McDonald’s – Not avaiable
  - North Star Credit Union – Georgine Wilson
  - Cook VFW – Dan Lundgren
  - Waschke Family Chevrolet – Lars Koski
  - Cook Building Center – Brian Pierce
  - Zup’s Grocery Cook – Sonja Foss
  - 1st National Bank – Cleo Cottrell

- TOWER/SOUDAN**
- Vermilion Park Inn – Jason Premo Jr
  - Embarrass Vermillion Credit Union – Betsy Bystrom
  - Soudan Store – Craig Henderson
  - Tower - Soudan Agency – Sharon Corey
  - Ubetcha Antiques & Uniques - Roxy Sampson
  - FrandsenBank - Tower – Not Availabe
  - Zup’s Tower Grocery – Jeff Johnson
  - GoodOl’ Days–Loren & Roxyann Sampson
  - Vermilion Fuel & Food – John Kauppila
  - D’Erick’s – John Norby

- ELY**
- Potluck Kitchenware – Sandy Thom
  - Zup’s in Ely – Janet Bigelow
  - Frandsen Bank - Ely – Dave Engstrom
  - Wintergreen Northern Wear – Not Available

**Call  
753-2950**

**to subscribe  
to the  
Timberjay!**

Smart people.  
Straight talk.

**Paul Molitor**  
Baseball Hall of Famer  
and Manager

**Jim**  
UCare de-complicator

We make Medicare easier.

1-866-537-1281 (TTY 1-800-688-2534)  
8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week.  
Or call your local broker.

  
people powered health plans

UCare Minnesota is an HMO-POS plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in UCare Minnesota depends on contract renewal. Y0120\_2459\_11304\_092021\_C



# BEAUTY...Continued from page 1

who enters the Beast's castle after he imprisons her father, Maurice, who was played by sophomore Esther Anderson," Mason said.

Senior Bryce Fairchild, played the part of the Beast, a reclusive soul who finds himself with the help of Belle.

The story's antagonist, Gaston, was played by senior Jon Hakala.

"Gaston is a vain hunter who vies for Belle's hand in marriage and is determined not to let anyone else win her heart," she said. "He was assisted by his sidekick, LeFou, played by sophomore Gavin Marshall, who was hilarious in the role."

Gabe Mann brightened things up in the role of Lumiere, the candelabra. Feather duster Babette, was played with a not-so-subtle French vibe by Gracie Pointer. Cogsworth the clock was kept time by Matt Janeksela. Mrs. Potts, the teapot was Juliet Stouffer, and her son, Chip, was Mattie Lindsay.

The production was filled with laugh-out-loud comedic moments. The cast of "silly girls," Natalie Johnson, Bria Marshall, and Alison Poppler, and "village girls," Sydney

Cooley-Cramer, Tracy Thibodeaux and Sophia Wells, played their parts perfectly. The "bloomers" scene was especially laughable.

Other cast members included Chambriel Ridings, Reba Kissell, Ellie Marshall, Chloy Ridings, Zach Robbins, Peyton Erzar-Tyndall, Tyler Mattila, Morgan McClelland, Jordan Borchert, Selam Houle, Olin Weise, and Maggie Dammann.

Mason was assisted by Molly Olson as choreographer, and Kristi Marshall as costumer. Madeline and Justin Olson ran the sound and lights. Stage hands Willow Ohlhauser, Abby Johnson, Aragon Chase and Ambrose Richter, made the scene changes with ease.

"This show was entertaining for all ages. After years away from the stage, these kids were thrilled to be back performing for their community," Mason added.

The VCC theater, much smaller than the Washington Auditorium, was used this year because of the continuing facility renovation project on the school campus.



Above, Belle, played by Sidney Marshall, reads to the Beast, Bryce Fairchild. At right, Belle is considers wearing a pair of bloomers. Below, a pack middle schoolers played a pack of wolves. photos by K. Vandervort



## BLACK Sales FRIDAY

<div style="text-align: right;"> <b>Drop Leaf Table and Chairs</b>  <b>\$399</b> </div>	<div style="text-align: right;"> <b>Twin Mattress</b>  <b>\$99</b>  <b>Queen Mattress</b>  <b>\$250</b> </div>
<div style="text-align: right;"> <b>Sofas Starting at...</b>  <b>\$399</b> </div>	<div style="text-align: right;"> <b>Accessories...</b>  <b>20% OFF</b> </div>

<div style="text-align: right;"> <b>Recliners</b>  <b>\$299</b> </div> <div style="border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; width: 50px; height: 50px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 10px auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Stop In Today!</b> </div> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; transform: rotate(-15deg);"> <b>BLACK FRIDAY sale</b> </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> <b>FREE DELIVERY/DISPOSAL WITH THIS COUPON</b>  Expires December 3, 2021 </div> </div>
--	---

**Shop Local · We Carry Top Name Furniture Brands!**

All furniture may not be as shown.

# ANDERSON

FURNITURE & KITCHENS

AndersonFurnitureCompany.com • 214 2nd Ave. S, Virginia, MN • 218-741-9356

**INTEREST  
FREE  
FINANCING  
AND  
LAYAWAY  
AVAILABLE**



TRAFFIC SAFETY

# MnDOT weighs new improvements at “the Y”

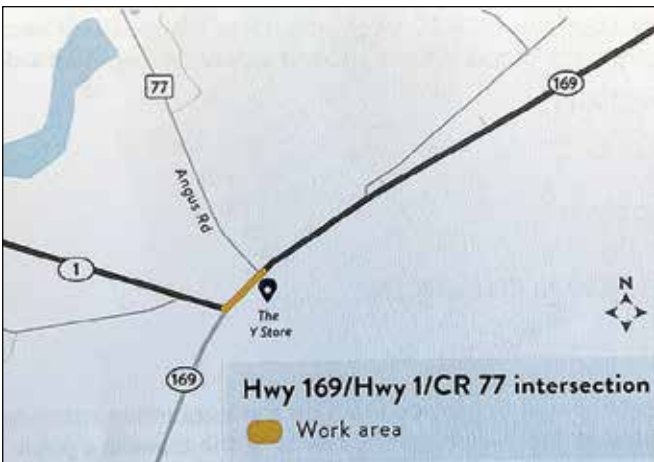
Highway officials hear suggestions, complaints at public meeting as project ideas take shape

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— Engineers with the Minnesota Department of Transportation are back at the drawing board exploring ways to further improve traffic safety at “the Y” intersection on Hwy. 169, about four and a half miles west of Tower. On Thursday, they held a public meeting at the civic center here to take input from local residents who drive through the complicated intersection on a regular basis. About 30 area residents turned out

and more than a dozen offered a variety of suggestions, complaints, and insights on the subject. Mike Martinez, a consultant with HDR Engineering, which is assisting MnDOT on the potential project, said the project team is weighing several options, but he offered no details on any of them. “We don’t have an alternative picked yet,” he said. Martinez said they plan to decide on the need for and the scope of a project by the end of November, prepare a number of options in December and January, and make

a decision on their preferred alternative by March. “Then, hopefully, construction,” said Martinez. Martinez said a number of factors make the Y intersection unusually hazardous. “There are some common factors that increase safety risk,” he said. Those include an intersection with high traffic volume, that’s located on a skewed angle and on a curve, with adjacent development that attracts travelers, and a previous stop that is more than five miles away in many cases. See **MNDOT...**pg. 2B



PERFECT PITCH

# The Piano Man

Thunder Bay tuning specialist makes the rounds in Ely and everywhere

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY- The old saying goes, “You can tune a piano, but you can’t tuna fish.” Well, Mathias Rom made a trip to the end of the road earlier this month to do just that— tune a piano, that is. In fact, he tuned several sets of ivories during his one-day stop-over. He didn’t go fishing. Rom, who was born in Chicago and makes his home in Thunder Bay, Ontario, said he doubts he has any connection to the well-known Ely family with the same last name.

“When I’m here, I put my head down and tune pianos and haven’t looked for any family connections,” he said. Rom visited the home of Greg and Heidi Mann on Central Avenue last Friday morning. He had appointments for four piano-tuning sessions that day before heading down to Duluth on his way to Chicago. The self-taught tuner learned the craft through reading books.

“I finally started tuning a bit, and everyone was raving about how good I was. I didn’t believe them,” he said. Not knowing how to become a professional piano tuner, Rom soon decided to get certified through the Piano Technician’s Guild. “Their mission is to provide

qualified technicians for the piano-owning community,” he said. He passed the “quite difficult” three-part certification examination in 1983 to be registered as a qualified piano technician. “That satisfied me that I was on the right track.” A mentor he met several years later told Rom, “Being registered meant I had the potential to become a piano tuner.” Rom finally hit the mark. Across more than 42 years, he has tuned pianos

for many well-known artists and entertainers including k. d. Lang, Victor Borge, Ricky Skaggs, Dolly Parton, Bob Hope, and “that guy who played the piano with his feet - Jerry Lee Lewis.” The Manns have a Baldwin “spinet” or small upright piano. “We bought the piano from Sally Koski when we were brand-new in Ely back in 2016,” Heidi Mann said. “Gabe (their son) had started taking lessons about two years prior, using a portable electric keyboard, and we wanted him to learn on a real piano. Sally and David had recently married, and they had three pianos between two houses, and had decided to sell this one. We took it as a good sign because it fit, practically to the inch, in the space where we have it in our house.” Spinet pianos are the smallest upright pianos and require



tuning more frequently than larger more stable console cabinets. “Mathias has been tuning our piano from the beginning and I wouldn’t change for anybody else,” Mann said. Without getting too technical, Rom explained that every piano has, on average, about 220 strings. “Obviously, the objective is to get them all in a harmonious place where they all work together in all the possible combinations that happen in

piano music,” he said. “The old-fashioned way is to create a temperament octave, somewhere around middle C, that represents the 12 notes of the musical scale. Then they are duplicated.” Rom said most of his work is done by ear. “Once I’m satisfied, I begin copying octave by octave,” he said. The theory of tuning a piano pertains to every type See **PIANO MAN...**pg. 2B

EXCELLENCE

# Anderson: Chiabotti was an exceptional player from a young age

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- Once upon a time, well before North Woods Grizzlies football coach Joel Anderson ascended to the high school varsity head coaching spot, he coached the seventh and eighth grade team. Many of his players came with experience playing in the Pop Warner league during their middle elementary years. One season, a group of concerned Pop Warner coaches came to Anderson with a request. There was a sixth grader named T.J. Chiabotti who they wanted Anderson to put on the junior high squad. “From what I was told, it was a thing where they were concerned about some of the other kids out on the field,” Anderson said, smiling as he recalled the day. “The other teams kind of asked if we could move him up. So, the first time I met T.J. he was a sixth grader.”



As either a head coach or assistant, Anderson has been there for every game of what turned out to be an illustrious high school career for Chiabotti, a player noted for his offensive prowess toting the football but who also excels on defense. Chiabotti was likely destined to play sports of some kind, because he’s part of a sporting family. His father, Neil, and his older brother, Dylan, played football and basketball, just like T.J. His younger brother, Brenden, plays basketball and may play baseball this spring. His mother, Nicole, and his younger sister, Presley, are both volleyball players. Chiabotti doesn’t remember his Pop Warner days that well, but Anderson has been a key figure for Chiabotti through the seven seasons they’ve been together, a relationship that was solidified from the very beginning by Anderson’s demeanor. “He just had confidence in me,” Chiabotti said. “He brought energy, and he showed me a lot of drills that really helped me.” Playing for Anderson for three years made the transition to high school football under then-Head Coach John Jirik relatively easy, Chiabotti said, since the systems and drills were similar. Anderson See **CHIABOTTI...**pg. 2B



MNDOT...Continued from page 1B

Those factors have likely contributed to the 18 reported crashes at the intersection between 2011-2020, according to Martinez. That crash rate is well above the “critical” level, he said.

Local resident Corky Eloranta asked if MnDOT had crash data that might show the impact of changes made at the intersection in 2014. “That’s one of the things we’ll be looking into,” said Martinez.

Martinez said that MnDOT had been targeting the intersection for improvements since 2000, but said the changes haven’t reduced crashes to the extent that MnDOT would like.

From the comments, it seems those who turned out for Thursday’s meeting largely agreed that improvements were in order, although there was less consensus on what those changes should look like.

Greenwood resident Marilyn Mueller suggested the entrances of both Hwy. 1 and County Rd. 77 be moved apart, to reduce driver confusion. Former Bois Forte tribal council member Ray Toutloff agreed that the entrances are too close, but argued for the entrances to be combined into one. “People are confused at the intersection,” said Toutloff. “You see a lot of weaving back

and forth.”

Julie Horihan said the cross traffic going in and out of the two Y Store entrances is another contributing factor and she encouraged eliminating one of the store entrances. She also asked about the criteria for installing a traffic light.

“We would look at a number of criteria and would have to meet them before we put a light in,” responded project manager Alex Peritz, with MnDOT.

Bill Erzar, of Ely, who helped lead the long-standing effort to improve safety on Hwy. 169, noted that the turn lanes that were installed in 2014 had marked an improvement. “We were having a lot of

fatalities before the turn lanes. They’ve alleviated some of the problem, but not all of it.” Erzar suggested installing raised medians to help further direct traffic in the right directions.

Greg Dostert suggested that a beltline directing through traffic along the backside of the Y Store would ease congestion and reduce speeds at the existing intersection. Lee Peterson agreed, calling that option “the only true solution.”

Horihan asked about the possibility of an overpass, which would send through traffic up and over the existing roadway, with exits for Hwy. 1 and Cty. Rd. 77 and the Y Store.

“That would solve the problem,” said Martinez, “but we’d have to decide if it’s the right approach for the location.”

Several others talked about the need to reduce speed, but Peritz noted that doing so isn’t as easy as posting a sign. “With most drivers, they drive at the speed they’re used to along the stretch. Even lowering the speed limit would not slow people down.”

Bob Pratt argued that sight lines from Cty. Rd. 77 are blocked at times from the intersection when larger vehicles are in the right turn lane coming from the east and that any changes at the location should address that problem. That’s an issue

that others have raised with MnDOT in the past.

The one option that didn’t seem to have support was a roundabout, which has been rumored as one of the options that MnDOT was considering at the intersection. But those who spoke on that subject seemed to agree that a roundabout would be unworkable and potentially dangerous.

Whichever direction the project heads, Toutloff urged them to reach out early and often to Bois Forte officials, given that the band is the primary landowner surrounding the intersection. “They should be brought in early,” said Toutloff.

PIANO MAN...Continued from page 1B

of instrument, from the apartment-sized spinet to concert hall grand pianos.

“It takes practice, and not some special magical kind of ear,” he said. “The listening part is the easy part. The hard part is turning the tuning pins with a lever or hammer to get the correct sound.”

The “pressure” bars and “vee” bars work against each other, and the tuner’s

challenge is to find the agreement between the two, he explained.

The need for Rom’s craft is slowly eroding.

“In 1905, as many as 90 percent of American homes had a piano,” he said. “I would say now that number is less than nine percent. There are so many reasons for that. Most people have jumped over to keyboards and digital pianos. In the

1980s, we hit a time when digital keyboards were big, but that didn’t really work. It is more of a machine. And they can play themselves. It gets very artificial and boring and the child never really learns what music is all about.”

The piano industry itself is partially responsible for the demise of the piano.

“Fighting consumer-

ism is a big reason,” he said. “Even very well-to-do families don’t want to invest in a piano. Marketing and technology sucks money away from the family budget.”

Rom said that seasonal weather changes are the biggest culprit for a piano needing a tune up.

“The temperature in your house, and the humidity, changes mostly in the fall and spring, so if you

can, get it done twice a year,” he said.

He mostly tunes pianos in private homes these days. Churches and schools still have some pianos, but not as many anymore.

While Rom has four decades of piano tuning, Rom said that in the last 20 years he has not had enough work, and now has a second job.

“My kids moved away

and now my life is simpler. I’m content with my government pension and my other work. Piano tuning is like piano playing. You don’t really know what it is until you get to a high level, and you realize that the more you know the more you don’t know,” he said.

CHIABOTTI...Continued from page 1B

was still along for the ride as a Grizzlies assistant.

“It’s been a lot of fun for me to watch him develop from an early age all the way through, which sometimes you don’t get to see,” Anderson said. “But to be able to say I was probably there at every game he’s played as a Grizzly is pretty, pretty special.”

Chiabotti put the football world on notice right away that he would be a force to reckon with, racking up 903 yards in 10 games as a freshman. It was

the only season as a varsity player that he rushed for fewer than 1,000 yards. As a sophomore, he racked up 1,241 yards in nine games and bumped his per carry average up from 5.9 to 6.8 yards.

Fans could get into a spirited argument as to whether Chiabotti’s junior or senior season was his best as a runner. Those who would argue for his COVID-shortened junior year can point to the fact that he only played five games and still broke the

1,000-yard barrier with 1,110 yards, nearly equaling what he did in nine games as a sophomore.

But a number of things point to Chiabotti’s senior season as the one that will go down in the annals of Grizzlies football as probably the best of all-time.

In nine games, Chiabotti carried the ball 201 times and amassed 2,130 yards, averaging 10.6 yards every time he touched the ball. In four games, he rushed for more than 300 yards, scored 24

touchdowns, fourth-best in the state, and finished the regular season as the state’s leading rusher among all classes.

He slipped to second overall in rushing when adding in postseason play, as running back Emmett Johnson claimed the season rushing crown by virtue of playing in two more games than Chiabotti. For his efforts, Chiabotti was the only Class A player nominated for the Minnesota Football Coaches Association “Mr. Football” award.

“He had another gear this year,” Anderson said.

The season also brought another milestone for Chiabotti, who with 5,384 career yards became only the 19th Minnesota high school player in history to eclipse that mark.

break loose downfield, even though a large number of his yards came by running over would-be tacklers. He said that quarterback Ty Fabish and lineman Ethan Byrum were particularly helpful when things would get tough and he needed a boost.

It only got tougher for Chiabotti as his career progressed, because opposing coaches learned that to stop the Grizzlies, they would have to stop him. Anderson said other teams adjusted their defensive schemes to shut Chiabotti down, but he was for the most part unstoppable.

“We gave T.J. a lot of freedom to make cutbacks, to allow him to use his vision, which is fantastic, and to be able to find the open hole,” Anderson said. “Our offensive line knew that all he needed was a seam and he’d find it and he’d go.”

Chiabotti is also quick to say that it’s been mostly hard work that’s helped him to be a standout runner, but Anderson wasn’t so quick to dismiss his natural abilities, too.

“Athletes in that caliber in general, they have tremendous amounts of natural talent, and we’ve seen that from T.J.,” he said. “But that talent has grown exponentially with his dedication and work ethic. He’s been the first kid to practice and one of the last ones to leave. He never misses a day in the weight room.”

And what you get with Chiabotti on the field, you also get in school.

“TJ is not just a great football player and athlete,”

North Woods Principal John Vukmanich said. “He is a great kid and a strong student academically. He is humble, kind, and sets an example for others to follow.”

“He’s a great student,” Anderson said. “He’s the kind of kid that will get everything done, his responses are well-written and well-crafted.”

**Looking ahead**

Chiabotti has made no secret of the fact that he would love to play college football, but despite a stellar senior season and career, college recruiters aren’t beating a path to his door. Chiabotti said he’s gotten serious interest from two schools, moderate interest from another, but as of yet, no scholarship offers. Anderson thinks part of that may be due to the increasing reliance on viewing online video clips by college recruiters.

“I think schools are missing seeing him in person,” Anderson said. “Film does not do justice to what T.J. can do. You need to be there firsthand to witness what he can do. He’s done well at all the camps he’s been to. He keeps improving day by day.”

Football isn’t the only thing Chiabotti has his sights set on. He wants to become an electrical engineer. And while football has been a huge part of his life up until now, he may have played his last game if he doesn’t get the right offer for football.

“If I’m offered a full scholarship, I’d probably take that, but if it was anything less, I’d probably just go for the academics,” Chiabotti said. “If they’re not giving me any (scholarship) money (to play football), that’s a lot of extra work to do at the same time as getting an electrical engineering degree.”

Anderson said that attitude is reflective of the maturity level Chiabotti has displayed both on the field and off. He’d like to see Chiabotti get the chance to play college football, but believes whatever comes his way he’ll tackle with the same hard work and positive outlook he’s shown in sports.

“If he sets his mind to it, it will happen,” Anderson said about an electrical engineering degree. “I could definitely see that.”

VERMILLION

ROOFING

Serving Cook, Tower and Ely Areas

VERMILLION

ROOFING

WINTER SPECIAL

Prefinished LP Diamond Kote Siding

\$1,500 OFF LABOR

for an entire home, now through January 12 for signed contract



https://diamondkotesiding.com

Same Day Estimates! Call or text Bryan

Bryan (218) 269-1039

Karl (612) 418-8953

VermillionRoofing.com

VermillionRoofing@gmail.com

Licensed • Insured BC# 785662

TOWER CRAFT SHOW



HOLIDAY

CRAFT

SHOW

Saturday, December 4

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tower Civic Center

Holiday Gifts for All Ages!

Christmas baked goods, crafts, woodworking, much more

Get your holiday shopping done close to home

TOWER CRAFT SHOW



OUTDOOR RECREATION

The Tower Area Trails Plan is now available for public review

TOWER- The newly-developed Tower Area Trails Plan is ready for public review. Comments will be taken before the final plan is approved. The plan has been developed under the leadership of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) with help from area stakeholders, including MnDOT, Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board, MN DNR Trails, LV-Soudan Underground Mine State Park, Pros-

pectors ATV Club, Northwoods Saddle Club, Mesabi Trail, TEDA, Howard Wagoner Trails Club, Breitung Township, City of Tower, Vermilion Country Charter School, and other interested citizens. The plan discusses the importance of recreational trails and notes that trails can improve the health, economy, environment, and safety of a community. Trail uses in the area include hiking, walking, snowshoeing,

rollerblading, skiing, cycling, mountain biking, ATV-riding, snowmobiling, and horseback riding. The plan includes hiking trails, paved trails, ski trails, snowmobile, and OHV trails. It identifies existing trail goals, especially improvements to trail connections in the harbor and Tower minipark area. The plan discusses the need to recognizing the importance of each type of trail system and different users (i.e.

motorized vs. non-motorized), the importance of establishing looped systems, need for parking, and the need for more comprehensive maps of existing trails. The plan also identifies trail funding opportunities, and the findings of the plan can be used to help qualify for these funding opportunities. The plan identifies priorities for trail system development in the Tower area. Goals of the plan are

- to:
  - Create an online information hub about area trails on the city's website
  - Develop the Tower Depot/Tower Harbor area as a wayside rest area and trailhead
  - Maintain and complete the Hoodoo Point/McKinley Park paved trail loop
  - Expand the Wagoner Ski Trail system
  - Complete the Prospectors Loop ATV trail
  - Designate a water

trail that begins/ends at the Tower Harbor. Feedback on the plan is now being accepted by submitting written comments by email to rhabermann@ardc.org. All comments are due by Friday, Dec. 10. A copy of the plan is available for download on the Tower Area Trails Plan project webpage at https://ardcplanning.org/tower/

Tower-Soudan Area Singers getting ready for caroling



The Tower-Soudan Singers annual Christmas Concert is moving outdoors this year, due to COVID-19 safety concerns, and will feature four opportunities to hear the group caroling.

TOWER-SOUDAN- The Tower-Soudan Area Singers will spend this holiday season in the caroling mode. On Sunday, Dec. 5, the singers can be heard at the Vermilion Senior Living at 3 p.m. Shortly after, they will be at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center and Tower Civic Center for the Virgie Hegg Hospice tree lighting ceremony at 4 p.m. On Monday, Dec.

6, the singers will be at the Breitung Community Center building. They will sing outdoors so you can enjoy the presentation from your car (and honk your approval!) On Monday, Dec. 13, the singers will finish their holiday serenading at Sulu's on Tower's Main Street. Starting times for the Dec. 6 and 13 performances will be announced in next week's paper.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Wednesday					Thursday					Friday					Saturday					Sunday				
35 6					17 4					24 15					30 18					31 19				
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.
11/15	31	10	0.00		11/15	29	6	0.00		11/15	29	6	0.00		11/15	30	7	0.00		11/15	30	6	0.00	
11/16	32	13	0.00		11/16	31	6	0.00		11/16	31	6	0.00		11/16	36	25	0.00		11/16	31	6	0.00	
11/17	36	29	0.00		11/17	36	28	0.00		11/17	36	28	0.00		11/17	32	25	0.00		11/17	35	28	0.00	
11/18	33	24	0.00		11/18	33	23	0.00		11/18	33	23	0.00		11/18	27	18	0.00		11/18	32	22	0.00	
11/19	28	12	0.00		11/19	27	10	0.00		11/19	27	10	0.00		11/19	32	12	0.00		11/19	27	11	0.00	
11/20	33	17	0.00		11/20	33	16	0.00		11/20	33	16	0.00		11/20	32	21	0.00		11/20	33	11	0.00	
11/21	34	15	0.04	1.2"	11/21	33	15	0.02	0.4"	11/21	29	25	0.13	1.8"	11/21	30	10	0.00		11/21	34	34	0.00	
YTD Total 17.12 3.4"					YTD Total 20.50 3.0"					YTD Total 19.01 2.6"					YTD Total 21.64 3.5"					YTD Total 23.42 2.0"				

Obituaries and Death Notices

Scott Carlon The family of Scott Carlon has provided additional information for the obituary which was published on Nov. 19. Scott is also survived by his brothers and sisters, Keith, William, Lyle, Lowell, twins Violet and Elizabeth, and Ruth.

### Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union

is once again partnering with our communities to help up to 120 local children, ages 0-17, in need.

**Everyone is welcome to participate!**

Angel tags are ready to pick up in all 5 branches of EVFCU: Tower, Embarrass, Aurora, Vermilion (Fortune Bay) & Nett Lake

Please return your tag and your unwrapped gifts to any of our 5 branch locations **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 3, 2021** so we may get them wrapped in time for a Christmas delivery!!!

Thank you for helping us make a child's Christmas a little bit warmer & brighter!

LOCAL PRODUCTS & VENDORS

**SHOP SMALL**

The Miner's Daughter Gift Shop Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10am-5pm Thursday 10am-8pm.

1005 Discovery Drive Chisholm, MN Inside the Minnesota Discovery Center

REDHEAD & MDC GIFT BASKETS

HUGE MERCH SELECTION

MEMBERSHIPS & GIFT CARDS

**SHOP LOCAL. SHOP SMALL.**

**THE MINER'S DAUGHTER GIFT SHOP**

Stop in and shop tons of products from local vendors, artists, and businesses. MDC members receive an extra 20% off all purchases excluding Redhead merch through the end of November! All proceeds support our mission to preserve and promote Iron Range history!

## COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Available

Scenic Rivers is now scheduling appointments for individuals to receive COVID-19 vaccinations at our medical locations following state eligibility guidelines. Supply is limited and call volumes are high, so we appreciate your patience. If you believe you meet the MN state vaccine eligibility requirements, please call the number below to schedule an appointment.

**Cook Medical Vaccine Scheduling**

20 5th St SE  
(218) 361-3297

**Tower Medical Vaccine Scheduling**

415 N 2nd St, Suite 2  
(218) 753-2405

**1-877-541-2817**

www.ScenicRiversHealth.org

24 Hour Emergency Care Available Through Cook Hospital

### Ely Community Pharmacy

**The service you deserve. The neighbors you trust.**

At Ely Community Pharmacy, your health is our priority. Our pharmacist-led team is here to answer questions, help manage your medications and provide the expert care you need—with the personal touch you deserve.

**Trust Ely Community Pharmacy for:**

- Over-the-counter medications
- Immunizations
- Diabetic testing supplies

**DECEMBER SPECIALS**

**COUGH AND COLD**

**\$10.99**

Zicam No Drip Spray 0.50oz

**\$9.20**

Adult Robitussin DM 8oz

**\$13.39**

Dayquil/Nyquil Combo Pack 48ct

**\$9.99**

Emergen-C Orange or Raspberry 30ct

**\$8.09**

Coricidin HBP Cough and Cold 16ct

**\$12.99**

Health Mart Mucus Relief 12hr 40ct

**\$3.29**

Nature's Truth Zinc 50mg 100ct

328 West Conan Street, Ely, Minnesota 55731 | 218-365-8788



EMPLOYMENT

  
artwalk

### Ely ArtWalk is hiring!

For information, see [ElyArtWalk.org](http://ElyArtWalk.org)

11/26

  
VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL

### Social Studies Teacher .5 FTE

Vermilion Country School in Tower, MN is seeking to hire a .5 FTE Social Studies Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. Position open until filled.

For more information, please email [jsummit@vermilioncountry.org](mailto:jsummit@vermilioncountry.org) or call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950

PUBLIC NOTICES

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
6TH DISTRICT COURT**  
Court File No:  
**69DU-JV-21-351**  
Case Type: Juvenile

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE  
TRANSFER PERMANENT  
LEGAL AND PHYSICAL  
CUSTODY**

In the Matter of the Welfare  
of the Child(ren) of:  
Lateara Cross, Parent  
John Boshey, Parent

**NOTICE TO: John Raymond  
Boshey, above-named par-  
ent.**

1. A Transfer of Permanent  
Legal and Physical Custody  
Petition has been filed in  
the Office of the Clerk of  
Juvenile Court located at St.  
Louis County District Court,  
100 N 5th Ave. W, Duluth,  
Minnesota, alleging that legal  
and physical custody of the  
child(ren) named in the peti-  
tion should be permanently  
transferred to the proposed  
custodian(s).

2. Notice is hereby given  
that the matter of said

Transfer of Permanent Legal  
and Physical Custody Petition  
will be called for hearing  
before the Juvenile Court  
located at St. Louis County  
District Court, Courtroom #3,  
Fourth Floor, 100 N 5th Ave.  
W, Duluth, Minnesota, or  
electronically via ZOOM, on  
**December 8, 2021, at 9:15  
a.m.** or as soon after as the  
Matter can be heard.


3. **YOU ARE ORDERED**  
to appear before the Juvenile  
Court at the scheduled time  
and date.

4. You have a right to be re-  
presented by counsel.

5. If you fail to appear at the  
hearing, the Court may still  
conduct the hearing and grant  
appropriate relief, includ-  
ing permanently transferring  
physical and legal custody of  
the child(ren) named in the  
Petition.

WITNESS, the Honorabe  
Sally Tarnowski  
Judge of District Court  
BY: Jenna Palumbo, Deputy

*Published in the Timberjay,  
Nov. 12, 19 & 26, 2021*

  
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY

### Public Health Educator I (Virginia) (Nutrition)

Apply by 11/30/21

[www.stlouiscountymn.gov](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov)  
or call 218-726-2422

*Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 11/26*

PUBLIC NOTICES

### DECLARATION OF LAND PATENT

Michael William Vittori©

Located on the Land and Soil  
St. Louis County, Minnesota

<https://minnesotaassembly.net/public-notice>

Land Patent is posted for 60 days starting  
Nov. 5, 2021 until Jan. 4, 2022  
by: Michael Vittori ©

*Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2021*

### PUBLIC NOTICE St Louis County

The Minnesota Department of Natural  
Resources has received an Application, 2021-  
3733, for a permit to install and operate an  
aeration system for shoreline/structure protec-  
tion in Burntside Lake, St Louis County.  
The location is shoreline of 2398 Passi Road,  
Ely, MN 55731. (T63N-R13W-S12 SWSE).

Interested parties may forward their com-  
ments to:  
MNDNR Aeration Program  
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
[MPARS.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:MPARS.dnr@state.mn.us)  
Comments will be accepted for two weeks  
from the date of this publication.

*Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 26, 2021*

### CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME

Certificate of Assumed Name  
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter  
333. The filing of an assumed  
name does not provide a user  
with exclusive rights to that  
name. The filing is required for  
consumer protection in order  
to enable customers to be  
able to identify the true owner  
of a business.

Assumed Name: The Aura  
Boreal  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF  
BUSINESS: 2339 Vermilion  
Lake Rd., Cook, MN 55723  
NAMEHOLDER(S):  
Kimberly K. Yankowiak, 2339  
Vermilion Lake Rd., Cook, MN  
55723.

I, the undersigned, certify that  
I am signing this document as  
the person whose signature  
is required, or as agent of  
the person(s) whose signa-  
ture would be required who

has authorized me to sign this  
document on his/her behalf,  
or in both capacities. I further  
certify that I have completed  
all required fields, and that the  
information in this document is  
true and correct and in compli-  
ance with the applicable chap-  
ter of Minnesota Statutes. I  
understand that by signing  
this document I am subject  
to the penalties of perjury as  
set forth in Section 609.48 as  
if I had signed this document  
under oath.

Dated: 10/22/21  
SIGNED BY: Kimberly K.  
Yankowiak, owner

*Published in the Timberjay,  
Nov. 26 & Dec. 3, 2021*

### LEGAL NOTICE City of Tower Publishing of Ordinance 2 Update

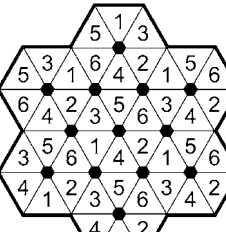
1st Reading Oct. 11, 2021  
2nd Reading Oct. 25, 2021

Given length of Ordinance,  
please view at:  
[https://cityoftower.com/  
public-works](https://cityoftower.com/public-works)

*Published in the Timberjay,  
Nov. 26, 2021*

### SNOWFLAKES

solution



### \*\*\*IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD NOTICE\*\*\*

This will affect your 2022 property taxes & eligibility for Property Tax Refund

**Have you purchased or moved into a property in the past year?**  
Contact your county assessor to file a homestead application if you or a qualifying  
relative occupy the property as a homestead on or before December 31, 2021.  
You must apply for homestead; it does not happen automatically or at closing.

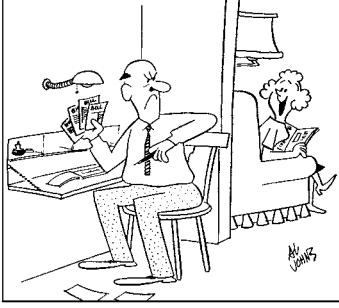
**What is a qualifying relative?**  
For residential or agricultural property, a qualifying relative includes the child,  
grandchild, sibling, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece, parent of the owner or of the  
owner's spouse.

**When do I apply?**  
You must apply on or before December 31, 2021.

Contact the assessor by December 31, 2021 if the occupancy or use of the  
property you homestead has changed in the past year.

If you sell, move, or for any reason no longer qualify for the homestead  
classification, you are required to notify the county assessor within 30 days of the  
change in homestead status.

For information, contact one of the following County Assessor's Offices:  
Duluth Offices...726-2304 Virginia Office...749-7147  
Hibbing Office...262-6089 Ely Office...365-8236  
Long distance (within St. Louis County) 1-800-450-9777



"Do I think money grows on trees?  
Is this a \_\_\_\_\_ ?"

### SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then  
rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Dainty  
**RENTED** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Dream  
**RANEY** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Unkind  
**DINES** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Sniff  
**HEALIN** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**TODAY'S WORD**

\_\_\_\_\_

### FUNERAL SERVICES

### Range Funeral Home



Virginia  
741-1481

Hibbing  
263-3276

"Friends Helping Friends"

### Read Us Online @timberjay.com

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

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

EMPLOYMENT

  
COOK HOSPITAL & CARE CENTER  
Our Specialty is You



### OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

#### Nursing

PT RN House Supervisor

#### Radiology

FT Radiologic Technologist

#### Care Center

FT & PT Nursing Assistant (Wage starting at \$16.36/hr - \$1,500 Sign-On Bonus)  
FT & PT RN or LPN (\$4,000 Sign-On Bonus)

#### Dietary

Casual Dietary Aide/Cook

#### Activities

PT & Casual Activities Assistant

#### Environmental Services

FT Housekeeper  
Casual Laundry Aide  
Casual Housekeeping & Laundry

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

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

Equal Opportunity Employer/Affirmative Action Employer

### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

1 Paid (up)  
6 Tennis star Graf  
12 False  
13 Sounded content  
14 Warm, as left-overs  
15 Not certain  
16 Cruise stop  
17 Farm unit  
19 Garten of Food Network  
20 Austen novel  
22 Perched  
24 Recede  
27 Force  
29 Pleasing  
32 Symbolic first step toward getting hired  
35 Cab  
36 British noble  
37 Egg quaff  
38 Existed  
40 Squabble  
42 Past  
44 Furnace fuel  
46 Volcanic flow  
50 Cheered (for)  
52 Ogled  
54 Topical anti-septic  
55 Builds  
56 Strong points  
57 "Midnight Cowboy" role

#### DOWN

1 Grieg's "— Death"  
2 Actress Patricia  
3 Private pupil  
4 Sch. URL ender  
5 "Feel-good" brain chemical  
6 Incite  
7 Jukebox picks  
8 Hosp. areas  
9 Fulfillment  
10 Office plant  
11 Notion

12 Greek consonant  
18 Bach's "Coffee —"  
21 1501, in Roman numerals  
23 Moreover  
24 Newt  
25 Large snake  
26 Ornamental garden trees  
28 Best-selling Michael Jackson album  
30 Bill's partner

31 Work unit  
33 Spanish aunt  
34 Sprite  
39 Potpourri output  
41 Swift  
42 Met melody  
43 Sticky substances  
45 Praiseful pieces  
47 Curved lines  
48 Presidential power  
49 TV spots  
51 Dead heat  
53 Epoch

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.



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

AUTOMOTIVE

Langevin Auto & Truck Repair

Full Service  
Auto Repair & Garage

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

HAIR CARE

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

HOSPICE

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

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.

ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at Ledgerock Community Church, 1515 E Camp St., Ely

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).

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS- East Range meetings and information, call 218-749-3387 or www.district8online.org.

AA FRIDAYS- 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 262 E Harvey St., Ely. Meets in the basement.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Tender 2. Neary; 3. Snide; 4. Inhale

Today's Word

RIDDLE

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED- COOK NEEDED- full-time or part-time at Melgeorge's on Elephant Lake. WEEKEND CABIN CLEANERS also needed. Call 218-374-3621. tfn

Subscribe to the TIMBERJAY!

Call 218-753-2950



Try out the Timberjay classifieds

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, AmEx, 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

MERCURY OUTBOARDS

Frank's Marine Sales & Service

Mercury, Crestliner, Lund

www.franksmarinesales.com  
franksmarine@centurytel.net  
Hwy 53, Orr • Call 218-757-3150

Handberg's MARINA

ALLUMWELD • CRISTLINER • YAMAHA

ENVIRONMENT • POLARIS • GODFREY

Sales • Service Rentals General Store

218-993-2214  
www.handbergs.com

ARONSON BOAT WORKS

LAKE VERMILION, TOWER

Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169

Summer Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 8:30-5:30,  
Sat: 9-5, Sun 9-3

MERCURY • LUND • HONDA

Storage • Complete Service • Sales

Sell It Here

MOCCASIN POINT MARINE

4655 Moccasin Point Rd  
Lake Vermilion  
218-753-3319

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

moccasinpointmarine.com





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



• 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

218-666-2434

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 Vermilion Dr • Cook MN

Ranger Boats

Premier Pontoon

WEERES

Boats

MERCURY

SUZUKI

YAMAHA

Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories

timbuktumarine.com

NEED HELP WITH YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN?

If you have questions about your pension, 401(k) or profit sharing plan, call Trellis Pension and Retirement Rights at 866-783-5021 to get free legal advice. Funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging, Trellis staff provides free legal assistance to anyone with a question about their retirement plan.

CALL US TODAY 866.783.5021



FROM \$2,249\*  
\$1,999\*

HISTORIC ROUTE 66

14 days, departs April - October 2022

Chicago • St. Louis • Branson • Oklahoma City • Amarillo • Albuquerque • Flagstaff • Las Vegas • Los Angeles • Santa Monica — Miles of open road, quirky attractions, and windswept desert vistas—if you love the quintessential Americana of Route 66, this is the tour for you. Get your kicks traveling the length of the Mother Road.



promo code N7017  
1-877-375-2291

\* Prices are per person based on double occupancy plus \$199 in taxes & fees. Single supplement and seasonal surcharges may apply. Add-on airfare available. Offers apply to new bookings only, made by 12/31/21. Other terms & conditions may apply. Ask your Travel Consultant for details.

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Curved like a pothook

8 Some Algonquians

14 Gushes lava

20 Cartoon cel material

21 Bassett of Hollywood

22 Witch's elixir

23 Start of a riddle

25 Shoe-collecting Marcos

26 State whose cap. is Boise

27 Company that retails outdoor gear

28 FDR follower

30 Gather, as a harvest

31 Pooch's yap

32 Riddle, part 2

39 Free of charge, as legal services

41 Make knotted

42 Large simian

43 Stroke gently

44 Riddle, part 3

48 Right wrongs

49 Genesis game system maker

50 Egg, formally

54 "Cool beans!"

57 Lenin's land: Abbr.

60 Tubular pasta

64 Part of REO

65 Riddle, part 4

70 — kwon do

71 "Toyboat" singer Yoko

72 Caravan layover locale

73 See

112-Across

74 Gift for music

75 Riddle, part 5

79 Ho-hum

80 Like gear that quells mobs

81 English lav

82 Chair fixer of a sort

83 Bug spray ingredient

84 Auction, e.g.

88 Oscar winner Mercedes

91 Riddle, part 6

100 Toby drink

103 Zodiac lion

104 Hocus-pocus

105 Big retail stores

106 End of the riddle

110 Nibble on

111 Be furious

112 With 73-Across, fluorescent paint brand

113 Pampering, in brief

114 Pal, to Yves

115 Demonstrate clearly

117 Riddle's answer

125 Bleep bad words from

126 Warning on an airplane wing

127 Earhart or Lindbergh

128 Tramps (on)

129 Sub-locating devices

130 Greek

DOWN

1 Looked at

2 Apollo 7 astronaut

3 Go toward

4 "— girl!" ("All right!")

5 Dads

6 Verb ending in the Bible

7 "Gloria in Excelsis —"

8 Guy's sense of self-importance

9 Neighbor of Michigan

10 Entertainer's rep.

11 "Ho-hum"

12 Land in la mer

13 Voice a quick greeting

14 Inscription on a tombstone

15 — -com (film genre)

16 In — (gestating)

17 Make a heap

18 Up till now

19 Talk testily to

24 Hi-tech address

29 Salty expanses

31 Many an iDevice game

32 The Lone Ranger's chum

33 Gung-ho for

34 Hamlet

35 Operates, as a booth

36 Northwestern French department

37 Many a YouTube journal

38 Pollen transporter

40 Triumphs over

45 Lifesaver, perhaps

46 Football field unit

47 Kind of IRA

51 Determine by ballot

52 Nervousness

53 It shows reflections

54 Passable

55 Comedian Boosler

56 "— Fideles" (Yule carol)

58 Atop

59 Doe's partner

61 "Othello" role

62 Wide divide

63 Earlier

65 Italian for "years"

66 "Dumb" bird

67 Suffix with 45-Down

68 Stringed instrument of yore

69 Canadian gas station

71 Atop, to poets

76 Essential part

77 Potential reply to "Who's there?"

78 Shredded

79 Round of gunfire

82 Lay's snacks

85 Oscar's kin

86 Hop

87 Corporate ID

89 Takes unfair advantage of

90 Girl in a J.D. Salinger story

92 Part of REO

93 Hands down, as a verdict

94 Cato's robe

95 More wee

96 Lugs around

97 Recluse under a religious vow

98 Person acting as a link

99 China's Sun — -sen

100 Influence

101 Shutter slat

102 Ferret cousin

107 High-IQ group

108 Sacred songs in tic-tac-toe

109 Outer: Prefix

114 Central Asia's — Sea

116 Flaky fish

118 Winning row in tic-tac-toe

119 Rival of AOL or Yahoo!

120 NYC rail and bus org.

121 "That'll show ya!"

122 Adam's woman

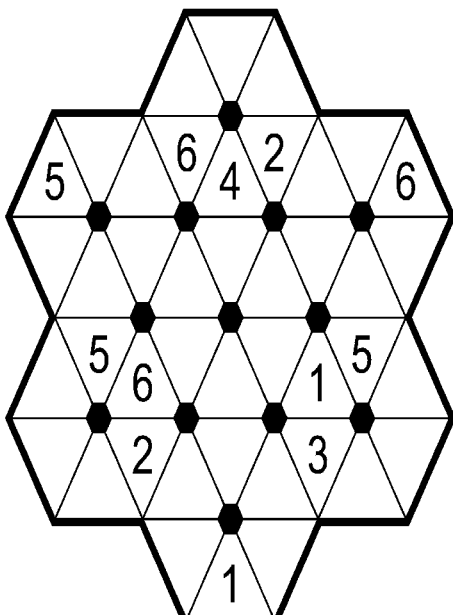
123 Petroleum

124 Three, in Italy

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

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

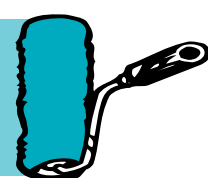
9	1	2	4	8	3	7	5	6
4	8	5	6	2	7	3	9	1
6	7	3	5	9	1	2	4	8
1	3	8	9	4	2	6	7	5
2	9	6	1	7	5	4	8	3
7	5	4	3	6	8	1	2	9
3	2	1	7	5	9	8	6	4
8	4	9	2	1	6	5	3	7
5	6	7	8	3	4	9	1	2

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																				
83								84	85	86	87			88	89	90				
			91	92	93	94						95	96					97	98	99
100	101	102		103				104							105					
106				107				108						109					110	
111						112						113						114		
115						116			117	118	119	120				121	122	123		
125									126							127				
128									129							130				





# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



## ROOFS

The FINISHED LOOK



**REPAIR  
& INSTALLATION**

**218-235-7305**

Licensed and Insured  
License# BC674311

## TS HANDYMAN SERVICES



*We are here to  
help with any of  
your needs.*

Do you want help fixing up your property or house? We are here to help with any of your needs. For information, please call 515-943-3142. Serving Northeast Minnesota, Lake Vermilion, Bear Head Lake, Ely, and more.



**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.

**Real Estate  
Closing Services,  
Title Insurance  
& Abstracting**

**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](http://www.netitle.com)

## 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](mailto:plans@cadlinedesign.us)  
[www.cadlinedesign.us](http://www.cadlinedesign.us)

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

**THE FINISHED LOOK**  
BUILDING | ROOFING  
REMODELING

**John Thomas Almeida**  
Owner & Designer  
[Pingajt@gmail.com](mailto:Pingajt@gmail.com)  
**(218) 235-7305**

KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • FIREPLACES • BARS  
Licensed & Insured - License #BC674311

*Wishing all our customers a  
Safe & Happy Thanksgiving*

**We will be closed**  
**Thurs., Fri., Sat, Nov. 25-26-27**  
*See you on Monday, Nov. 29*



Phone/Fax: 218.666.5344  
Hours: Mon. Fri: 7-5, Sat: 8-12  
[eric@cookbuildingcenter.com](mailto:eric@cookbuildingcenter.com)

## NORTHERN SAUNA & STOVE

Installers of gas, bio-fuel systems.  
Wood and electric saunas.

Rick:	Jesse:
Masonry repairs	Gas venting
and wood appliances	and cleaning
<b>218-290-5370</b>	<b>218-966-2034</b>

**BURN SAFE.**

[Tiptopchimney@gmail.com](mailto:Tiptopchimney@gmail.com)

**We Carry:**

- Electric and Wood Sauna Stoves
- Gas Fireplaces • Wood Stoves

## 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](http://www.andersonbarging.com)**

*Covering all of Lake Vermilion*



**KUUMA**

Smokeless Wood Furnaces  
and Fantastic Sauna Stoves!

**Call about the 26% tax credit!**

**WORLD'S #1**  
HOT AIR WOODBURNING FURNACE!

.45 gr/hr. emissions  
99.4% comb efficiency  
99% smokeless burns

**833-660-1064**

[lamppmfg@gmail.com](mailto:lamppmfg@gmail.com) [lamppakuuma.com](http://lamppakuuma.com)

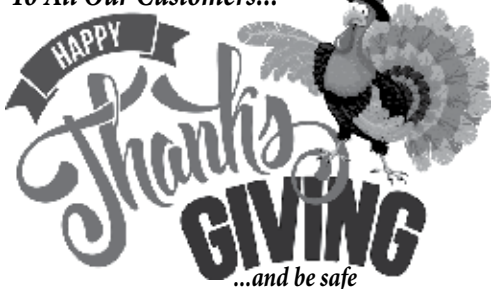


- PUMPS
- WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

**1-800-662-5700**

Spring Park Rd.  
Mt. Iron, MN 55768

To All Our Customers...



**CLOSED Thursday, Friday, Saturday**

## VERMILION LUMBER



**HOME OF THE PROFESSIONALS**  
**218-753-2230**

We are a UPS Shipping Drop-Off

302 Main St., Tower, MN

M-F: 8 AM-5 PM; Sat: 8 AM-Noon



## LAW OFFICE

**KELLY KLUN  
Attorney At Law**

**Real Estate**

- General Questions
- Buying/Selling
- Easements
- Contract for Deed
- Property Line Problems
- Road Maintenance/Assoc.
- Litigation

Complimentary 15 Minute Consultation



Minnesota State Bar Association  
Certified & Specialist  
Real Property Law



**KLUN LAW FIRM**  
Direction. Guidance. Results.

1 E. Chapman Street  
P.O. Box 240 • Ely, MN 55731  
**218-365-3221 • 218-365-5866 Fax**  
[www.klunlaw.com](http://www.klunlaw.com)

**BIG enough to serve you  
small enough to know you**

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO YOU!**



**Solid Saxony Carpet**  
starting at

**\$21.99 sq yd**

installed with pad



**Level Loop  
Commercial Carpets**  
starting at

**\$8.99 sq yd**



**Area Rugs**

**30% OFF**

- Braids • Hand Knotted • Woven/Flatweave
- Hand Hooked/Loop Hooked
- Oriental Reproductions

**SPECIAL PRICING ON IN-STOCK CARPETS  
HUNDREDS OF REMNANTS • 10% OFF FOR CASH**

**WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED!**

**Flooring • Cabinets • Countertops • Window Treatments  
Tile & Stone • Plumbing Fixtures • Home Decor & More**



**BIG Enough to Serve you; small Enough to Know You**



**FLOOR to CEILING**  
INTERIOR DESIGN SHOWROOM



8401 Enterprise Drive N., Virginia/Mt. Iron  
(1/2 Mile West on Highway 169) • 741-6690



**HOURS: 8-5:30 M-F**

Find us on:  
**facebook**

[floortoceiling.com/virginia](http://floortoceiling.com/virginia)

**read us  
online at  
[timberjay.com](http://timberjay.com)**