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# the TIMBERJAY



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## ELY'S HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL

# Marking the park and passing the baton

### Ely chamber's event director prepares to step down

by **RACHEL BROPHY**  
Staff Writer

ELY—It was a bitter-sweet morning early on Tuesday as Ely Chamber of Commerce Event Director Ellen Cashman was the first to arrive to “mark the park” for this weekend’s Harvest Moon Festival, which kicks off the fall season in Ely.

“Harvest Moon was the festival for the Ely Chamber of Commerce I took over back around 2010,” said Cashman who joined the chamber on a part-time basis shortly before that.

She came on at the chamber handling Tuesday Night Live, and about a year in, former Executive Director Linda Fryer said,

“She’s in; I’m out!” That’s when Cashman was given the chance to start and/or take over events that included Music in the Park, the Holiday Parade, and Harvest Moon Festival. Over the next 12 years many things changed, events came and went, but this weekend’s Harvest Moon

See...**FESTIVAL** pg. 9

**Right: Ely chamber event director Ellen Cashman hands the baton (or in this case measuring sticks) to Jess Stott who will take Cashman's place as Ely Chamber of Commerce Event Director following this year's event.**

photo by R. Brophy



**Clockwise from top left: Ivy Russell, Zaija Schroeder, and Cecilia Majerle hold hands on the first day of school; Tower-Soudan teacher Jo Holen gives a hug to Serah Ross; North Woods friends Briar Downes and Easton Rendulich smile as they walk from the bus to the school, with Rebecca Koch right behind; North Woods students are all smiles as they get off the bus.**

photos by Timberjay staff

## BACK TO SCHOOL

# Old friends, new friends



## CITY OF ELY

# Council hikes 2023 levy by 7.06 percent

Council could lower that in December when final levy is set

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

ELY—Taxpayers here may need to dig a little deeper next year after the city council, minus the absent Paul Kess, unanimously approved a preliminary 2023 levy of \$2.117 million, a 7.06 percent increase over 2022. The proposed levy includes \$1.454 million in the city’s general fund, \$371,400 in the library fund, and \$292,300 to cover bonded debt.

Council member Al Forsman, who serves on the budget committee, said the committee did what it could to “sharpen the pencil” during budget talks. At the same time, he said the city was facing cost increases that were beyond its ability to control. “We just have to adjust for them,” he said.

Mayor Roger Skraba acknowledged that the proposed levy increase is high but held out some hope for lowering it, perhaps to the four-to-six-percent range when the council sets its final levy in December.

“There are very few places in the budget where we can cut, and one of them might be in the capital improvements budget, which might mean that we don’t have a project next year,” said Skraba. He also urged the public to weigh in on the issue ahead of the December deadline.

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski noted that the city still faced some budget uncertainty because they won’t know their final health insurance premiums for its employees until later in the fall.

See...**COUNCIL** pg. 9

## CAMPAIGNS

# Most DFL candidates enjoying big leads in fundraising

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— DFL candidates from across the region and the state are crushing their Republican opponents in the race for campaign cash, and that could give them a distinct advantage as the campaign winds toward the

Nov. 8 general election.

While money isn’t everything in politics, well-financed candidates typically win, which is why political observers often look to campaign finance reports to determine candidate viability. While a successful candidate doesn’t always have to raise the most money, they need to

raise enough to run a credible campaign.

For some GOP candidates in the region, viability is still an open question.

In District 3A, for example, Republican candidate Roger Skraba, of Ely, reported raising just \$4,665 through July 18, which was the most recent report-

ing deadline. While that total is likely to jump considerably in the wake of his Aug. 9 primary win, it appears unlikely he’ll be able to match the DFL incumbent in the race, Rob Ecklund.

Ecklund reported he raised \$34,681 through July 18, and had \$60,559 remaining in his campaign coffers, having spent just

\$11,785 to that point. Ecklund, who faced no primary challenge, has been able to pool his resources for the fall campaign. Ecklund also benefitted from campaign funds left over from his 2020 re-election effort.

Skraba, meanwhile, will be

See...**CAMPAIGNS** pg. 9



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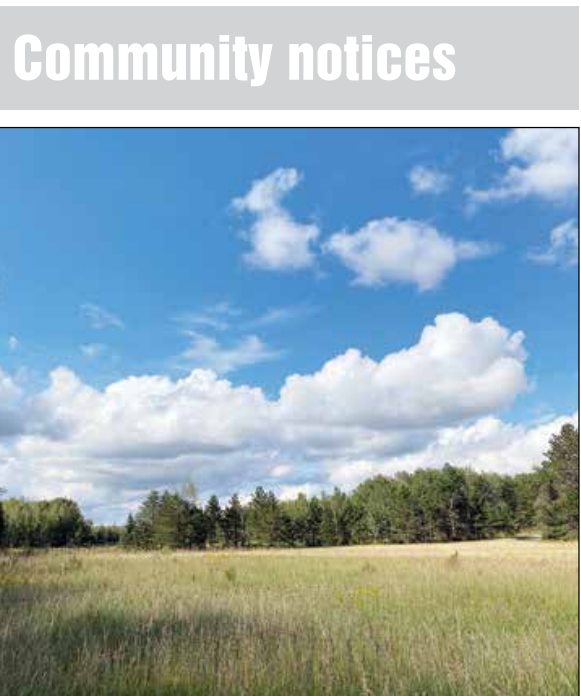
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# Community notices

**First International Cloud Appreciation Day is Friday, Sept. 16**

REGIONAL -Join thousands of cloud spotters from around the world by submitting a cloud photo to the online Memory Cloud Atlas. It will be a digital picture book of all the clouds seen in one day from every corner of the globe. For information on how to upload cloud pictures visit: <https://cloudappreciationsociety.org/cloud-appreciation-day-2022/> Participants can request notification to receive an alert when the upload link goes live. “We all share the sky. Clouds are everywhere. You just have to look up.”

**Essentia Health offering grief support in Virginia starting in late September**

VIRGINIA - Essentia Health is making it easier for those who have lost a loved one to cope with the heartache. Starting in late September, a grief support group will begin meeting in the third-floor boardroom of Essentia Health-Virginia, located at 901 9th St. N. The meetings will be hosted by Linda Freeman, a chaplain with Essentia, and counselor Bryan Ridgeway. An exact start date will be determined based on what works best for those who register.

The support group is open to anyone over 18 years of age who has experienced the death of a family member or relative. A number of modalities will be used to help participants with their grieving process, including compassionate listening, talk, art and music therapy and more. The sessions are free to attend. Pre-registration is required by calling Freeman at (218) 410-1768. Participants are expected to adhere to COVID safety protocols, including masking and hand sanitizing.

## LSS financial counseling offers guidance to student loan borrowers

REGIONAL - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government put a pause on federal student loan payments — also known as a forbearance — beginning with the passage of the federal CARES Act in March 2020. Forbearance has since been extended through December 31, 2022. This means that borrowers can temporarily stop making student loan payments if they choose.

In October 2021, the U.S. Department of Education put a temporary waiver into place for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program, making changes to how past payments were counted, and allowing time for Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL) to be consolidated into direct loans, so they may also qualify for PSLF. Government and 501(c)(3) nonprofit employees interested in Public Service Loan Forgiveness must complete a PSLF Application Form, have it signed by their HR department and submit it to the MOHELA Loan Servicing by October 31, 2022.

Certified financial counselors with Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS) are available to support student loan borrowers at no cost. They can work with individuals one on one to evaluate their financial situation, address challenges with making payments and develop a realistic, achievable plan for when collections resume. They can also answer questions around the temporary PSLF Waiver and help people understand the steps they need to take to qualify. LSS Financial Counseling’s Student Loan Counseling Service is available to all Minnesotans, free of charge. To schedule a phone or virtual appointment, call 888-577-2227, email [lssfinancialcounseling@lssmn.org](mailto:lssfinancialcounseling@lssmn.org) or visit [lssfinancialcounseling.org/studentloandebt](http://lssfinancialcounseling.org/studentloandebt).

# EMBARRASS

## Seitaniemi Homestead plays host to Community Night Out this Sunday, Sept. 11

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage of Embarrass is celebrating their annual Community Night Out on Sunday, Sept. 11 from 4-6:30 p.m. at the historic Seitaniemi Homestead. Singer-songwriter Preston Gunderson will provide the music. Come for a free outdoor concert and a tour of the restored housebarn at this family-friendly event.

Bring your own beverage, blanket and lawn chair. Chili, pie and coffee will be available. Free-will donations are gladly accepted. Proceeds go to Sisu’s restoration projects in Embarrass and the surrounding area. Local businesses sponsoring this event include C&C



Visitors to the 2021 Community night Out in Embarrass check out the housebarn.

Winger Construction, Northern Wear. Benville Service, Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Embarrass-Vermillion Credit Union and Wintergreen. The Seitaniemi Homestead is located on Comet Road in Waasa, between Embarrass and Babbitt.

## GIDDYAP!

### Ninth annual fall draft horse field day scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 10

HIBBING – Mr. Ed’s Farm LLC will host the 9th annual draft horse field day Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event features draft work horses plowing, disking, and planting grain as well as hay loading and grain threshing demonstrations.

Members of the North Star Draft Horse Association Inc. will have Shire, Percheron, Belgian, Spotted Draft and Hafflinger horses performing fieldwork. According to Ed Nelson, “Heavy Draft horses once provided the power needed to farm the land and grow our food. This event is reminiscent



Draft horses were critical to getting farm work done before modern machinery was available

of the time before tractors”. The horses will be pulling a variety of vintage farm implements.

In addition to the field demonstrations, the farm will be open for barnyard tours featuring

a variety of animals. A tractor-drawn people mover will shuttle visitors between the field and the farm. Cherry Recreation will provide the food concession. Mr. Ed’s Farm LLC is located at 10796 Foss Road, Hibbing. From Hibbing drive east on Highway 37 for 8 miles then go south on Highway 5, 3 miles to Foss Road. Cost for the event is \$7 per person, children 2 and under are free. No dogs please. For more information call 218-966-1354 or email [mredsfarmllc@gmail.com](mailto:mredsfarmllc@gmail.com).

## GET CONNECTED

### Sept. 12-16 is Lifeline Awareness Week

REGIONAL– Paul Bunyan Communications and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) are promoting Lifeline Awareness Week, September 12-16. “Access to reliable high speed Internet service is critical. We promote the Lifeline and the Affordable Connectivity Program a lot throughout the year and Lifeline Awareness Week is another opportunity to spread the word about these programs. We want to make sure all of our

membership and those who live within our service area know about them and the benefit they can provide. These programs help those struggling to afford Internet services get and stay connected,” said Gary Johnson, Paul Bunyan Communications CEO/General Manager. Lifeline is an FCC program designed to help make communication services more affordable for low-income consumers. Lifeline provides up to a \$9.25 monthly discount

on qualifying voice and broadband services for eligible low-income subscribers and up to \$34.25 per month for subscribers on qualifying Tribal lands. To learn more about Lifeline, go to [www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers](http://www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers) or [www.lifeline-support.org](http://www.lifeline-support.org). A new FCC program, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is also now available to help families and households struggling to afford internet service. The Affordable Connectivity Program

provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Additional information about the Affordable Connectivity Program Benefit is available at [www.fcc.gov/ACP](http://www.fcc.gov/ACP), or by calling 877-384-2575 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. ET any day of the week. Households that qualify for Lifeline also qualify for the ACP Benefit.

### Don't miss out on your slice of blueberry pie!

ELY- The Ely Kiwanis club will be selling Blueberry pies at this weekend's Harvest Moon Festival. The popular treat that shares a name with Ely's summer Blueberry/Art Festival will be available all weekend - or as long as supplies last. Baking of the 200 pies has already begun, so come hungry!

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CRIME

Man jailed for fire-related death of infant charged with felony assault

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- A man convicted of second-degree manslaughter in the 2017 fire-related death of a Tower infant is now facing charges in the assault of an elderly Culver couple while participating in a Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) work release program.

Jesse Lee Bonacci-Koski, 29, was arrested Sunday and booked into St. Louis County jail in Duluth on preliminary charges of felony third degree assault causing substantial bodily harm and misdemeanor charges of criminal damage to property, obstructing the legal process, and fleeing a police officer in connection with the assault of a couple reportedly in their 70s who live in the vicinity of Schelin Lake on County Rd. 47, about a mile east of South Ridge School.

The Timberjay attempted to obtain an official incident report from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office and a criminal complaint from the Sixth District Court, but neither were available before Wednesday's press deadline.

However, the newspaper spoke with the couple's son,



Jesse Lee Bonacci-Koski

Brent Swanson, on Tuesday. He described the incident as it was related to him by his parents, who requested to remain anonymous.

Early Sunday afternoon, Swanson said his parents received a phone call from a neighbor reporting an unfamiliar vehicle stopped just down the street from them.

"Occasionally somebody stops because they break down or whatever," Swanson said.

Swanson's parents got in a golf cart and went down their driveway to investigate and provide assistance if needed, Swanson said. They found the vehicle parked in another drive-

way they share with a neighbor, and a man was standing outside of the vehicle urinating on the driveway. Swanson said his mother was shocked and asked what the man was doing.

"I don't know if he said anything or if there was an exchange, but the way that I heard it is that without provocation he immediately launched at my mom and started assaulting her with punches and throttling," Swanson said.

His father was able to separate the two, and his mother jumped into the golf cart and drove to the neighbor's house to call 911, Swanson said. His father and Bonacci-Koski continued to scuffle, with his father suffering a broken nose and receiving multiple deep bites to his legs before breaking away, according to Swanson. At that point, Bonacci-Koski fled on foot, leaving behind a woman and a young child in the vehicle, Swanson said. Bonacci-Koski was later spotted and arrested by sheriff's deputies.

Swanson's parents were taken to a Duluth-area hospital, he said.

"They were both able to be treated and released right away," Swanson said. "They're pretty lucky that they got off as lightly as they did. It could have been a lot worse."

Tragic history

Bonacci-Koski was convicted of second-degree manslaughter in 2018 in the death of 11-month-old Bentley Joe Lewis Koski as the result of a fire that engulfed the child's home at 813 North Third St. in Tower the morning of Aug. 2, 2017. The infant's parents had left Bonacci-Koski in charge of the child while they spent a night away from home. In an interview with law enforcement officers, Bonacci-Koski said he had left the infant alone in a crib on the second floor in the early morning hours to purchase drugs. When he returned about two hours later, he saw firefighters fighting a blaze at the house that apparently started in the kitchen and fled. He first went to Benchwarmers Bar and Grille, then later stole a Jeep that he drove into a ditch in Pike Township. He was taken into custody by St. Louis County deputies when he was seen coming out of nearby woods.

The medical examiner later determined that the infant had died of smoke inhalation.

A jury took less than two hours to convict Bonacci-Koski of second-degree manslaughter, as well as vehicle theft and possession of a controlled substance in

the wake of that incident. District Court Judge Gary Pagliacetti sentenced Bonacci-Koski to eight years and two months in prison for the manslaughter charge, with credit given for 488 days he had already been detained. Had Bonacci-Koski been incarcerated for the full term of his sentence, he would have been released in October 2025, according to his DOC offender information listing. An appeal of the sentence was denied in 2020.

Work release

Bonacci-Koski was out of prison and in the region where the alleged assault took place on Sunday as a result of his admission to the DOC's Work Release Program, which he entered last February. Incarcerated people are eligible for the program after having served at least one-half of their term of imprisonment and are selected for the program based on current and prior criminal behavior, institutional adjustment, substance use history, and a recidivism risk assessment, according to a DOC flyer.

Bonacci-Koski's prior record includes felony convictions in 2017 for fleeing an officer in

See ASSAULT.,pg. 5

WE WANT THE AIRWAVES

No dead air yet—WELY to remain open

ELY- The Bois Forte Tribal Council voted Wednesday to continue operating and programming WELY—The End of the Road Radio Station for an additional three months while the business is moving through the sale process.

Earlier this year, the council had voted to close the iconic station on June 1. However, once that decision was made, much interest was shown in someone stepping in to buy the station. Even with those 90 days, no sale could be made as a lot of behind-the-scenes work needed to be done to prepare for an actual sale.

"These things take time due to the market appraisals, sales agreements, etc.," said Bois Forte CEO Mayan Beltran of finding someone to buy a radio station. "While the initial three months

afforded us some time to begin the sales process, it just wasn't enough. We are hopeful this new window will give us time to sell it now that all the details are finalized."

Beltran reported that there are a handful of potential buyers for the station, which Bois Forte has owned since 2005. He added that he is working with a local realtor to get the station properly marketed after plans to do so with a media broker never materialized.

To date, Beltran said his work with the local realtor has entailed preparing to sell the entire operations, including the radio station, its tower and property, plus the large building on historic Chapman Street in downtown Ely.

If a potential buyer does not



Ely's End of the Road Radio will keep its Chapman Street doors open a bit longer.

want the entire package, Beltran reported they could just buy the radio station, the tower, and the land that the tower sits on. There is also value in the actual FCC license that the station currently

holds in broadcasting on 94.5 FM and 1450AM. Due to numerous parties still expressing interest in buying, the council did not want to disclose any pricing at this time.

Now that another reprieve

has been given, District I Representative Shane Drift clarified that this is the last time he'll agree to any extension.

"If we don't sell it, we just have to close it down," said Drift. "I am concerned that someone will want to buy it and then pull out. What happens then, we give it another three months? No matter what happens (after those three months)—we shut it down."

Beltran said he would reach out to the interested buyers to gauge their interest now that a purchase price has been finalized.

"We will let them know they have a 30-day first right of refusal to make us an offer," said Beltran.

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# OPINION

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## Editorial

### A dystopian future?

Catastrophic climate change is reshaping the planet. It’s only going to get worse.

The signs of catastrophic climate change are increasingly undeniable all across the globe. While it’s been a relatively cool and wet summer here in northern Minnesota, don’t think we’re going to escape from the inevitable consequences of the changes the planet is experiencing.

Across the western U.S., water restrictions have been put in effect to try to head off the disappearance of Lake Powell and Lake Mead, the Colorado River reservoirs upon which so much of the southwest depends.

In much of Europe, astonishing heat and drought have dried up rivers and are devastating agriculture. It’s even worse in China, which some climatologists are arguing is experiencing the worst combination of extraordinary heat and drought in human history. The mighty Yangtze River has virtually dried up in places, affecting the hydropower on which so much of China depends for electricity. The country’s rice crop is severely threatened as well.

Back in the U.S., the Plains states have been experiencing widespread drought and punishing heat that is expected to reduce crop yields by as much as a third.

Any one of these climate disasters would have significant consequences. Combined, they threaten to create critical shortages of basic food commodities, like rice, corn, and wheat, which feed so much of the world. Here in the U.S., water restrictions in the southwest will create shortages of much of the produce that we rely on during the winter months. Food prices are already going up in expectation of shortage.

The situation in China is further fueling inflation as factories are forced to shutter due to lack of hydropower and shipping along the country’s major rivers has nearly ground to a halt. That’s all contributing to the ongoing supply chain shortages being experienced globally, which have fueled the inflationary spiral now affecting the globe. While COVID’s shutdowns sparked the initial shortages, catastrophic climate change is making it far worse.

And there is no reason to think that the situation will get better. Indeed, we’re only beginning to feel the effects of the climate disaster we’ve created through our emissions of greenhouse gases.

Climate change isn’t just affecting life here in the U.S. The impacts are far greater in poorer, developing countries and as life in those places becomes increasingly untenable due to higher temperatures and food shortages sparked by drought or intense flooding, humans will inevitably migrate to places better positioned to cope with the changing climate—

including the United States. The immigration crisis at the border today is a mere whisper of the flood of humanity that countries in the north are going to increasingly experience in the years ahead. Desperate humans, faced with starvation, disease, or the growing violence that inevitably erupts where scarcity exists, will leave those circumstances in search of opportunities for survival. We know that because humans have done so for millennia. Neither borders nor walls will stop them.

We are facing global upheaval on a scale unmatched in human history. Food shortages, massive wildfires, unimaginable flooding, and extreme heat and drought are no longer consequences we can ignore, or pretend they are something with which only future generations will have to contend. We are increasingly staring the hard realities of climate change in the face, and it is not a hopeful sight.

Far from making progress away from the consumption of fossil fuels, we continue to burn carbon-based fuels at a near-record pace and the percentage of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has continued to rise unabated. Prior to the industrial revolution, the level of CO2 in the atmosphere was approximately 280 parts per million (ppm). Today, it’s 416 ppm, and that’s far above the 350-ppm threshold above which scientists believe the worst effects of climate change could have been avoided. Even as some countries, including the U.S. endeavor to make the shift away from fossil fuels, progress is far too slow, and time is running out.

The bottom line is, we won’t avoid the effects of catastrophic climate change, even here in northern Minnesota. We’re paying much more for food and that reality isn’t going to change in our lifetimes because food shortages are going to be a fact of human existence moving forward.

In forested regions, like ours, wildfires are going to be a growing risk. Last summer was simply a prelude of what’s to come.

If this all sounds dystopian, recall that climate scientists have been warning us of exactly this for almost half a century and their warnings have been largely ignored by the public and politicians.

At a time when we need strong leadership and a global commitment to change, we have entire political parties in countries around the world that are willing to foreclose the future of humanity for cheap political advantage. We are going to be living with the consequences of their cowardice for generations to come.



## Letters from Readers

### Ecklund is working for northern MN

Rob Ecklund is doing a great job as our state Representative and has never forgotten where he came from. This year he successfully authored two important bills by working across the aisle to benefit Northern Minnesota and our veterans.

Rob Ecklund authored and negotiated with the Republican led Senate to build \$110 million in high-speed internet infrastructure in Minnesota. As *Minnpost* reported: Rep. Rob Ecklund, a Democrat from International Falls who helped negotiate the broadband money, said the bill “will help expand broadband access to more homes, schools, and businesses across the state.” Our area needs rural broadband and Rob has done his job working across the aisle!

Secondly, Rob Ecklund authored the new law which invests significant new funding to address veteran homelessness, new veterans homes, and service bonuses to those who served during the post-9/11 Global War on Terror.

As an army veteran, retired union electrician in the paper mill, and a city councilor for 15 years, I have watched and admired how Rob as a veteran, union president and county commissioner has listened and tried to help us in Northern Minnesota. This last legislative session, he successfully applied the skills that he has developed over the last 20 years. I hope this November we can vote for and re-elect Rob to help us obtain what we need in Northern Minnesota.

**Ed Bernath**  
International Falls

### Turn out and cheer the marathoners

I’ve run or skied over a hundred citizen races over the years, mostly marathon length, mostly in the middle or back of the pack. And I can testify to the huge lift that comes from the cheering spectators and musical entertainment groups along the course. They give encouragement to keep going while distracting from focusing on the pain. But I can’t run anymore. So that’s why I’ll again be playing my tuba for all the runners during the 5K Glow Run (Friday evening, Sept. 23) and towards the end of the 8,390 rod Ely Marathon and Half-Marathon (Saturday, Sept. 24).

I also know that participants return year after year to such events if they’ve had a good time, were well treated, and enjoyed a party atmosphere.

So, come out and line the routes and cheer; then make your way to the Whiteside Park finish line parties and cheer some more. Bring your cowbells, musical instruments and noisemakers and yell “You’re doing great!” at the top of your voice. If you show up, you and all the other spectators will not only have fun but will be helping to attract more and more spectators and participants to come each fall for Ely’s race weekend (which supports Ely’s economy).

**Elton Brown,**  
Morse Township

### Let’s get rid of the “NO” guy

Back in July at the Cook Community Center there was a “Meet-and-Greet”, with state Rep. Jen Schultz. Missy Roach introduced Jen to about 40 of us. She gave usher best opening speech and had us

laughing several times. Jen mentioned Rep. Stauber and his “NO” vote on the all-important Infrastructure bill. He’s voted against women’s reproductive rights. He supports Trump’s, “stolen election” rhetoric.

Jen supplied a fresh view of the future! She has worked in the Minnesota Legislature for eight years, helping support hard work and respect for one another all the time. Jen was instrumental in helping to bring significant state and federal investments to northeast Minnesota. Jen believes in quality education and more-affordable drug prices and bringing down the cost of health care.

What has Stauber done for us??

Jen provided us with an opportunity to ask her questions. My question concerned the Veterans Choice program for medical care in our community health care system. Jen voiced her support for Veterans and the VA. She was asked about the BWCA’s clean water and about keeping it that way. She replied that science will provide answers for us.

Please support Jen in November so we can get rid of the “NO” guy.

**Skip Dickinson**  
Britt

### We welcome your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

## Some thoughts I have as we turn with the seasons

As I write on my small deck, surrounded by flowers, on this Labor Day morning, I enjoy the chill that requires a sweater. For as long as I can remember, this shift from summer to autumn has been a more important marker in my year than the



**BETTY FIRTH**

beginning of a new calendar year. While there is a lot of ballyhoo about the New Year, shedding the old and starting anew with admirable resolutions, what could be a beautiful, meaningful ritual in our lives is lost in the stream of excessive commercialism starting around Halloween, when the plastic Santas start to sing and ending

in January with the letdown and the debts. While marketers come up with a myriad of images to portray the glittery, glamorous, parties we’re supposed to enjoy on New Year’s Eve, pandering to our food and alcohol addictions, most people I know prefer to stay off the roads and enjoy an evening at home with friends and family, or in peaceful solitude.

Labor Day weekend, though, that’s the real deal. The season shifts noticeably, often with a marked change right on the weekend. The humidity evapo-

rates and the crisper air brings the message, “Time to quit messing around, refocus, and get some stuff done!” Recharged with energy, I look forward to taking on new projects and completing old ones during my favorite season.

Living in the Midwest — and I have been a lifelong inhabitant of the prairie, farmlands, and forests — the changing season triggers an internal countdown that shows the Times Square countdown to be the pale imitation that it is. The earth tilts

on its axis, giving us a different view, and we must shift to keep our balance. Our bodies feel the gradual changes, as we are immersed in autumnal colors and crisper nights with a promise of frost, turning toward winter, for we are lucky enough to live in a place with a real winter. The Fall equinox coming soon brings days and nights of about 12 hours each all over the planet. We harvest our gardens and prepare ourselves for the long, quiet of a

See SEASONS.pg. 5

# Letters from Readers

## Empowering labor and the middle class

Nearly 250 years ago, our nation signed a promissory note, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator, with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Today, some 13 million Americans are members of labor unions. Another 70 million say they would join a labor union if they could. It’s easy to figure out why. Unionized employees earn 26 percent more than nonunionized employees and enjoy better benefits and more job security.

Conservatives claim that the higher labor costs increase the cost of goods and services. To some extent that is true, but at the same time union membership increases the disposable income of the middle class, making those fractionally more expensive goods and services easier to purchase.

The result of an abundance of well-paid workers and slightly more expensive goods is a strong middle class and a healthy local and national economy, as America had during the 40 years before radical conservatives took over the White House and Congress in the 1980s.

The result of the loss of good paying, living wage jobs may have brought cheaper goods at Walmart, but it has eviscerated the economies of our local communities and strangled the expansion of the middle class.

The tax policies of conservative neo-liberal economics have greatly increased the number of people dropping out of the middle class, and into the category of the working poor, the largest percent of adults in poverty today.

When organized capital and

organized labor have relatively equal levels of power, society becomes stable, as we witnessed throughout the period from the 1940s to the 1970s, the golden age of the American middle class.

When the government defines the rules by which the game of business is played, and supports policies in favor of corporations and against labor, as has been happening for nearly 40 years, then job security vanishes, wages drop, and corporate profits soar. CEOs award themselves multi-million-dollar paychecks, and corporate corruption runs rampant.

Democracy in the workplace is known as union labor. The most democratic, unionized workplaces are the least exploitative because labor has the power to balance capital and management.

Those cultures that embrace the largest number of their citizens in an egalitarian and democratic manner, in and out of the workplace, are the ones that have the highest quality of life. Those cultures that are most despotic, from the workplace to the government, are those with the poorest quality of life.

Empowering labor and the middle class and repudiating the sociopathic corporate activities that have led to a business culture that is a poison to our planet, is a vital first action toward remaking our culture in a way that is healthy and sustainable.

T. D. Duff,  
Tonka Bay

## Vote out the GOP hypocrites

Recently, I heard some members of the GOP squawking about the national debt. Where was their outrage when Reagan, who promised to balance the budget, increased the debt from

\$800 billion to \$2.6 trillion? And I heard nothing but crickets when Bush added \$10 trillion to the debt to finance two useless wars, and fund his tax cuts for the rich, leaving a massive debt. And this was after Bill Clinton left a surplus of more than \$5 trillion.

And last, but not least, Trump’s addition to our debt was \$7.8 trillion in just four years, helped along by his \$1.5 billion in tax cuts, 83 percent of which went to those who needed it least: the wealthy and corporations. On top of that, Trump promised us an infrastructure bill when he was campaigning, but then was too busy putting down Democrats, and lying about the Covid virus to deliver on his promise.

Now, the Republicans in Congress continue to complain. Why? It’s to keep Biden from implementing his policies, and to blame him for the country’s problems, most of which were left by Trump and the GOP. Republicans leave a mess, and admit to nothing, leaving Democrats to clean it up. What hypocrites.

Dick Cheney said: “The debt doesn’t matter. We won the mid-terms. This is our due.” What he meant was, the national debt only matters to them when they can blame a Democrat for it. That’s what I despise about the current GOP’s so-called leadership. They have no solutions, no agenda, and no ideas. Their priorities consist solely in demonizing their opponents, gerrymandering, and passing more voter restriction laws. As I’ve learned, they believe, and rightfully so, it’s the only way they can win and stay in power.

What can we do about it? First, believe half or less of what any Republican says, and watch what they do. And second, vote all of them out of office, permanently.

Gary Burt  
Marble

## Trying to break through the passport bureaucracy

My story may sound funny to some, however it has been very confusing and frustrating to me. I have had a passport for six years, which means it should be good for four more years. I have never reported it lost or stolen.

For the last few years, my hubby and I leave our home on the lake for a few months in the winter and go to the Rio Grande Valley in Texas—returning back to Minnesota in early spring.

While in the valley, we visit a little Mexican town for our dental work. Having done this a few years now, (COVID years excepted) it has never been a problem crossing back into the United States—until this year. This past winter I was pulled aside and sent into the immigration office with my passport, where I was told my passport was not valid as it had been reported stolen, to which I replied: “It isn’t stolen, I just gave it to you.”

They agreed but said they couldn’t do anything to help me. They gave me my passport and told me I was on my own to try to correct the record. So, I went home and got on the computer to get to the passport agency. Good luck with this, folks. The only box they have is to report a passport lost or stolen, which did not pertain to me. And, of course, if you call, you could be on the phone waiting to speak to someone until hell freezes over.

So, after speaking to a few folks about it, and doing some more research on my own, I decided to wait until I got back to Minnesota and contact Sen. Amy Klobuchar, whose office advertises online that they will

help with passport problems. We live in Orr and the closest office for Sen. Klobuchar is in Virginia, but I could never find anyone there—tax dollars well spent, folks.

So, I called her Minneapolis office and was finally told what I had to do, so I completed it by email and was given a caseworker. Well, obviously, I didn’t explain my situation or she read it wrong but was told in March that a report had been made with my number and name. Delta Zabrocki and, get this, it was submitted by “Embassy GUAYAQUIL” and reported as lost in Blasas, Ecuador. Needless to say, it is not lost and I have never been to Ecuador. So, by now this is serious to me—how did this happen? Someone used my number and my name... are they trying to steal my identity?

This is where we are today, which is no further than I was when the customs office wished me luck. I’m not quite done with my dilemma, however. I should have four years left on my passport and shouldn’t have to buy a new one. And now, our first grandchild and only granddaughter is getting married in a few months in the Caribbean, and I am hoping to be able to attend, however I will for sure need a valid passport. I hope you will print my letter and perhaps someone else out there has had a similar experience and would offer suggestions.

Thank you to anyone who can help.

Delta Zabrocki  
Orr

## ASSAULT...Continued from page 3

a vehicle, violating a restraining order within 10 years of a domestic violence conviction, and possession of marijuana, and misdemeanor convictions that same year for two charges of theft. In 2015 he was again convicted of fleeing an officer in a vehicle, this time a gross misdemeanor. He was convicted of gross misdemeanor assault in 2014, felony second-degree assault with a dangerous weapon in 2013, and misdemeanor driving under the influence of

alcohol in 2011. DOC representatives would not comment specifically on Bonacci-Koski’s case, but one possible scenario weighing in favor of his acceptance into the program could be that the infant’s death in the manslaughter case was ruled accidental, suggesting that the risk of recidivism for that crime was low.

Work release participants must be gainfully employed or enrolled in a work training

program while living in DOC-contracted community-based housing or jail facility, participate in appropriate substance abuse programs, and must qualify through positive participation for short furloughs away from the program.

Court documents available online as of Tuesday did not list the location of the work release program Bonacci-Koski was associated with, but one document indicated his current address as a

Duluth apartment about 22 miles from Schelin Lake. DOC has a contract with Duluth Bethel Society to provide a work-release program.

DOC Communications Director Nicholas Kimball said Tuesday that Bonacci-Koski’s weekend arrest on the assault charge would automatically trigger his termination from the work release program, and he would be returned to prison when he becomes available to the DOC.

Bonacci-Koski could remain in the custody of St. Louis County Jail to await adjudication of his case if he refuses or cannot make whatever bail the court was to set at his arraignment hearing on Wednesday. The hearing was originally scheduled for Tuesday, but Assistant County Attorney Vicky Wanta requested the delay so that she could file amended charges.

## SEASONS..Continued from page 4

Northern winter.

Even my domesticated, pot-bound flowers, peppers, and tomatoes show that they got the memo to slow down and stop producing. Letting go is not one of my inherent strengths, so it seems I have needed a lot of lessons in how to do that gracefully. The plants have helped teach me. I keep them alive and outside as long as I can, covering them up during the first nights of light frost, but then I must bow to the inevitable. I bring in those that are resilient enough to make it through the winter where they join the houseplants to make an unruly indoor jungle. The others must go. I can’t deny their cycle.

In our daily cycles, we enjoy skies crowded with dramatic clouds during the day and stars spilling out of the Milky Way at night. A clear view of the horizon and the visible trajectories of the sun and moon help me feel balanced. I didn’t realize how important that was until I moved to Minneapolis and lived in a tall duplex surrounded by tall buildings which blocked the horizon. I could only see the sky directly above, and I would ache to catch a glimpse of the moon. Often, seeing the color of the sky change, I would jump in the car and speed over to one of the lakes in order to see

the sun setting below the western horizon. Just as a person is more likely to avoid being seasick if they stay aboveboard and keep their eyes on the horizon, I think we all need to have the horizon available to feel grounded, recognize our connection, and keep our balance.

Our daily cycles shift, too, as hours of daylight shorten and dark grow longer, with more internal messages to slow down a bit and take it easy. We humans have often forgotten our bodily rhythms and needs in our quest for technological change, but our bodies tell us you can’t fool Mother Nature when we jump on a plane. Superman may speed around the globe supersonically, but normal humans aren’t meant to leap over time zones at 600 mph. Traveling east to west is more difficult because the body has more difficulty advancing than delaying the internal clock. When Daylight Savings kicks in, losing an hour in the spring, many of us will be affected and not realize why.

Labor Day has traditionally marked the end of summer and beginning of the school year, and that call to action beats its drum within me, even though it has been many years since I was a student or teacher in the public schools. The

anticipation of change brought anxiety and excitement, but I enjoyed school and learning, so even while feeling some sadness in saying goodbye to summer, I looked forward to the new year, and I would resolve to do well. I’m sure most of us feel the urge to buy new school supplies and a pair of penny loafers... maybe in the form of a new cell phone and some hiking boots...when September rolls around.


We also have our election cycles, so essential to our democracy, which harken possible change as voters turn their attention up a notch and candidates strive to get their messages out clearly in the cacophony and contention of electoral noise. It’s a season to

pay attention, be clear on our values, and sort out fact from fiction.

The well-known song, “Turn! Turn! Turns!” sung by the Byrds, recounts the many seasons of life with the text from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up. A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. We are grieving this week for our friend, neighbor, and co-worker, Keith Vandervort. May he rest in peace.

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music and entertainment!



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Northern Community Radio  
90.5 KBXE

91.7fm - Grand Rapids  
90.5fm - Bemidji  
89.9fm - Brainerd  
kaxe.org



*the*  
**TIMBERJAY**

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

Week of Sept. 12

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 12

**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 Sept. 20.

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

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 13

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

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

**Civic Club hosting Too Much Stuff Sale on Sept. 9-10**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Civic Club is hosting a fundraiser sale on Friday, Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 10 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon at the Herb Lamppa (Tower) Civic Center.

Everything must go at this sale, which will include a huge variety of all types of items: household, recreational, clothing, and more.

The proceeds help fund the Civic Club's projects in the Tower-Soudan area.

**Tower-Soudan Book Club resumes**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Book Club is now meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the basement at St. James Presbyterian Church. This will be the start of the 21st year of the book club, and many of the original members are still involved. New readers are always welcome to join for a season of good reads and interesting discussions. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month from September through May. For more information, call Marge at 218-753-3503.

**Charlemagne's Attic Sale Sept. 9-10**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Historical Society's "Charlemagne's Attic Sale" will be open the final time this year on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 9 and 10, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The sale is located in Tower's historic fire hall at 504 Main Street. The two-day sale will feature donated antiques, unique, vintage, collectibles, artwork, cabin décor, and fun items for sale. Many new items have been added.

First day smiles



Tower-Soudan Elementary and Vermilion Country School welcomed back their students on Tuesday. Pictured clockwise from top left: Norman checks out his new school supplies Nash shows off his yellow, purple and red hair. VCS seventh-graders Landon and Kai get to know each other. VCS sisters Annastashia and Annakeiah. T-S Elementary first-grader Betty walks to school with her father. VCS seventh-graders Bentley and Jack. Tim Herring is back at T-S Elementary as the special education teacher. A T-S High School graduate, he was all smiles with his former music teacher (and current fourth-grade and music teacher) Michelle Anderson. photos by J. Summit



TOWER-SOUDAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TSHS annual meeting and dinner set for Sept. 27

TOWER- The annual dinner meeting of the Society will be held at the Herbert R. Lamppa Civic Center in Tower on Tuesday, Sept. 27. Social time starts at 5 p.m.; at 5:30 p.m. guest speaker Tucker Nelson will share his historical presentation "A River Relic: The Rise and Fall of the Pike River Power Plant". This event is free and open to the public.



Tucker Nelson

Tucker Nelson of Virginia is the editor of the Hometown Focus, a weekly community newspaper, where he writes frequently about local history. His three-part series on the Pike River hydroelectric plant was published in Hometown Focus in April and May 2022. Nelson is the former museum director of the Virginia Area Historical Society and has given historical presentations at meetings of the Virginia Area Historical Society, the Friends of the Virginia Public Library, the

Eveleth Heritage Society, the St. Louis County Board, the Duluth Lions Club, and Eveleth-Gilbert High School history classes. Tucker Nelson is the son of Brian Nelson, Tower-Soudan High School class of 1988, and the grandson of the late James "Jim" Nelson, proprietor of Nelson's Hardware in Tower from 1977-2002. "Tower has been a special

place for me all my life," Nelson said. "I rode past the Pike River dam countless times when visiting my grandpa's house on Pike Bay and researching the dam's history was fascinating. I hope others enjoy learning about this short, unique period in Tower's past."

A framed photograph of the Pike River Dam, the topic of Tucker Nelson's presentation, will be up for bid during the evening. In addition, two other pieces of framed art, an Isle of Pines Bridge photograph and a framed reproduction of the Arrowhead map created in 1929, will also be available for members of the Tower-Soudan Historical Society to place a bid.

Dinner will be served at approximately 6:15 p.m. and will feature a champagne chicken and beef au jus buffet catered by Chef Marko Stefanich and Pam Abrahamson. There is a \$25

cost for the dinner payable that evening. Advance dinner reservations are required by Sept. 20. Please call or text 218-750-0193 or 715-558-5391 if you are able to join us for dinner.

Immediately following dinner, the Tower-Soudan Historical Society annual meeting will be called to order. The annual meeting includes a summary of the year's activities and nomination and election of board members.

The beautiful, award-winning History of Erie Mining Company Book will be for sale for \$45. A preview copy is available for your review. 2022 membership dues are \$10 single and \$20 family and may be paid on site. As of this date, TSHS has 209 paid members (up from 136 at the start of 2022).



Fridays  
4-6 PM  
at the  
Train Depot  
in Tower

Order now for St. Martin's Annual Pasties Sale

TOWER- St. Martin's is getting ready for their Annual Pasties Fundraiser. Orders are now being taken; the last day to order is Friday, Sept. 16. To order, call the rectory office at 218-753-4310, or stop by the rectory to see Maryan. Orders and money may also be mailed to St. Martin's Catholic Church, PO Box 757, Tow-

er, MN, 55790.

You will need to tell us at the time of your order if you want rutabaga or not in your pasties. The cost of the pasties is still \$6, and they must be paid for at the time of the order. Pasties will be available for delivery/pick up the week of Sept. 26, and we will call when your order

is ready.

Proceeds from this fundraising go to youth activities, the charity fund, and for various projects at the church/rectory.

PIANO PROWESS

NLAA and Tofte Lake Center to present Ann DuHamel at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater Sept. 16

ELY - Northern Lakes Arts Association in collaboration with Tofte Lake Art Center present Pianist Ann DuHamel performing in the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater Friday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. This concert is a “pay-what-you-can” event with a suggested donation is \$10.

Pianist Ann DuHamel presents “Prayers for a Feverish Planet,” her current project with new and recently composed music about the climate crisis. This program will feature a selection of works; the entire venture encompasses more than sixty new pieces for piano and piano/electronics by composers on six continents, and in the spirit of eco-artivism,

asks urgent questions of the listener: How do our actions generate positive change for the environment? How can we live more mindfully and conscientiously as global citizens? What sustainable impact can we create for generations to come? Audience members will hear vanishing shorelines echoed in vanishing notes, cracking Arctic ice, and music reflecting grief, hope, and more. She is an Associate Professor of Music at the University of Minnesota Morris.

**Pianist Ann DuHamel will play music from her current project, “Prayers for a Feverish Planet.”**



TAKE PART IN ART

NLAA presents Cecilia Rolando’s work at Ely’s Historic State Theater



ELY - In collaboration with Ely’s Historic State Theater (EHST), Northern Lakes Arts Association (NLAA) will present 50 recent works by Ely artist Cecilia Rolando. The show will begin with a reception for the public on Monday, Sept. 12, from 4-6 pm. and run Sept. 12- 18. The EHST lobby will be open for fall theater hours from 4-10 p.m., Monday- Friday, and 1-10 p.m. on Saturday and

Sunday. The artist exhibits new faces, florals, and abstractions in acrylic, on paper, and on canvas. Titles include: “Searching for Balance” and “Through Color and Contrast”. This work is the result of several months of work. Rolando displays work at the Front Porch Café, and Cook’s Northwood’s Friends of the Arts gallery, and she participated in the Ely Watercolor Club show and sale in July.

Rolando’s work also appears in the Greenstone show at the Miners’ Dry building Sept. 9-11, noon-6 p.m. Rolando has taught various art classes through the Ely Folk School and Cook Gallery. The exhibit and sale continue recent offerings by NLAA’s collaboration with Ely’s Historic State Theater.

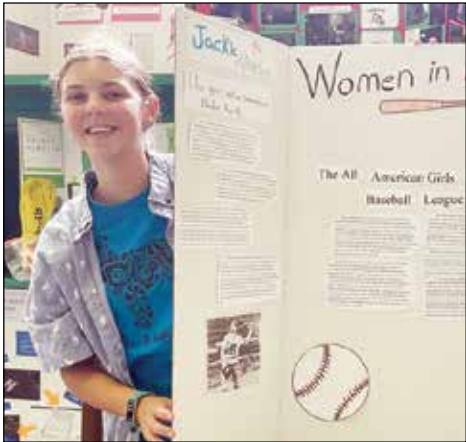
Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2022



yet another fair  
celebrates fall offerings  
summer says farewell

STATE FAIR WINNERS



4-H’ers earn blue ribbons at the Minnesota State Fair

Representing St. Louis County North at the Great Minnesota Get Together were three area 4-Hers who all brought home blue ribbons. From left: Ely Knight Hawks member Elsa Ellerbroek with her project “Women in Baseball” in Self-Determined, Josselyn Bjork from Four Corners 4-H club with her project in Crafts and Fine Arts, and Molly Brophy also of Four Corners 4-H club nabbed a blue for her project in Foods & Nutrition.

FALL AND FUNDING

Gardner Trust announces fall grant round and new grant portal

ELY- The Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust announced the opening of its fall grant round with applications due by midnight Wednesday, Sept. 28. The Trust will also introduce a new grant portal on its website, so applicants no longer have to submit nine paper copies to the office. “This is a super exciting development for the Trust and the Ely community we serve,” stated Interim Executive Director Beth Ohlhauser. “The Trust worked with a local developer this past year to improve the grant process for applicants and also the Trust board as it reviews grants. Applicants will be able to upload documents, budgets and graphics from their own computers.” In the grant portal, applicants will be able to create their own password to revisit the site as often as needed to finish their application. Budget templates are available through the online grant portal to help new applicants with writing a grant proposal. A paper copy can be requested from the office for anyone who does not have computer access. Artists and groups can apply for grants in the following five categories:

- Individual Artist Grants encourage developing and established artists with funding of up to \$1,000 to take advantage of an impending, concrete opportunity.
- Organization Project Grants support activities in the fine arts and for the Ely Public Library. Grant support is intended to make it possible for organizations to present or produce a fine arts activity.
- Youth Grants are awarded to Ely school students in grades 6-12 who have an

interest in and demonstrate high motivation in the fine arts. The youth grants of up to \$750 can be used for workshops, classes, lessons or mentorships.

- Scholarships are available for graduates of Ely Memorial High School who are in their third or fourth year of college studies or in graduate school. Trust scholarships are awarded to students majoring in one of the disciplines of fine arts or library science. Ely Public Library staff pursuing library science are also eligible for scholarships.
- Operational Funding Grants fund high-quality, established Ely area organizations that produce, or present fine arts activities or provide services to artists.

Individuals and organizations that would like to have a draft application reviewed should contact Beth by early September. Office hours are usually on Monday and Tuesday but appointments on other days can be made by phone at 218-365-2639 or email at info@gardnertrust.org. Grant forms, eligibility requirements and the new grant portal are available on the Gardner Humanities Trust website at www.gardnertrust.org. The purpose of the Trust shall be for the enhancement, growth and improvement of:

1. The Ely Public Library,
2. The arts and artisans of Ely and surrounding area, to include the performing arts, the visual arts and literature,
3. The creating and funding of scholarships, educational and artistic grants,
4. The cultural and aesthetic environment of the City of Ely and its surrounding area.

Ely Public Library upcoming events

►Preschool Storytime – Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. – for young children. Join Tricia or Jessie for fun-themed stories, songs, and activities that center on books. Kids will learn a little American Sign Language as well.

►Take and Do Kits – limited availability (quantities per patron may be restricted, ask at the desk): September – Leaf Wreath – sponsored by Friends of the Library; October – Fire-Breathing Dragons – sponsored by Friends of the Library; November – Napkin Rings; December – Puzzle Piece Ornament Frame

**Individual Events**

►Monday, Sept. 12 at 3 p.m. – Friends of the Library Book Club – for adults – at the library Discussing “The Time Traveler’s Wife” by Audrey Niffenegger. This year’s discussions have the theme of “Reading through 100 Years” in conjunction with the library’s 100th anniversary and will feature a book from a particular decade (this month, the 2000s) each session. The movie made from the book discussed each month will also be shown at the library for participants (and others who are interested). You do not need to be a member of the Friends to attend.

►Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 3 p.m. – Hey, It’s a Holiday – for all ages – at the library. Human beans can have a splendidferous great time celebrating Roald Dahl Day at the Ely Public Library. We will be squibbling gropeflunking words, making some of George’s Marvelous Medicine, and bottle up phizzwizards. You will need to pre-register so that we have enough supplies for everyone. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

►Thursday, Sept. 15 at 10:30 a.m. – Road Tripping Writers – for adults – at the library. You know these Minnesota authors for such books as “Chronicles of a Radical Hag,” “Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons,” “Vacationland,” and “Reeling.” Meet up with Sarah Stonich and Lorna Leandvik in person to discover what writers share when they talk about writing. This project is funded in part or in whole by a grant from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

In Brief

Tuesday Group schedule

ELY – The Tuesday Group community educational lunch gathering meets every Tuesday at the Grand Ely Lodge. Participants have an opportunity to order lunch. For those interested in being a host, or who have a speaker suggestion, contact Lacey Squier by email at ElyTuesdayGroup@gmail.com or call her at 218-216-9141.

Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers:

►Sept. 13: Meet New Elyites.

Libraries

Ely library

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays  
Phone: 218-365-5140

Babbitt library

Monday	10 am-6 pm
Tuesday	10 am-6 pm
Wednesday	10 am-6 pm
Thursday	10 am-6 pm
Friday	10 am-6 pm

Phone: 218-827-3345

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 canceled.  
**ELY WOMEN’S OPEN AA -** Every Monday at noon at Ledgerock 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, 5:30 p.m. Thursdays, Wellbeing Development, 41 E Camp St. 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.

COOK CITY COUNCIL

# Cook broadband on track for completion in fall

## Other area proposed projects await word on state funding

(Editor's note: This article appeared on the front page of the Sept. 2 edition, but a portion of the article was omitted from page 10. This is the complete story as it should have appeared. The Timberjay regrets the error.)

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL-Deployment of the city of Cook's new fiber optic high-speed broadband network is on track to be operational before winter sets in, and new projects proposed for multiple North Country areas could come next if their current applications for additional state funding support are approved.

Work on the Cook network being installed by Paul Bunyan Communications was originally scheduled to begin next spring, but multiple factors have allowed the company to accelerate that schedule. Crews began laying the main fiber optic cables several weeks ago, and those who subscribe to the service now will likely have high-speed broadband this fall.

"Construction takes a little while," Paul Bunyan marketing supervisor Brian Bissonette said Tuesday. "We're hopeful we'll get completed by freeze out, which would be mid-October, or a little bit later, and then comes the behind-the-scenes work, which is splicing all that

fiber optic together and getting the network equipment installed and tested. Once it is tested and is operational, then we're good to go."

When developing the initial plans for adding over 300 locations in Cook to its Gigazone network, Paul Bunyan was looking at super-fast one gigabyte download and upload speeds about ten times faster than any other competitor. But with broadband capacities increasing at a rapid pace, Bissonette said the network is now capable of far more than that.

"Our network can support internet speeds up to ten (gigabytes) and we have the service offerings up to ten gigs," Bissonette said. "We actually just received that about a year ago, where the technology again has progressed so that we're able to support those speeds."

But only a small number of businesses with exceptionally large data needs would need anything approaching a 10-gig connection. Bissonette said that the typical family home with multiple simultaneous users should find Bunyan's 250-megabyte service more than adequate to meet their needs.

Consumption of data has increased right along with internet speeds, and the COVID pandemic brought that into focus with more people working from home and students

doing distance learning. Slower connections created obstacles to managing family household needs effectively. Bissonette said that the new 250-megabyte service could easily handle multiple devices connected at the same time as people stream videos, conduct business, use social media, download files, and more.

"The fiber network is capable of keeping up with these technologies where a copper network was not," he said. "You know, Alexander Graham Bell used a copper network to deliver landline phone service. It was not really meant for the internet. The fiber optics network is totally capable of handling these things because it's been built for it, and we don't have to worry about replacing it in five or ten years because it's obsolete."

Bissonette said that potential Cook customers should look at how they use the internet now and what they may anticipate needing in the future to decide if the super-fast broadband network is right for them.

"We get a lot of people who obviously don't have it that are just begging us to bring it to them because they know why they need it and what they need it for," he said. "But they also think that everybody's like them, and there's a lot of people who

don't use the internet at all, because they escaped to our region for that very reason. It all depends on the person and what they're looking for. Most people make the switch because it makes their experience so much more enjoyable and easy."

With the anticipated startup of the system before winter, the best time to sign up for the service is now, Bissonette said.

"We really need to stress that if you want the service, you need to sign up while construction is going on, so we can bring it up to your house," he said. "If you sign up over the winter, we'll come back and put it in, but we're going to have to wait until the summer-time."

Bissonette noted that those who wait until the spring to sign up could possibly experience an additional delay because crews will be working on other construction projects. Customers should call 888-586-3100 for more information on plans, pricing, and to sign up.

### In the works

The nearly \$700,000 Cook system would not have been possible without a Border-to-Border broadband grant from the state of Minnesota. The city of Cook also committed \$8,000 to the project, and Paul Bunyan Communications is paying the balance.

The Border-to-Border program is intended to bring broadband service to unserved and underserved areas of the state, which includes a broad swath of rural Minnesota. The availability of state money for development in some areas, including the North County, has been limited up until now because they had previously been designated for federal broadband funding through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Wanting to avoid duplication, those areas weren't eligible for Border-to-Border funds.

Nevada-based LTD Communications won \$311 million in federal development funds for Minnesota in 2020, covering a large number of tracts in the North Country and effectively blocking other broadband providers who would find the development costs prohibitive without access to either federal or state funds.

But as LTD Communications began to default on its obligations in other states and its ability to deploy fiber optic networks became doubtful, the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development (MBD) decided to allow companies to apply for Border-to-Border funds for federal tracts on a contingency basis. The intent was to minimize the delay in deploying high-speed broadband where it was needed should LTD's

long-form application for FCC funds be denied.

That contingency became reality last month when the FCC rejected LTD's application, and two regional internet providers have funding proposals already submitted to MBD for consideration.

One of those is the nation's eighth largest internet provider, Frontier Communications, which already provides some services in the North Country that qualify as "high speed" broadband under the FCC's 100 megabyte down, 25 megabyte up definition.

Frontier has proposed two-gig service deployment for the areas of Ely, Tower, and Crane Lake, including areas formerly designated for LTD.

A proposal for deploying high-speed broadband in the Eagles Nest area, submitted by Ely-based Treehouse Broadband, is also under consideration for Border-to-Border funding.

An MBD spokesperson said that the applications are not available for public review, so specifics regarding the proposals aren't available. However, maps of the proposed service areas are available through MBD's website. The Timberjay will continue to follow these proposals and provide updates as more information becomes available.

FOOTBALL BOOSTERS

## Touchdown Club to collect shoes for cash

COOK- What could be better than cleaning those old athletic shoes out of your closet and raising money to support the North Woods Grizzlies football team at the same time?

Fans can do just that from Monday, Sept. 12 through Friday, Sept. 16 as the Grizzlies Touchdown Club partners with social enterprise GotSneakers for an athletic shoe fundraiser.

GotSneakers will pay the Grizzlies Touchdown Club for the total quantity of gently worn, used, and new sneakers collected, which the booster club in turn will use to support North Woods football.

This unique fundraising recycling program from GotSneakers helps the environment by keeping athletic shoes out of landfills while financially benefiting local organizations.

"We are excited about our sneaker drive fundrais-

er," said Grizzlies Touchdown Club volunteer Tiffany Briggs. "We know that most people have extra sneakers in their closets they would like to donate rather than throw away."

Shoes can be dropped off during the week at North Star Credit Union in Cook, Zup's of Cook, and North Woods School. Or take them with you to the North Woods football field on Sept. 16 and cheer on the Grizzlies against Deer River and donate at the same time.

The Grizzlies Touchdown Club's mission is to produce an environment that inspires student/athletes, coaches, parents and the community to collectively create a positive and spirited atmosphere for all athletic programs.

Learn more about GotSneakers by visiting their website at [www.gotsneakers.com](http://www.gotsneakers.com).

NORTH WOODS STUDENT COUNCIL



North Woods Student Council members wanted to add a special touch for students returning for the first day of classes on Tuesday. Bus riders passed down an aisle of members passing out scented pencils, other items, and good wishes.

Above: Haylee Prescott and Cora Goodbird look eager for the start of the new school year.

Right: Student Council President Steven Sopoci, Jonah Burnett, and Kohen Briggs offer pencils to passing students.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Trio of artists on tap for September NWFA exhibits

COOK- The works of artists Brenna Kohlhase, Lauren Nelson and Sterling Rouleau will be on display in a special September showing at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 7 and running through Friday, Sept. 30.

Nelson, an NWFA board member, will present "Photographs - Relics of The Past". The exhibit is comprised of selections of pictures, photos and memories, including digital prints and prints from old 35mm slide/film media from years past. Nelson has been an avid working board member and has not exhibited since 2016 when he presented "Cruisin the Range," a photo exhibition of classic cars on Virginia's main street.

"Bold Strokes.... My Love of Unpredictable Color" will feature the work of Brenna Kohlhase, who teaches classes at NWFA. Kohlhase is an outstanding watercolorist who has been trying her hand and heart at using acrylic paint. Here is her description:

"I am finding it so much fun to swatch out color strings, brush opaque broad strokes and create textural marks," Kohlhase said.

She has an upcoming class on Sept. 17, "Make A Field Sketch Book."

First time exhibitor Sterling Rouleau will present "Pen and Pencil Drawings: Digital Ink Jet Prints." A 17 year old Eden Prairie High School student who has had an interest in art from an early age, Rouleau will exhibit 12 of his unusual pen/pencil drawings in the form of 10.5 x 13.5 digital ink jet prints

mounted on wood.

NWFA Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturdays. The gallery is located at 210 S River St.

More information about current and upcoming NWFA activities is available at [www.nwfamn.org](http://www.nwfamn.org), on Facebook, by emailing [nwfamn@gmail.com](mailto:nwfamn@gmail.com), or by calling 218-780-7130.

### Upcoming art classes scheduled at NWFA gallery

COOK- The Northwoods Friends of the Arts in Cook has upcoming classes and open creative hours for novice and experienced artists to explore and expand their creativity. The offerings include:

►"Open Art" Monday, Sept. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. Jody Feist will facil-

itate open art time every Monday at the NWFA. Participants will bring their own supplies and tools and art projects to work with and share ideas with other artists. No registration required.

►"Make A Field Sketch Book" Saturday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., led by watercolorist Brenna Kohlhase.

►"Jewelry Fun" Thursday Sept. 22 from 1-4:00 p.m. with Ely artist Cecilia Rolando teaching beautiful and fun beading.

►"Watercolor Workshop" Thurs. and Fri. Sept. 29-30, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. "Playing With Value, Texture and Design." Another return engagement with Mary Beth Downs.

To register for a class do so by calling Alberta at 218-666-2153 or by email to [nwfamn@gmail.com](mailto:nwfamn@gmail.com). The gallery is located at 210 S River St.

## Ash River fishing event is set for Sept. 17

ASH RIVER- Grab your rod and tackle box and head to Ash River on Saturday, Sept. 17 for the annual Ash River Fall Fish-Off to help raise money for health and safety equipment for the Ash River Trail.

The entry fee of \$20 gets you more than fishing. There's the dinner at 6 p.m. (bring pot luck dishes to go with the main dish), drawings for prizes, and \$50 prizes for the biggest walleye, crappie, northern, and bass.

Entrants must register before 8 a.m. at the Frontier Resort, host of



this year's event, Ash Ka Nam, or Ash Trail Lodge. The contest runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., when all boats must be in at Frontier Resort.

For more details on the rules and the event, check the Ash River Fish-Off page on Facebook.

## FESTIVAL...Continued from page 1

Festival continues on even as Cashman prepares to step down from her role as Event Director and pass those duties on to her mentee Jess Stott.

Cashman said she will, however, be staying on to run the WolfTrack Classic sled dog race held every year in February and pointed out that work on that has already started with the big Dollars for Doggies fundraiser kickoff coming up on Oct. 22.

Cashman was pleased to report that for the upcoming festival things have been coming together nicely. Of the 125 juried spots available to artists and vendors, 104 spots have been filled - many of those spots by vendors and artists who are relatively new additions to the festival, as many of the older vendors have discontinued traveling to festivals post-COVID.

This isn't a bad thing, according to Cashman.

"We need new, fresh blood," she said, adding that roughly 30

percent of this year's vendors are new.

One relatively new vendor/artist she is particularly excited to see returning to this year's festival is Chantal Netzer of The Sweet Leaf Farm.

"She has organic tea that she makes from the herbs that she grows. She makes tea and bath soaks and things—all organically grown," Cashman said.

Another younger artist Cashman is excited to see back is painter Kristin Webster of Kristin Webster Art Studio. Many festivalgoers will be pleased, however, to hear that some long-time favorite vendors are also coming back, including Judy Christensen with Raucous Jewelry.

"She always is fabulous," Cashman said.

Smokey Photo is another returning vendor.

"He used to back in the early 2000s photograph WolfTrack Classic back when we went to

Cook, so hopefully he'll have some of those photos," she said.

Other new vendor/artists this year include Lion Heart Clay Works, The Studio Candle Co., Field of Dreams gifts & crafts, and Mystic Sparrow to name a few.

The Harvest Moon Festival is a juried show and booths will be judged by three local artist judges starting around 10 a.m. on Friday. Cashman said the judging, which involves tabulating who will receive first, second and third place in the art as well as the craft category, can take several hours.

In prior years, the Harvest Moon Festival has featured live music at the bandshell and stunt dogs, but Executive Director Eva Sebesta pointed out that escalating costs of the support services required to put on the festival have made it necessary to scale back the extra events and shine the spotlight on artists and vendors.

"That's what the focus was back at the beginning of the event, so now we're back to the higher quality juried art and craft festival," Cashman said. "Harvest Moon Festival draws a really good crowd of patrons and sales are generally pretty good for the artists, so we think that we're going in the right direction."

Jess Stott, who will take the lead beginning with next year's festivals, is undaunted by the task of putting on an event of this size.

"I really like the festival side of everything, but I also like the aspect of putting it together more so than even attending the event," she said. "I like seeing what everybody does to put it all together; that's probably my favorite part of all of it."

Sebesta added, "There's a really good feeling when you're sitting in the booth after everything is up, and the festival is running and you're seeing all the folks coming in. There's a real sense of accomplishment."



**Ely Chamber Director Eva Sebesta was busy marking out Whiteside Park earlier this week in preparation for the Harvest Moon Festival.**

photo by R. Brophy

## COUNCIL...Continued from page 1

Under state law, cities must set their preliminary levies by Sept. 30. While cities can reduce their levies when they set the final number in December, they can't increase them above the level set in September. That's why many councils give themselves a bit of a cushion on their preliminary levy.

The council took their levy action after opening the meeting with a moment of silence in remembrance of Keith Vandervort, the *Timberjay's* Ely editor, who died unexpectedly on Aug. 26. Vandervort had regularly covered the Ely council for just shy of ten years and was well-respected for his fair and accurate reporting. Mayor Roger Skraba said he always enjoyed Vandervort's company.

In other business, the council gave its approval

to an easement for the new utility lines at the Ely schools. Langowski said the new utilities will include new water lines to both the elementary and high schools, and a new sewer line to the elementary. Langowski said the city was able to receive a federal EPA grant and additional funding from the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation to help pay for the city's share of the work.

"We will maintain the water and sewer in that area. The school will then maintain their services that tie onto those mains and go into the buildings. It's very similar to what we do everywhere else in town."

Councilors briefly discussed progress on the school renovation and noted that paving of the parking lot should be com-

pleted by the end of the week, presumably in time for the planned start of school next week.

The council also approved a development agreement with Razor Edge Systems for the renovation and finishing of a building located at 1625 E. Camp, which the company is updating as part of a business expansion. The city is serving as the fiscal agent for IRRR funds that will be used to pay for a portion of the facility upgrade. Skraba lauded the company for expanding in Ely, creating more jobs in town.

In other action, the council:

► Approved providing city worker support for the Harvest Moon Festival, set to get underway on Friday, Sept. 9 and running through Sunday at Whiteside Park.

► In response to a comment from Skraba

on the need for housing, heard from Langowski that the city's HRA is looking at a market rate housing project if they can find a grant source to help bring the debt service down to an affordable level. Council member Angela Campbell said there are at least 25-30 people on a waiting list for new housing in Ely.

► Approved the rezoning of an approximately one-acre, parcel located on the west side of Hwy. 1, just south of Sheridan St., from R-1 to C-2. The property is owned by Keith Singery.

► Heard that the Board of Adjustment approved a conditional use permit for Steger Designs to construct an additional building on property where an existing covenant did not allow another building.

► Approved a numbering system at the cemetery based on the recommen-

dation of the Cemetery Committee.

► Approved a HeatShare contract with the Salvation Army and urged residents who might need help with their heating bills this winter to sign up early since funding could go quickly with the high cost of heating fuels.

► Approved installing two live-streaming cameras in downtown Ely, based on the recommendation of the Telecommunications Advisory Board. The cameras, which will cost \$3,116 for the equipment, installation, and programming, will be purchased from Custom Theaters in Ely.

► Approved the library assistant job description to be forwarded to AFSCME for review and consideration.

► Heard from fire chief Dave Marshall that

the city's new used pumper was delivered on Aug. 30. He said the truck needed detailing and equipping before it is placed into service.

► Heard from City Attorney Kelly Klun that a residential rehab loan on property on E. James is on hold over title issues. The requestor of the loan holds a contract for deed, which might not protect the city in the event the current owner fails to make good on the contract. Councilors urged Klun to try to resolve the issue to allow the repairs, which include a new roof and water heater, to go forward.

► Approved the purchase of a small city-owned lot by Daniel Krings for the construction of a garage.

## CAMPAIGNS...Continued from page 1

starting the fall campaign in the hole. While he reported raising just over \$4,600, his campaign finance report indicated he'd already spent \$9,488, with \$6,778 in unpaid bills. His campaign reported just \$1,945 in the bank.

It's a similar mismatch in the District 3 Senate contest, where DFLer Grant Hauschild, of Hermantown, reported raising \$100,655 through July 18, over \$78,000 of that through individual contributions. He reported just \$17,119 in campaign expenditures to that point, leaving him \$81,078 in the bank.

His GOP challenger for the open seat, vacated by longtime Sen. Tom Bakk, reported just \$12,170 in the bank. Andrea Zupancich, of Babbitt, reported raising a total of \$33,090, while spending \$21,034 as of

July 18.

In House District 7A, which includes places like Embarrass, Pike, and Angora, and the rest of the East Range, the incumbent DFLer David Lislegard held a huge lead in cash on hand as of the July 18 report, with \$32,440 in the bank compared to \$745 for his GOP opponent Matt Norri.

Norri has demonstrated some success in raising money, posting a total of \$13,195 in contributions, while spending \$14,807. Norri started the reporting period, which began Jan. 1, 2022, with \$2,416 in the bank, while Lislegard reported \$21,854.

DFLers are outpacing their GOP opponents in statewide races as well. In the race for governor, incumbent DFLer Tim Walz had nearly ten

times as much money on hand as of July 18, as his GOP opponent Dr. Scott Jensen. Walz reported a hefty \$4.98 million in cash on hand, compared to \$580,726 for Jensen. Walz started the year with \$3.63 million and had raised \$2.67 million through July 18. Jensen started the year with \$807,436 on hand and raised \$1.024 million since the first of the year.

In the race for Secretary of State, GOP-endorsed Kim Crockett, who maintains that the 2020 election was rigged for Joe Biden, badly trails DFL incumbent Steve Simon. Simon reported \$679,884 in the bank in his latest finance report, compared to just \$76,913 for Crockett. So far this year, Simon has raised \$406,882 compared to \$137,447 for Crockett.

While Secretary of

State has long been a low-profile office, that changed remarkably in the wake of the 2020 election, when Donald Trump and his allies falsely claimed widespread election fraud that favored Joe Biden. As part of that, Trump and a number of his political allies are under investigation for pressuring the Georgia Secretary of State to find additional votes for Trump to flip the state in his favor.

Trump has endorsed a number of secretaries of state around the country who have indicated a belief in the former president's claims of election fraud, despite the lack of evidence.

In the race for Minnesota Attorney General, DFL incumbent Keith Ellison has a roughly two-to-one fundraising advantage over challenger Jim Schultz,

although Schultz (who faced a primary challenge) has spent considerably more. Ellison enjoys a considerable cash advantage, with \$572,740 in cash as of July 18, while Schultz reported \$113,298.

### Eighth District an exception

The most notable exception to the DFL advantage in fundraising is in the congressional contest in the Eighth District, where Republican Pete Stauber holds a wide lead over his DFL challenger, Rep. Jennifer Schultz. As of the July 20 reporting deadline, Stauber reported \$1.026 million in cash on hand, while Schultz reported \$98,691.

### Next reports

Voters won't have a clearer picture of the fundraising matchups until

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NO RESTORATION NEEDED

# Boat show winner is a 94-year-old original

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

LAKE VERMILION- Sunny skies and moderate temperatures were perfect conditions for Sunday’s 30th Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show, with 23 skippers piloting their boats to The Landing on Lake Vermilion for the event.

Organizers said spectator turnout was a bit lower than the 29th edition of the show in 2019, due in part to the “annual” event skipping a couple of years because of COVID and abnormally low water.

But those who were there were enthusiastic, chatting up the boat owners for information about their crafts and the amount of restoration work that went into each and making previously unknown connections with prior owners and wooden boat enthusiasts.

The boats in the show weren’t all wooden, but one that captured the fancy of a large share of the voting public went home with the People’s Choice award.

“Nice Eh!” is an 18-ft. Vee drive Shepherd Model 105 runabout restored to original condition by its skipper and owner Chris O’Connor. The boat combines the classic beauty of lightened and tinted Honduras mahogany and oak with the 1950s stylings of chrome and color accents reminiscent of many classic automobiles of that era. With yellow swooshes on both sides set off by a roomy interior upholstered in green, this sporty runabout with a 110-horsepower Chrysler Marine Ace 46-S engine was a real eye-catcher at the show.

As for the Captain’s Choice award, which traditionally recognizes the extent and quality of work that went into a particular restoration, this year’s prize ironically went to a stunning entry in almost perfect original condition.

“Sadie” is one of only three 1928 Hacker Craft 24-ft. Baby Dolphin models known to exist, and as luck would have it, Sunday



Left: Spectators walked the docks and talked to the owners of some of the nearly two dozen antique and classic boats on display this past weekend at The Landing on Lake Vermilion. Pictured is “The Sadie,” a 1928 Hacker Craft in almost perfect original condition. It’s one of only three such craft known to be in existence and it’s owned by Jeff Stebbins.

Lower right: The boat “Nice Eh!” was an eye-catcher at the event.

Lower left: A 1926 Evinrude outboard in nearly mint condition.

photos by D. Colburn



was Sadie’s birthday, according to owner Jeff Stebbins. But then again, perhaps it wasn’t.

“Have you ever heard of artistic privilege?” Stebbins said, with a bit of a twinkle in his eyes. “Whenever I bring a boat to a show, especially if it’s kind of a significant year, I always just say it’s her birthday. It’s fun.”

The sleek, elegant Baby Dolphin, with two leather-covered passenger sections fore and a third aft of the engine compartment, has never been restored and is all in original condition, save for the engine.

“The original power plant I guess was lost over the years,” Stebbins said. “Originally it had a Gray Marine straight eight flat engine in it and I wanted to keep with the straight eight. But you can’t find Gray Marines anymore, so this is a Chrysler.”

Bringing Sadie into Stebbins’s boat collection wasn’t a sure thing when he spied an ad in an antique boat magazine, as a call to the owner in Buffalo, N.Y. raised a bit of skepticism.

“He said to me, ‘Well, it’s a nice boat, it’s in good condition,’” Stebbins said. “When

you hear somebody say that it’s in good condition you always demote the condition quite a bit, because usually when they say it’s excellent it’s really a piece of junk, right?”

But over the winter Stebbins kept picking up the magazine and looking at that ad.

“It was kind of calling my name. So, I called him again and asked him a bunch of questions, and I said I wanted to see it,” Stebbins said. “So I went out there (to Buffalo) one winter day. It was in cold storage and he brought it into the workshop to look at. I

opened the door and saw it from 20 feet away and I fell in love. Absolutely.”

John Hacker was a naval architect who turned to designing boats, and by 1928 his boat works had 35,000 square feet for the handcrafting of fine mahogany runabouts.

“These Hacker Crafts were really kind of the Steinway, the Rolls Royce of boats at the time, and they were built exquisitely. John Hacker put a lot of thought into his designs,” Stebbins said.

And as sleek and elegant as the boat looks, the ride is even better.

“These boats ride like no boat you’ve ever ridden in before. They’re smooth and they cut through the waves – it’s just an elegant craft to ride in,” Stebbins said. “You can’t describe the ride of this boat, you have to experience it.”

This year is the first time in 12 years that Sadie has been in the water, and aside from needing a little work on the carbs, she runs just fine, Stebbins said.

“I was fortunate enough to buy it and call myself a caretaker,” he said. “I’ve resisted restoring it because it doesn’t need restoration. It’s just a nice original boat. It’ll grab your eyes and grab your soul when you take it for a ride.”

## News in brief

### SNAP income limits to rise

REGIONAL- More Minnesota families struggling with grocery bills will soon be able to get help buying healthy food through SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

When the program’s gross income limit increased on Sept. 1, additional households may become eligible for SNAP or may continue receiving their existing SNAP assistance, even if their income goes up.

For most households, the gross monthly income limit for SNAP in Minnesota will rise to 200-percent of the federal poverty line, up from 165-percent. Under the new limit, a family of three with an annual income of up to about \$46,000 before taxes will be eligible.

The change won’t increase or modify the monthly amount of SNAP assistance for an individual or family. Rather, it simply means that more Minnesotans may now be eligible to receive – or continue receiving – nutrition assistance.

The Minnesota Legislature passed this eligibility change during the 2022 session and it was signed into law by Gov. Tim Walz.



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BOIS FORTE

Powwow practices explored during event at Nett Lake

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

NETT LAKE- Nearly 40 Bois Forte Band members from infants to elders descended on the government center in Nett Lake on Aug. 29 for an event that could easily have been titled “Powwow 101.”

Bois Forte Cultural Healing Program sponsored the “Powwow Protocol” workshop, which promised to educate attendees on all things powwow, from setting up the grounds and drum keeping, to dancing and the do’s and don’ts of the powwow arena.

Inclement weather forced the event to move inside from the powwow grounds, but the rain certainly didn’t deter people from showing up. Bolstered by free transportation from the Vermilion Reservation provided by Big Woods Transit and the Saving Lives Project, the large turnout was a pleasant surprise to coordinator Payton Counts.

“There was a really good range of people that came from the community,” Counts said. “There were babies, toddlers, kids, teens, early 20s, all the way up to elders. I was really impressed.”

The main focus of at the start of the evening was directed toward the six singers in the drum circle in the center of the room as they performed four different songs, with members taking turns after each to describe the meaning of the songs and some adding personal anecdotes about how a song was connect-

ed to some aspect of their lives. Perhaps the most surprising revelation came from singer Terry Goodsky, who told the group that the song they’d just heard was actually two songs in one.

“The guys know all the songs that we sing, and I jacked up the first lead and everybody still backed me up,” Goodsky sheepishly admitted. “Then everybody jumped back into the right song, then Gene (Boshey III) took up the third lead and he did the same thing, but everybody backed him up. We just put two songs together.”

It was a good example of what would be an overarching theme for the rest of the teaching that went on throughout the evening.

“Overall, a lot of the theme of what I heard was that as long as we’re trying and our hearts are in a good place, it’s OK,” Counts said.

Counts noted that what people may have learned about powwow cultural practices can differ depending on who has provided the information and that asking a spiritual advisor for guidance is perfectly acceptable.

“Everyone does things a little differently,” she said, “so what you’re going to learn is going to vary based on who you talk to.”

There was an additional purpose to the event, Counts said, that reflected the goal of the Cultural Healing Program.

“The point of the program is to have more conversations to get more traditional knowledge



The band’s spiritual advisor, Vern Adams, talks with coordinator Payton Counts during a break.

Drum circle members perform a traditional song to open the event. photos by D. Colburn

out there to community members, ultimately with the goal of connecting back with our heritage,” she said. “With a powwow coming up in a couple of weeks, having this introductory event to talk about some of that knowledge that people maybe don’t have, having a space to ask when they aren’t sure who to ask is kind of the point. We’re getting people together for conversations about culture and traditional knowledge so that these things can get passed on.”

In turn, that knowledge helps to solidify a sense of identity and self-worth, Counts said.

“Whenever you understand yourself and your identity, I feel



like you’re more sure of yourself as a person,” she said.

There’s a possibility the workshop could be held again at the Vermilion Reservation at a future time, but as Counts moves forward with the Cultural Healing Program, she’ll take her lead from the Band members.

“This is just the start of these conversations,” she said. “It’s not just one event. This is a way to spark people to talk more about (culture) with their families or their friends and be able to learn. The conversation definitely needs to continue.”

MAIN STREET

Vermilion Design Company buys Tower embroidery business

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

Cade Gornick starting a new career after 20 years in the Army National Guard

TOWER- Sherri Anderson’s Northern Pine Embroidery has been embroidering and printing t-shirts, clothing, caps and more for area businesses for 20 years. Originally located at her home in Soudan, she moved onto Tower’s Main Street in the Timberjay building over seven years ago. The business has steadily grown, along with her reputation of treating both small and large business owners with professional, quality service.

“I really like to work with small businesses,” she said, noting they often do not get personalized service going through larger on-line embroidery or t-shirt design outfits.

“You often can’t really see what you will be getting,” she said, “and they require a high number of pieces per order.”

Anderson has always been flexible with her clients. While she does work for many larger businesses and resorts who may be ordering hundreds of the same item, she also is happy to work with family-run businesses that are just interested in a few, all in different sizes.

The business, she said, was perfect when her two boys were in school. She loved being home when they got dropped off at the end of their driveway and could watch them walking to the house.

But Anderson was ready to retire and spend



more time travelling. And she found someone who may be the perfect person to grow the business for the future.

“Everyone used to call me Tower’s embroidery lady,” she said, “now there is an embroidery man.”

Cade Gornick was also retiring, after 20 years in the Army National Guard where he served as a Sergeant First Class, but certainly wasn’t ready to leave the workforce.

The Tower-Soudan High School Class of 2000 graduate studied both firefighting and culinary arts during two stints in college. He married his

wife Andrea in 2017, and since then they have added two young children to their family and moved to Tower, after living in the Rochester area.

Gornick was looking for a new business opportunity that would give him the flexibility to help care for his children during the day when Andrea was working because their children’s day care center is not able to take them every day.

“I used to have all

these ideas to design on t-shirts when I was a kid,” he said. “I’ve always had an interest in designing.”

Gornick’s first design is the logo for his new business, Vermilion Design Company, and he was patiently learning the steps to turn his design into a multi-colored embroidered logo on t-shirts and caps.

“There is a lot to learn,” Gornick said.

But luckily Anderson is willing and able to work with him as he masters each part of the production side of the business. She estimates it will take at least three months to master all the skills needed.

While he mostly has the small business side of things set up and is working on getting accounts with all the suppliers he will be working with, learning to run the different kinds of machines will

take a while.

And then there are all the ideas. The equipment in the shop is capable of printing on mugs, doing laser engraving, and wood burned designs, too.

The shop offers more than just custom-produced t-shirts, sweatshirts, and caps. There is car and window lettering, magnetic signs for vehicles, heat-press screen printing, and snowmobile and boat lettering. Many of the lettering jobs can be done very quickly, they said, though embroidery and screen-printing jobs take longer, often about two weeks.

Anderson’s shop used to have a nice selection of

Vermilion-themed clothing for sale. That inventory is now available at Pike River Products, down the street.

The business is located at 414 Main St. in Tower, in the *Timberjay* building. The shop has its own separate entrance.

“Often people walk into the shop thinking it’s the *Timberjay*,” said Anderson. The building has two front doors facing Main Street. The door on the right is for the embroidery business, though both businesses are connected on the inside.

You can find Vermilion Design Company on Facebook, or by calling 218-750-7176.

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## VOLLEYBALL

# Wolves rout L-BF

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY — A faster-paced offense worked like a charm for the Timberwolves here on Tuesday as they routed Littlefork-Big Falls in straight sets, 25-11, 25-15,

and 25-6. The win left Ely, which has yet to lose a set in the season's first two contests, at 2-0 on the season. "We still have things to work on, but we are happy with our start," said Ely Head Coach Megan Wognum. "It's been nice to see us speed up

our offense." The Wolves served up a stat parade on Tuesday as eight players racked up notable performances. Junior Hannah Penke worked the net hard, delivering a game high 13 kills for Ely, along with two blocks, two digs, and two ace serves. Sophomore Lilli Rechichi

See **WOLVES...**pg. 2B

**Left: Senior Audrey Thomas goes up high for a kill during Tuesday's contest with Littlefork-Big Falls.**

photo by J. Greeney



## FOOTBALL

# Rock Ridge stymies Grizz

North Woods coach sees hopeful signs in loss to Class AAA team

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

EVELETH- North Woods opened the new football season last week with a formidable foe in 7AAA Rock Ridge, and the Wolverines hammered the visiting Grizzlies right from the outset, scoring 22 points in the game's first five minutes en route to an easy 42-8 win.

The Wolverines returned the opening kickoff to the North Woods 26 and needed just two plays to put the ball in the end zone, with Ian Mikulich scoring the first of his four touchdowns on a 12-yard run. The extra point kick failed, leaving the score 6-0 with only 1:07 elapsed on the clock.

The Grizzlies took over at their own 24 after the ensuing kickoff and were facing third down and one at the 33 when Rock Ridge recovered a fumble on a bobbled handoff at the 32.

Rock Ridge capitalized immediately with receiver Isaac Flatley shedding a couple of Grizzlies' defenders on a 32-yard touchdown reception. A two-point conversion made the score 14-0 with 9:14 remaining in the first quarter.

Facing first-and-15

from their own 30 on the next possession, North Woods senior quarterback Lane Kneen tossed a swing pass to senior running back Jared Chiabotti, but the ball was stripped by a Wolverines defender and Rock Ridge recovered at the 35.

It took only four plays for the Wolverines to get

“Other than being our own worst enemy, I thought we were starting to put some nice drives together.

**North Woods Head Coach Joel Anderson**

on the board again with Mikulich toting it in from the 15, Ryan Manninen converted his second two-point conversion. With 7:46 still remaining in the quarter, Rock Ridge led 22-0.

Chiabotti gave the Grizzlies good field position on the ensuing kickoff, returning the ball to the North Woods 41. From

See **FOOTBALL...**pg. 2B



**Top: The Grizzlies' Jared Chiabotti puts his head down as he tries to plow through a sea of green Rock Ridge defenders.**

**Above: Senior lineman Isaac Fultz is poised to provide protection to quarterback Lane Kneen.**

**Left: The Grizzlies' Olin Nelson tries to elude a tackler after a pass reception.**

photos by D. Colburn

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Strong season debut for Ely runners

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

VIRGINIA — Ely runners put up strong numbers late last week at the Rock Ridge Invitational to kick off the 2022 cross-country season. On a course at the Virginia Golf Course, Ely boys took second in an eight-school field, while the girls runners finished in third place among the ten schools that fielded girls' teams.

In a field of 70 boys, Ely posted five runners in the top 25, including a 12th place finish for sophomore Caid Chittum, who led the Ely contingent with a time of 19:05.207. Senior Ben Cavalier wasn't far behind, finishing 14th with a time of 19:22.156, while fellow senior Jake Cochran clocked in at 19:32.182, good for 16th. Sophomore Silas Solum finished in 19th with a time of 19:47.241.

On the girls' side, eighth-grader Molly Brophy proved the top Ely finisher with a time of 22:23.12, good for eighth place in a 70-runner field. Senior Zoe Devine was the only other Ely runner to finish in the top 20, claiming 18th with a time of 22:55.203.

Ely runners will be in Greenway on Thursday to take part in the Greenway Invitational.

## SWIMMING

# NERE swimmers dominate in freestyle events

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

INTERNATIONAL FALLS — Varsity swimmers from Northeast Range and Ely (NERE) took first in several events here late last week, even as the Broncos narrowly edged them on overall points 92-86.

Sophomore Lily Tedrick, a strong performer for NERE last season, crushed the field in the 200 yard individual medley, taking first with a time of 2:37.16, or nearly 20

See **SWIMMERS...**pg. 2B



**Molly Brophy (I) and Zoe Devine were the top finishers on the girls side for Ely at last week's Rock Ridge meet.**

photo by R. Brophy

VOLLEYBALL

Grizzlies muzzle Huskies in 3-0 road victory

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

BIGFORK- The North Woods volleyball team took its first road trip of the season on Tuesday and came home with a convincing 3-0 decision over the host Bigfork Huskies.

The Grizzlies got on an early roll when Addy Hartway got a block to break a 2-2 tie and then stepped to the service line. With Hannah Kinsey controlling the

center of the court with blocks and kills, Lauren Burnett collecting a couple of kills, and Hartway nailing a pair of aces, North Woods was suddenly up 10-2. The Grizzlies kept pouring it on as they ran away from the Huskies for a 25-9 win.

The match tightened up considerably in the second set as the Huskies kept nipping at the Grizzlies' heels and kept the final at 25-19.

With the match on the line,

the Huskies came out loaded for bear in the third game. A quick three-point run put Bigfork in the lead 6-2, and the Huskies looked confident. But the Grizzlies remained unimpressed, chipping away at the lead until a Kinsey slam put them ahead 9-8. With Talise Goodsky at serve finding the weak spots in the Bigfork defense, scored eight consecutive points to take a 15-9 lead. Having fully regained control, North Woods led by as many as eight

before closing out the match with a 25-18 win.

Olson had good things to say about Goodsky's service run. "She really has great court sense," Olson said. "She understands the flow of the game and she looks for holes and really tries to capitalize on them."

With a new lineup this year, Olson said that Tuesday's match was an opportunity for Kinsey to develop additional confidence and continuity with her setters,

which showed in her front line productivity.

The Grizzlies were scheduled to take their 2-1 record on the road Thursday at Mesabi East. Additional upcoming road trips include Monday, Sept. 12 at Deer River and Tuesday, Sept. 13 at South Ridge. North Woods won't be back on their home court until a Sept. 20 tilt against Cherry.

FOOTBALL...Continued from page 1B

there they put together their first drive of the night, with Chiabotti and junior Jonah Burnett taking handoffs and senior tight end Olin Nelson snagging a Kneen pass. North Woods moved to the Rock Ridge 34, but that's where the Wolverines forced a third Grizzlies fumble and recovered at their own 31.

A five-yard penalty set the Wolverines back to the 26, but Mikulich took the ball around left end and outraced everyone to the end zone on a 74-yard score, his third of the quarter. The

point-after failed, leaving the score 28-0.

Mikulich struck again with a big play after the Grizzlies punted to start the second quarter, sprinting 66 yards for a touchdown. A two-point conversion pass was good. Rock Ridge completed its scoring with a 70-yard sustained drive ending in a seven-yard TD run by quarterback Griffin Dosan just before halftime.

With the clock running in the second half, possessions were limited for both teams, but senior defensive back Jake Swanson came

up with a turnover at the North Woods 16 after a bad snap by the Wolverines.

Chiabotti immediately ripped off a 20-yard run to get the Grizzlies out of the hole, then capped the long scoring drive by cutting across the grain and scampering 25 yards into the Wolverines' end zone for a touchdown. Kneen passed to Burnett for the two-point conversion and the final points of the game.

"I knew we were going to struggle," North Woods Head Coach Joel Anderson said. "I knew Rock Ridge

was going to be much improved from last year – that's bound to happen when you get programs coming together. Last year when we played them they fumbled a lot. This year they were very polished."

Anderson noted that turnovers had proved disastrous for the Grizzlies, but still found some good signs that his team will be more competitive when they start facing teams in their own class.

"Other than being our own worst enemy, I thought we were starting to put

some nice drives together," he said. "I talked to them at halftime and said to make sure to keep their morale up because this was going to be one of the best football teams we'll see all year. I thought we did a much better job of communicating in the second half. We were able to do a lot of the little things that we set out to do. So hopefully we can clean up our own play because that's the part we can control."

While the going was tough, Chiabotti racked up 21 carries and netted 31 yards on two pass receptions. Burnett had seven carries for 56 yards. Kneen was five-of-11 passing for 39 yards, including the two-point conversion to Burnett. Swanson and Chiabotti led the way on defense with six tackles each.

The Grizzlies are scheduled for a Friday night game at Chisholm, and will have their first home game on Friday, Sept. 16 when they host Deer River.

SWIMMERS...Continued from page 1B

seconds faster than the second place finisher. Tedrick also took first in the 100-yard butterfly, with a time of 1:12.28, nearly eight seconds faster than her closest competitor.

NERE freestylers dominated as well, as sophomore Morgan McClelland, and freshmen Via Debeltz and Esther Anderson finished first, second, and third respectively in the 200-yard freestyle, with times of 2:27.60, 2:36.98, and 2:38.50. McClelland also took second in the 500-yard freestyle, with a time of 6:47.32. Sophomores Anna Larson and Kelly Thompson took second and third in the 50-yard freestyle, while Larson took second

in the 100-yard freestyle as well, with a time of 1:05.05.

The team of Tedrick, Larson, McClelland and senior Cedar Ohlhauser combined for a first in the 200-yard freestyle relay, edging the Broncos by just over half a second.

In the 100-yard backstroke, sophomore Maggie Dammann took first with a time of 1:19.80, edging teammate Esther Anderson by just eight one-hundredths of a second.

NERE swimmers actually outpaced the Broncos, but I-Falls added ten points to their totals in the one-meter diving event, in which NERE did not compete.

WOLVES..Continued from page 1B



racked up eight kills and three aces, while senior Rachel Coughlin delivered six kills, three blocks, three aces, and two digs. Kate Coughlin added seven digs, three kills and three aces, while sophomore Clare Thomas added three kills and as many aces. Senior Madeline Kallberg, who shared setter duties with junior Sarah Visser, tallied 22 set assists to 17 for Visser. Senior Nathasha Fulkrod posted four aces and two blocks.

With the first two contests out of the way, the Wolves now head into a busier stretch of their schedule. They were set to host Cherry on Thursday and they'll head to Greenway on Sept. 10 for a weekend tournament. They'll be back on their home court on next Thursday, when they host Mesabi East.

**Left: Kate and Rachel Coughlin combine on a set assist during Tuesday's game in Ely.** photo by J. Greeney



Memories of the Early Days

A fascinating look back at the early history of the Lake Vermilion area

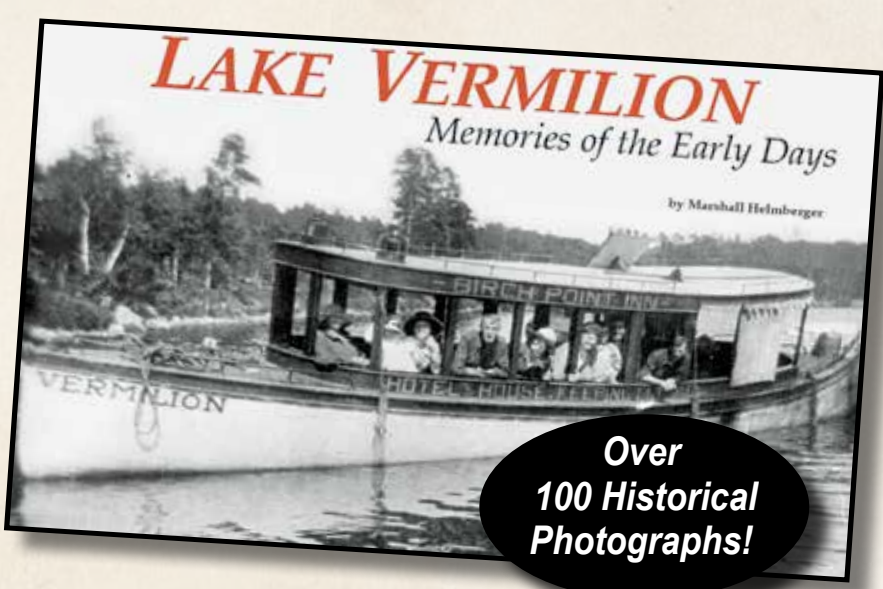
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PUBLIC HEALTH

New COVID boosters should be available later this month

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- New COVID-19 boosters targeting the currently prevalent Omicron variants BA.5 and BA.4 were approved for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control last week and should be widely available in Minnesota within the next two weeks.

“This variant-specific formula will play an important role in helping keep Minnesotans safe this fall – especially when paired with testing and therapeutics,” Gov. Tim Walz said last Friday.

The state vaccination site at the Mall of America was scheduled to begin administering the new boosters on Wednesday, while state sites at the DECC in Duluth, Moorhead, Rochester, and St. Paul Midway will begin providing the shots this coming week, all by appointment.

A press release from the Governor’s Office also said community health centers and other private providers are expected to begin taking appointments for the boosters this week as the vaccines are distributed throughout the state.

As with past vaccinations and boosters, the new shots are free, regardless of insurance status.

While a few health professionals have voiced concerns

about distributing the boosters before they have been fully tested in humans, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky expressed confidence in them.

“This recommendation followed a comprehensive scientific evaluation and robust scientific discussion,” she said on Sept. 1 when announcing CDC’s approval. “The updated COVID-19 boosters are formulated to better protect against the most recently circulating COVID-19 variant. They can help restore protection that has waned since previous vaccination and were designed to provide broader protection against newer variants.”

Minnesota Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm reinforced Walensky’s comments.

“The bivalent boosters were shown to be safe and effective, and they will be a key tool in helping provide better protection against variants that are currently spreading,” Malcolm said. “Staying up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines is a crucial part of protecting our state in the months ahead.”

Cases caused by the highly contagious BA.5 variant represent 88.6 percent of cases currently reported in the U.S., and health officials are hopeful that the new boosters could stave off a possible fall spike as schools begin and more activities return indoors, increasing the risk of infection.

The Pfizer version of the

booster was approved for ages 12 and up, while the Moderna version was approved for those 18 and older. Parents of kids from 12-17 who were initially vaccinated with the Moderna vaccine can choose to have their children boosted with the Pfizer boosters, as the CDC has previously said that once the initial vaccinations have been administered boosters can be a different brand. Some research has shown that mixing vaccination and booster brands may result in slightly higher immunity.

Both boosters can be given two months after completion of a primary vaccine series or administration of a previous booster shot. However, the maximum benefit from the bivalent boosters may be greater if they follow four months after a prior booster when the effectiveness that shot begins to wane significantly.

The new variant-specific boosters can only be taken once, according to the CDC’s guidance. Everyone ages five and over are now only eligible for one booster dose, with those ages 12 and over eligible for the new boosters.

For people who have a current or past COVID infection, the CDC recommends:

- Deferring any vaccination or booster at least until recovery from symptomatic illness.
- People may consider delaying any vaccination or booster by three months from COVID symptom onset or positive test,

as COVID infection will provide a temporary boost in immunity.

**It’s all in the uptake**

The majority of Minnesotans who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 haven’t kept up with their recommended booster shots. Only 32 percent are up to date on all of their shots. The effectiveness of the new vaccines in preventing a possible fall surge depends on how many people get the new boosters.

Many people have delayed getting a second recommended booster because they wanted to wait for the rollout of the new variant-specific boosters, and health officials expect at least a moderate jump in booster administration in the short term now that the new boosters are available.

University of Minnesota epidemiologist Michal Osterholm expressed concern in a Sept. 1 podcast that American attitudes about the COVID-19 pandemic at this point could thwart the possible benefits that come from the new boosters.

“Right now, we know that having two booster doses or four total doses of vaccine can be a significant protection against serious illness, hospitalizations and deaths. And yet, if you look at those over age 50, only 11 percent of the U.S. population has received a fourth dose of vaccine,” Osterholm said. “Vaccine uptake is very low to

almost non-existent in some populations, and the general public is clearly unconcerned about what’s happening right now. I understand where the human spirit wants to be right now, but this virus doesn’t care about that.”

Noting that the federal government has discontinued its distribution of free COVID tests, Osterholm said, “With all these factors taken into account we are not set up for success. Just because the majority of people are done with this virus does not mean the virus is done with us.”

Malcolm said that this is a good time for families to reassess their vaccination status.

“I would also encourage eligible Minnesotans who are seeking this new booster to take this opportunity to ensure your whole family is up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations so you have the best protection possible as school starts and before end-of-year holidays,” she said.

Those interested in the new boosters should contact their primary health care provider or a local pharmacy, or use the state’s online Vaccine Locator to find providers in your area. Minnesotans can still order up to eight free COVID rapid tests from the state’s free test distribution program.

RURAL TRANSIT

Bois Forte awarded over \$10 million for transportation projects

NETT LAKE- Public transportation for the Bois Forte Band recently got a huge boost of over \$10 million in federal funds that will transform the future of bus transportation on and off the reservation.

U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith helped to secure a \$9.5 million award from the U.S. Department of Transportation to construct a new transit facility.

The new facility will feature a non-traditional design to parallel park buses and maximize the use of space. The award will also allow the Band to create a new bus wash, add a work bay equipped with a lift for mechanics to do maintenance, and a solar power generation system.

“Infrastructure throughout Tribal Nations has historically been un-

derfunded, making this investment especially important. This is going to improve the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa’s transit system and help the community stay better connected to jobs, school, local businesses, and community gatherings for decades to come,” said Smith. “I’m also excited to see the positive impact the new solar power system will have. Tribal

Nations have long been leaders at protecting our environment and I’m glad we’re able to be a partner at the federal level to ensure this gets done.”

Bois Forte will also receive an additional \$739,500 from the Federal Transit Administration for low-emission propane buses and filling stations. The Band was among five Minnesota awardees that received a total of \$5.9

million for transportation projects.

“Investments in public transit help reduce traffic and make it easier for Minnesotans to get to school, work, and other destinations,” said Klobuchar. “This federal funding will make a real difference in Tribal communities across our state, modernizing buses and bolstering transit efficiency so residents can safely

and reliably get around their community.”

“We are very grateful to have been one of the recipients for this program that will help our environment by reducing emissions,” said Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers. “We can’t thank Senators Smith and Klobuchar enough for their assistance and continued support.”

Obituaries and Death Notices



**Allison M. Thompson**

Allison M. LaKoskey Thompson, 43, of Hoyt Lakes, passed away on Monday, Aug. 29, 2022, at Essentia Health St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth. A Celebration of Life was held on Thursday, Sept. 8 at the Breitung Township Community Center in Soudan. Arrangements were with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

Allison was born on Sept. 2, 1978, in Virginia, to Jill Chiabotti and grew up in Virginia and Soudan, graduating from Tower-Soudan High School. She loved to play bingo and listen to Christian music. She was sweet and kind and was loved by all who knew her. She touched many lives.

Allison had a strong religious belief; she loved Halloween and Christmas and her horse Bailey. She called her home in Hoyt Lakes her Cozy Cottage.

Survivors include her mother, Jill Thompson of Virginia; father, David Thompson; brother, David Thompson; nephew, Gavin; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins; special cousin, Mark Koski; her guardians, Susie and Jerry Chiabotti; her nurse of 29 years, Joy; her nurse of 20 years, Dawn; and Dawn’s son, Ben, who grew up with Allison. In addition to being her caregivers, they were an important part of her family. She was blessed with having many loving caregivers over her lifetime.

She was preceded in death by her beloved grandparents, Harry and Alice Chiabotti. Grandpa Harry would always call Allison his “Bestest Girl Ever”.

Keith Vandervort

Keith Vandervort, 60, of Ely, passed away at home of natural causes on Friday, Aug. 26, 2022. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 16 at First Presbyterian Church in Ely. A meal and remembrance will follow at Grand Ely Lodge from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. the same day. Arrangements are with Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

Keith was born in Fond du Lac, Wis. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a degree in journalism and political

science.

Keith started his career in journalism at the Chilton Times-Journal in Wisconsin where he met his wife, Kay. He worked at two newspapers in Fond du Lac and then took a job as a staff photographer at The Record-Eagle in Traverse City, Mich. Following that position, he returned to Fond du Lac as the chief photographer at The Reporter, then moved to a position as copy editor/page designer for The Reporter and later was the regional copy desk editor for Gannett Wisconsin Media. Keith’s final position was as the Ely Editor for The Timberjay.

He won state newspaper association awards in Wisconsin, Michigan, and most recently, a first-place in Local Breaking News from the Minnesota Newspaper Association for his coverage of the storm that halted the Ely Blueberry/Art Festival in 2021.

Keith loved the news, politics, puns, lame duck jokes, photography, the Green Bay Packers, his family and friends and Kay. He was an amateur ham radio operator and enjoyed putting together World War II airplane models and Legos. He read voraciously, liked Wednesday date night and one-day adventures to find a pretty rock, the best breadsticks, or something big such as the gi-

ant mouse in Fennimore, Wis., the cherry pie in Charlevoix, Mich., or the Smokey the Bear in International Falls.

He took numerous trips with family into the Boundary Waters, starting when he was in middle school. He enjoyed camping. He liked meeting new people and made friends wherever he went.

Keith is survived by his wife, Kay (Haden) Vandervort; siblings, Kathleen (Gerald) Farrell, Kevin Vandervort and Kraig (Tina) Vandervort; stepson, Jeffrey (Lisa) Peters; step-grandson, Jack Peters; sisters and brother-in-law, Nancy Haden (Bill) Meyer and Rose Haden; aunts and uncle, Shirley Kissinger and Larry and Diane Eggers; nieces and nephews, Laurie (Jack) Elliott, Michael (Leah) Farrell, AnnMarie (Allyce) Sulkowski, Kimberly Vandervort, Rachel Vandervort, Travis Vandervort, Brett (Sarina) Meyer, Cory (Mai) Meyer, Lauren Meyer (Kyle) Leto, Diana (James) Barany and Jennifer (Tim) Blair; seventeen great-nieces and great-nephews; and numerous cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William JR and Arlene (Eggers) Vandervort; parents-in-law, Floyd and Mildred (Wyble) Haden; brother-in-law, Richard Haden; sisters-in-law,

Mackie Vandervort and Patricia Babler; and uncle, Sonny Kissinger.

**Jim E. Noteboom**

Jim E. Noteboom, 73, of Cook, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021. Come and join us to celebrate Jim’s life on Saturday, Sept. 17 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Cook VFW in Cook. Food and a cash bar will be available.

**Jeanne LaMourea**

Jeanne E. Myers LaMourea, 96, of Mt. Iron, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, at Essentia Health in Virginia surrounded by her family. Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 9 at Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia with Deacon Dan Schultz officiating. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service with a rosary before the funeral. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Virginia.

She is survived by five children, Lynn Stoyanoff of Duluth, Mark (Karen) LaMourea of Buhl, R. Patrick (Barb) LaMourea of Satellite Beach, Fla., Timothy (Kathy) LaMourea of Cook and Dennis (Connie) LaMourea of Eveleth; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; and sister, Patricia Heine of Dunnellon,

Fla.

**Larry Rom**

Larry Rom, 72, of Ely, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, at Essentia Health-St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth, surrounded by his loving family. Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 with visitation one hour prior at Kerntz Funeral Home in Ely.

He is survived by his wife, Susie Hario; stepdaughter, Tara (Jack) Peschel and her two daughters, Katie and Amanda; sister, Becky (Reid Carron) Rom; brother-in-law, Steve (Jane) Devich; nephews, Jeff (Erin) Devich, Will Carron and Ben Carron; and his much-loved dog, Mac the Fifth.

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# Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

## Ely students experience the wilderness in their backyard

ECR and Friends team up to provide opportunity

THEBOUNDARYWATERS— While all kids who grow up in Ely live on the edge of America’s most popular wilderness area, it doesn’t mean they all get to experience the wilderness firsthand. That’s why a group of six students and two chaperones from Ely Community Resource recently completed a five-day canoe trip here in order to build confidence and teamwork as well as a connection to the remarkable landscape right on their doorstep.

For most of the students, it was their first time in the Boundary Waters. Friends of the Boundary Waters made the trip possible through their “No Boundaries to the Boundary Waters” program, which works with schools around the state to deliver free curriculum focused on the Boundary Waters. The program also provides scholarships for students from underserved communities from all over the state, enabling them to

**Right: Six Ely area students had the chance to canoe in the Boundary Waters recently, thanks to a grant from the Friends of the Boundary Waters.**

photo courtesy Ely Community Resource

go on week-long adventures into the wilderness. Ely eighth-grader Jesse Grant said he learned a lot and had a great time on his trip. “It taught me how to  
*See STUDENTS...pg. 5B*



THE NEIGHBORS

## Kingfisher, noisemaker

These unusual birds of prey offer plenty of surprises

No one would ever call a belted kingfisher shy. Their piercing rattle-like call is among the loudest of any bird in North America and it’s commonly heard here in the North Country, particularly along rivers or lakeshores, where they typically establish and eagerly defend their territories against rival kingfishers.

I ran into what must have been a small family group of kingfishers on a recent morning visit to my neighborhood beaver pond, where the birds were actively feeding, presumably on frogs they were occasionally pulling out of the water.

When I visit the beaver pond, I have a spot where I can just sit and watch and I was able to watch the kingfishers as they fed, and occasionally chased and rattled at each other like rambunctious kids, for more than an hour. As is typical of the species, these birds hunted from elevated perches, like old snags that rise up from the pond, where they’ll sit with their keen eyes, scanning the waters below. Every so often, they’ll suddenly drop down to grab whatever has caught their attention. Kingfishers aren’t just limited to feeding on the surface. Once they spot their prey, they can dive straight down into the water and grab

their target in their large, pincer-like beaks. They can also hover in place, something most birds can’t do well, while they wait for the perfect moment to dive.

I suspect kingfishers got their name from their air of self-importance. With their somewhat raggedy crowns, they lord over their riparian territories, sounding off loudly over the slightest intrusion.

Kingfishers are likely more abundant in our region now than before European settlement. That’s because kingfishers are dependent on exposed sandy or gravelly banks for nesting, conditions that were likely relatively scarce here at one time. Kingfishers are unusual in several ways, but they’re one of only a handful of inland birds that nest underground. The banks of inactive gravel pits are particularly attractive locations for kingfishers and you can often see softball-sized holes in the cut banks of such pits, that may well signify the presence of a kingfisher nest. Their actual nest can be well inside the bank, sometimes several feet inside, accessed only through the burrow they’ll dig from the gravelly bank.

Not any gravel pit will

**Top: A female belted kingfisher sits on a birch snag in a beaver pond. Note the rusty-orange coloration on portions of the bird’s breast. In the vast majority of bird species, it is the male that is more colorful, but the belted kingfisher is a notable exception. The females are also equally noisy and nearly as aggressive in defending their territory as males.**

**Below: A male belted kingfisher (note the absence of rusty markings) sits on another birch snag in a beaver pond. Kingfishers typically hunt for fish, amphibians, and other small creatures along stream or lake shores.**

photos by M. Helmberger



MARSHALL HELMBERGER

### Wildflower Watch

This week’s featured flower  
**PURPLE-STEMMED ASTER**



Asters dominate the wildflower scene during August and September here in the North Country, and the **Purple-Stemmed Asters**, *Symphyotrichum puniceum*, are among the showiest of them. These asters are relatively large, standing anywhere from two-three feet tall, with often dozens of purple to lavender colored flowers blooming in a loose cluster.

They can be distinguished from the more common large-leaved asters by their deeper color, many more petals per flower, and by their narrow leaves, as opposed to the broad, heart-shaped leaves of the large-leaved variety.

Outdoors briefly

### New district rangers on the Superior NF

REGIONAL— There are new faces in charge at the U.S. Forest Service offices in Cook and Aurora. The Forest Service announced late last week that Sunny Lucas has been named the new district ranger for the LaCroix District, which includes the northwestern-most part of the Superior. Lucas, who is now based at the LaCroix District’s headquarters in Cook, had previously served as acting district ranger on the Laurentian District, but has spent most of her career in the West and Midwest, stationed mostly at research facilities conducting resistance breeding for a variety of tree diseases. Among her leadership positions, she previously led the Forest Health Group in the Forest Service’s St. Paul field office. Meanwhile, in Aurora, Adam Cochran has taken the helm as district ranger on the Laurentian District. Cochran grew up in the



Sunny Lucas



Adam Cochran

*See RANGERS...pg. 5B*

*See NOISY...pg. 5B*



Thick rice lined both sides of the Vermilion River last Sunday. A good crop on the river is largely an exception as the crop in most places is poor.

photo by M. Helmberger

WILD HARVEST

Rice crop generally poor in most parts of the region

Nett Lake cancels its 2022 season

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — The quest for wild rice has been more challenging this year than most, but ricers have found a very harvestable crop along the Vermilion River, north of the Gold Mine Camp. As reported on the 1854 Treaty Authority website, the rice along an approximately three-mile stretch of river is consistently thick and high enough out of the water to make it easily harvestable.

The Vermilion River is the exception rather than the rule this year, as a variety of challenges, including storms, cool temperatures that limited growth and slowed ripening, and high water in some cases, have meant disappointing crops at most other popular rice lakes in the region.

In fact, the crop at Nett Lake, traditionally one of the region’s largest

and most reliable crops, is so poor this year that the Nett Lake Conservation Committee announced last weekend that it has canceled the harvest for this year. According to the Bois Forte Department of Natural Resources, late seed germination due to poor spring growing conditions significantly slowed plant growth and ripening throughout the summer. The Bois Forte DNR makes its reports to the Conservation Committee, which sets the harvesting dates and times on Nett Lake.

“This was a very difficult decision for us to make and we apologize to all band members who were looking forward to the season,” said Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers in a statement issued by the band. The band will still conduct a small ceremonial harvest at Nett Lake at a time and place to be set at a later date.

RANGERS...Continued from page 4B

Pacific Northwest outside a small logging community surrounded by the Olympic National Forest. He studied biology and natural resource management in both Idaho and Colorado and worked for a variety of natural resource agencies during his early career. Most recently, he has spent the last 13 years working for the Bureau of Land Management, based in their Lake Havasu field office.

“Our District Rangers are key leaders, and we

are excited to bring Adam and Sunny’s experience to our forest,” says Shannon Rische, acting forest supervisor on the Superior. “Along with their technical abilities, they both have strong partnership and community engagement experience, all key to fulfilling the goals of our forest plan.”

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08/29	74	60	0.09		08/29	74	59	0.16		08/29	76	62	0.18		08/29	68	59	0.09		08/29	75	59	0.20	
08/30	69	57	0.04		08/30	69	55	0.03		08/30	67	58	0.13		08/30	75	54	0.03		08/30	67	53	0.08	
08/31	75	53	0.00		08/31	75	51	0.00		08/31	77	56	0.00		08/31	79	57	0.00		08/31	75	53	0.00	
09/01	78	53	0.00		09/01	78	55	0.00		09/01	78	57	0.00		09/01	84	61	0.00		09/01	78	52	0.00	
09/02	85	53	0.00		09/02	85	55	0.00		09/02	85	62	0.00		09/02	75	57	0.12		09/02	84	54	0.00	
09/03	78	48	0.00		09/03	78	43	0.00		09/03	75	51	0.01		09/03	66	45	0.00		09/03	70	34	0.00	
09/04	67	35	0.00		09/04	67	33	0.00		09/04	66	42	0.00		09/04	72	37	0.00		09/04	68	34	0.00	
YTD Total			19.13		YTD Total			21.92		YTD Total			21.48		YTD Total			NA		YTD Total				26.86

NOISY...Continued from page 4B

do, of course. Belted kingfishers, which are the only species found in Minnesota, feed almost exclusively along streams or shorelines, where they catch small fish, amphibians, and invertebrates like crayfish, so only pits or other exposed banks near water make for the best nesting sites. As you might imagine, these somewhat specialized requirements mean that suitable kingfisher habitat tends to be limited, which is one reason that kingfishers are aggressive in defending their territories. Their loud call and pugnacious attitude have a purpose after all.

While kingfishers are generally found in our region only in the ice-free months, the males stay pretty close to their breeding territories, even in winter. They’ll winter as far north as central Minnesota, where they can usually find just enough open water around rapids to keep themselves fed. But, as soon as the ice starts to break up in the spring, they’ll be back, ready to defend their high-demand territories from interlopers.

Among the other oddities of this species is what is known as reverse sexual dimorphism. Sexual dimorphism is the term for the differences between males and females in a species. In birds, those differences are often significant and in almost all cases, the male of the species is the more colorful. Not so with kingfishers. While the differences aren’t striking, the adult females can be told by the splash of rusty orange on their sides, which often extends nearly across the belly.

Such differences between the species usually have some kind of evolutionary advantage. In birds, bright and often dramatic plumage helps male birds attract mates, but that clearly isn’t the way it works with kingfishers. Researchers haven’t really come to a consensus on why the female kingfisher is the more colorful of the pair, although one theory is that the males are so aggressive in defending their territory from other males that the splash of color helps them identify a female — and a potential mate — when one shows up.

Kingfishers have another habit that’s typical of predatory birds. Because they eat things like fish, frogs, and crayfish, they end up ingesting a lot of bones, scales, and hard shells, none of which is very digestible. So, like other birds of prey, they regurgitate hard pellets containing all of those indigestible parts.

Maybe that’s why they always seem to be in a cantankerous mood.

STUDENTS...Continued from page 4B

just be in the moment and not worry about everything in the future. I will continue to do things I’ve learned.”

The group launched their trip from Fall Lake and spent their time paddling, portaging, swimming, and fishing. “It was very rewarding to work with the ECR students,” said

Friends of the Boundary Waters Community Coordinator Ozzie Reif. “We did some team building and route planning in the new Ely Friends office, and everybody had a blast learning skills that they could put to use on the canoe trip.”

For many of the students, it was

a chance to learn skills for the first time, and test their grit during challenging parts of the trip. “Sterning at the last river was challenging,” said one eighth-grader on the trip. “Determination and strength got us through.”

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Current Openings  
Teacher: Science and/or Social Studies (1.0)  
Special Ed Para (1.0)

Vermilion Country School is seeking to hire a full-time licensed teacher for science and/or social studies, and a full-time special education paraprofessional for the 2022-2023 school year. Positions open until filled. Salary per established pay scale (available by request).

The Vermilion Country School is a grades 7-12 charter school that opened in the fall of 2013. It is located in Tower, on the shores of beautiful Lake Vermilion, in the heart of Minnesota's North Country. The school serves a multicultural student body of approx. 40 students, with an innovative learning model that is uniquely-adapted to this rural community. For more information, visit our website at www.vermilioncountry.org.

For more information, full job description, or an application, please email lkess@vermilioncountry.org, or call 218-753-1246 (ext. 2 for office) or call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950



Charter School Admin  
Vermilion Country School, Tower

SALARY: PER ESTABLISHED PAY SCALE (AVAILABLE BY REQUEST)

POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED • POSITION IS PART-TIME

FULL JOB DESCRIPTION: Email jsummit@vermilioncountry.org. Also will be posted at WWW.VERMILIONCOUNTRY.ORG

SEND COVER LETTER AND RESUME to: Jodi Summit, Board Chair, jsummit@vermilioncountry.org, or call 218-753-2950.

QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum 4-year degree in relevant area. Administrator licensure or coursework preferred but not required. Experience with charter schools and school leadership. Experience/interest in innovative learning and creating a democratic school environment. Ability to write/manage grants, interact with state agencies, VCS authorizer, and all stakeholders. The board envisions this to be a .50 position, with a possibility of the remainder of the position to be filled with a teaching or other assignment.

The Vermilion Country School is a grades 7-12 charter school that opened in the fall of 2013. It is located in Tower, on the shores of beautiful Lake Vermilion, in the heart of Minnesota's North Country. The school serves a multicultural student body of 35-40 students, with an innovative program learning model that is uniquely-adapted to this remote community. For more information, visit our website at www.vermilioncountry.org.



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EMBARRASS TOWNSHIP

The Township of Embarrass, is accepting applications for regular part-time maintenance worker. This position performs various repairs, maintenance, and cleaning. Applicants must be at least 18 and have a valid Minnesota driver's license. Some benefits are included.

For more information about the position or to receive an application contact the township clerk at 218-984-2084 or email at embarrass-township@frontiernet.net

Applications must be received by Sept. 22.

Jennifer Boese, Embarrass Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 9 & 16, 2022

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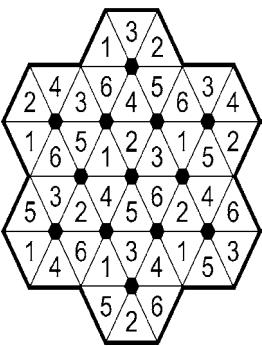
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Answers

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



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FT Laundry Aide  
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Hospital/ER

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Casual Unit Clerk/HUC (Wage starting at \$17.36/hr. EMT and/or NA cert. required)

Care Center

FT & PT Nursing Assistant (Wage starting at \$17.36/hr - \$1,500 sign-on bonus)

Activities

FT Activities Director  
PT & Casual Activities Assistant  
(Wage starting at \$17.36)

Laboratory

FT Medical Lab Tech (Wage starting at \$23.38/hr. \$4,000 sign-on bonus)

Radiology

FT Radiologic Technologist (Wage starting at \$26.14/hr. \$4,000 sign-on bonus)  
Casual Ultrasound Tech  
(Independent Contractor)  
Casual Radiologic Tech  
(Independent Contractor)

Dietary

PT Dietary Aide/Cook  
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TO APPLY:

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More Info? Contact Human Resources

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Milan's La —  
6 Mops the deck  
11 First game of the season  
12 Fortune-telling decks  
14 Gift giver's words  
15 Not level  
16 Italian "three"  
17 Trombone part  
19 Coach Parseghian  
20 Coup d'—  
22 Summer on the Seine  
23 Not kosher  
24 Hose material  
26 1955 Platters hit  
28 — -di-dah  
30 Pinnacle  
31 "Pretty please?"  
35 From the area  
39 Writer Kingsley  
40 Highland hat  
42 "Elephant Boy" actor  
43 UV ray-block-ing stat  
44 James — Garfield  
46 Stanley Cup org.

	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					

- 47 Spill the beans  
6 Pupil  
7 Diminish  
8 "Right you —!"  
9 Emma of fic-tion  
10 Sound sys-tem  
11 Frequently  
13 Major mix-up  
18 "Am — blame?"  
21 Bridge fees  
23 Printing errors  
25 Aye undoer  
27 Texter's  
29 Sites of rapid growth  
31 Squander  
32 Chevy model  
33 Boost  
34 Eg. and Syr., once  
36 Big gorge  
37 Loathes  
38 Humdingers  
41 Taj —  
44 Out of the storm  
45 Simple  
48 Pro Bowl stats  
50 Singer Sumac

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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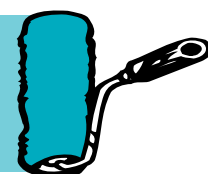
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