



Inside:
Ely goes back to school... See /3
Frozen coming to Ely... See /12
Fall sports... See /1B
Grouse outlook favorable... See /4B

Horse Show Results... See /3B

the TIMBERJAY



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989 VOL. 33, ISSUE 36 September 16, 2022 \$1⁰⁰

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

Board dismisses top fire department officers

Chief Fazio and Assistant Chief Indihar dismissed for failure to perform their duties

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP— In a surprise decision at the end of their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, the Greenwood Town Board voted 3-2 to dismiss Fire Chief David Fazio and Assistant Chief Mike Indihar.

“I am just going to

put this out there,” said Board Chair Sue Drobac, when the board reached the item titled “Fire Department Management” on the agenda. She motioned to dismiss the two top officers, effective Sept. 14, for “not performing their administrative duties.”

The motion clearly came as a surprise to some of the board members. Supervisor

Paul Skubic asked for her reasoning and wondered why she wasn’t following the steps in the township’s discipline policy.

“Things that have been ongoing,” Drobac said. “Job description requirements that have not been kept up. There are too many things, and they are at-will employees.”

The town board, espe-

Right: Greenwood fire department officers (l-r) Mike Indihar, David Fazio, and Rick Worringer were dismissed as officers by board action Tuesday night. photo by J. Summit

cially since the last March’s township election, has clashed with fire department officials

See...DISMISSAL pg. 10



CITY OF TOWER

Mayor: State of city is good and getting better

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER— Mayor Dave Setterberg offered an upbeat assessment of the city’s status as part of a “state of the city” report he made to the city council here on Monday.

Setterberg said he was trying to offer the council, most of whom are relatively new, a big picture view of where the city was and where it appears to be heading as a result of a number of changes made by the council over the past few years.

Setterberg reported that the city’s financial picture has improved significantly, mostly as a result of tighter fiscal management. Those improvements range from small savings, like switching the supplies vendor at Hoodoo Point, to negotiating a new police contract with Breitung that is saving the city about \$45,000 a year.

He noted that back in 2019 the city was forced to borrow \$250,000 from the League of Minnesota Cities to pay its bills, a loan that the city has been retiring at the rate of \$50,000 a year ever since. “So, we’re doing pretty good,” said



Dave Setterberg

See...TOWER pg. 10



HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL

Arts, eats, & a touch of fall



Clockwise from top: Shoppers peruse the many booths in Whiteside Park during last weekend’s festival; Butch Diesslin smiles as he enjoys a piece of blueberry pie from the Kiwanis Club; handblown glass designs by Brian Dean Miller; and friends enjoy time together. photos by J. Summit



MINING

Does Twin Metals really have a viable plan?

Even as the company seeks redress in the courts, critics say their mine plan is broken

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— In legal filings and in public statements, representatives of Twin Metals have argued in recent months that they have a viable and environmentally-safe mine plan of operations, or MPO, that’s been

submitted and is ready for environmental review. They argue that the company’s investors have sunk over \$500 million into exploration, engineering, and other development costs to bring the project forward, and that they should have the right to a project-specific review of their plan to build an underground cop-

per-nickel and precious metals mine near Ely.

However, critics of the proposal, and its potential impact on the 1.1-million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness located downstream of the proposed mine, are dismissing those claims. They argue that the company lacks a viable

mine plan to study and has yet to demonstrate it can operate its mine without significant environmental impacts, most notably to the Boundary Waters.

Meanwhile, the company has failed to demonstrate publicly that its proposal is economically viable, since Twin Metals has yet to release financial projections

based on their current mine plan.

Twin Metals, which is owned by Chilean mining giant Antofagasta, did submit an MPO to the Department of Natural Resources and the Bureau of Land Management for review back in December 2019. DNR officials

See...MINE PLAN pg. 9



**Our Retail Store has NEW FALL CLOTHING!
40% OFF Outlet Store Open Daily**

Visit our new Boathouse: Open Daily 9 am to 5 pm

You’ll find it all at Piragis Northwoods Company 105 N Central Ave.

piragis.com 218 - 365 - 6745 boundarywaterscatalog.com

Contact The Timberjay

218-753-2950
editor@timberjay.com



Community notices

Ladies and Knights of Kaleva to meet Sept. 22

VIRGINIA- The Ladies and Knights of Kaleva will be meeting Thursday Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. at Kaleva Hall. The club will be installing new members. There will also be a program on the “Finnish Baby Box”. Everyone is welcome.

Revive Virginia’s Food Truck Festival is back on Saturday, Sept. 17

VIRGINIA- There will be lots to do in downtown Virginia on Saturday Sept. 17. Revive Virginia is hosting a food truck festival and Lyric Center for the Arts is hosting the music, cash bar and youth art activities.

Head downtown to historic Chestnut Street from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. to celebrate the annual Food Truck Festival! This year there will be many more new features in addition to all of the fantastic offerings.

In front of Lyric Center for the Arts you can grab a beverage (including beer & wine) at their cash bar (21+) while enjoying your eats and treats. Take a seat curbside and enjoy the free, fine tunes of live music featuring Breanne Marie & The Front Porch Sinners at 3 p.m. and The Christopher David Hanson Band at 5 p.m., closing out the night at 7 p.m. There will also be a youth activities area in front of The Annex with art supplies, chalk art and face painting. There will also be axe throwing down at the new Forge Social Haus all day and bingo at the Virginia Elk’s Club starting at 1 p.m.(18+ to play, includes a cash bar, 21+).

This year’s participating food trucks are: Street Taco & Eats, K&B Grilled Cheese, Superior Cubans, Go Figur’s, American Legion Post 239, The Ice Cream Truck, The Sugar Shack, Later Tater, Jue’s Chinese Restaurant & Lounge, Curbside Crepes, Pep’s Bake Shop, Kettle Mania, Celebrate Aurora, Deans Eats, Doghouse Grill, Sugarlicious and More, Canelake’s Candies, Oasis Del Norte, Mel’s Sportspage Bar & Snickers Pizza Shop, Saigon Duluth, Big Red Wagon, Aunt Edmoes Cookies!, Kappy’s Kettle Korn, and Becky’s Oriental Food.

Fall Prevention Awareness Week

REGIONAL- One in three adults age 65 and older will fall, and falls are the leading cause of fatal injury and the most common cause of nonfatal trauma-related hospital admissions among older adults. Forty-percent of all hospitalizations are a result of falls. Junipers fall prevention classes are evidence-based programs designed to keep you mobile and independent and is proven to reduce risk of falling by as much as 55-percent.

Falls prevention truly is a community effort. While health care professionals play an integral part of reducing falls risk, resources in our community can also make an impact. Join us the week of Sept. 18-24 in a national effort to increase awareness of falls prevention and leverage our community resources to support the older adults in your community be independent and falls free.

Falls Prevention Awareness Week Kick-off Sept. 19 at 1:30 p.m. : During this online event you will hear from guest speakers to learn the issues of falls, debunk fall-related myths, and try some Tai Ji Quan exercises. Learn more and register at bit.ly/falls-2022 or call 855.215.2174

Get strong, increase balance, feel good... and prevent falls program on Sept. 21 at 1 p.m. The good news is that falls are NOT a normal part of aging. Falls can be prevented. In this presentation you will check your risk for a fall and learn about low-cost or free ways to reduce your risk of a fall. Learn more and register at bit.ly/falls-2022 or call 855.215.2174

YOUR HOME-DECOR STORE



All furniture may not be as shown.

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

INTEREST FREE FINANCING AND LAYAWAY AVAILABLE



Flashlight Clueseum!

October Events

October 9th
Trolley Pumpkin Day

October 20th & 27th
Glen Location
Flashlight Tours

October 21st & 28th
Flashlight Clueseum

PREPAID RESERVATIONS
REQUIRED FOR EACH EVENT.



218.254.7959
MnDiscoveryCenter.com

Flashlight Tours!



ARTS IN ELY

Rolando art show open through Sunday

ELY- “Searching for Balance: Through Color and Contrast” will remain on display at the State Theater in Ely through Sunday, Sept. 18. The show is open to the public when the theater is open, weekdays from 4 – 10 p.m., and weekends from 1 – 10 p.m.

Ely artist Cecelia Rolando’s works on display include 50 recent works, mostly created during and after a three-month online acrylic painting class through the “Creative Visionary Program,” led by San Francisco artist Nicholas Wilton.

The show is one in a series being jointly sponsored by Northern Lakes Arts Association and the Ely State Theater.

Rolando said the works on display represent a variety of subject matter, from landscapes, to portraits, to non-representative themes.

“I can’t seem to stick to one subject,” she said.

Rolando, who grew up in Ely, said her love of art was encouraged from an early age by art teachers at the Ely School, and then from teachers at the Ely Junior College (now Minnesota North College- Vermilion), and the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

“Art was really the only thing I was interested in,” she said. While she wasn’t interested in becoming an art teacher when she was younger, she now enjoys teaching, and has



been leading classes at the Ely Folk School and Northwoods Friends of the Arts in Cook.

Rolando is well-known on the Ely art scene, after leading Northern Lakes Arts Association for 27 years, before retiring.

Rolando’s artwork is also on display at Ely’s Front Porch Coffee and Tea Co.

The artwork in the show is all for sale, for more information, contact Rolando at 218-235-8965 or email her at crdesign19@gmail.com.

Photos by J. Summit

MORE THAN JUST BOOKS

September is a good time to get your library card

REGIONAL- September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Get the school year off to the best possible start and sign up for a library card. Visit alslib.info to find your local library or sign up online today.

Arrowhead Library System (ALS) serves seven counties in northeastern Minnesota including Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods and St. Louis. With your ALS Public Library Card, you are able to access many of the free digital resources available 24/7 online and can use it to check out books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines, and more at any of our 27-member public libraries, ALS Bookmobile, or ALS Mail-A-Book.

The most important school supply is a library card. With access to technology, innovative programming, and educational resources, a library card gives students of all ages the tools to succeed. From



borrowing audiobooks to streaming movies to taking virtual Do-It-Yourself classes, there is so much you can access with a library card.

Free digital resources

ALS wants you to know about the FREE digital resources available to you 24/7 without leaving the comfort and safety of your home, including e-books, audiobooks, digital magazines, and more. These resources include:

➤ *Brainfuse – HelpNow*, offering one-on-one homework help, skills building, writing lab, subject testing, and language support.

➤ *Brainfuse – JobNow*, offering live interactive online help combined with online resources to guide

users through the necessary tasks to get a job.

➤ *OverDrive/Libby App*, offering eBooks and Audiobooks that can be downloaded onto devices.

➤ To see the full list of databases available to you, please visit the ALS Research Databases page to get started: <http://www.alslib.info/services/research-databases/>.

New book drop

ALS is excited to launch a new service for regional patrons, a book drop at the ALS Headquarters located in Mt. Iron! The book drop is open 24/7 at 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron. Items from any public library in Minnesota can be dropped off at ALS and any public library in the area. The artistic design was created by International Falls artist Eric “Erickson” Kulig. The book drop project was funded by a grant from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

GET REGISTERED TO VOTE

Minnesota’s voting season starts Sept. 23

REGIONAL- Voting season is just around the corner in Minnesota and now is the time to get registered. Using mnvotes.gov, Minnesotans can register to vote, check their registration, and update their registration on their computer or smartphone. Early voting will begin on Sept. 23. Minnesota registered voters can request an absentee ballot to vote from home at mnvotes.gov or vote early with an absentee ballot at a local election office.

To highlight the importance of updating and registering to vote, Governor Tim Walz proclaimed September Voter Registration Month in Minnesota.

Educating and Training a Creative Rural Workforce” town hall to be held in Chisholm on Sept. 21

REGIONAL -The Rural Voice series, developed by three Minnesota Initiative Foundations that serve Greater Minnesota (Northland Foundation, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, and the Initiative Foundation) along with Compeer Financial, will launch in late September with three town halls moderated by MPR’s Kerri Miller. The conversations will focus on entrepreneurship, workforce readiness, and health care in rural Minnesota.

“The focus of these town halls is really to lend voice to our rural areas and to explore the benefits, the challenges, and the opportunities that exist when living in rural communities,” said Tim Penny, president and CEO of the Southern Min-

nesota Initiative Foundation. “We’re excited to hear from people who can educate and enlighten through their ideas, and experiences.”

The events, which will be held in unique venues in rural Minnesota, will require registration but are free to attend. The events will also be live-streamed and recorded for broader distribution.

For more information on the Rural Voice series or to register to participate in the free, in-person events or access live-streaming of the event go to ruralvoice.org.

The event details are as follows: Tuesday, Sept. 20: Rural Start-up: Launching a Business in Greater Minnesota, Krewe Restaurant, 24 College Ave. N, St. Joseph. Doors

open at 6:30 p.m. Discussion 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. followed by a reception.

Wednesday, Sept. 21: Growing Good Gigs: Educating & Training a Creative Rural Workforce. Minnesota Discovery Center, 1005 Discovery Dr., Chisholm. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Discussion 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. followed by a reception

Tuesday, Sept. 27: Great Doctors & Healthy Communities: Improving Patient Care in Rural Minnesota, Cannon River Winery, 421 Mill St. W, Cannon Falls. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Discussion 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. followed by a reception. Mayo Clinic Health System is a sponsor of the Rural Voice health care discussion.

ELY SCHOOL NEWS

Admin reports a smooth first day and enrollment up for ISD 696

by Rachel Brophy
Staff Writer

ELY – Monday night’s meeting of the Ely School board began with Ray Marsnik pointing out the obvious absence of longtime *Timberjay* Ely editor Keith Vandervort at the meeting. Marsnik spoke highly of Vandervort’s commitment and comprehensive reporting over the previous 10 years covering Ely school board proceedings. Marsnik suggested the board observe a moment of silence remembering Keith. After the rather solemn start to Monday night’s meeting, things took a decidedly more upbeat turn as all administrators in attendance reported a first day of school that went off smoothly, even as parents and students reported to school amidst continuing construction and bare dirt out front.

“Today we started pretty

much without any major glitch or hitch,” Superintendent John Klarich said, “I’d like to thank Chad Houde for being here directing traffic in the parent parking. He had to be out there. They didn’t know what to do, we don’t have all the signage up yet. That went well. We had a nice opening with K-12 kids. I was pretty pleased with the way the day went.”

“We had a blast today. It was a really good first day of school,” elementary principal Anne Oelke said.

She highlighted how the morning’s assembly of all students K-12 was meant to drive home the fact “that we’re all under one roof now. It was super fun. We had a great day.”

Oelke also provided the board with an enrollment report that showed positive growth in student enrollment from 512 students as of June 1 to 541 stu-



Above: Gordon Smith poses with Mom and Dad, Edie Renner and Michael Smith for yet another picture before he heads off to start third grade.

dents as of Sept. 8. Oelke pointed out that by meeting time another new kindergartner and a couple of other new students brought the actual enrollment closer to 545.

High school principal Jeff Carey also reported a good day was had by all.

“We had a great opening today. It was a really exciting

day. The kids were really fired up,” Carey said. “You should be very proud of all your employees. They pulled off a miracle.”

In other business, the board:

- Welcomed new fifth grade teacher Heidi Omerza.
- Approved posting for a temporary one-year part-time custodian.
- Hired Lori Westrick as full-time superintendent’s assistant.
- Hired Kathleen Champa as Health Coordinator.
- Hired for two cafeteria aides and three paraprofessionals.
- Heard from Superintendent Klarich on next steps for the 21st Century Facilities project that include striping parking lots, concrete work, signage, and some indoor electrical work.

The Ely school board will hold a study session on Monday, Sept. 26 at 6 p.m.

TRAGIC HARVEST

Orr man dies while ricing on Vermilion River

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

CRANE LAKE- A day of harvesting wild rice on the Vermilion River turned to tragedy for a 43-year-old Orr man who died after his canoe apparently capsized on Saturday, Sept. 10.

The search for Keith Joseph Roy began Saturday around 1:30 p.m. after other parties on the river discovered his canoe unoccupied and overturned, according to a

St. Louis County Sheriff’s Office release.

Supervising Deputy Nate Skelton said that they determined that Roy used the Gold Mine Resort access point to enter the river, about three miles upstream from Vermilion Falls and five-and-a-half miles southwest of Crane Lake.

St. Louis Sheriff’s deputies and the St. Louis County Rescue squad were joined by Minnesota

Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement and were aided by a Minnesota State Patrol aircraft equipped with a forward-looking infrared camera as they conducted the search between the Gold Mine Resort access point and the falls. The search was suspended around midnight, Skelton said.

Searchers were back early Sunday morning, accompanied by dogs and using remote oper-

ated submersibles and several boats, with assistance from Forest Service law enforcement. At about 4 p.m., the St. Louis County Rescue Squad located Roy’s body floating in the water.

Roy was apparently a well-experienced wild rice harvester, posting pictures to a social media account in September 2020 of a boat loaded nearly to the gunwale with rice harvested, he said in the comments, “by

Lost River on Nett Lake.” Roy was featured in a 2021 segment aired on KBFT Bois Forte Tribal Community Radio sharing his knowledge about ricing and giving listeners instructions on how to make a push pole.

As of Monday, the incident and cause of death were still under investigation by the St. Louis County Sheriff’s Office, according to the release.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

ISD 2142 board reviews plans to address bullying

VIRGINIA- With the new school year now in session, the ISD 2142 school board turned its attention Tuesday to what its schools are doing to address an issue of increasing concern toward the end of last year’s term, bullying.

A student and parent who spoke in emotional detail to the board about issues with bullying back in May prompted board members to ask for more detail about how the district is handling such behaviors at a future board meeting. At two public meetings that month in Cook, parents and staff also raised concerns about

bullying at the North Woods School.

Board members had a wealth of information available to them on Tuesday, as Superintendent Reggie Engebretson had assembled a panel, including Director of Teaching and Learning Kristi Berlin, Project AWARE Mental Health Coordinator Alicia Dick, and all five school building principals to talk about responses to bullying and answer questions.

Referring to a detailed handout provided to board members, Berlin said, “There are three things we look for. Is a behavior repeated, is there an

intent of harm, and is there an imbalance of power? In (determining) the intent of harm, you can see there’s a chart on the back that helps that out.

The district uses these criteria to specifically identify bullying versus other behaviors that might be problematic that have been associated in the media with the term,” said Berlin.

“Bullying is not being mean to someone or saying something mean to someone or hurting someone’s feelings,” Berlin added.

Tower-Soudan Principal John Jirik emphasized that school

staff still respond to those types of behaviors.

“Just because it’s not specifically bullying doesn’t mean those things aren’t addressed,” he said. “I want to make sure that it’s clear that even though those things are not bullying they are addressed.”

Later, board member Bob Larson returned to the issues involving the student who appeared at the May meeting. While an investigation determined that derogatory comments about the student didn’t constitute bullying because they weren’t directed at her when she was present to hear them, Larson was

still concerned about the student and the behavior.

“Regardless of whether it was bullying or not, I think it ruined her school year,” Larson said. “It affected her greatly.”

Dick explained that through Project AWARE, which started last year, the district has assessed its systems, climate, and culture for how bullying can be deterred at various levels.

“We’re really working on improving the climate and culture within the system because we know that we as adults can impact

See BULLYING..pg 5

REAL ESTATE



218-757-3233
www.TheLakeCountry.com

Buyck-\$589,000 Hunting retreat on 198.7 private acres surrounded by state and federal lands. 670 ft of shoreline on the Vermilion River. 24x30 Morten bunkhouse with electricity and propane stove. A must see! **MLS#143527**

Orr-\$56,000 40 acres, nicely wooded land borders state and federal lands. Perfect hunting land! **MLS#143342**

Buyck-\$639,000 19.87-acre Echo Trail off grid property with a 2,900 sq ft custom timber frame home has wrap-around deck, granite and ash flooring, custom cabinets and in-floor heat. **MLS#143246**

Vermilion River, Buyck-\$1,495,000 Hand-scribed log home. 2-3 BRs, 2.75 BAs, 24x24 heated garage and also has a year-round guest home, two seasonal cabins and a 40'x48' detached garage on 9+ acres. Surrounded by state and federal land and close to the BWCA. **MLS#143379**



*As measured by residential transaction sides.



VERMILION LAND OFFICE
Real Estate • Appraisals

Looking To Buy Or Sell? Give Us A Call!

vermilionland.com
info@vermilionland.com
1-866-753-8985
Cook • Tower • Virginia





WE NEED LISTINGS!
Contact us for a free property valuation

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

ANGORA 4 BR, 2 BA, 2-stall detached garage, 6 acres with 900 ft of Rice River frontage. **MLS# 144034 \$299,000**

COOK Popular bar/restaurant near Lake Vermilion. 4,800 sq ft building that can seat 150 people. Ready for new owners. **MLS# 144140 \$475,000**

COOK 2 BR, 1 BA, 1-stall detached garage, on 1.66 acres with 225 ft Lake Vermilion frontage. Potential for year-round use. **MLS# 144156 \$439,000**

TOWER 1 BR, 4 BA, 2-stall garage, on 4.6 acres. Business or country home opportunity. **MLS# 144182 \$435,000**

WE SELL THE NORTH!

NEXT TIME COME HOME!

JANISCH REALTY **218-780-6644**

Let's Make Sold Happen For You Too!



OPINION

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

Unemployment and workers

Data shows that generous unemployment benefits are no disincentive to work.

Just over a year ago, generous unemployment benefits were being blamed for creating a shortage of workers, as employees laid off during COVID were supposedly lounging at home living on the dole.

While there were undoubtedly a few instances of that, recent economic data from Minnesota strongly suggests that generous and easily obtained unemployment benefits are not a disincentive to work and, in fact, may actually increase the efficiency of the workforce.

Minnesota, which has generous unemployment benefits in comparison to most states, currently has the lowest unemployment rate in the country. Indeed, the state’s unemployment rate, at just 1.8 percent, is reportedly the lowest unemployment rate in any state since records have been kept by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Minnesota also has the third-highest workforce participation rate in the nation, at 68.7 percent.

Despite generous benefits, it’s clear that Minnesotans prefer to work. The roughly 30 percent of the population not currently employed is made up almost entirely of kids too young to work, retirees and the disabled.

Workforce participation has increased modestly in Minnesota since the expiration of the supplemental unemployment benefits, enacted at the beginning of the COVID pandemic, but that’s due primarily to the fact that most workplaces have gone back, or at least have tried to go back, to normal staffing levels as the pandemic has dragged on. As many economists had predicted last year, the phase-out of the supplemental benefits did little or nothing to ease the worker shortage, which is more acute than ever in Minnesota right now.

By most measures, Minnesota’s economy is creating the best of times for workers, even as businesses are struggling to find help. Wages have increased substantially, and in many traditionally lower-paying service sectors, wage growth is outpacing inflation, leaving lower-wage workers in better shape financially than at any time in recent history.

The one area where Minnesota’s economic performance has been decidedly mediocre over the past year has been in new job creation. But that’s not due to lack of interest on the part of businesses. Minnesota could have easily created twice as many jobs over the past year had the state had the workers to fill them.

One other interesting statistic from August’s jobs data is that Minnesota currently has the highest percentage of

unemployed workers receiving unemployment benefits of any state, and by a long shot. That’s undoubtedly due to the fact that it’s relatively easy to access benefits in Minnesota and it’s worth making the effort because the benefits are relatively generous.

No doubt the same folks who argued against the supplemental benefits last year would complain about the fact that 70 percent of unemployed workers in the state are receiving benefits. First, it’s worth noting that with an unemployment rate of just 1.8 percent, we’re talking about a relatively tiny number of actual unemployed workers. In either case, economists who study such things would point out that Minnesota’s unemployment compensation system provides those who do lose jobs (which happens even in a robust economy) with the opportunity to makes ends meet while they look for new work in an area that matches their skills and maximizes their future earning potential. That’s not just good for workers, it’s good for employers, too, because it also maximizes the productivity of the state’s workforce. Society benefits as well when we can prevent unemployment from pushing individuals or families into financial hardship, which comes with its own long list of downstream problems.

Minnesota has helped its citizens and its businesses by making its unemployment compensation system easy to access. That’s in contrast to many other states, particularly in the South, where states have intentionally made the process cumbersome and the benefits stingy, ostensibly to save money and coax workers quickly back into jobs. Unfortunately, political leaders in too many states still believe that punishing workers who lose their jobs is the best way to get them back into the labor force. Unfortunately, it’s usually the best way to push them and their families into low-paying, dead end jobs and long-term poverty or low-income status.

That’s one reason why southern states have poverty rates in the 17 to 19 percent range, while Minnesota is ranked 48 in poverty, at just 9.3 percent. The fact is, Minnesota ranks at or very near the top in almost every category where a state would want to rank highly and near the bottom in categories, like poverty, where the lowest ranking is best. Minnesota, it turns out, has been remarkably successful pursuing policies that provide opportunity to workers and the kind of business support that businesses actually want and need. It’s not just an accident that Minnesota does so well. It’s had a long history of sensible, progressive policies that have made the state’s economy exceptionally strong.



Letters from Readers

Do we have the will to truly address climate change?

I’ve been part of the Climate Change Study Group, which has been meeting at the Ely Senior Center once a month for years now. In our reading and conversations, we are trying to understand why Earth’s climate is changing so drastically and what could be done to mitigate the damage. We decided to have a presence at the Farmers Markets this summer by adapting a fun theme from Charles Schulz’ Peanuts cartoon strip. Our sign says, “CLIMATE CHANGE ANXIETY COUNSELING- 5 CENTS.”

So, at three Farmers Markets in Whiteside Park last month, I had fun channeling Lucy van Pelt. Turns out many young adults don’t get the Peanuts reference- and hardly anyone has nickels anymore! Despite being rained out most Tuesdays, our cup to collect nickels (plus generous tips) currently holds \$7.06.

Our sign also pictured the six general responses to climate change, from “doubtful” at one end to “alarmed” at the other. People were invited to stick a pin to indicate where they are on this spectrum. The placement of pins in this unscientific sample closely matches what national polls are finding. Polls indicate that ten percent of Americans are doubtful (this box got two pins); five percent of the population is disengaged (we got no pins here, because, well, this small group is disengaged); 17 percent nationally are cautious (two pins); one-fourth of the polled public is concerned (here we had 11 votes); 33 percent identify as alarmed (12 pins). And six more folks who stopped for counseling during these Farmers Markets created a new category that someone named 100 percent alarmed.

In the face of recent record-breaking floods, heat

waves, drought, and air quality alerts due to smoke from devastating wildfires, climate change denialism is fast dying out. Most of us understand that the hour is late but that we must do what we can to slow down and mitigate the damage being caused by human activities, abetted by the short-sighted profit motive of the coal and petroleum industries.

While our Climate Change Study group is not of one mind regarding solutions (though most of us think that new generation nuclear reactors need to be built), we do agree (with the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) that dramatic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions must happen to prevent catastrophic climate consequences from upending our lives.

Elizabeth Rush, author of *Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore*, writing about the fast-melting Thwaites Glacier in West Antarctica, concludes: “To move at a glacial pace once signified a kind of mind-numbing slowness. But now the world has fallen out of sync with the metaphor.” Yes, our planet is out of sync, and our species is the one responsible. Humanity is also the only species that can make the changes and sacrifices to keep Earth habitable. We know much of what must be done to ween ourselves from fossil fuels; the question is, do we have the will?

Elton Brown
Morse Township

Get serious on climate change

Congratulations on your fine column on climate change. Wishful thinkers will say that you are exaggerating, but the science supports you. I urge your readers to download the image-rich PDF of Time to Get Serious from the right-hand column of the home page of www.tundracub.com. Then

download and read Unintended Consequences: the Lie That Killed Millions and Accelerated Climate Change from the same column. Both are FREE.

Unfortunately, some of the things we are doing to combat climate change are actually making it worse. I can speak on these issues because I work with climate change/energy/environment professionals from all around the world, and I am pleased to say that my writing has been praised by Dr. James Hansen, former chief climate scientist at NASA, now at Columbia University. Time to Get Serious is just an introduction, so be sure to read Unintended Consequences, too.

To schedule a PowerPoint presentation on these topics for your school, college or affinity group at no charge, email tundracub7@gmail.com or call 218-744-2003.

George Erickson
Eveleth

How many ways do I like the Sept. 9 issue of the

These are a few of my favorite things

Timberjay? It’s in my mailbox on Sept. 10.

It includes Nett Lake news! It makes sense out of what’s happening in the rice beds.

Draft horses! Broadband news.

A great and memorable picture of Mr. Bonaccikoski with eminently fair and even-handed coverage.

More stuff explaining powwow traditions!!

All this, plus a great set of pics and description of my favorite bird.

I think I’m in love. Must be the ink seeping through my fingertips.

Thank you.
Dave Porter
Minneapolis

When pumping gas became a life-changing experience

When it comes to the world of work, for the most part I’ve been a very fortunate soul. From Dodge City to Chicago, from St. Louis to Los Angeles, and from hometown Marion to my newest home in the North Country, I’ve had terrific



DAVID COLBURN

opportunities and outstanding colleagues to work with. Sure, some stops were better than others, but I wouldn’t trade a one of them for something else.

I’ve always been one who tries to look at the job I have in the here and now as the best one I’ve ever had, and my colleagues here at the *Timberjay* have made that exceptionally easy to do. I’ve hit the journalistic jackpot.

But when I look back on my

life, which I seem to be doing more and more frequently as I draw ever closer to joining the ranks of Medicare recipients, there’s one job that always stands out above the rest, for without it, my life would have been very, very different indeed.

That job came during my early college days in the late 1970s. After spending the first two summers in college returning home to work at the local paper, I’d decided I wanted to stay in Lawrence, Kan. that summer, and to do so I needed gainful

employment. An old family friend and mentor thought he might have a possibility, and the next day he took me to the place where he filled his car with gas, the Standard Oil full-service station next to the Ramada Inn.

The owner, Art Rockhold, was a stocky fellow in his early 40s with a ruddy complexion, a haircut reminiscent of The Three Stooges’ Moe. His gregarious demeanor and dedication to his customers made Ramada Standard a place folks would drive an extra mile and more for.

He was a bit skeptical, given my lack of experience in such work, but he trusted my friend and he hired me.

My base pay was \$2.90 an hour, the minimum wage at the time, but I earned commission on the total number of gallons I pumped and the air filters, oil changes, etc. that I sold. I wasn’t a salesman, but from Art I learned how to develop good relationships with customers that led to sales without trying to sell

See **EXPERIENCE**, pg. 5

Letters from Readers

Facing religious foundation of racism

SPIRITUAL IS THE FAITH THAT SPEAKS TRUTHABOUTPOWER. “Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from religious conviction,” warned Blaise Pascal (1670). Racial, religious and cultural supremacy combined into a wicked brew of plunder in 15th

Century Europe during the Age of Exploration. Recently, Pope Francis apologized to Canadians for forced assimilation of indigenous children in residential schools and church involvement in European colonization.

PULL BACK CURTAINS OF DELUSION, SEE THOSE UNSEEN AND INVISIBLE.DumDiversus (1452), a Papal decree instructed Portuguese explorers to invade Africa,

vanquish and subdue all Saracens(Muslims),pagans and enemies of Christ, enslave them, steal their possessions and property. The Doctrine of Christian Discovery (1493), justified conquest, colonization and conversion in theAmericas in the name of Christian dominance and superiority.

RESIST UNJUST EXERCISE OF POWER, EXPOSE THE OPPRESSOR.

These decrees set the stage for “honoring”

Christopher Columbus. Exploredlands occupied by non-Christian “inferiors” were deemed vacant.

Religious hubris declared Christians as “bearers of civilization” to justify dehumanization of non-Christians. Indigenous people without rights, became alien occupants in their native land.

BREAK THE SILENCE, GIVE VOICE TOTHEUNHEARDAND FORGOTTEN.Prior to the 15th Century, reference to

race in literature would be a rare find. Racism, a pernicious idea was invented to justify slavery and genocide. Eurocentrism explains the arrogance of European White Christian culture as superior to all indigenous unbelievers everywhere in the world. Just who were the brutes?

NURTURE HUMAN IMAGINATION, EMPOWER FOR THE GREATER GOOD. The Doctrine of Christian Discovery must be offi-

cially revealed,refuted and repudiated. “Lost, stolen and strayed” history keeps us from confronting past truths necessary for understanding where we are and how we got here. Human decency requires renunciation of the Discovery Doctrine’s historic and continued legacy in the Americas.

Harold Honkola Stillwater

SBA offers disaster loan help in International Falls

REGIONAL - Homeowners,renters,business owners, nonprofits, and faith-based organizations impacted by summer flooding now have a temporary option in International Falls to consult in person with a Small Business Administration (SBA) representative about loan assistance programs.

An SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center with five SBA staff has been set up at the Voyageurs National Park Headquarters at 360 Hwy. 11 East in International Falls, according to park superintendent Bob DeGross.

Temporary office will close Thursday, Sept. 22

SBA representatives will be available at the outreach center to review loan options and conditions and help people with their applications. The outreach center is open weekdays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. through Thursday, Sept. 22, when it will close permanently. Representatives will also be available at the center 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17

Counties whose residents are eligible for loans to cover uncompensated disaster-caused

damages include St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, Beltrami, and Lake of the Woods.

Low-interest loans covering business physical disaster, economic injury disaster, or home disaster are available for qualified individuals and entities. Applicants must have a credit history acceptable to SBA, demonstrate the ability to repay the loans, and provide collateral for physical loss loans and economic injury loans in excess of \$25,000. SBA does not

decline loans for lack of collateral but requires a pledge of what is available.

More information about the outreach center’s services can be obtained by contacting Courtney Smith at 202-945-7510 or courtney.smith@sba.gov.

An online portal for more detailed information about loan options and to submit applications is available at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/>.

BULLYING...Continued from page 3

how people treat each other and how people see each other,” she said.

Dick discussed a flowchart the district has developed to guide the response of staff to bullying depending on the circumstances involved, including when to involve particular support personnel, such as student and family advocates or mental health professionals.

The discussion was far reaching as principals got fully engaged, providing a range of information from examples of how they have investigated and addressed specific bullying incidents to an overview of a positive behavioral support system that reduces incidents of bullying and other negative behaviors.

“We’re proactive with our kids in telling them what our expectations are,” said North Woods Principal John Vukmanich. “We’re more up front with them about what we expect them to do.”

As the discus-

sion wrapped up, board members appeared satisfied that the district has a system and additional support personnel to intervene when bullying occurs.

“As a board, we certainly wanted to do something when this was brought to our attention,” Larson said. “It was brought to administration’s attention, too, so I think things are being done.”

Meal change

Students who don’t have money in their food accounts will no longer be served alternate meals that don’t include the main entrée when the board takes up a new meals policy presented by Engebritson at Tuesday’s meeting.

“One of the things the (Minnesota School Boards Association) asked is that we make sure we have this policy in place, and I don’t think we do,” Engebritson said. “It talks about not shaming kids that don’t have money in their account. So, we would give

every child the same meal, whether they have money in their account or not.”

Alerts will be sent to parents when there is \$10, \$0, and -\$10 in their child’s account, and district staff will make personal contacts to help parents apply for the free and reduced meals program if they are eligible, Engebritson said. Staff have already been doing so, but the practice will be encoded in the policy.

If a child’s negative account balance continues to grow, Engebritson said the district would initiate collection activities at a certain point to recoup the losses, but the child will still receive full meals.

The board will act on the policy at its next business meeting.

Engebritson also reviewed the district’s Safe Return to Learning Plan to mitigate COVID-19.

Face coverings will be optional for students, staff, and visitors. There will be no distancing requirements in school buildings or on

transportation. Students and staff are required to stay home or to leave school if they become sick during the day, and may not return until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication.

“There are no requirements from the CDC, there are recommendations,” Engebritson said. “We’ll follow the recommendations if somebody’s sick.”

Board member Chris Koivisto asked what learning accommodations would be made for students who are being kept at home during their illness. Engebritson said there won’t be any special accommodations, although parents are welcome to come to the school to talk with teachers and get materials.

“We’d pick up where they left off (when they return),” Engebritson said. “They’re home because they’re sick, so we would just pick up like a kid who has the flu who was at home.”

EXPERIENCE...Continued from page 4

them something they didn’t really need. Those are skills I’ve used throughout my career.

Art’s promise to teach me some auto mechanics didn’t materialize quite the way I thought it would. For a long while, my mechanical skills began and ended with oil changes. But I watched and learned, and the second summer I was there, a customer came in with a carburetor float that needed to be replaced. Art wasn’t there, but I hesitated only slightly before tackling the job myself. I never felt more nervous than when that carburetor was disassembled, and never more accomplished when it was back together and running perfectly. Art was startled to find out I’d done it, but from then on, he started teaching me more. From that I gained the confidence to take on unfamiliar things, mechanical and otherwise, by preparing well, proceeding thoughtfully, and not being afraid to ask for help if I found myself in over my head.

Treating customers with genuine value and respect as we checked their oil and washed their windows wasn’t just good for sales, it was just the

right thing to do when you were working for Art. Like anyone, Art had his quirks, but he genuinely had the best interests of his customers, particularly his regulars, at heart. He was trusted and respected for that, and I’ve always tried to emulate him in that regard.

And I didn’t know there on the gas station drive, but the relationship I established with one of our customers would literally be life changing.

I knew Elizabeth Goetz only as my favorite customer, the one who always had a smile and a kind word when she pulled up to the pump, the one who always treated me as a real person and not just some gas jockey. The other guys at the station learned not to even try to race me when “Mo” pulled up to the pump. We got along terrifically.

I’d taken a semester off college, having no real direction after running through majors in journalism, political science, and music education, but decided I should get back into classes. I reluctantly quit the gas station job and enrolled full time for that fall semester, with a schedule that included a class called Children in Modern

Society. I took it simply because it had a reputation as an “easy A” class, and I was in sore need of some easy A’s.

Halfway through the semester, who should walk in to do a guest lecture but my favorite customer, Elizabeth Goetz, who turned out to be the director of the child development lab school and professor at the university! I was fascinated by her lecture, and before I could get up out of my chair when she was finished, she rushed over to say hello. And after we talked for a few moments, she invited me to be a teacher aide in the preschool lab classroom she supervised. Surprised, I said yes.

What started out as an hour a day two days a week turned into three hours a day four days a week by the end of the semester – I was hooked on early childhood ed! I finished my undergraduate degree that next year, taking 22 credits one semester and 23 the next to be on track to enroll in graduate school. My early college years were so bad that I didn’t have the minimum GPA to be admitted, but that didn’t matter. Elizabeth Goetz personally

sponsored my application, got me admitted, and took me on as her master’s student. I supervised that same classroom I’d started in for two years and did my thesis research working closely with her. And when I graduated in 1985, I was off on a grand professional adventure that lasted over 25 years.

And that was the most important lesson I learned from working at the gas station. Treat people you meet with respect and value them for who they are, not what they do. Mo Goetz and I had no clue there at the pumps that our paths would cross in such a significant way. We were just two people who learned to like and respect each other from our regular brief encounters, enough so for her to later trust me with her classroom and me to trust her that she wasn’t making a grand mistake.

Subscribe to the TIMBERJAY! Call 218-753-2950



Highway collision injures two

VERMILION LAKE TWP- A two-car collision at about 2:30 p.m. Tuesday afternoon on Hwy. 169 at the junction of County Rd. 77 resulted in injuries to both drivers that required medical attention.

Seventy-four-year-old Marion Lois Brakke was turning from County Rd. 77 when her 2016 Jeep Patriot struck a southbound 2022 Toyota Corolla driven by Lynne Marie Stuckey, 61, of Tower.

Both women were wearing seat belts and their airbags deployed, according to a Minnesota State Patrol report. They were both taken to Essentia Health-Virginia hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The MSP report did not specify which agency provided transportation.

St. Mary’s ♦ St. Martin’s ♦ Holy Cross

Parishes will be hosting a Religious Education & Family Faith Formation Open House

Wednesday, September 28 • 5-6:30 PM St. Mary’s in Cook • Dinner will be served

Registration is now open to children ages 4-18. Classes will be held Wednesday evenings at St. Mary’s in Cook from 6-7:30 PM beginning October 5. Meals will be offered before classes.

For more information, please contact Emily Koch at emily.koch@duluthcatholic.org

FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

provided by

Ely Community Health Center

Thursday evenings 5:30-7 p.m.

111 S 4th Ave E, Ely

- No appointment necessary -

Contact us for more information

218-365-5678 or email us

director@elycommunityhealth.org



the TIMBERJAY

Copyright © 2022 by The Timberjay. The Timberjay (PN 16025) is published weekly on Fridays, 51 weeks per year, by The Timberjay Inc., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Business/Editorial Office at 414 Main St., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Call (218) 753-2950 to subscribe. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Periodicals postage paid at Tower, Minnesota.

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

This award-winning community newspaper published each week serves the communities of Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

Publisher	Marshall Helmberger
General Manager	Jodi Summit
Cook/Orr Editor	David Colburn
Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
Office Manager	Michelle Toutloff
Office Staff	Sharon Legg
Staff Writer	Rachel Brophy
Graphics/Ad Sales	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Ad Sales/Sports	Jay Greeney

Official Newspaper:

City of Tower, Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, Crane Lake, Kabetogama, Greenwood, ISD 707.

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

Subscriptions Available:

St. Louis County: \$39 year Elsewhere: \$54 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover/AmEx. NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$100 year or \$10 per month.

Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$29.95/year; details and payment at www.timberjay.com.

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

Week of Sept. 19

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

Tuesday
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:00 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Sept. 20.

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

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.

Historical society to hold board meeting
SOUDAN- Tower-Soudan Historical Society will hold its regularly scheduled board meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 1:30 p.m. at Breitung Community Center in Soudan. The meeting is open to the public, and guests are welcome. Please come and show your support for TSHS.

Meet and greet with sheriff candidate Gordon Ramsay
TOWER- There will be a change to meet St. Louis County Sheriff candidate Gordon Ramsay on Wednesday, Sept. 28 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Benchwarmer’s in Tower. The public is invited to come and meet Ramsay and learn about his vision for a safer St. Louis County.

Civic Club meets Sept. 21
TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Civic Club will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower. This month’s program features Lois Pajari of Cook’s Country Connection, a petting zoo/farm that hosts events for all ages. Coffee an’ will be served after the program. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Order by Sept. 16 for Pasties Sale
TOWER- St. Martin’s is getting ready for their Annual Pasties Fundraiser. Orders are due by 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, Tower, MN, 55790.

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.

BACK TO SCHOOL IN TOWER



First day of Kindergarten...

Tower-Soudan Kindergarteners pose for a class picture on their first day of school. Below: Ella eats her breakfast.
photos by J. Summit



Vermilion Lake Township potluck on Sunday, Sept. 18
VERMILION LAKE TWP- Vermilion Lake Township is once again holding its annual potluck get-together. All township residents and friends are invited to the town hall on Sunday Sept. 18 from 4-7 p.m. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. at Vermilion Lake Town Hall, 6703 Wahlsten Rd. Bring a casserole dish, salad, or dessert to share. Township officials will be grilling polish, brats, and hot dogs. Any questions, please contact one the Town Board Members: Phil Anderson at 218-749-3462, Frank Zobitz at 651-755-5946, Tim Hughes at 218-753-3547, Steven Lotz at 218-753-4129, or Crystal Alaspa at 218-750-4752.

Kronholm to lead worship service at St. James on Sept. 18
TOWER- On Sunday, Sept. 18, Linda Kronholm will lead the worship service at St. James Presbyterian Church at 10 a.m. Kronholm, as always, will bring a very special message to the congregation. The service will be followed by coffee an’. All are welcome to attend. At 10 a.m., Jayne Sundeen leads the church’s Sunday School class. All children ages five years and older are encouraged to attend. Any questions, please call 218-753-6005.

Community Choir to begin rehearsals Oct. 3
TOWER- The first signs of autumn mean it’s time to get ready for Christmas and the holiday season. The Tower-Soudan Area Singers will begin rehearsals on Monday, Oct. 3 at 6 p.m. in the Tower Elementary School music room. Plans include outdoor caroling in Tower and Soudan, and a concert on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in the Tower School gym. So, community members are invited to join the merry group of area residents who just enjoy sharing their time and skills in song. If you need more information, call Rolf Anderson at 218-753-3262.

Big Truck Night and TS Elementary Spirit Day
TOWER-SOUDAN- Tower-Soudan Elementary is hosting School Spirit Day on Tuesday, Sept. 27 from 3 – 5 p.m. Stop by the school for games and the book fair. Then travel to the Breitung Recreation Area (skating rink area) from 4 – 6 p.m. for Big Truck Night and a free meal featuring hot dogs. The school will be running a bus from the school to the park and back. These events are open to all area families. Early Childhood Family Education begins on Thursday, Sept. 22. These classes are for families with children ages infant to five-years old. This adult and child class meets on Thursdays from 9 – 11 a.m. For more information on ECFE call 218-749-8130 ext. 6308.

TOWER-SOUDAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
TSHS Annual meeting set for Tuesday, Sept. 27

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Historical Society promises attendees a fun and educational annual meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27 with speaker Tucker Nelson, a “Best Bid” opportunity to win several wonderful pieces of historical art, and a chance to win prizes during a short but fun game of “History Jeopardy.” The event will be held at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower. Nelson, of Virginia, is the editor of *Hometown Focus*, where he writes frequently about local history. He will share his historical presentation “A River Relic: The Rise and Fall of the Pike River Power Plant”. The presentation is free and open to the public with dinner for \$25 per person to follow. Advance dinner reservations are requested by Sept. 20. Please call or text 218-750-0193 or 715-558-5391 to reserve your dinner reservation, which will be payable that evening. Attendees who are members of the Tower-Soudan Historical Society will be able to bid on a framed photograph of the Pike River Dam, the topic of Nelson’s presentation. In addition, two other pieces of framed art, an Isle of Pines Bridge photograph and a framed reproduction of an iconic vintage 1929 Arrowhead map. Carol Ferguson, summer resident on Pine Island, generously donated the photograph, and

Louise Gately, TSHS Advisory Board member, donated the map, which was beautifully framed by Dan Julkowski of Northwoods True Value. “Best Bid” is not a silent auction or a live auction. It is a user-friendly means of simply determining what you are willing to pay for each of the pieces of historical art and placing your bid in an envelope and into the designated basket of the art piece you desire. “Best Bids” can be placed prior to and after Nelson’s presentation. You must be present to win as the winners will be announced following dinner and the brief annual meeting. You must be a member of the Tower-Soudan Historical Society to bid. If you are currently not a member, be sure to purchase a membership.. Memberships are \$10 single and \$20 family and may be paid at the dinner meeting. Be sure to brush up on your local Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion history. If there is a tie for the Best Bid item, the winner will be determined by correctly answering a fun question about our local history in a game of History Jeopardy. There will also be three warm-up “demonstration-rounds” of History Jeopardy for volunteers from the audience, and prizes for them, prior to the announcement of winners.

An iconic map and its interesting history
The Arrowhead map, with 12 panels chronicling the Arrowhead from the “Age of Stone to the Age of Steel”, is a colorful and meticulously detailed map packed with stories of Native American lore, French Canadian explorers, and some fun



Louise Gately (left) and Cathy Wright show off the items that will be available for bid at the meeting.
facts and sketches. The map came about in 1929 when two Hibbing librarians and three schoolteachers researched and created the map, which was printed off copper plates as a scholarship fundraiser for the local branch of the American Association of University Women. Raremaps.com, a California-based website, calls the Arrowhead map “one of the better pictorials from the Upper Midwest that we have encountered, and rare to boot.” The story behind the five mapmakers is fascinating as well. Directing the project was Dorothy Hurlbert, a Hibbing librarian from 1915 to 1933 who was president of the Minnesota Library Association when the map was made in 1929. A year earlier, she had resigned and was quickly reinstated during what the Minneapolis Star called a “heated controversy” among library board members over an unsubstantiated charge that she was uncooperative. Hurlbert is remembered today for more than those squabbles and a cool map. She’s widely credited with creating perhaps the nation’s first bookmobile in 1919. Hoping to reach book-hungry Iron Range miners and loggers, Hurlbert packed 1,200 books on a two-ton, 35-horsepower truck chassis that covered 160 square miles. In its first year, the mobile library delivered nearly 50,000 volumes. Within a decade, it was serving 11 schools, 10 rural communities and 16 mining locations. The 1930 census records Hurlbert as 46, single and living on 4th Avenue in Hibbing with her younger sister Nina and a household “partner,” fellow librarian Irma Walker. As the map’s chief researcher, Walker scoured hundreds of books for months. Hibbing High School art teachers Irene Anderson and Katherine Arnquist provided artwork for the map’s border. Nothing could be found on Anderson, but Arnquist died in 2001 at age 97 in St. Paul. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1926 and married Charles Bane, a college psychology and philosophy instructor. Outliving him by 38 years, she spent much of her time at Birch Point on Lake Vermilion. Ethel Stewart, president of the Hibbing branch of the AAUW, was in charge of the map’s printing. Born Ethel Hall in New York in 1879, she moved as a child to St. Paul, where her father ran a furniture factory. She attended Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and married her childhood sweetheart, Clarence Stewart, an electrical engineer who worked on Iron Range schools and the power plant in Hibbing. In the 1920s, Ethel worked as a substitute teacher in Hibbing, spending her leisure time doing historical research. Just after she printed the map, Ethel returned to St. Paul, where she’s credited with preserving the Gibbs Farm as a historical museum – and in the process helped convert St. Anthony Park’s historical association into the Ramsey County Historical Society. This history surrounding the map comes from Curt Brown of the Star Tribune.



TOWER FARMERS MARKET

Fridays 4-6 PM

at the
Train Depot
in Tower

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

Ely Winter Festival donates to Ely schools music program

ELY- Each year since 2018, the Ely Winter Festival has donated \$1 from the sale of each EWF pin to an arts program at the Ely Public Schools. This year, they have donated \$600 to the choral music program. The school board has accepted the gift with gratitude.

The Ely Winter Festival Board has in the past donated the proceeds to the visual arts and instru-

Pictured from left are: EWF board chair Lynn Evenson, Mike Rouse, Ely schools music teacher, and EWF board member Sue Edgington.



IN SEARCH OF...

Northern Lights Clubhouse needs new home and help

ELY- Northern Lights Clubhouse (Clubhouse) hopes to find a new place to call home within the coming ten months and is calling on the Ely community for some help. The Clubhouse, which is a program of Well Being Development (WBD), makes a difference in the Ely community by helping people challenged with mental health and addictions live fulfilling lives. Clubhouse works to decrease isolation, increase skills, and improve overall wellness. Clubhouse also works in concert with Pathways to Wellness care facilitator service and in collab-

oration with the Ely Behavioral Health Network.

The Clubhouse is currently located under the Ely Bowling Alley, but the lease is up next summer. The Ely community can help to find a home that supports Clubhouse programming and houses administrative activities. At Clubhouse attendees gather for shared meals, learn together with activities like book club and presentations, create together through activities like cooking, art, and gardening, and develop friendships, experience nature, and participate in mindfulness activities together.

Clubhouse is looking for space for cooking, a table to sit around, and a room to gather that supports Clubhouse activities and events. There is also a need for private space that can be used by the care facilitator to meet with clients to connect them with resources, work with individuals to develop their goals, and support them as they take steps toward their goals. Clubhouse hopes to have additional space for Well Being Development and Behavioral Health Network staff to use for administration activities. Because one of the challenges that Clubhouse members face is

getting around town, the location of Clubhouse matters. Clubhouse hopes to find a home that is within 2-3 blocks of Sheridan Street.

WBD’s programs seek to make sure that people in the community are supported in ways that help them live their best lives.

If you have a house or building to rent or are able to donate to Well Being Development, please contact the office at 218-235-6104, or give Executive Director, Kap Wilkes, a call at 218-206-6318 or email at kapw@elywbd.org.



Moss Erzar brought Chungy along to check out the new school additions.

Welcome Back!

ELY - Ely’s back to school open house on Thursday, Sept. 8 offered students and parents a first look at new additions to the school, an opportunity to drop off school supplies, learn locker combinations and catch up with friends.



Coco and her mom Cameo Gilson get ready to check out the new school before 6th grade orientation.

CONFRONTING INEQUITY

Unhappy hour at Northern Grounds on Sept. 20

ELY- For more than 25 years, Equal Pay Day has helped draw attention to gender-based pay disparities by highlighting how far into a new year a woman must work, on average, to earn what a man did in the previous year, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics.

This year, the Ely Branch of AAUW will host a BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) ‘Unhappy Hour’ on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at Northern Grounds from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

In past years, the event has taken place on a designated Equal Pay Day earlier in the year that points out the average of all women’s compensation in relation to that of white men. This calculation doesn’t account for the variation in earnings based on a woman’s race, a factor that makes a huge difference.

Taken on average, women reached pay equity with men in 2022 by working until March 15 and earned 83 cents on the dollar in comparison. But for women of color the discrepancy is much more severe. For example:

- Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Women’s Equal Pay Day falls on May 3 (paid 75 cents on the dollar compared to white men).
- Black Women’s Equal Pay Day falls on September 21 (paid 58 cents on the dollar compared to white men).
- Native American Women’s Equal Pay Day falls on November 30 (paid 50 cents on the dollar compared to white men).
- Latina Women’s Equal Pay Day falls on December 8 (paid 49 cents on the dollar compared to white men).

Historically, Equal Pay Day has been calculated using data on full-time, year-round workers. The COVID-19 pandemic pushed many women, especially women of color, into part-time or seasonal work, or out of the workforce altogether. For 2022, the Equal Pay Day Coalition adopted a new,

more inclusive methodology to determine the date each year that signifies how far into the year women need to work to attain the income that white men made at the end of the previous year.

“The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated structural economic inequalities that have made it much harder for women of color to weather this storm. Our nation’s history has created systems that funnel women—especially women of color—into lower-paying occupations and undervalue the work that women do,” said Pam Ransom, AAUW Ely branch public policy co-chair. “While these inequities have been magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic, the wage gap is an intentional, structural problem that demands intentional, structural solutions.”

The Ely Branch of AAUW has been actively working to promote pay equity since the early 2000s with a primary focus on educating both high school and community college students on the issue.

In 2017, AAUW added presentations to the public and an ‘Unhappy Hour’ to help educate local residents and business owners on wage gap issues. Northern Grounds has partnered with the branch to make this event an enjoyable, social and educational experience. There will be a 32% discount on beverages reflecting the Minnesota 8th District gender pay gap.

“One of the consequences of the pay gap is that the average American woman has a net worth of less than half the net worth of a man,” Ransom added. “The long term effect means less money for retirement, less paid into social security, and there are ultimately more senior women living in poverty.”

Mark your calendar to attend ‘Unhappy Hour’ on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at Northern Grounds from 4:30 to 6:00 pm to show support for ending the pay inequity women have endured for so long.

BYE BYE SUMMER

First day of school finally arrives after extended summer vacation

ELY- After the school building project caused the need for an extra week of summer vacation, Ely students finally returned to their new (and improved) school on Monday, Sept. 12. Students, many of whom arrived with their parents, navigated the new traffic loops, sidewalks and the secure entrance with smiles and enthusiasm as the first day was off to a great start with sunshine and excitement at finally being back.



Above: Brielle Lindland and Liam Lacey look ready for their junior year.

Left: Hunter and Joe Shusta are bright and early for Hunter’s first day in Ms. Roy’s classroom.

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. 20: Steve Pellinen; Recycling in Greater St. Louis Co.
- Sept. 27: Chad Brown of Love is King.
- Oct. 4: Mak Mars; Justice for Indigenous People.
- Oct. 11: Alex Falconer; Running for the Boundary Waters.

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2022

bushy-tailed squirrels busily gathering - run

world seems to be theirs

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.

ORR CITY COUNCIL

Council votes to proceed with blight enforcement

Clock finally ticking on city intervention after lengthy delay

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

ORR- A blighted house that’s been the source of longstanding complaints may finally get the cleanup it needs after Orr City Council members voted Monday to formally proceed against the owners, Jeremy Dale Morris and Eliana Villele.

Prior to the start of the council meeting, council member Tom Kennebeck, filling in for Mayor Joel Astleford, opened a public meeting regarding the condition of the property at 4720 Pine Dr. with a brief summary.

“The Orr City Council has received numerous complaints from residents regarding the accumulation of junk, vehicles, debris and trash on the property,” Kennebeck said. “To date, despite numerous requests by the City Council to remedy the blight conditions, the property owners have not abated or terminated the blighting factors.”

Doug and Sheila Whitcomb own the property at 4726 Pine Dr., adjacent to the blighted property, and while the couple could not be present for the hearing, Kennebeck read from a letter written by Doug Whitcomb.

“As we all know, this situation has been a serious problem for far too long. Several letters and personal visits to City

Hall had been made over the past few years by ourselves and others living on Pine Dr. Aside from today’s public hearing, little to no attention has been paid whatsoever.”

Whitcomb said he’s been dealing with Morris in “some negative manner” since the couple purchased their home for a summer residence in 2015.

“Everything from theft of our power to a gun shot ringing out from an apparent argument with another individual,” Whitcomb wrote. “However, it wasn’t until the spring of 2020 that we started to realize the full impact of the ongoing blight situation.”

Seeking a positive resolution, Whitcomb offered to help with clean up.

“Frankly, we were sick and tired of living next to this nightmare,” Whitcomb said, “Nothing came of that offer.”

Whitcomb said that the full extent of the blight can’t be appreciated by just driving by.

“It’s an absolute disaster and the health and safety ramifications are obvious. It’s horrible to think that his four kids were living in such filth,” he said. “The situation at 4720 Pine Dr. should have never been allowed to continue as long as it has.”

Kennebeck then opened the meeting for comments from attendees,

and Jim Gray, who lives across the street from the blighted property, spoke first.

“It’s been about a four year long process of me sending pictures and complaining. It’s just been a terrible situation. Not only the way the property is and the way it’s been mismanaged and misused and garbage thrown around, but the people and activities going on there,”he said.

Gray references multiple occasions where sheriff’s deputies have responded to the residence.

"I for one am just fed up, along with Doug, and with the whole process that needs to come to an end."

Dana Erkkila, who lives next door to the Morris property, said the problem goes beyond what one can see.

“I’m right next door and especially on some of these warmer days, the smell is unbelievable,” she said. “It’s very strong and unpleasant. With health and safety, the amount of bacteria and rotting garbage and a multitude of things, I’m also concerned as we get into fall and we have problems with raccoons and bears.”

“I don’t smell it like these folk who live right next door,” Gray said, “but if I get an east wind, I smell it.”

Council member Lloyd Scott asked if any-



A dilapidated snowmobile, a badly decaying couch, and broken chairs and toys are a small sample of the extensive blight conditions at 4720 Pine Dr. In Orr.

one knew what the interior condition of the house is like, then said, “Maybe someone could contact the county and maybe declare it unlivable and then it could be torn down.”

Given Morris’ past activities and criminal record, someone asked if anyone knew where he was. While there was some information discussed, the *Timberjay* confirmed through online court records that Morris is being held in North Dakota on a federal charge of possession and intent to distribute more than 500 grams of methamphetamine.

Kennebeck refocused the discussion on the blighted house, and there was general consensus that the city should inves-

tigate the possibility of condemning the house.

“I don’t want to make this feel like we’re going to procrastinate, but we kind of need to handle this one thing at a time,” Kennebeck said. “Right now we’re addressing things around the house.”

The council formally passed the resolution to proceed with the blight remediation process in their regular meeting. The owners will have 15 days to take corrective action, unless an injunction is sought by Morris or Villele.

Property tax levy

The entire Orr community has, like everyone, been affected by this year’s record inflation rates, and that includes

city government. And to adjust accordingly, the city will need to raise property taxes.

The resolution authorizing an eight percent increase in the maximum property tax levy specifically cited an “anticipated high rate of continued inflation” as a reason for the increase.

Passing the resolution locks in the highest possible increase at eight percent, but it can be lowered by making budget reductions before the Dec. 12 Truth-In-Taxation meeting.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

New walking club gets started in Cook

COOK- If you’re looking for a little extra push to start that exercise program you’ve been putting off, or if you want to work on your fitness in the company of supportive friends, or if you just want to walk around town and socialize, then come join the Scenic Rivers Cook Walking Club.

Hosted by Scenic Rivers Health Services, the new club will have it’s first get-together on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 4 p.m. at the Cook clinic. Participants should arrive by 3:45 p.m. to register, and all are welcome to become part of the club.

Regular meeting will be on Tuesdays and Thurs-

days, and participants will walk about 30 minutes per session. Those who remain active in the club will be eligible for a drawing to win a prize basket on Oct. 20.

For more information, call 218-666-5941 and ask for Bethany or Jessie.

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 expanded their creativity. The offerings include:

►“Open Art” Monday, Sept. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. Jody Feist will facilitate 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.

►“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.

► "Nature Writing: Autumn in the North." Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with author Dy Anne Korda.

To register for a class do so by calling Alberta at 218-666-2153 or by email to nwfamn.org@gmail.

com. The gallery is located at 210 S River St.

Art workshop will explore watercolors

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts is excited to announce a new watercolor painting workshop called “Playing With Value, Texture and Design” with award-winning instructor Mary Beth Downs on Thursday, Sept. 29 and Friday, Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cook Community Center.

The workshop will focus on planning a successful painting using design elements. There will be demonstrations to guide students in this approach. The class is perfect for all levels of painters.

Mary Beth Downs is

an artist and art instructor who began studying fine art in 1975. She pursued her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at UM-Duluth with concentrations in painting and drawing and graduated with honors in 1994. She currently teaches five classes per week at her studio in Duluth, The Art Cellar. She often gives presentations for local organizations and conducts watercolor workshops.

For more information or to sign up for the class, contact Northwood Friends of the Arts on the web at www.nwfamn.org, send an email to nwfamn.org@gmail.com, or call Alberta Whitenack at 218-666-2153.

NWFA is a membership non-profit arts organization with the goal of inspiring, nurturing

and celebrating arts in all forms in the Cook region. The NWFA Gallery at 210 S River Street offers exhibit space/sales for 30 to 40 artists year round. Open hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday the gallery opens at 9 a.m. and closes at 1 p.m..

Church to host community meal on Sept. 22

COOK- Trinity Lutheran Church of Cook will be serving a free community meal on Thursday, Sept. 22 from 4-6 p.m. The menu will be meatloaf, baked potato, corn, roll and dessert. The meal will be served drive-through style and all are welcome.

Principal welcomes new year and new staff



JOHN VUKMANICH

FIELD TWP- It is with much excitement that I welcome everyone back for the 2022-23 school year at North Woods School. There is a really positive vibe in the air starting out this fall. We welcome 11 (yes, 11!) new teachers

to our Grizzlies Family this year, along with some veteran staff in new roles.

New to North Woods as teachers are:

- Natalie Danielson, Vocal Music
- Paige Stanaslowski, Band
- Katie Mickle, 4th Grade
- Andrew Jugovich, Science
- Mathew Koch, Social Studies
- Colin Walker, Social Studies
- Dave Trandahl, Special Ed
- Shayla Zaverl, Special Ed
- Elizabeth Oberstar, Special Ed

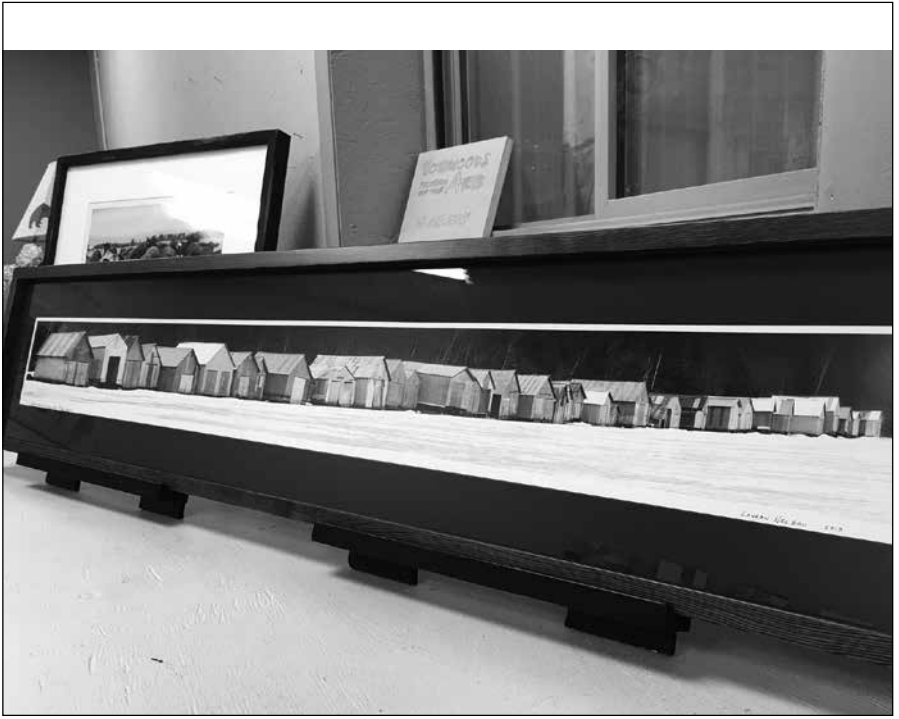
- Josh Walls, PE/Health
- Paula David, Title I

Considering familiar faces in new roles, we have Stacy Palmer taking over our Indigenous Education Department, Bruce Black returning to the Vocational Department, and Anne Christiansen stepping into her new role as Dean of Students.

We also have a new secretary, Gwyn Storm, and new nurse, Jessica Huffman. Jordan Villebrun returns in the math department after beginning his role with us at the midpoint of last year. Megan Nemec, who began her role at Student and Family Advocate last May, also returns to North Woods for the new school year.

In addition to working hard to make sure our students receive a first-class education, we will be focusing on student and staff wellness. I will be working hard with all of our school staff to ensure the best possible environment for our students and staff. I will be sharing the positive things happening at North Woods weekly on our Facebook site and in my articles, so stay tuned!

GALLERY EXHIBIT



The familiar sight of boathouses creatively captured through the lens of Lauren Nelson is among the many works of art on display in a three-artist exhibition at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook. Nelson’s “Photographs - Relics of The Past” exhibit is complemented by “Bold Strokes.... My Love of Unpredictable Color” by Brenna Kohlhasse and “Pen and Pencil Drawings: Digital Ink Jet Prints” by Sterling Rouleau. The exhibit continues through Sept. 30. submitted photo

IRON RANGE FISCAL DISPARITIES DISTRICT

Regional tax pool trims distributions to area cities

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- Property owners across the North Country and St. Louis County could wind up with an unpleasant surprise when they receive their property tax statement this year, courtesy of a little known and less understood thing called the fiscal disparity program.

The Iron Range Fiscal Disparities (IRFD) Program was established in 1996 to share the commercial-industrial tax base in the “taconite assistance area” that covers portions of St. Louis,Itasca,Cook,Lake,Aitkin, and Crow Wing counties, with the overall intent of spreading the benefits of regional business development. Based on a similar program in the Twin Cities metro area,the intent was to equalize the distribution of fiscal resources in the region,and reduce the compe-

Property owners will feel the effects on their 2023 tax bills

tion among communities.

Every year, each municipality in the covered counties that participates in the program starts with the commercial-industrial tax base it had in 1995 and calculates how much growth it has experienced up to the current year. Forty percent of that is then contributed to the fiscal disparity pool. Through a complex set of calculations done by St. Louis County, the program’s administrator, and the Minnesota Department of Revenue, the total pool is reallocated and redistributed to municipalities based on population and their relative property tax wealth.

It’s not a cash distribution. Rather, the distribution value calculated for a community becomes part of the tax base that towns and cities draw upon when

they set their levies. As with any redistribution program, some communities get back less than their contribution to the pool and others get more. Traditionally, St. Louis County communities in the district have gotten back more than they put in, and that’s helped to reduce the property taxes that residents in those communities pay.

That will be the case again in 2023, but the distribution values are going to be less this year, in some cases dramatically less, a fact St. Louis County Tax Division Manager Brandon Larson relayed to program participants in a Sept. 1 email.

“Due to a variety of factors, most of St. Louis County is going to be receiving a lot less from the fiscal disparity pools to help offset levies.” Larson wrote. “This

means that your general taxpayers will be having to pay a higher local tax rate than what they did last year in order to satisfy any levies that you certify. So even if you keep your levy at a zero percent levy increase, taxpayers in your cities will be paying more in taxes than they did in Pay 2022 as less of your certified levy is being offset from these monies.”

Ely has traditionally been a major beneficiary of the program. In 2022, the city of Ely received \$453,339.56 in distribution value from the pool, which helped to hold down property taxes in the city. But next year, Ely will benefit to the tune of \$268,266.38, a drop of over \$185,000 from this year and that’s money that local taxpayers will have to make up.

Ely City Clerk Harold Langowski described his reaction

when he received Larson’s email.

“You never know where it’s going to fall out, if it’s going to be up or down,” Langowski said. “But when Brandon sent me that information, I think I called him within 15 minutes. I sent an email back saying, ‘Whoa, wait a minute, what’s going on here? And how did this happen?’ It was extremely disappointing. It’s certainly going to have a detrimental effect on people’s tax bills, and it’s something we can’t control.”

Tower saw an increase of about \$10,680 this year, but will see a \$19,000 reduction for 2023. The city of Cook will see a \$33,355 reduction for 2023. In Orr, the \$24,000 they received for 2022 was nearly a \$4,000 increase over the year before. But now Orr

See...TAXES pg. 12

MINE PLAN...Continued from page 1

spent more than two years analyzing the information submitted by the company, but never concluded that the information was complete enough to issue a draft scoping document.

Barb Naramore, a DNR assistant commissioner, said it is not uncommon for her agency and a proposer of a major project to have several rounds of comments and responses before the agency is ready to issue a draft scope, which forms the foundation for an environmental impact statement. As it stands today, some significant issues between the DNR and the company remain unresolved.

At Twin Metals’ request, the DNR halted its initial analysis of the MPO last February after the Biden administration canceled two federal mineral leases critical to the project. It’s that administration decision that is being challenged in the lawsuit filed by Twin Metals last month. Yet even were Twin Metals successful in its legal efforts, which appears unlikely, it’s still not clear they have a viable mine plan that regulators could review.

Indeed, the DNR has already informed Twin Metals that it is unlikely to allow the company to site its proposed tailings facility on state lands, as called for in the latest MPO. “Based on information available to date, the DNR has determined that Twin Metals’ currently proposed location for its tailings facility would potentially encumber School Trust mineral resources,” wrote DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen in a Feb. 15, 2022, letter to Twin Metals CEO Kelly Osborne. “Furthermore, the DNR believes this use would pose an unacceptable financial risk to the state and potentially to the School Trust Fund. The DNR has notified the Office of School Trust Lands of our concerns with the proposed tailings facility location,” concluded Strommen.

Much of the DNR’s concern regarding the safety of the tailings stems from Twin Metals’ proposal to utilize so-called “dry stacking” of its tailings. The company has touted its proposal to use dry stacking as a safer method of tailings disposal, but the DNR concluded as recently as 2018 that dry stacking is not appropriate given northern Minnesota’s wet climate. In a detailed, 67-page dam safety finding and order issued by the DNR in regards to PolyMet Mining’s proposed NorthMet copper-nickel

mine, the DNR concluded that dry stacking may be a sound option in an arid or arctic climate, but not in Minnesota.

“In a wet climate, dry stacking has major environmental disadvantages,” concluded the DNR. “Maintaining dry stacked tailings as “dry” in areas with substantial precipitation and/or a high-water table is difficult. Once exposed to rain or snow, the dry stack becomes wet, so most of the benefits of dry stacking are lost. Dry stacked tailings that become wet again (but are not submerged) are subject to oxidation and leaching of heavy metals. As precipitation then intermittently washes through the tailings, those heavy metals and other constituents may be washed into surrounding soils and nearby water bodies.”

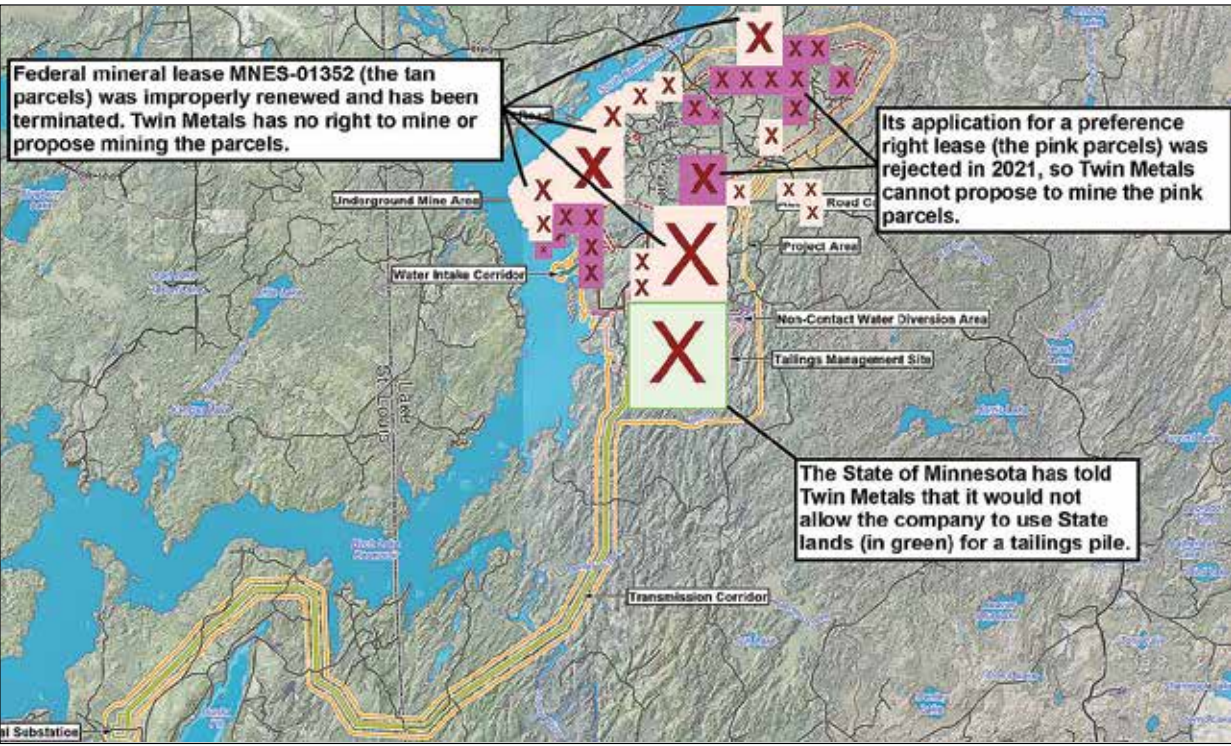
In congressional testimony earlier this summer, Julie Padilla, Twin Metals’ chief regulatory officer, argued in written testimony to the House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources that the mine had “no potential for acid rock drainage,” (emphasis in the original), although she appeared to walk that back in her oral testimony to the committee.

The DNR’s Naramore says her agency has not confirmed the company’s claims. And given the state’s expressed concerns about the proposed location and the method of tailings disposal, it appears state regulators are skeptical at the very least.

So are other experts in acid drainage. During a Senate hearing this summer, Dr. Paul Ziemkiewicz, Director of the West Virginia Water Research Institute, acknowledged under questioning that the Twin Metals mine and its tailings posed an almost inevitable risk. “By definition, it’ll be wet enough to generate acid mine drainage,” he told senators. Other well-regarded experts in the field have concluded in published studies that the proposed mine posed a substantial risk of polluting downstream waters, given the complex geology and abundant water in the region.

For Twin Metals’ critics, the concerns of the DNR and other experts simply confirm their own doubts about the company’s claims regarding the potential for acid rock drainage and suggest the company’s claims to have a sound and viable plan are little more than corporate spin.

“The propaganda pitch by Antofagasta’s Twin



A map recently produced by the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters highlights the many challenges faced by the current mine plan produced by Twin Metals.

Metals and its allies is as baseless as their lawsuit,” stated Becky Rom, national chair of the Ely-based Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters. “They demand environmental review of a hypothetical mining project that is not viable. It doesn’t possess the leases it depends on and, thanks to the wisdom of Gov. Walz’s administration in prohibiting the use of state land, it has no place to put its toxic tailings.”

Twin Metals cites the work of Rens Verburg, of Golder Associates, a well-known expert on acid mine drainage, who argues that not all sulfide-bearing rock is the same. “The ARD potential of mine materials is determined by the balance between the acid generation potential of a material (i.e. sulfide concentration) and the neutralization potential,” according to an executive summary of a paper produced by Verburg on behalf of Twin Metals. Verburg said his analysis of the sulfide ores at Twin Metals’ Maturi deposit found that the most abundant type of ore, known as copper sulfide chalcopyrite, oxidizes at a slower rate than other types of sulfide and may not generate acid upon oxidation given its higher potential for neutralizing acid. “As such, the potential for [acid rock drainage] generation of the Maturi deposit due to sulfide oxidation is much lower than other types of deposits containing sulfide,” he concludes. Verburg subsequently produced an editorial for Twin Metals that highlighted his conclusions, which was used in Twin Metals’ public relations efforts.

DNR experts have made it clear that while they recognize that some of the minerals that Twin Metals

hopes to mine do have some buffering capacity, they appear far from agreement on how much and on how long that buffering capacity might last. In the end, DNR’s experts appear to agree that the material in question will eventually leach acid— it’s only a matter of time.

A long-term DNR-commissioned study of acid drainage potential on the Duluth Complex, where the proposed Twin Metals mine would be located, cautioned that only long-term analysis, like that undertaken for the DNR study, can provide any real certainty about the potential for acid drainage. “Emphasizing this point, drainage pH from one sample was circumneutral for 800 weeks (or 15 years) and then acidified, reaching a minimum pH of 3.8,” noted the study. That study also found considerable variability in test results, depending on whether samples were tested in the field or in a laboratory.

Financial questions

In any analysis of a proposed mine, the financial viability of the operations is critical to ensuring that the mine doesn’t become a financial liability to taxpayers either during operation or after closure. While the DNR does not require financial projections as part of the environmental review portion of permitting, it does look closely at financial viability before issuing key permits since the company would need to demonstrate its project would generate sufficient cash flow to finance a closure plan and other identified mitigations.

Not every agency takes that approach, however. In fact, the U.S. Forest Service declined to include a possible underground operation

as a studied alternative in the environmental review of PolyMet’s NorthMet project back in the 2000s because the agency concluded an underground operation was not economically viable.

Twin Metals’ own documents have raised doubts about the financial viability of its underground operation. Financial estimates released by Twin Metals in 2014 as part of a prefeasibility study (known as an NI 43-101) showed economically marginal returns on an earlier version of their mine plan. Stock in Twin Metals’ former parent company, Duluth Metals, collapsed in the wake of the release of the plan and the subsequent announcement by Antofagasta, which had been the project’s primary financial backer, that it would not exercise an option to buy a greater share of the company. Antofagasta later purchased outstanding shares in the company for pennies on the dollar, assuming primary ownership of the venture.

The latest mine plan calls for more limited production, of approximately 20,000 tons per day (tpd), compared to the 50,000 tpd production rate analyzed in the 2014 prefeasibility study.

Twin Metals did not directly respond to questions on its financial projections or whether any have been completed. Company spokesperson Kathy Graul noted that the company’s environmental review is currently on pause and that any need for such projections as part of the permitting process would likely be “years away.”

Even so, mining ventures are often eager to tout good economic data. PolyMet, for example, has publicly issued at least

three financial estimates since 2008. While the most recent projections showed a substantial decline in overall profitability and return-on-investment than earlier versions, all three of its projections surpassed the marginal returns contained in Twin Metals’ 2014 NI 43-101 report.

Investment lost?

Twin Metals representatives have made note in the media as well as in legal filings that the company has invested more than \$500 million over the past decade to advance their project. The vast majority of that investment was made by Antofagasta, a foreign multinational company that has generated nearly \$50 billion in revenue over that same period.

While Twin Metal’s original parent company, Duluth Metals, did attract a limited amount of small investor dollars prior to 2014, those investments were lost primarily as a result of Antofagasta’s strategic moves in the wake of the issuance of the prefeasibility study and would not be recovered even if the mine were to move forward.

Critics of the mine proposal express little sympathy for any lost investment on the part of Antofagasta. Rom noted that the NI 43-101 report that Twin Metals issued in 2014 clearly stated that the renewal of its two federal leases was discretionary on the part of the Bureau of Land Management. “My take is they made a business risk decision,” she said. “They went into a deal knowing the lease renewal was discretionary on the part of the government and knowing there was serious public concern about the plan.”

DISMISSAL...Continued from page 1

over numerous issues. The board reversed previous town board motions that allowed the department to bar the public—including members of the town board—from their department meetings. The previous board had also rescinded a previous requirement to audio record fire department meetings, actually imposing a ban on audio recording after a recording revealed that department officials were improperly engaging in local political matters.

“I have read their job descriptions,” piped up Supervisor Rick Stoehr. “I’ve read what they are supposed to do. And one of the steps in the discipline policy is the right to termination.” Stoehr added that it depends on what the circumstances dictate.

“I was at a fire department meeting when all hell broke loose,” Stoehr said, “simply by my suggesting we look at someone else to do the physicals. They are supposed to be recording their minutes, they’ve been told that and told that. These are public meetings, and these are public records.”

Supervisor Mike Ralston said the board was stepping out of bounds for discussing this at a public [open] meeting, but Drobac said she had consulted township attorney Mitch Brunfelt, who told her since they were at-will employees, concerns could be discussed at the regular meeting.

This agenda item came after a lengthy discussion on other fire department issues, including a requirement that the board review

and approve the awarding of fire department pension service credits, to make sure members were meeting the minimum annual requirements. They had also noted problems with regular maintenance of the fire department’s vehicles and equipment. Fazio told the board there was not a regular process for doing truck maintenance.

The department’s main engine would not start at a recent fire department training, due to a plugged fuel filter.

“Luckily that was found during a training,” said Supervisor Barb Lofquist.

The department has also failed to maintain truck and boat maintenance logs, as required by the board.

Fazio said he didn’t know how regular truck

maintenance could be accomplished.

“Are we going to pay our members to bring them in,” he asked. “I am not sure who you are going to get to do it.”

Stoehr said the department should be able to be responsible for basic maintenance and truck checks. Fazio did not agree.

“These are firefighters for the community,” Fazio said. “They are not maintenance people.”

Stoehr said department members are the ones operating the equipment and should know how to best take care of it.

“Do you have any idea how long that fuel filter was in there?” he asked.

Indihar said the filters had been recently changed, and he guessed that something was wrong with the

gas in the truck.

“It would have been disastrous if that truck that needed a new fuel filter was needed at a fire and got stuck on its way to a fire,” said Drobac.

Fire Department Training Officer Rick Worringer, who was also at the meeting, told the board if they were dismissing the chief and assistant chief, he wanted to be added to that list, and Drobac amended her motion to include Worringer.

Drobac noted that the three were not being dismissed as fire department members, just as department officers.

The vote to dismiss the three passed 3-2, with Drobac, Lofquist, and Stoehr voting in favor, and Skubic and Ralston voting against.

“The attack on the fire department is totally unwarranted,” Ralston said. “I want that on the record.”

“It’s a real travesty,” said Skubic. “We are losing good quality people. I bet there will be more that are going to go, too.”

Stoehr, after the meeting, said the decision to vote for the dismissal was a very difficult and uncomfortable one to have to make, but his vote was based on concerns about the department leadership’s behavior, concerns for the health and safety of fire department members, and failure to follow town board directives.

The township will be advertising for new fire department officials.

TOWER...Continued from page 1

Setterberg. “Because not only in the past did we use all that money, that we’re paying on the loan, we’ve actually been paying it back and have not had to raise the levy whatsoever.”

At the same time, Setterberg noted that the city had spent \$60,000 to replace its worn-out grader and is still sitting with a reasonably comfortable general fund balance of \$155,667 as of the end of August. He said the city’s revenues through the end of the year, including its December state aid payment, are likely to substantially exceed its expenses, which should further improve the city’s financial picture going forward.

Setterberg noted that the city’s audits have been improving the past few years, with fewer issues of concern and with a big reduction in reported fund deficits, which have been an ongoing complaint from the city’s auditor. He noted that the city’s deficit in its water and sewer account have also declined significantly, mostly as a result of the increase in utility rates implemented this year.

Setterberg also made note of the improvements to the city’s Main Street, including storefront and building renovations and several new businesses. He noted improvements to the Lake Vermilion

Cultural Center as well as the historic fire hall, both of which improved the appearance of Main Street and brought workers to town for extended stays. He commented as well on the efforts being made to create new trails and cited the planned kayak route as another way that the community was making Tower a more desirable place to live or visit.

Setterberg cited the city’s wealth of volunteers, including those associated with the cultural center, the historical society, the Vermilion Country School, the Tower-Soudan athletic association, the events board, the food shelf, the various trails clubs, the women’s club, the fireman’s relief association, and the medical loan closet. He also thanked the many volunteers who serve on city committees and commissions, many of whom don’t even live in Tower. “What is really impressive is the number of volunteers we have from across the area,” he said. “There’s a lot of engagement for a town this size.”

The city still does face areas of concern, according to Setterberg. He said the city’s ambulance service has seen its wage expenses jump sharply as it has come into compliance with state law regarding staffing. He is also concerned about the limited staffing in place

with the city’s fire department, which is down to a handful of firefighters.

But, overall, Setterberg sounded an optimistic note. “The state of the city is good and we’re turning in the right direction,” he said.

In other action, the council approved a preliminary levy increase of five percent for next year, although councilors indicated they hope to pare that down before approving the final levy in December. Clerk-treasurer Michael Schultz noted that city residents are likely to feel the pinch of higher property taxes next year even if the levy remained the same. That’s because of a nearly \$20,000 reduction in the fiscal disparities payment the city will receive next year. The fiscal disparities program has helped reduce the impact of the city’s levy on taxpayers since it was implemented in the 1990s, but due to valuation changes the benefit to most cities in St. Louis County dropped significantly for 2023.

After considerable discussion, the council agreed, on a 4-1 vote, with Setterberg’s motion to boost the levy by five percent. If adopted as the final levy amount in December, the increase would raise about \$19,000, or about \$3,800 for every one percent. Norby, who voted against the motion,

said he wanted a larger proposed increase to provide a bigger cushion in case of the unexpected.

The council also voted unanimously to increase the nightly rate at Hoodoo Point Campground by three dollars. Campground manager Randy Pratt had recommended an increase as other campgrounds had recently boosted their rates.

And given the high demand for camping opportunities, Pratt said he doesn’t expect the rate increase will impact occupancy, which ran at about 90 percent over the summer, but it will likely generate about \$15,000 more revenue next year.

Pratt argued that some of that additional revenue should be set aside for improvements at the campground. He said the poor condition of the campground bathrooms is the most common complaint he receives and is hopeful of undertaking a major renovation soon. He also argued for a backup generator to serve the campground during extended power outages, which happen more frequently at Hoodoo Point, which is connected to Lake Country Power, than in town.

A motion by council member Joe Morin to raise the rate by five dollars per night failed to get support, but the motion by Norby to increase it by three dollars

passed unanimously. The new rate will go into effect with the 2023 camping season.

In other business, the council:

- Approved the lone propane bid it received, which came from Superior Fuel, the city’s current provider. Superior had offered a three-year locked in contract rate of \$1.74.9 per gallon, but the council opted for a one-year price at that rate in hopes that prices will come down over the next year.
- Approved a motion to leave the seaplane docks in place over the winter. The docks had been left in place last winter due to low water levels, without incident. The city confirmed that the city’s insurance carrier would cover any liability or damage stemming from leaving the docks in place.
- Approved spending up to \$3,000 to clean out a blocked stormwater drain on N. Third St., near the school.
- Approved looking for grant dollars to help fund the replacement of the roof at the historic train depot and museum. Schultz said the project is likely to cost about \$60,000, but that the city is hoping to find

\$40,000 in grant funding to help cover the cost.

- Approved a new job description and posting for an assistant ambulance director.
- Approved a motion to authorize the clerk-treasurer to request all city staff (paid or volunteer) to review and sign off on the city personnel policy and code of ethics on an annual basis.
- Approved the creation of an ad hoc negotiating committee, consisting of Setterberg, Morin, Schultz, and city attorney Mitch Brunfelt, for the ambulance director’s proposed union contract. The contract has been in limbo for a year.
- Approved the appointment of Beth Debeltz to the TEDA board and Kevin Norby to the airport commission.
- Authorized the maintenance supervisor to determine best options for either fixing or replacing the plow for use on the city’s pickup.
- Authorized the maintenance staff to repair the fence and install signage around the Lee Mine to prevent trespassing and dangerous activities around the former mine pit.

FREE DENTAL CLEANINGS AVAILABLE
provided by

Ely Community Health Center

Make an appointment call us at
603-502-2268
or email us at
dentalEHC@gmail.com



OPEN: Monday- Saturday 8:30-5:30; Sunday 9-4
(218) 753-4190 • 6143 Pike Bay Dr, Tower • E-mail: aronsonboatworks@frontiernet.net



September 8 – 30
(In Stock Items Only)


8% Discount

- DAKA Docks and Lifts
- Shoremaster Lifts
- Wave Armor Rafts & Ports



2195 Twin Lakes Road
Ely MN • 218.365.6210
sales@docksonwheels.com

www.voteramsay.com



COFFEE WITH Gordon Ramsay
Benchwarmer Grille


701 Highway 169, Tower, MN 55790
Come meet Gordon & learn about his vision for a safer St. Louis County

September 28th
11:30 AM-1:00 PM

RAMSAY FOR SHERIFF

Made in Partnership with Ramsey Law Enforcement Center

Paid for by David Aronson, Retired Deputy Sheriff



GENERAL MAINTENANCE WORKER
Permanent, Full-Time - AFSCME

Minnesota North College – Vermilion Campus in Ely, is seeking a to fill a permanent, full-time General Maintenance Worker position. This position exists to provide general maintenance for assigned campus buildings and grounds including but not limited to light maintenance, routine equipment and mechanical repairs, routine housekeeping, grounds keeping, special maintenance and set up for special events.

This position works Tuesday – Saturday. Hours: Tues – Fri 2:00 pm – 10:30 pm, Saturday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

For position details, qualifications and application procedures, please view the postings at:
<https://minnesotanorth.edu/about/human-resources/employment-opportunities/>

Deadline to apply: September 26, 2022

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is an Equal Opportunity employer/educator committed to the principles of diversity. We actively seek and encourage applications from women, minorities, persons with disabilities and veterans. All applicants must be able to lawfully accept employment in the United States at the time of employment. AA/EOE Veteran Friendly

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 16 & 23, 2022

PETE STAUBER HAS FAILED US!

Representative Pete Stauber and the Republicans have forfeited their right to govern!



We, the voters, have had enough!
PETE and HIS NO VOTES MUST GO!
PETE STAUBER turned his back on Minnesotans, embraced his billionaire donors, dishonored his office, broke his oath, and chose the pursuit of power over the rule of law. PETE said NO to DEMOCRACY by joining a radical Republican effort to invalidate millions of votes to overturn the 2020 free & fair election. As if that wasn't outrageous enough, Pete went on to VOTE NO to investigating the insurrectionist attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6th to cover up his Party's wrongdoing and to further undo American DEMOCRACY.



PETE'S HISTORY of NO VOTES

PETE'S PAST NO VOTES

Pete VOTED **NO** to fixing Minnesota's decaying roads, ports, bridges, and airports, **NO** to creating good-paying union jobs & **NO** to expanding broadband coverage (HR 3684) — **NO** to affordable childcare and high quality pre-school & **NO** to tax cuts for struggling low wage workers (HR 5376) — **NO** to \$1,400 to Minnesotans during the worst pandemic in history (HR 1319) — **NO** to paycheck fairness for our wives, moms, grammas, sisters & daughters (HR 7) — **NO** to ensuring that all eligible Minnesotans can vote by removing barriers to register & vote (HR 4) — **NO** to protecting our precious & vulnerable wild places (HR 2546 & HR 823) — **NO** to protecting workers' rights to organize, form a union & collectively bargain (HR 842) — **NO** to limiting the use of the hazardous, carcinogenic 'forever' chemical PFAS (HR 4267) — and **NO** to protecting Americans with preexisting health conditions (HR 986).

PETE'S RECENT NO VOTES

Pete VOTED **NO TO CONSUMER FUEL PRICE GOUGING PREVENTION ACT (HR 7688).**

NO to protecting consumers from greedy gas price gouging by huge international oil companies that took advantage of us all during a difficult time.
PETE SAYS NO TO PROTECTING US FROM GAS PRICE GOUGING!

Pete VOTED **NO TO HONORING OUR PACT ACT (HR 3967).**

NO to the largest Veterans' healthcare bill in decades that expands VA healthcare for millions of Vets, who were exposed to burn pits & other toxic substances during military service.
PETE SAYS NO TO VETERANS!

Pete VOTED **NO TO INFLATION REDUCTION ACT OF 2022 (HR 5376).**

NO to the largest investment in fighting climate change, **NO** to reducing the cost of prescription drugs & health insurance, **NO** to cutting the deficit, and **NO** to raising taxes on the biggest corporations.
PETE SAYS NO TO AMERICA'S BUILDING BACK BETTER!

Pete VOTED **NO TO BIPARTISAN SAFER COMMUNITIES ACT, NO TO PROTECTING OUR KIDS ACT (HR 7910), NO TO ACTIVE SHOOTER ACT (HR 6538) and NO TO ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN OF 2022 (HR 1808).**

NO to a bipartisan agreement to reduce gun violence, **NO** to ending the senseless murders of our kids, **NO** to keeping deadly weapons out of the hands of dangerous individuals, **NO** to funding school safety & increased security, **NO** to increased funding for mental health, and **NO** to enhanced review process for gun-buyers under 21. **NO** to speedy, widely distributed 'active shooter' alerts, and **NO** to a ban on semi-automatic weapons & large capacity magazines that slaughter our loved ones.

Pete VOTED **NO TO INFANT FORMULA SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (HR 7790).**

NO to speeding up & funding the safe production and delivery of baby formula, and **NO** to preventing shortages stemming from supply chain disruptions during the worst U.S. shortage of baby formula in history.
PETE SAYS NO TO NEW-BORN BABIES!

PETE SAYS NO TO SAFEGUARDING OUR BELOVED FAMILIES FROM GUN MADNESS!

Pete VOTED **NO TO AFFORDABLE INSULIN NOW ACT (HR 6833).**

NO to capping the outrageous cost of insulin thereby forcing Americans to pay more than 10 times what families elsewhere in the world pay and forcing many who need it to dangerously ration insulin to save money.
PETE SAYS NO TO OUR DIABETICS!

Pete VOTED **NO TO RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND REPLENISHMENT ACT (HR 3807).**

NO to providing additional relief for the hardest hit small businesses and restaurants that continue to struggle during the ongoing pandemic.
PETE SAYS NO TO SMALL BUSINESS, including MOM & POP-RUN RESTAURANTS!

Pete VOTED **NO TO RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT (HR 8404), NO TO WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT (HR 8296), NO TO ENSURING ACCESS TO ABORTION ACT (HR 8297) and NO TO RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION ACT (HR 8373).**

NO to marrying who we love, **NO** to a woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions, **NO** to her ability to access reproductive healthcare across state lines, and **NO** to contraception. Women can make their own decisions, Pete!
PETE SAYS NO TO LOVE & TO WOMEN'S NON-NEGOTIABLE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS!

Pete VOTED **NO TO RECOVERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE ACT (HR 2773).**

NO to conserving the diversity of native species & reversing their precipitous decline.

Pete VOTED **NO TO CHIPS and SCIENCE ACT (HR 4346) and NO TO AMERICA COMPETES ACT (HR 4521).**

NO to manufacturing more semiconductors (microchips) in America that would make cars, appliances, and computers cheaper, **NO** to creating more high paying manufacturing jobs, **NO** to tackling supply chain problems so we can make more goods in the U.S., **NO** to turbocharging U.S. scientific research, and **NO** to U.S. leadership in science & technology.

Pete VOTED **NO TO PROTECTING OUR DEMOCRACY ACT (HR 5314) and NO TO FREEDOM TO VOTE ACT (HR 5746).**

NO to safeguarding our democracy, **NO** to defending the rule of law, **NO** to our system of checks & balances, **NO** to restoring public trust & strengthening our democratic institutions. **NO** to protecting our votes rather than suppressing them, **NO** to preventing partisan gerrymandering, **NO** to stopping voter discrimination & **NO** to limiting dark money in politics.

PETE SAYS NO TO AMERICAN MANUFACTURING & GOOD-PAYING UNION JOBS!
PETE SAYS NO TO AMERICA'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP in SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY!

PETE SAYS NO TO DEMOCRACY TIME & TIME AGAIN!

★ REGISTER TO VOTE ★



VOTE FOR DEMOCRATS

Our health, well-being & DEMOCRACY depend on it!
We, the undersigned **CONCERNED NORTHERN MINNESOTANS** urge you to **VOTE for DEMOCRATS** who will preserve democracy & say **YES** to legislation that helps everyday Minnesotans.

Valerie Myntti
Mary Louise Icenhour
Becky Rom
Leah Rogne
Frank Sherman
Joe Krall
Reid Carron
Amy & Keith Steva
Lindsey Lang
Patty McNulty & Duke Skorich
Mary K. Mathiasen
Peta Barrett
Dr. Cynthia Myntti
Barbara Jones
Jan & Dale Johnson
Carol Orban
Janice & Russell Smart
Susan Early Congrave
Denny Fitzpatrick
Barbara Gabler

Nancy Powers
Emily & Elton Brown
Betsy & John Flaten
Julie Nestor
Lucy Soderstrom
Wende Nelson & Scott Mills
Rev. Sue Judson Hamly
Bev & Lee Peterson
Kathy Fisher
Brent Elling
Patricia McHugh
Susan Swendsen & John Bruggeman
Kathy Heltzer & Tina Welsh
Mary Shedd & Steve Wilson
Ellie Larmouth
Carol & John Stegmeir
Barb Crow & Sherry Rovig
Nancy & Steve Piragis
Caroline & Joe Owens

Robin & George Plimi
Barb & Kurt Soderberg
Patricia Campanaro
Dianne K. Peterson & Craig A. Peterson
Betty Firth
Linda Wiedmann
Elizabeth & Andrew Urban
Lon Olson
DiAnn White
Lorene Enzmann & Michael Enzmann
Kathleen McQuillan & John Hess
Beverly Balos
Mary Louise Fellows
Nancy Hernesmaa
Marit & Orlyn Kingstad
David Stanton
Janine Patten
Judith T. Ulseth & Robert Ulseth

Duane E. Gustafson
Travis Paulson
Marjory Johnson Wood
John Hunn
Deborah Kleese & David Litsenberger
Mickey White & Chuck Neil
Mary Arps Thompson
Thomas Thompson
Deborah L. Saarinen-Fosso
Frederica Musgrave
Carolyn Dehnbostel
Corie McKibben & Dr. Andy McKibben
Janene Glyn
Kay & Richard Hanson
Sue & Larry Smith
Lorraine Erickson & Kenneth Perala
Mary Vanderwerp & Rick Ball

Wendy Rouse & Tom Benson
Lois & Jim Jiede
Betty Karpen
Gloria Gervais
Celia Domich
Johanna O'Donnell & Phillip Arnold
Andy Beim
Kathleen Sullivan
Peg Donahue
Sandra Okstad
Bob Champa
Andrea Champa
Alice & Byron Moren
Elizabeth Villalta
Jacqueline Pidlubny
Constance J. Barnabee
Dorothea Diver & Barton Sutter
Michael Maleska
Anonymous (21)

It's Time For Vermilion Lake Township's

Pot Luck Dinner & Get-Together

Sunday, September 18
4 to 7 PM • Dinner served at 5 PM

Vermilion Lake Town Hall
6703 Wahlsten Road

.....

All township residents, former residents and friends are invited.

Come and visit with neighbors and friends.

- Please bring a casserole dish, salad or dessert to share.
- Township supervisors will be grilling Polish, brats and hot-dogs.
- Township will provide coffee, Kool-Aid, buns, plates and plastic ware.

If you have any questions,
contact one of the Town Board members:
Phil Anderson 749-3462, Frank Zobitz 651-755-5946,
Tim Hughes 753-3547, Steven Lotz 753-4129,
Crystal Alaspa 750-4752



SPORTS

Serving northern
St. Louis County
since 1989

VOLLEYBALL

Ely on fire in season’s early-going

Take first in Greenway tourney as team has yet to lose a set so far this season

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

GREENWAY — Ely is looking like the team to beat in Section 7A this season as they dominated the Greenway tournament on Saturday, winning eight straight sets across four best-of-two matches.

The Timberwolves have not just gone undefeated in match play through the first two weeks of the season — they’ve yet to

“We showed that we are making progress every single day.

Ely Head Coach
Megan Wognum

lose a single set across seven games to date. They were set to face 4-5 Mesabi East on Thursday after the *Timberjay’s* Wednesday

presstime. The Wolves finished as the top seed in the section last season and look to have only improved on their performance in the offseason.

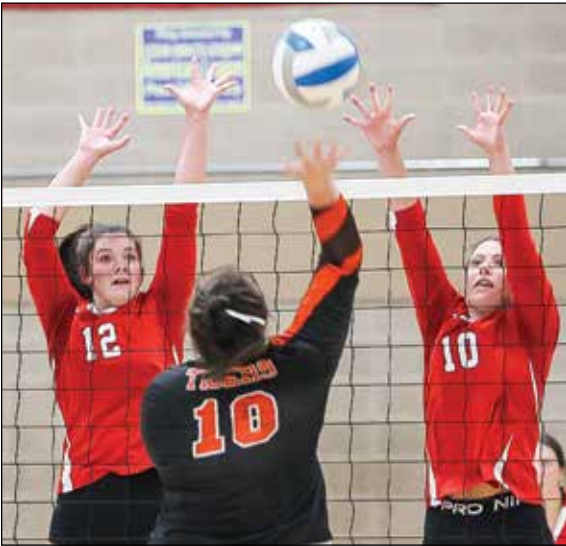
“We came ready to play today,” said Head Coach Megan Wognum following Saturday’s tournament in Greenway. “We have been working hard on getting our passes spot on knowing that the rest will come. Today we showed that we are making progress every single day.”

Right: Ely’s Lilli Rechichi and Kate Coughlin team up to block a shot during last Thursday’s game with Cherry.

photo by J. Greeney

Ely’s success has come from a remarkable team effort that’s not been reliant on any one player. The Wolves downed Northeast Range for the second time

See WOLVES...pg. 2B



FOOTBALL

Gerzin sees signs of progress in 20-6 loss

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

AURORA — Ely Head Coach Louis Gerzin found plenty to like and plenty to work on as the Timberwolves fell 20-6 to Cromwell here last Friday. The game, originally scheduled to be played in Ely, was moved at the last minute as workers were putting the finishing touches on new facilities at the Ely school campus.

Home field advantage could have made the difference in a game that was closer than the final score suggested. “We played a tough first half,” said Gerzin. “It was a few minor breakdowns in the second half that cost us.”

Ely had little trouble moving the ball throughout the contest and they put the first points on the board early in the second quarter as Erron Anderson ran it in for six. Ely mounted a number of other drives during the game that mostly fell short on miscues. “We were moving the ball well, but we had a fumble on their six-yard line in the third quarter and eight or nine penalties, along with a few dropped passes, that killed drives,” said Gerzin.

Meanwhile, the Cardinals got on the scoreboard midway through the second quarter. The teams headed into the break knotted at six.

Gerzin credits Cromwell for making the changes it needed to turn the tide in the second half. They added eight more points early in the second half and made the conversion to go up 14-6.

Cromwell added six more early in the fourth quarter to pad their margin and the Timberwolves couldn’t turn the tide.

Gerzin, now in his second year as Ely’s head football coach, attributed

See FOOTBALL...pg. 2B



FOOTBALL

Miscues sink Grizzlies

North Woods falls to 0-2 in loss to Chisholm

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

CHISHOLM- Hope came in the form of rain for the North Woods Grizzlies last Friday at Chisholm, hope that the second-quarter downpour would ground the high-flying Bluestreaks’ aerial attack and shift the game in favor of the run-oriented Grizzlies, who trailed 10-0 as the drops began to fall.

But that hope was dashed when North Woods coughed up a fumble near the Chisholm goal line on what would have been a go-ahead touchdown, and the Bluestreaks regained the momentum and walked away

Top: Grizzlies’ offensive lineman Anevay Goodsky-Spears presents an imposing challenge for a Chisholm defender.

Right: The Grizzlies’ Jared Chiabotti breaks free along the Chisholm sideline.

photos by D. Colburn

with a 22-8 win.

Right from the start, Chisholm tested the Grizzlies’ secondary and found success, with quarterback Dominic Olson connecting with multiple receivers and completing a fourth-and-20 to give the Bluestreaks their first scoring opportunity at the North

See GRIZZLIES...pg. 2B



VOLLEYBALL

Grizzlies win three straight on the road



by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- In racking up three more match wins on the road in six days against Mesabi East, Deer River, and South Ridge, the North Woods volleyball team’s early season record of 5-1 is vastly improved from last year’s 2-4 start.

Left: The Grizzlies’ Skyler Yernatich delivers a hard spike against a Mesabi East defender. photo by D. Colburn

Chalk that up to the Grizzlies’ ability to compete successfully and maintain their intensity against foes with varying styles and talent. North Woods has been dictating the style of play and it’s working, as evidenced by having lost only two games in those three matches while winning nine.

“We have definitely grown as athletes and have learned how to compete better,” Head Coach Kandi Olson said.

South Ridge

The Grizzlies’ most recent victim Tuesday night was South

Ridge, a tough test on the road following Monday’s long road trip to Deer River.

“South Ridge is definitely a talented team, they are super aggressive all the time, and they have great defense,” Olson said.

Perhaps the Grizzlies were suffering from a bit of bus lag, as Panthers raced to a double-digit lead midway through the first game before the Grizzlies kicked things in gear. North Woods made the score more respectable, but still lost 25-17.

See NW GIRLS ...pg. 2B

WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

this season in the opening match of the tournament, 25-13, 25-8. They took Cherry in the second round, 25-19 and 25-11, before topping Greenway 25-12, 25-18. They topped Chisholm 25-12, 25-15.

Sophomore Lilli Rechichi led the team in kills over the four games, with a tournament total of 28, along with 16 digs and a dozen aces. Junior Hannah Penke was close behind with 23 kills, 23 digs, and seven ace serves, while sophomore Clare Thomas added 11 kills, 16 digs, and six aces.

Senior Madeline Kallberg had a big day as well, tallying 13 kills and 26 digs on top of her 45

set assists. Junior Sarah Visser added 30 assists as well, while senior Courtney Eilrich tallied 22 digs.

Wognum was ebullient in the wake of the impressive performance. "I am so proud of how hard these girls have worked to get here and I can't wait to see what the rest of the season brings," she said.

Playing in a regular matchup on Thursday in Ely, the Wolves made short work of Cherry, taming the Tigers in straight sets, 25-12, 25-7, and 25-16.

The Wolves continued to show that it takes a team to be successful in volleyball as nine players combined for 32 kills and nine aces. Rachel Coughlin

and Lilli Rechichi notched seven kills apiece, while Kate Coughlin added six kills along with six digs and four aces. Clare Thomas notched three kills and five digs, while Hannah Penke added four kills and two aces. Madeline Kallberg and Sarah Visser combined for 25 set assists.

The Wolves were set to host Mesabi East on Thursday and welcome International Falls to town on Tuesday. The varsity starts are set for 7 p.m.

Right: Ely's Rachel Coughlin delivers a kill during last Thursday's match with Cherry.

photo by J. Greeney



FOOTBALL...Continued from page 1B

some of the day's troubles to opening day jitters. Ely's opening game, originally set for Sept. 2, was canceled, so Friday's contest was Ely's season debut. Gerzin said he expects to see big improvements as some of the younger players get more playing time in the

weeks to come. For now, he said, they'll be relying on their most experienced core group, like senior Erron Anderson and junior Jason Kerntz, both of whom earned all-district honors last year as running backs.

Kerntz had a huge day on Friday, racking up

133 yards rushing, while Anderson posted 64 yards and 7 yards receiving, one of them for the Wolves' only touchdown. Gavin Marshall also added 30 yards on the ground.

"Erron and Jason really ran the ball well on Friday," said Gerzin. They'll also

be relying on senior quarterback Gunnar Hart, who is showing promise behind center. Hart, who was a utility player for the Wolves last year, moved into the quarterback slot and is showing poise in the pocket and some mobility as well.

On defense, Deegan

Richards led the Wolves with seven tackles. Gerzin said he was also impressed with the play of sophomore Alex Meriman, who posted six and a half tackles and two interceptions. Meriman, who got a little junior varsity playing time as an eighth-grader two

years ago, didn't go out for football last year, but had an impressive debut on the varsity squad on Friday. Anderson added five and a half tackles, while Marshall and Chase Anderson each tallied four and a half.

GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

Woods five-yard line. But Chisholm sputtered and couldn't convert, turning the ball over on downs.

The Bluestreaks didn't come away empty, though, as an errant snap flew over the head of Grizzlies quarterback Lane Kneen, and he was tackled in the end zone for a safety.

The ensuing Grizzlies kick from the 20-yard line put their backs against the wall again when Chisholm returned the kick to the North Woods 15. Olson immediately capitalized on the field position by tossing an eight-yard scoring pass to receiver July Abernathy, and with just over six minutes remaining in the first quarter the two-point conversion put Chisholm up 10-0.

The Grizzlies got a break in the second quarter when they recovered a Chisholm fumble at the North Woods 43. Lightning struck on the next play, not from the skies but on the ground, as running back Jared Chiabotti found a seam on the left side of the Bluestreaks defense, cut to the left sideline and took the ball 57 yards to the house. Jonah Burnett scored the two-point conversion to put North Woods right back in the game at 10-8 going into the half.

The teams exchanged fumbles early in the second quarter, and a North Woods drive threatened to stall at the Chisholm 33 on fourth-and-eight. But the Grizzlies had a trick up their sleeve, as Kneen took the snap

and flipped it to Chiabotti, who stopped and fired a deep arching pass that Burnett hauled down at the Bluestreaks two-yard line.

But with a golden opportunity to take the lead, disaster struck on the next play when the Grizzlies mishandled an exchange and the Bluestreaks recovered the fumble.

The play was a gut punch that sucked the air out of the Grizzlies, as the Bluestreaks ground down the fourth quarter clock with an impressive 98-yard scoring drive aided by a pair of North Woods pass interference penalties. Olson capped off the drive with a 20-yard scoring pass to Shane Zancauske to up the lead to 16-8 with 5:58 left in the game.

After an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty against the Grizzlies on the ensuing kickoff, North Woods took over at their own eight-yard line, hoping for an equally impressive drive for a chance to tie the score. But on third-and-11, Kneen's pass over the middle was intercepted at the North Woods 28.

Chisholm ran down the clock from there, with an Olson touchdown run with five seconds left accounting for the 22-8 final.

Grizzlies Head Coach Joel Anderson was frank in his postgame assessment. "We've got to quit being our own worst enemy," he said. "It's tough to win football games when you have unforced errors and turnovers and penal-

ties. Hat's off to Chisholm, they played a nice game. We had momentum for a long period of time and just couldn't find ways to put it together."

Anderson also acknowledged that the turnover near the goal line in the third quarter was a game changer.

"It was tough to see, again it was an unforced error on our part," he said. "And then to let them go 98 yards because we have our heads down, that's something we need to work on." But after two games, Anderson is seeing gradual improvement, and Chiabotti's 148 yards on 20 carries against Chisholm was a good sign.

"For many years now that's kind of been a key

for us to run the ball effectively," Anderson said. "It opens some other things up. Hopefully we can continue that."

Burnett and Nick Abramson took some of the defensive heat off Chiabotti by each rushing for 11 yards on ten combined carries.

Kneen was just two-for-nine passing in the soggy conditions. Burnett had two receptions for 34 yards.

North Woods has its first home game tonight when they host Deer River. The Grizzlies are scheduled to hit the road the following week for a Sept. 23 tilt against Barnum.

NW GIRLS...Continued from page 1B

It was the first time this season that North Woods lost the first game of a match.

North Woods battled to regain control in a nip-and-tuck game that the Grizzlies eventually won, 27-25. It didn't get much easier in the next two games, but the Grizzlies rode momentum to close out the match with winning scores of 25-20 and 25-21.

"Our middles looked strong yesterday, which definitely threw a little wrench in the hitting for South Ridge," Olson said. "And our outside hitters, Lauren Burnett and Skyler Yernatch, they were busy and working hard all night long, trying to put the ball down and tried to find holes in South Ridge's defense."

Deer River

The Grizzlies were clearly the superior team on the floor against Deer

River on Monday night, and they're learning to play up to that status. Big runs coupled with many service faults by the Warriors added up to big wins, 25-8, 25-10, and 25-10, and a quick end to the match.

"Our passing was really good, so we were able to try new things offensively, things that we'll need in the future," Olson said. "It was nice to have that ability to work in some live game situations on things that we will face in upcoming matches."

Mesabi East

True to their name, the Giants put a slightly taller team on the floor against the Grizzlies, and while competitive throughout most of the match, they couldn't rattle the Grizzlies, even after winning a hotly contested second game 26-24.

North Woods has displayed a welcome tendency

for getting off to a hot start from the opening whistle, a particularly advantageous trait in hostile road environments, and that was the case against the Giants, with the Grizzlies notching a 25-14 win.

After Mesabi East tied the match at 1-1, the Grizzlies overcame an early 5-0 deficit in the third game and took firm control midway through to win 25-17. After losing the opening point of the fourth game, the Grizzlies never trailed, building and maintaining a comfortable

five to six point lead en route to a match-ending 20-25 win.

"One of the critical things that we've seen as far as growth this year is that this group is able to go into battle knowing that they have worthy opponents on the other side that are going to push them to the limits, and perhaps win games, and they've been able to maintain their composure and come back with a victory," Olson said.

Olson singled out Yernatch and Burnett as key contributors across the

matches.

"Skyler has been just an absolute force on the court," Olson said. "Lauren has come in as a freshman and is willing to go for the kill every single time. It's great to see."



ESTATE SALE

LOG HOMES

PAY ONLY THE BALANCE OWED!
JUST RELEASED: AMERICAN LOG HOMES is assisting estate & account settlement on houses

LOG HOME KITS

selling for BALANCE OWED with FREE DELIVERY

Model #101, Carolina, \$40,840	BALANCE OWED \$17,000
Model #203, Georgia, \$49,500	BALANCE OWED \$19,950
Model #305, Biloxi, \$36,825	BALANCE OWED \$14,500
Model #403, Augusta, \$42,450	BALANCE OWED \$16,500

NEW HOMES: Serious Inquiries only **Call: 704 368-4528**

- Never been manufactured
- **NO TIME LIMIT for DELIVERY**
- Comes with complete building blueprints and Construction Manual

* Windows, Doors and Roofing not included

Before Calling View House Plans at
www.americanloghomesandcabins.com

833-314-1217

BOGO 40% OFF
ENDS 11/30

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

LeafFilter
GUTTER PROTECTION

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

1-833-645-1482

15% OFF
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*

10% OFF
SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS

5% OFF
TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

| Promo Number: 285

For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. *Offer valid at time of estimate only. **The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mecer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSLBA 1055795 DQPL #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 126344 License# 218204 WA UBIR 602 229 977 License# 2102212860 License# 2106212546 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFNW8222 License# W0505912 License# WC25998H17 Nassau HIC License# H01057000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC 0649005 Registration# C127220 Registration# C127230 Registration# 36020918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 13W05953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2705169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-18114

TOWN OF EMBARRASS

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Wed., Sept. 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

REASON FOR MEETING:

Levy Adjustment to Cover Payroll Costs

Jennifer Boese, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 16, 2022

POWERFUL SAVINGS WITH GENERAC

- FREE estimates
- Financing available
- AFFORDABLE backup power
- Delivery, Installation and Service
- Family and locally owned and operated

SALES AND "SERVICE"
Randy Wetenskap
218-776-3995 • 218-556-5981

GENERAC
Automatic Standby Generator
Serving ALL of Northern Minnesota

EMBARRASS

Embarrass Region Fair Horse Show results

EMBARRASS- The annual Embarrass Fair Horse Show was held on Sunday, Aug. 28 at the Embarrass Fairgrounds arena. The participants would all like to thank the Embarrass Region Fair Committee, all the volunteers, participants, and spectators. Also thank you to the event sponsors, the Tower Fire Department, and judge Angelia Tuominen. This was another great year for the Embarrass Horse Show.

Age groups were Peewees 12 and under; Juniors 13-17; and Seniors 18 and over. Names as submitted for judging at the horse show, first names were used along with the horse's names. *Winners listed in order, first through sixth (if applicable).*

Pee wee Western Pleasure: Audrey on Myla; Taya on Remington; Dallyce on Phoenix; Khepra on Tink; Des on Bubba; Milja on Pippi

Junior Western Pleasure: Tyme on Dash

Senior Western Pleasure: Barb Sonnentag on Sierra

Grade Gelding: Taya on Dash

Grade Mare: Taya on Brandi; Khepra on Tink; Sefira on Hazel

Reg. Gelding: Taya on Remington

Reg. Mare: Barb on Sierra

Ponies: Dallyce on Phoenix; Barb on Peanut

Grand and Reserve Champions:

Barb on Sierra; Dallyce on Phoenix

Pee wee High Point Winner: Taya on Brandi

Junior High Point Winner: Maija on Telsa

Senior High Point Winner: Barb on Sierra

Open Events
(all age groups)

Ribbon Race: Taya

and Tyme on Dash and Remington; Terri and Dale on Gypsy and Camie; Kenzie and Sandra on Donkey and Smoke; Avery and Mason; Khepra and Des on Tink and Bubba; Mason and Ryder

Team Jumping: Taya and Avery; Mason and Avery.

Pee wee races

Pee wee Sack Race: Dallyce on Phoenix; Des on Bubba; Taya on Brandi; Avery on Miley; Khepra on Tink

Pee wee Package Race: Des on Bubba; Avery on Miley; Taya on Remington; Taya on Brandi; Khepra on Tink; Dayce on Honey

Pee wee Poles: Taya on Remington; Ryder on Skipn; Avery on Miley; Khepra on Tink; David on Elday; Des on Bubba

Pee wee Jumping Figure 8: Taya on Brandi; Khepra on Tink; Dallyce on Phoenix; Ryder on Skipn; Avery on Miley; Des on Bubba

Pee wee Barrels: Taya on Brandi; Dallyce on Phoenix; Avery on Miley; Khepra on Tink; Taya on Remington; Ryder on Skipn

Pee wee Keyhole: Taya on Brandi; Taya on Remington; Mason on Willy; Ryder on Skipn; Audrey on Myla; Avery on Miley

Pee wee Speed Dash: Taya on Brandi; Mason on Willy; Khepra on Tink; Ryder on Skipn; Dallyce on Phoenix; Taya on Remington

Pee wee Egg and Spoon: Avery Maturi on Miley; Taya on Remington; Des on Bubba; Khepra on Tink; Dallyce on Phoenix

Junior races

Junior Sack Race: Elaina on Dexter; Tyme on Dash; Maija on Telsa

Junior Package Race:

Elaina on Dexter; Maija on Telsa; Tyme on Dash

Junior Pole Weaving: Maija on Telsa; Elaina on Dexter; Maija on Tippy; Hannah on Rado; Arianna on Zena; Crystal on Harley

Junior Jumping Figure 8: Tyme on Dash; Maija on Telsa; Hannah on Phoenix; Elaina on Dexter; Hannah on Rado, Crystal on Misty

Junior Barrels: Tyme on Dash; Maija on Telsa; Hannah on Rado; Arianna on Zena; Hannah on Phoenix; Elaina on Dexter

Junior Keyhole: Maija on Telsa; Arianna on Zena; Tyme on Dash; Maija on Tippy; Elaina on Dexter; Hannah on Rado

Junior Speed Dash: Tyme on Dash; Maija on Telsa; Elaina on Dexter; Hannah on Phoenix, Maija on Tippy; Austin on Cammie

Junior Egg and Spoon: Tyme on Dash

Senior races

Senior Sack Race: Barb Sonnentag on Sierra; Angelia Tuominen on Trouble; Sunnie Hardy on Tucker

Senior Package Race: Sunnie Hardy on Tucker; Kenzie Dale on Donkey; Sandra Tuominen on Smoke, Angelia Tuominen on Trouble; Barb Sonnentag on Sierra; Terri Martin on Gypsy

Senior Poles: Angelia Tuominen on Trouble; Barb Sonnentag on Sierra; Sandra Tuominen on Smoke, Taylor on Turbo, Terri Martin on Gypsy; Kenzie Dale on Donkey

Senior Jumping Figure 8: Dale on Camie; Angelia Tuominen on Trouble; Taylor on Trouble; Sunnie Hardy on Tucker; Terry Martin on Gypsy; Kenzie Dale on Donkey

Senior Barrels: Barb Sonnentag on Sierra; Taylor on Turbo; Sunnie Hardy on Tucker; Terri Martin



Riders at the Embarrass Fair Horse Show competed in the Ribbon Race, where two riders had to keep hold of a short ribbon while racing around barrels. photos by J. Summit



on Gypsy; Kenzie Dale on Donkey.

Senior Keyhole: Barb Sonnentag on Sierra; Sandra Tuominen on Smoke; Dale on Camie; Terri Martin on Gypsy; Sunnie

Hardy on Tucker; Kenzie Dale on Donkey

Senior Speed Dash: Sandra Tuominen on Smoke; Angelia Tuominen on Trouble; Dale on Camie; Sunnie Hardy on

Tucker; Taylor on Turbo; Kenzie Dale on Donkey

Senior Egg and Spoon: Barb Sonnentag on Sierra; Sandra Tuominen on Smoke; Kenzie Dale on Donkey

Obituaries and Death Notices

Leroy Anderson

Leroy “Putsy” Anderson, 77, of Lake Vermilion-Tower, crossed over to his lake house in the sky on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, after many days of being surrounded by family and friends. Special thanks to St. Croix Hospice and the Estates at Greeley for providing care and compassion in the final months of Putsy’s life. A celebration of life will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15 at Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia. Putsy would be most comfortable in his favorite flannels; if so inclined, please dress comfortably in a flannel shirt for the celebration of life.

Putsy was born on Nov. 7, 1944, in Virginia, and made lifelong friends on the South Side before finding his true home on Lake Vermilion in Tower.

He was a proud U.S. Navy Veteran who served aboard the Bryce Canyon during Vietnam, and spent

his career as a control room operator at US Steel Minntac.

Many people have been touched by his kind heart, unforgettable wit, generous spirit, and “charming” disposition. Putsy was a simple man who loved polka, woodworking, and spending time behind the wheel of the boat where he patiently taught many people to waterski over the years. He so enjoyed the life he created, where his friends and family always knew that they could stop by for a sauna or conversation by the lake, if not first put to work chopping wood.

Putsy loved his family above anything. He also created an extended chosen family including neighbors and local friends who helped one another with projects, shared meals, and trips to the casino, where he would often joke that he “could just drive by and

throw his money out the window.”

Putsy is survived by his dog, Dottie; chosen daughter, Chris “Chris-sy” Mish (Brett Gibson); grandchildren, Cason and Lyla Gibson; sister, Barb Downing (Tom); brothers, Rodney Anderson (Mary-Ann) and Warren Anderson (JoAnn); and many very special nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gustav “Chub” and Ethel Anderson; brother, Ed Anderson; and beloved dogs, Cuddles and Rosie.

Gerald Salo

Gerald “Gerry” Salo, 85, of Tower, originally of Embarrass, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Friday, Sept. 2, 2022,

at his son Darrel’s house in Red Wing. A special thank you to St. Croix Hospice for the love and care they showed Gerry in his last days. There will be a graveside burial at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Ely Cemetery followed by a celebration of life at the Lindsoe Cabin on Fall Lake.

Gerry married Kathy Pucel and together they had three children, Darrel (Dollie) Salo, Terry Salo and Debra (Chris) Hedin. Kathy passed away in 1986. Gerry later married his high school sweetheart, Joanie Lindsoe, who had grown children, Dawn (Scott) Chaffee, Sue (Mike) Maternowsky, Greg (Marcy) Lindsoe and Chris Lindsoe. Together they started the

second chapter of Gerry’s life.

Joyce A. Markus

Joyce Ann Szymanski Markus, 86, of Babbitt, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Babbitt Public Library, Babbitt Senior Center, or the International Wolf Center in Ely. Arrangements are

with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her granddaughters, Annie (Aaron), Meara, T.J. (Brandon), Sydney and Maxie (Austin); brother-in-law, Robert (Karen); nieces, Deborah (Cory) and Beth (Mike) and their children, Emma and Andrew.

FREE HEARING SCREENING

September 17

9 AM-2:45 PM • Ely Area Senior Center

(Screening takes only 15 minutes!)

This **FREE professional screening** will help you determine if you need a full hearing screening by a specialist.

Appointments preferred, walk-ins welcome!

To make an appointment

Call 218-365-5678



Provided by Ely Community Health Center in partnership with University of MN and ARDC
111 S. 4th Ave. East, Ely, MN 55731

Your local source for news, music and entertainment!



91.7

KAXE

Northern Community Radio

KBXE

90.5

91.7fm - Grand Rapids

90.5fm - Bemidji

89.9fm - Brainerd

kaxe.org

Donald G.

Gardner Humanities Trust

Fall Grant Applications now Open

New Grant Portal and guidelines are available online at **www.gardnertrust.org**

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS: Midnight September 28th

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Beth Ohlhauser, Interim Executive Director, for help and review of their applications.

Call 218-365-2639 or email **info@gardnertrust.org**

The Trust office is located in the Ely City Hall, lower level, at 209 E. Chapman Street.



Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

BEAR SEASON

Bear registrations drop sharply, as anticipated

Bumper berry crop has made hunter baits less effective

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Fewer bear hunters are reporting success this year as abundant wild food sources appear to have given the advantage to the bears. As of Sept. 13, hunter registrations statewide are down 34 percent over last year.

Last year’s harvest, which fell just shy of 3,000 for the season, was

boosted by drought conditions that dried up most berry crops that bears rely on as they seek to put on fat reserves for the winter. Hungry bears are more likely to respond to the baits that hunters put out near their stands, so poor conditions give hunters the advantage.

This year, a bumper crop of wild fruits, mushrooms, acorns, and other wild foods have made baiting less effective. “Bear foods are definitely

the driving factor here,” said Jessica Holmes, Tower area DNR wildlife manager.

This year’s abundant wild foods are helping female bears most of all, and that’s likely to aid in the effort to

See BEARS...pg. 5B



Right: A young bear looks down from a high perch in an aspen tree. file photo



HUNTING

Grouse outlook favorable

Above average brood reports should mean good hunting in the northeast

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — The explosive flush of the ruffed grouse will be on the minds of hunters starting this Saturday as the 2022 season gets underway. Ruffed grouse are among the most popular game birds in the country and Minnesota sports the highest population of these birds found anywhere — and this year could well be better-than-expected.

While northern Minnesota was supposed to be experiencing a down year in the usual ten-year ruffed grouse cycle, the annual spring drumming surveys showed an unexpected increase. While DNR biologists note that high drumming counts don’t always translate into plentiful flushes during the fall hunt, they do suggest the potential for higher bird numbers depending on the breeding season.

While much of the summer was wet, which isn’t helpful for the survival of young grouse, the month of June, which is the most critical for chick survival, was much drier and warmer than average, at least in northeastern Minnesota, which appears to have boosted breeding success.

“We’re seeing a good number of broods out there, especially in the northeast,” said Charlotte Roy, the DNR’s grouse biologist who is based in Grand Rapids.

Roy noted that spring drumming counts used to be a good predictor of fall hunting success, but not anymore.



Top: Grouse numbers should be above expectations as high spring drumming counts combined with what appears to have been good breeding success in the northeast, should yield plenty of action for grouse hunters. The season gets underway on Saturday, Sept. 17.

Left: A perfect scene... a hunter, his most loyal partner, and excellent October grouse habitat.

Below: A wary grouse peeks through maple leaves.

What’s changed remains unclear. Roy said it could be due to any of a number of factors, including climate change, West Nile virus, or an increase in predation.

In order to improve the DNR’s ability to forecast grouse numbers, Roy is using brood reports from a wide variety of cooperators who spend time in the summer woods. That includes DNR and Forest Service staff as well as tribal officials.

Roy said this new survey method is still in the exploratory phase so she can’t guarantee that the reports they’re getting from the field will translate to plentiful flushes for hunters this season, but she said the brood reports she’s getting from the northeast are certainly promising.

Tower Area DNR Wildlife Manager Jessica Holmes concurred. “Brood observations have been above average,” she said.

See GROUSE...pg. 5B



Wildflower Watch

This week’s featured flower
HAIRY GOLDENROD



Goldenrods aren’t all the same and one of our more distinctive goldenrods, the tall and spiky **Hairy Goldenrod**, *Solidago hispida*, are in bloom right now. This is a species that seems to do best on sites where many other plants would struggle, like rocky outcrops or other areas with poor or dry soils.

The ones pictured above were growing at the top of Jasper Peak, practically out of the bedrock.

Unlike the wispy flowering clusters of our more common goldenrods, this variety grows a tall spike of yellow flowers. Its leaves are narrow and pointed and stiffly hairy underneath, as its name suggests.

Outdoors briefly

DNR seeks members for advisory panels

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is recruiting new members to serve on key advisory groups related to Minnesota’s natural heritage, the Game and Fish Fund, and wildlife and fisheries management. Interested people can apply on the Engage with DNR website through Monday, Sept. 19 for the fish and wildlife advisory committees, including the Deer Advisory Committee, Mille Lacs Fisheries Advisory Committee, Minnesota R3 Council (R3 refers to the recruitment, retention and reactivation of hunters and anglers), and fisheries work groups. The application period for the Natural Heritage Advisory Committee is open through Monday, Oct. 17.

In addition to candidates possessing the specific knowledge and experience required for each committee, the DNR seeks inclusive and well-rounded advisory committees, encompassing differences including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, socioeconomic status, education, marital status, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability, life experience, ideas, knowledge and learning styles.

SEPTEMBER FOG



The cooler mornings in early September have been generating fog over many area lakes, such as Lost Lake, pictured here with still morning water. photo by J. Summit

VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK

Paddle, picnic, and play on National Public Lands Day

VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK — National Public Lands Day is set for Saturday, Sept. 24, and the Voyageurs Conservancy has organized a number of family-friendly outdoor activities to mark the occasion. All the events are free and are based near the Rainy Lake Visitors Center.

The Conservancy is the official charitable partner of Voyageurs National Park and it regularly organizes and provides financial support for special events in the park. It's inviting area residents and visitors to mark the end of a challenging season as well as celebrate the impact that public lands have on the quality of life here in the U.S. The Conservancy and its volunteers will be joined in this event by program partner Wilderness Inquiry and their traveling Canoemobile program.

Established in 1994 and held annually on the fourth Saturday in September, National Public Lands Day is traditionally the nation's largest single-day volunteer effort.

Among the events scheduled are:

➤ **Canoemobile**, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Rainy Lake boat launch.

Explore Rainy Lake with Wilderness Inquiry's Canoemobile. Enjoy a "floating classroom" experience in a 10-person canoe, launching on the hour at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. It's a great opportunity for children fourth grade and up. Life jackets will be provided and no prior paddling experience is required.

➤ **Native garden tour** 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the garden outside the visitors center.

Have you ever wondered about wildflowers that pop up in your garden unannounced? Should you let them stay or treat them

as party crashers? During this program you will spend a half-hour touring the Voyageurs ethnobotanical garden and learn to identify both native plant species and invasive weeds that are not so nice as they may look, followed by a half-hour of hands-on garden invasive species removal stewardship. Participants may also complete the Garden Junior Ranger booklet to earn a special Garden Ranger badge. Good for all ages.

➤ **Solar system on a string**, 11 a.m., at the Rainy Lake recreation trailhead near the visitors center. Come learn about the wonders of the solar system. Participants will journey through the solar system and visit each planet along the way to learn more about these fascinating worlds and appreciate the distance of objects in space.

➤ **Wolf Talk**, at noon at the picnic area near the Rainy Lake boat launch. Join young scientist Maeve Tuley as she shares the secret lives of wolves of the greater Voyageurs ecosystem and what it's like to research and study them. Maeve will share surprising facts about wolves and dispel some of the harmful misconceptions about them.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
60 52					68 54					68 53					72 55					74 53				
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
09/05	70	37	0.00		09/05	69	39	0.00		09/05	70	42	0.00		09/05	72	46	0.00		09/05	70	34	0.00	
09/06	72	48	0.00		09/06	73	47	0.00		09/06	72	44	0.00		09/06	79	50	0.00		09/06	73	43	0.00	
09/07	77	55	0.00		09/07	79	44	0.00		09/07	79	46	0.00		09/07	79	45	0.00		09/07	78	42	0.00	
09/08	78	58	0.00		09/08	79	62	0.00		09/08	79	52	0.00		09/08	77	59	0.00		09/08	77	43	0.00	
09/09	78	57	0.02		09/09	80	58	0.00		09/09	79	59	0.00		09/09	64	54	0.06		09/09	79	57	0.01	
09/10	61	49	0.05		09/10	62	43	0.15		09/10	65	48	0.18		09/10	68	39	0.00		09/10	63	41	0.16	
09/11	68	42	0.00		09/11	69	36	0.00		09/11	66	44	0.06		09/11	68	34	0.00		09/11	67	33	0.00	
YTD Total 19.20					YTD Total 22.07					YTD Total 21.72					YTD Total NA NA					YTD Total 27.03				

BEARS...Continued from page 4B

rebuild the region's bear population. DNR wildlife managers have been trying to rebuild the bear population in the region, which was cut in half a decade ago by several years of high hunting mortality.

But the rebound has been slower than expected, as a series of poor food years have left females more vulnerable to hunters. Female bears are typically more cautious about approaching hunters' baits, but they tend to overcome that reluctance when natural foods are short.

Last year, hunters took an even

number of males and females. This year, however, males are making up about 62 percent of the registered bears. "This is quite a contrast to last year," said Holmes.

As of Sept. 13, hunters had registered a total of 132 bears in permit area 25, which includes northern St. Louis and the eastern half of Koochiching counties. Of those, 82 were males, while 56 were female. Hunters had registered 157 bears in permit area 31, which runs from Tower and Ely down to the North Shore, including 107 males

and 50 females.

Given the pace of the hunt, Holmes said she expects the final harvest will come in right around 2,000 bears this season. If so, that would be the lowest harvest since 2018.

The bear season runs through Sunday, Oct. 16, although most bears are taken in the first ten days of the season.

GROUSE...Continued from page 4B

Hunters may find a larger number of relatively small birds this fall. According to Roy, the peak reporting of active broods came in early-to-mid July this year, as opposed to late June in a typical year. She notes that the late spring set most things back in the region by at least a couple weeks, which means the young of the year are likely to be a bit smaller than usual in the early season.

Holmes said that's consistent with her own recent observations in

the field. She said she plans to wait until October to start grouse hunting herself to give the young birds a bit more time to grow.

Roy suspects the young grouse could well disperse from their family coveys a bit later this year as well. Coveys usually start breaking up in mid-to-late September, but she expects that might well be pushed back to early October this year. That's typically the peak of the grouse season in northeastern Minnesota, as the leaves are tradi-

tionally on the ground by the middle of the month.

Hunter walking trails

Holmes said the DNR's hunter walking trails in far northern parts of the county, such as near Crane, Echo, and Pelican lakes, as well as along Hwy. 115, have all been mowed in time for the season opener. Trails in the central part of the county may not be mowed ahead of the opener, however, due to mechanical issues with the DNR's contracted mower.

PET FOOD

HIBBING *FEED and SEED*

262-3049

PETERSEN DRILLING

Since 1948

Wells Water Systems

- PUMPS
- WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

1-800-662-5700

Spring Park Rd.

Mt. Iron, MN 55768

CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY.

CLEAN

- Boats, trailers, and gear
- Remove all weeds, mud, and hitchhiking contaminants from axles, wheels, undercarriage, motor, prop, nets, and gear before leaving boat landing

DRAIN

- Water from boat, bilge, motor, and live well
- Remove drain plug and open all water draining devices
- Trash unused bait

DRY

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

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES! LEARN MORE AT CLEANDRAINDRY.ORG

STATE OF NEW YORK

SAINT LOUIS

Wildlife Forever

CLEAN DRAIN DRY INITIATIVE

EMPLOYMENT



FULL-TIME REPORTER/EDITOR

Join the independently-owned community newspaper with a national reputation for quality. The Timberjay, northern Minnesota's most award-winning weekly newspaper, has an immediate opening for a full-time editor/reporter in Ely.

Live, work, and play in the town at the edge of the famed Boundary Waters, named by Outside Magazine as one of the Ten Best Small Towns in America.

We are looking for an experienced news editor or reporter who wants to immerse themselves in a vibrant community full of colorful characters. A background in page layout (InDesign) and excellent photography skills are important as well as writing ability.

Competitive salary plus a SIMPLE-IRA savings plan with matching contributions.

Qualified candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and writing and/or layout samples to Marshall Helmberger at marshall@timberjay.com.



Public Health Nurse (Virginia or Hibbing) \$27.61-\$36.32 Hourly Apply by 09/21/2022

Heavy Equipment Mechanic \$29.90 Hourly • Continuous

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

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 9/16

JOB OPPORTUNITY 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

POSITION OPENING Ely Public Schools Paraprofessional

Ely Public Schools is accepting applications for a Paraprofessional beginning the 2022-2023 school year; background check required.

Qualifications include: > Associate's Degree/equivalent or complete a Para Pro exam with a passing score (www.ets.org/parapro) > Preferred experience working with school-age children > Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting > Ability to perform job description duties

Benefits include: > Paid sick leave, personal days and vacation > Health and life insurance > Flexible spending account > PERA retirement

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

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

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us. Contact the District Office for a complete job description.

Starting Rate of Pay: \$17.23/hour

Hours: 6.5 hours/day

Deadline to apply: September 21, 2022; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 16, 2022

POSITION OPENING Ely Public Schools Indigenous Support Interventionist

Ely Public Schools is looking for an Indigenous Support Interventionist for the 2022-2023 school year. A background check is required.

Qualifications include: > AA Degree or 2 years of college preferred > Preferred experience working with school age American Indian children > Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting > Knowledge of Google Suites

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

A complete application must include the following: > Non-Licensed District Application > Resume > 2 letters of recommendation

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

Rate of Pay: \$17.00/hour

Hours: 6 hours/day

Deadline to apply: Wednesday, September 21, 2022; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 16, 2022



COME JOIN OUR TEAM! Waschke Family Chevrolet is currently seeking an Auto Body Technician and an Automotive Detailer. Stop in and apply in person at 126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, or inquire by phone at 218-66605901, or send resume to Dgrecinger@waschke.com.

WANTED!

Waschke Family Chevrolet is currently seeking an A/B technician. Prefer GM Certified but will train. Base pay plus incentives! Stop in and apply in person at 126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, or inquire by phone at 218-66605901, or send resume to Dgrecinger@waschke.com. tfr



OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

Environmental Services

FT Laundry Aide (Wage starting at \$14.68/hr) FT (Environmental Tech I) Housekeeping and Laundry Aide (Wage starting at \$14.68/hr, \$1,500 sign-on bonus)

Hospital/ER

PT Registered Nurse (Wage starting at \$35.17/hr, \$4,000 sign-on bonus) 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 (Wage starting at \$14.18/hr.)

TO APPLY:

www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/

More Info? Contact Human Resources

218-666-6220

humanresources@cookhospital.org

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

The Cook Hospital is an equal opportunity provider and employer

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LOCAL LODGING TAX FOR CERTAIN UNORGANIZED TOWNSHIPS IN ELY AREA

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of St. Louis County, Minnesota, will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 9:35 a.m. at the Ely City Hall, 209 East Chapman Street, Ely, Minnesota, on a proposed local lodging tax of up to three percent (3%) in the following unorganized townships: 61-12, 61-14, 63-14, 63-15, 64-14, 65-14, 66-12, 66-13, 66-14, 67-13, 67-14, and 68-14

Resolution 22-470 - Initial Determination on Imposition of Local Lodging Tax for Unorganized Townships in the Ely Area and Establishment of Public Hearing on Proposed Tax WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 469.190 provides for imposition of a local lodging tax of up to three percent (3%) on the gross receipts from the furnishing for consideration of lodging at a hotel, motel, rooming house, tourist court, or resort, other than the renting or leasing of it for a continuous period of 30 days or more; and WHEREAS, St. Louis County has received a request from representatives of the tourism and lodging industry located in the Ely area asking to expand the "Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the Collection and Administration of a Local Lodging Tax in the Ely area" to include certain unorganized territories; and WHEREAS, To begin the process of imposing a local lodging tax in the unorganized territory, the St. Louis County Board, acting as a town board, must make an initial determination that the tax is in the public interest and hold a public hearing on the proposed tax pursuant to the statute.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board hereby makes an initial determination that a local lodging tax of up to three (3%) in the following unorganized townships is in the public interest: 61-12, 61-14, 63-14, 63-15, 64-14, 65-14, 66-12, 66-13, 66-14, 67-13, 67-14 and 68-14.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County Board establishes a public hearing on the proposed tax for Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 9:35 a.m. at the Ely City Hall, Ely, MN, to consider the proposed tax.

Adopted on: August 9, 2022. Moved by Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Jugovich Passed 7-0.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

NANCY J. NILSEN, COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER By: Phil Chapman, Clerk of County Board

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 16 & 23, 2022

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.



Current Openings Teacher: Science and/or Social Studies (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 in Tower. 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

Legal notices are online each week at timberjay.com and at https://www.mnpublicnotice.com/

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

AUTOMOTIVE

Langevin Auto & Truck Repair
Full Service Auto Repair & Garage
Hours: 8 AM-5 PM M-F
2 Miles South of Tower
218-749-0751

HAIR CARE

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

HOSPICE

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AA MEETING IN COOK- Sunday Night Big Book Group meets at Trinity Lutheran Church, 231 2nd St. NE, Cook, at 7:00 pm Sunday. For information call 218-666-2820 or 218-780-7670.

AL-ANON MEETING IN COOK - Ashawa Al-Anon Family Group meets at Trinity Lutheran Church, 231 2nd St. NE, Cook, at 7:00 pm Sunday. This meeting is for families and friends of alcoholics.

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

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

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

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

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

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

BUILDING SERVICES

EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC

“Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home”

Superior Quality

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

218-744-1788

8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

WANTED

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

LOOKING TO BUY LAND- Northern Minnesota couple who will soon be “empty nesters” looking for a beautiful piece of land to build a small home/cabin. We love to garden and are quiet, friendly neighbors. We’re looking for around 5 acres anywhere in the area. We can afford \$55,000. Please contact us: 541-625-9854. 9/16

INFO WANTED ON 1920s ERA HASKELL (plywood) CANOE- rumored to be in the Ely area. Call/email/text melscoop@aol.com or 651-276-7743. 9/23v

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

MARINE

MERCURY OUTBOARDS
Frank’s Marine Sales & Service
Mercury, Crestliner, Lund
www.franksmarinesales.com
franksmarine@centurytel.net
Hwy 53, Orr • Call 218-757-3150

Handberg’s MARINA
ALLIANCE POLARIS GODFREY
Sales • Service Rentals General Store
218-993-2214
www.handbergs.com

FREE

11 FT. BUTTERFLY BARNETT SAILBOAT- FREE. Pike Bay, Lake Vermilion. Call 612-719-1820 9/9v

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED- LIGHT CLEANING AND PAINTING. Great for parents of school-age children. Text 218-290-5370. 9/23

ARONSON BOAT WORKS
LAKE VERMILION, TOWER
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169
218-753-4190
Summer Hours:
Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Sat: 8:30-5, Sun: 9 AM-4 PM
MERCURY LUND HONDA
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

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

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

MARINE

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

TIMBUKTU MARINE
LAKE VERMILION
218-666-2276
2475 Vermilion Dr - Cook MN
Ranger PREMIER PONTOONS WEEERES
Boats MERCURY SUZUKI YAMAHA
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories
timbuktumarine.com

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.

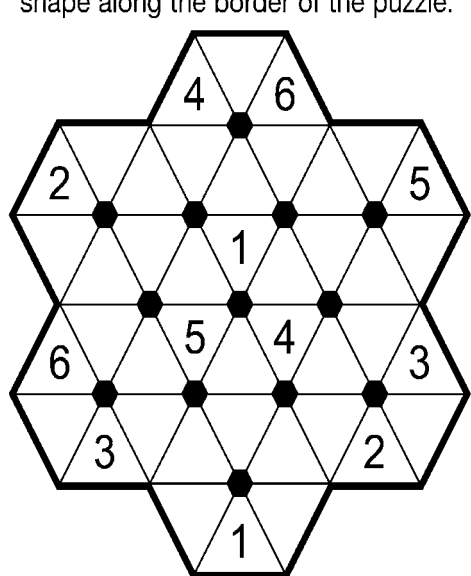
QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum 4-year degree in relevant area. Administrator licensure or coursework preferred but not required. Experience with charter schools and school leadership. Experience/interest in innovative learning and creating a democratic school environment. Ability to write/manage grants, interact 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. For more information, visit our website at www.vermilioncountry.org.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

D’Ericks Tower Liquors
(on-sale and off-sale)
Business is for sale.
For more information, call 218-753-4071. 9/16

SNOWFLAKES
by Japheth Light

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



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦ ♦♦ ♦♦♦
♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Tea and ale
6 Brunch menu items
13 Difficult to pin down
20 Newswoman Shriver
21 Ancient Italian region
22 Like adoptees and swindle victims
23 Start of a riddle
25 French scholar Peter
26 Buddy
27 Sly-fox link
28 Passenger-screening org.
29 Shallowest Great Lake
30 Crocheted coverlet
33 Mess up
36 Retina spot that might degenerate
38 Chou En- —
39 Riddle, part 2
42 Running herd
45 Marked with stripes
46 “Alfie” actress Long

47 Ghana’s capital
51 Whiz
52 Printing proof, informally
56 Riddle, part 3
61 Jinx
62 Whim
63 A single time
64 Eastern “way”
65 Shirt tag information
66 Andre of tennis
67 Application to thinning hair
69 Give a job to
71 Zip
72 Abbr. on military mail
74 Lip
75 Almond confection
76 Food fish
77 Riddle, part 4
80 Very little, in recipes
82 — -mo
83 Syrian president since 2000
84 Scottish seaport
85 Skin art
88 Carts away
92 End of the riddle
98 Prefix with lingual

99 Novelist or dramatist
100 Professors’ privileges
101 Provo or Orem native
104 Doily material
105 Belly muscles
107 Old Russian space station
108 “Trinity” novelist Leon
109 Barge in
111 Riddle’s answer
117 Cleaned thoroughly
118 Runs in
119 Gads about
120 Draft horse’s gear
121 Person icing a cake
122 Fashion flair

DOWN

1 X6 carmaker
2 “Go, team!”
3 Distinctive time
4 Coven member
5 Comic — Baron Cohen
6 Female gamete
7 Gibson of “Gallipoli”
8 Ultimate goal
9 Eases

10 Natural gas component
11 Knotted neckwear
12 Declare
13 Approx. airport stats
14 Ritchie Valens hit
15 Small guitar, for short
16 One drafted for service
17 Trapped by habit
18 Manly
19 Win the affection of
24 Pound fraction
28 Shorten
30 Capone and Pacino
31 Pudgy
32 Big black-and-white mammal
33 “Yuck!”
34 Football’s Cowboys, on scoreboards
35 Big 1940s computer
37 Crooning cowboy Gene
40 Set — (start wedding plans)
41 R&B singer — Marie

43 Operate wrongly
44 Ratchet wheel
48 When doubled, tot’s train
49 Versatile stoves
50 Peaceful, simple place
53 “Goodbye, Columbus”
54 Divide into different districts
55 Some daisies
56 Activist Jagger
57 “No more for me, thanks”
58 NBA Hall of Famer Thomas
59 Stoops (to)
60 Go-getters
65 Spreads apart
67 Public unveilings of products
68 Fishing tools
70 Agra’s Taj —
73 Basil-based green sauce
75 Propel a bike
77 Allowance
78 Unconfined

79 Big laughs
81 Like some lotteries and liquor stores
86 Diatribes
87 Part of SFPD
89 Take forcibly
90 Monkly title
91 Fish part
92 Like a wise bird
93 Lingua —
94 One who triumphs
95 Uno or dos
96 Spring blooms
97 Most minimal
102 Wedding cake layers
103 Knotted neckwear
106 Mattresses’ places
108 Pre-’91 superpower
110 Suffix with script
111 U.K. military fliers
112 Mess up
113 Beatified Fr. woman
114 Wall-climbing plant
115 Food fish
116 Dir. from Fresno to L.A.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20						21								22							
23						24								25							
				26				27				28				29					
30	31	32					33				34	35			36	37					
38						39	40							41							
42			43	44							45										
		46				47		48	49	50		51			52		53	54	55		
56	57					58					59			60			61				
62								63				64				65					
66							67					68			69	70					
71						72	73			74				75							
76						77				78				79							
80				81			82			83					84						
				85		86				87			88		89				90	91	
92	93	94								95	96	97				98					
99								100							101	102	103				
104						105	106			107				108							
109					110					111	112			113					114	115	116
117										118						119					
120										121						122					

Adverstising PAYS OFF!

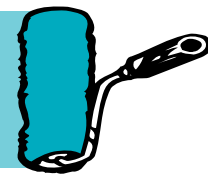
\$ \$ \$



Call 753-2950
subscribe to the
Timberjay!



HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



THE FINISHED LOOK
BUILDING | ROOFING
REMODELING

John Thomas Almeida
Owner & Designer
Pingajt@gmail.com
(218) 235-7305

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

YOU CALL, WE HAUL!

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

Carl Anderson
Anderson Barging, Inc.
Cell 218-780-4955
www.andersonbarging.com
Covering all of Lake Vermilion

Your Source For Roofing

VERMILLION ROOFING
Serving Cook, Tower and Ely Areas

- METAL ROOFING
- ARCHITECTURAL SHINGLES

Bryan (218) 269-1039
Karl (612) 418-8953

Licensed • Insured BC# 785662
VermillionRoofing.com | VermillionRoofing@gmail.com

NORTHEAST TITLE
Closing Services, Title Insurance & Abstracting

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

ELY OFFICE
545 E Sheridan St • Ely, MN 55731
Phone (218) 365-5256
Angie Mikulich
Licensed Closing Agent

VIRGINIA OFFICE
612 13 St S • Virginia MN 55792
Phone (218) 741-1515
Jodee Micheletti
Owner/Licensed Closing Agent

COOK/SURROUNDING AREAS
Phone (218) 666-3174
Sharon Maronick
Licensed Closing Agent

www.netitle.com

ROOFS
The FINISHED LOOK

REPAIR & INSTALLATION

218-235-7305
Licensed and Insured
License# BC674311

...Have Hard Water Issues?

We Can Help...
WATER SOFTENER SALT
Assorted Varieties

We are a UPS Shipping Drop-Off

VERMILLION LUMBER
HOME OF THE PROFESSIONALS
218-753-2230
302 Main St., Tower, MN
M-F: 8 AM-5 PM; Sat: 8 AM-Noon

FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Delivered Redi-Mix Concrete Septic Tanks

We have: Concrete Steps & Sidewalk Pavers, Crushed & Washed Rock, Sand, Garden Soil, Crushed & Screened Gravel, Different Types of Concrete Blocks.
FREE ESTIMATES for site development, roads, fill and excavations.

Celebrating Over 49 Years! From Ely to Tower-Soudan and Virginia, using local gravel pits to support all your needs.

FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

1715 E. Sheridan, Ely, MN 55731
office 218-365-6161 • plant 218-365-4030
fax 218-365-6985 • cell 218-341-3197

Your Fall Project Center!

Stop in for all your building needs!

FROM CABINS TO CASTLES
COOK BUILDING CENTER

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

Excavating Licensed Septic Design & Installation

- ◆ Complete Site & Building Preparation
- ◆ Road Building, Land Clearing, Basement, Demolition
- ◆ Digging, Dozing, Hauling
- ◆ Sand, Gravel, Crushed Rock, Black Dirt

Call for an estimate • 218-365-4220
2408 Hwy. 169, PO Box 608, Ely, MN 55731
jschulze.excavating2@gmail.com

TREAT YOURSELF to a BRAND NEW look!

Our unique computer system allows you to see how your kitchen will look before you buy!

Up to 50% OFF
MFG. List Price on Cabinetry!

Sinks • Hardware • Tile • Counter Tops • Vanities • Carpet • Vinyl • More!

Many kitchen cabinet displays set up in the store! Also, door samples and over 900 combinations of styles and stains to choose from!

BIG Enough to Serve you; small Enough to Know You
FLOOR to CEILING
INTERIOR DESIGN SHOWROOM

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

FINANCING AVAILABLE!
HOURS: 8-5:30 M-F
floortoceiling.com/virginia

Super Crossword

Answers

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

SNOWFLAKES
solution

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is seeking proposals for propane and fuel oil delivery for the 2022-2023 heating season.

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is seeking proposals for propane and fuel oil for the 2022-2023 heating season. The proposal should include information and pricing for "keep fill" services and Emergency services. A certificate of Liability insurance will be required. If you have any questions or would like to review what to include with the proposal, please contact EBCH Facilities Team Leader George Rajkovich at 218-365-8731. Proposals must be submitted no later than October 3, 2022.

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital
Attention: George Rajkovich
Heating Proposals
328 W Conan St
Ely, MN 55731



Committed to caring for and enhancing the health and well-being of the community it serves."

328 W. Conan St. | Ely, MN 55731 | 218-365-8704

EOE