

VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK **Ebel breaks silence on tasing**

Justin Ebel, park officials offer sharply divergent versions of water-based incident

by DAVID COLBURN Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- The details of a controversial incident last summer during which an Ash River business owner was tased twice by law enforcement officials at Voyageurs National Park have come into clearer focus as a result of a Timberjay investigation. That investigation includes an extended interview with Justin Ebel, owner of

Ebel Voyageurs Houseboats, who broke seven months of attorney-advised silence to speak to the *Timberjay* about the incident this week.

The Timberjay has also obtained probable cause statements created by law enforcement officials as the basis for their actions and five citations that they issued against Ebel after the encounter on Lake Kabetogama.

windy one on Kabetogama, with gusts reaching 25-30 mph, Ebel recalls. Record flood levels in the Rainy River basin were declining, and the receding waters meant rocks that had been deeply submerged were becoming potential hazards for boaters. Ebel said he and other lake recreation business owners had contacted Voyageurs National Park about two weeks prior requesting that Saturday, June 25 was a efforts be stepped up to place

markers for these emerging hazards.

Early that afternoon, calls began coming into the Ebel's Voyageurs Houseboats office that one of their houseboats had run aground on a rock near the Ash River Visitor Center. According to the probable cause statements written by a Ranger Steve Pederson, one of two VNP enforcement rangers

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THE LEGISLATURE

Bakk to lobby for tobacco industry

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER Managing Editor

ST. PAUL-Public health advocates are facing a new and unexpected adversary in their efforts to prevent young people from smoking - former state Sen. Tom Bakk.

Bakk, who represented Minnesota's Third District for more than two decades, recently joined the stable of lobbyists maintained by Altria Client Services LLC, the legal arm of the Altria Group, the parent company of Phillip-Morris.

Despite its name change, Altria

remains one of the world's largest producers and marketers of tobacco, cigarettes, and related products. They maintain a sizable presence at the state Capitol, with ten registered



Tom Bakk lobbyists, Bakk being the most recent.

State law requires that lobbyists register with the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board (CFB), which is how word of Bakk's hiring trickled out of St. Paul. Bakk's filing with the CFB lists Altria as his only client.

See..BAKK pg. 10



ELY WINTER FESTIVAL





Top: Paul Sires and Patrick Knudson with Ely-based Rock Country Masonry discuss next steps on their snow sculpture, the Rock Country Castle.

Below: An eager beaver looks to have chopped down a tree in this creative sculpture by Tara and Kevin Boerst and Beth Ohlhauser.

Left: A kitty tractor attracts some onlookers. photos by C. Clark



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CITY OF ELY

Council condemns mineral withdrawal

by CATIE CLARK Ely Editor

ELY- It was standing room only at the city council meeting here on Tuesday as residents on both sides of the long-simmering copper-nickel mining debate weighed in on the council's expected response to the recently-approved 20-year mineral withdrawal, a federal decision that puts the planned Twin Metals proposal on life support.

At issue was a council proposal to send a letter of opposition to the withdrawal decision to the Biden administration, which announced the action Jan. 26.

The majority who spoke to the

See...COUNCIL pg. 10

Contact The Timberjay

218-753-2950 editor@timberjay.com



Community notices

Racial Justice Group meeting Sunday, Feb. 19

ELY – Ely's newly formed Racial Justice Group (RJG) will meet at Ely Presbyterian Church at noon on Sunday, Feb. 19.

Meetings include a guided mindfulness activity and topical discussion. The RJG is currently reading *Me & White Supremacy* by Layla F. Saad. The group will read "Week One" for the upcoming meeting. Newcomers are welcome. Contact carolyndehnbostel@gmail.com with any questions.

Valerie Myntti to speak at Sisu Heritage annual meeting Feb. 26

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage, Inc. will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. at Embarrass Town Hall. The guest speaker, Valerie Myntti, of Eagles Nest Lake Three, will be presenting,"The Philosophy and Development of the Finnish Co-ops" including her family's memories of Co-op Point on Eagles Nest Lake One. This will be an interesting and personal piece of Finnish history on the Iron Range.

The public is cordially invited to join Sisu members for the afternoon. A short business meeting will include committee reports, election of board members, and presentation of the 2023 budget. Coffee an' will be served and door prizes awarded.

Sisu Heritage, Inc. is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the St. Louis County Historical Society. Its mission is "to enhance the Embarrass region by preserving and sharing its unique culture, climate and history." Memberships are \$10 per year and can be renewed or purchased at the meeting, or by mail to Sisu Heritage, PO Box 71, Embarrass, MN 55732. Embarrass Town Hall is located at 7503 Levander Rd. Please call 218-984-3402 with any questions.

Embarrass Region Fair Association to hold annual meeting Feb. 16

EMBARRASS - The Embarrass Region Fair Association will host its annual meeting on Thursday, Feb. 16, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Timber Hall.

The agenda includes a State of the Association presentation, discussion of a revised governance format, and nominations for the 2023-24 ERFA Board of Directors. As part of the nominating process, we are seeking community-oriented individuals with a variety of skill sets who are interested in serving on the board. One of the most important qualifications is a commitment to see that Timber Hall and the Embarrass Region Fair Association continue to thrive and improve now and in the years to come. Directors serve a two-year term; they oversee and provide guidance and leadership for the Embarrass Region Fair Association. In addition, many volunteers are needed in non-leadership roles.

All members of the Region are invited to participate and provide input for the ongoing administration of the Timber Hall, its property, and the annual Fair. Communities included are: Aurora, Babbitt, Biwabik, Breitung, Britt, Eagles Nest, Ely, Embarrass, Greenwood, Hoyt Lakes, Kugler, Morse, Fall Lake, Palo, Pike, Sandy, Soudan, Tower, Vermilion Lake, Waasa, White, Winton, and Wuori. All members of our region are encouraged to attend.

Vetarans On The Lake Resort to host "History in a Pint" Feb. 15 at 6 p.m.

DULUTH – Veterans Memorial Hall, a program of the St. Louis County Historical Society, announces the next presentation of the local recurring history series, "History in a Pint" to be held in the dining hall at Veterans On The Lake Resort Feb. 15 at 6 p.m.

The evening's program topic will be 'USMC GT James Joseph Hubert's Long Journey Home' from WWII as told by his nephew Jay Hagen. Mr. Hagen is the Veterans Memorial Hall Program Manager and will be presenting all aspects of his uncle's service & sacrifice, his 73 years MIA (Missing In Action), his eventual recovery and repatriation home to Duluth in 2017. The "History in a Pint" program series is presented by Veterans Memorial Hall wherein a veteran, or a veteran's story, is presented about their experiences serving in the military – all while enjoying an adult beverage, available for purchase. All are welcome to attend, learn, ask questions and join in the camaraderie. Attendance is free of charge, but donations are always welcome.

Ely Chamber of Commerce prepares for 2023 WolfTrack Classic

Several pre-race events lead up to annual sled dog race on Feb. 26

ELY - On Saturday, Feb. 18 everyone 21 and over is encouraged to stop by Mike's Liquors for the Earth Rider Brewery beer-tasting event to be held from 3 to 6 p.m. The WolfTrack Classic crew will be there handing out race information. Race Director, Ellen Cashman says, "It's not too late to be a mile marker sponsor for \$100.00 or make a \$30.00 donation to the race and take home a limited edition, signed 'Northern Night - Aurora Borealis' print."

On Friday evening, Feb. 24, Timber Trail Lodge will host a volunteer meet and greet event. All volunteers and sponsors are welcome. There will be a bonfire, hot beverages, light snacks, and outdoor winter fun.

On Saturday, Feb. 25, mushers and their teams will start arriving in Ely and begin final preparations for Sunday's race. At 3 p.m. on Saturday, the teams will assemble in the Minnesota North College - Vermilion campus parking lot. This is the first opportunity for the public to meet these beautiful and energetic rock star athletes and their mushers. The college's Wilderness Club will provide an allyou-can eat spaghetti dinner from 4-7:30 pm in the school cafeteria. Tickets are available at the door for \$10 per adult and \$5 for youth. The dinner is a fundraiser for the club. Purse Sponsors, Sundog Sports and Timber Trail Lodge will be in attendance at the dinner.

The WolfTrack Classic main event is Sunday, Feb. 26, featuring two mid-distance races. There is a thirty-mile, six-dog race, and a fifty-mile, eight-dog race. The public is welcome to attend; however, please leave pets home. Spectator parking will open at 8 a.m. on the Old Airport Road parking lot. Parking will close at 8:45 am, or when the lot is full. If the lot is full when you arrive, you will be directed to side street parking or the Ely Cham-



Above: Eager canine athletes race down the trail.

On right: One musher and team head down the course that starts and finishes in Ely.

ber of Commerce parking lot. The recycling center is closed on race day.

The teams leave the Ely Softball Complex on Old Airport Road (next to Forest Concrete Plant) at 9 a.m. The energy of the 420 dogs is a frenzy of high-pitched anticipation not to be missed. The eight-dog teams hit the trail first, followed by the six-dog teams at two-minute intervals until all teams are on the trail. Teams travel the Taconite Trail and return to the Ely start/finish area. Spectators won't have to wait long before teams come across the finish line at noon. While waiting, enjoy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate and a light breakfast snack while supplies last, compliments of Midco Communication. New this year will

be three warming fires near the dog trucks, start-finish, and coffee area, also provided by Midco Communications. Schulze Excavating is providing the firewood, and Dutchman Tree Service will keep those warming fires burning – thank you to both businesses for their support.

The WolfTrack Classic is only possible with the generous support from area businesses, the community, and volunteers. The race will be live-streamed through iFan Sports. The link for the iFan channel will be available at WolfTrackClassic.com and on Facebook @WolfTrackClassic. Please remember to support the sponsors who support the race.

28th Annual YIA Conference Feb. 27

VIRGINIA - The 28th Annual Youth In Action (YIA) conference "Make a Difference 2023" will be held at the Iron Trail Motor Event Center from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27. The day's keynote speaker, Steve Fredlund will present "The Peeps in the Jeep on Our Epic Adventure."

The mission of the annual conference is to strengthen, educate and inspire young people with the help of community partners to make a difference in their communities through leadership, advocacy, and service as well as to recruit, grow and promote the YIA program.

More than 350 youth in grades 7-12 from across St. Louis County will attend the conference that features five workships presented by Youth in Action members from Mt. Iron-Buhl, Cherry, Northwoods, Hibbing and Marshall.

This year's keynote speaker, Steve Fredlund, is an award winning actuary, sought-after leadership coach and orgnaization catalyst with more than 30 years experience. He is the founder of "Epic Life Revolution" and a two-time TEDx speaker on coaching.

This year, YIA students will be incorporating a service project into their conference collectively between schools. They will hold a needs drive to benefit Range Regionial Animal Rescue. Watch for more event details on the Youth In Action Facebook page and website @yiamn.org. This event is supported by St. Louis County and area businesses.



GIANTS RIDGE Pepsi Challenge cross country ski race returns on March 4

BIWABIK- The 38th annual Pepsi Challenge Cross Country Ski Race returns to Giants Ridge on Saturday, March 4 for an exciting day of competition and fun. The leading event of the day will be the 50K Pepsi Challenge Cup races, which include a Freestyle and a Classic event. Participants will test their endurance and skill on the challenging course at Giants Ridge and compete for the coveted Pepsi Challenge Cup. In addition to the main races, the Great River Energy Rush Races in-

clude a 25K Freestyle Cup, Olympic Trials, Naand 25K Classic event. The Giants Ridge race, an 8K Freestyle, offers a fun and accessible option for participants of all ages and abilities. "The Pepsi Challenge Races have something for everyone – ages 9 to 90," says Deb Maki, Pepsi Challenge Race Director. "It's a family friendly day. We've had three generations of skiers in the various races in the past. It's a great way to make memories!" Giants Ridge has 60 kilometers of impeccably groomed, world class Nordic trails on which World

tional Collegiate Finals, U. S. National Championships and Minnesota High School Championships have taken place. Entry for the 50K and 25K races are \$80 when registering by Feb. 23 and \$90 from Feb. 24 through March 2. Prices for the 8K race are \$40 for participants 18 and under and \$55 for participants over 18. For more information on the Pepsi Challenge Cross Country Ski Race, visit www.pepsichallengeskirace.com or e-mail pepsichallenge@ giantsridge.com.



BLANDIN FOUNDATION \$3 million Blandin grant to support regional worker education

Foundation partners with Minnesota North College for AspireNORTH

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- Representatives of the Blandin Foundation and Minnesota North College held an online news conference on Tuesday to announce their collaboration in a new regional job training initiative, AspireNORTH, an innovative program intended to reach underserved populations and bring them into college classes with an array of supports to prepare them for high-paying jobs to meet the workforce needs of the regional economy.

The Blandin Foundation is investing \$3 million in AspireNORTH, a program that Blandin Foundation President and CEO Tuleah Palmer believes can be a serious game-changer for the region.

'We've taken a bold step with this grant, enabling the leadership of MN North to think big and truly redesign how their system serves this region of the state," Palmer said. "Right now, our approaches leave behind more workers than we help. AspireNORTH will shift the approach from focusing on how the individual is performing within the system to focusing on how the system is performing for the individual. That requires a whole new framework of regional coordination and leadership to build prosperity for our

marginalized workers and keep our wealth of knowledge and money close to home."

Dr. Michael Raich, President of Minnesota North College, said the funds will pave the way for expanded opportunities that will benefit new students and businesses alike.

"We are extremely pleased that they found the work that we want to do worthy of the work that they want to do," Raich said. "Blandin's investment in Minnesota North College's AspireNORTH project will significantly strengthen our ability to attract and robustly support traditionally underrepresented students in our region by meeting them where they are at as they balance their learning, work, and other responsibilities. In turn, our local business and industries will ultimately benefit from a larger and more diverse group of skilled graduates."

Dr. Jessalyn Sabin, academic dean of career and tech education and director of operations at MN North's Mesabi Range-Eveleth campus, said that traditional approaches aren't reaching many nontraditional students.

"The demographics are telling us that we have to be doing something different to see different results," said.

The combination of Hib-

bing Community College, Itasca Community College, Rainy River Community College, Vermilion Community College, and Mesabi Range College campuses in Virginia and Eveleth to create Minnesota North College provides new ways for the unified institution to deliver educational services. Major courses of study formerly available at only one or two colleges can now be offered at other campus through alternative delivery methods, including distance learning. The college's Applied Learning Institute will focus on career/ technical education careers, and the Customized Training Solutions Department will be able to provide "just in time" training tailored to the needs of regional employers.

AspireNORTH will primarily be seeking out students who for whatever reason may not have considered college to be an option. The program will reach out to communities such as Native American families, women, disconnected youth, public assistance recipients, and veterans.

A critical issue to student success is keeping students engaged, and to do that Minnesota North will be providing wraparound services to address things that create obstacles to that. Working with individuals to tailor solutions to their unique needs, the college will have options for academic support, career navigation, transportation, childcare, and mental health services.

"What the AspireNORTH grant does is it effectively creates a student-centered, individualized approach to meeting people where they're at, and the way we do that is really a start to finish type of project," Raich said.

In a release accompanying the news conference, first-year plans for the program are described as adding an American Indian Education coordinator, a career navigation coordinator, and bolstering mental health Trauma-informed supports. training will be provided to current staff to recognize signs of life challenges like homelessness, mental health emergencies and substance use, and training in cultural competency and adult learning theory will connect students with resources that help them reach their career goals.

"We want to encourage people to participate in learning at some level, whether that's a short-term course for certification or completing a two-year degree," said Dr. Trent Janezich, executive director of advancement and customized training solutions at MN North College. "This grant allows us to welcome people who haven't participated before."

Current and future employment needs are great. About two jobs are open for every available worker in the region right now, while the labor participation rate of 57 percent is 12 percent lower than that of the state overall. Improved employment and better wages obtained as a result of AspireNORTH training could help to alleviate a portion of the region's 11.2 percent poverty rate, almost two points higher than the statewide figure.

"There's definitely an intangible economic impact," said Dr. Jessalyn Sabin, academic dean of career and tech education. "The opportunity for workers to train in something new, to change and adapt their knowledge and skills, builds hope and vitality in a community - and this can happen at any stage of your career.'

Palmer said the foundation is pleased to partner in a consolidated regional approach to education that aligns with the foundation's mission.

See BLANDIN...pg. 5

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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

Editorial

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Turning back the clock

Conservatives on the courts want to return America to the 1700s

Last summer, the U.S. Supreme Court abolished a woman's right to control her own reproduction. Soon, they may take away a woman's right to avoid gunfire at the hands of an intimate partner.

In an astonishing decision issued this past week by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, a three-judge panel (including two Trump appointees and a Reagan appointee) ruled that a longstanding federal law that prohibited access to guns by those under restraining orders for domestic violence was unconstitutional. The three judges cited last year's Supreme Court decision that struck down a New York state requirement that gun owners needed to demonstrate an actual need in order to obtain a concealed carry handgun permit. In the majority opinion in that case, known as New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen, the court determined that any restriction on gun laws needed historical context from the period when the constitution was written, as in the late 1700s.

In the late 1700s, of course, wife-beating may have been a social problem, but it certainly wasn't a legal one. In every state at the time, men had an absolute legal right to beat or otherwise abuse their wives, a right that they continued to maintain for another century in most parts of the country.

So, based on the historical context, men wouldn't have been subject to restraining orders for domestic violence (or lose access to a firearm) because domestic violence was legal activity at the time. Therefore, we can't protect women from gun violence at the hands of domestic partners in 2023 because wife beating was legal 200 years ago. That's the state of conservative jurisprudence in the wake of Trump.

This ruling comes despite what numerous studies of crime statistics have already demonstrated, namely that adding a gun to a domestic abuse situation increases the odds that a woman will be killed by as much as 500 percent. While men constitute most victims of gun homicide in general, when it comes to cases of violence between domestic partners, women make up three-quarters of the victims. Even police recognize that one of the most dangerous calls they can receive is to respond to a domestic dispute, and that danger elevates exponentially whenever a gun is involved. This court ruling, guaranteed, will leave more cops and more women dead.

It can certainly be argued that the federal law in question here was ineffective in some cases. Enforcement of it, which typically relies on local police or sheriff deputies who may or may not be supportive of such protections for women, has been inconsistent. And a number of states, including Minnesota, have their own state laws intended to keep guns away from domestic abusers, so the federal law had relatively little impact.

But this latest Fifth Circuit ruling not only threatens the federal law- it could wipe away similar state laws, including the one here in Minnesota, if the Supreme Court upholds the decision. The Justice Department has already indicated it plans to appeal the case. Even if the high court declines to hear an appeal, there are plenty of other similar cases waiting in the wings. The New York case last year opened a flood gate of cases in which gun advocates are seeking to wipe away virtually any and all restrictions on access to guns.

Conservatives have been accused of wanting to take America back to the 1700s, and this is a good example of how they hope to actually achieve that goal. Conservatives have, for decades now, pushed back against the movements that have sought to expand the civil rights and social acceptance of groups that were historically oppressed in the U.S.

America in the 1700s was a world dominated by wealthy white men, who enjoyed rights routinely denied to women, African Americans, Native Americans, or gays and lesbians. It's an era to which many on the right long to return, using the fig leaf of constitutional "originalism" to justify their antediluvian desires. It's political ideology masquerading as legal theory and it defies longstanding legal precedents.



Letters from Readers

The tyranny of wealth continues to this day

A plantation, master/slave workplace in the antebellum South is best described as a forced labor camp. The master was the employer and slave the employee. Human beings were bought, sold and owned as private property. Slaves produced a surplus as defined by and belonging to the master.

Feudalism was organized around Lord and serf. Lords were land-holders and serfs worked the land. Unlike slaves, serfs were relatively free, but landless and bound to the Lord who provided protection in exchange for meager provisions and producing a surplus of farm goods. The Lord took the surplus.

Small business capitalism, independently or family owned and operated locally provided opportunity for the enterprising few. Everyone in town knew each other; employees in cottage industries, small shops and stores produced goods and services to fulfill community need. The employer took a small surplus.

Conglomerates extract wealth from Planet Earth, nation-states, local communities and its people without return. With surplus privatized as profit and costs socialized, growth is the aim, monopoly is the game and Authoritarian Capitalism is its name. Employees, as commodity, produce the wealth, but employers (the One Percent) seize the surplus. State-owned enterprise is an impersonal employee/employer relationship with the state as employer. Appointed bureaucrats make the decisions of what, where, when and how much to produce. The state is the boss and employees have little power within the system that directly affects their personal daily lives. Bureaucrats decide what to do with the surplus.

Worker cooperatives are organized to empower employees to be employers as their own bosses. Each worker in the enterprise has one vote, whereas a corporate shareholder has as many votes equal to the number of shares owned. Owning 100,000 shares equals 100,000 votes, a tyranny of wealth, leaves employees, consumers and communities virtually powerless.

Harold Honkola Stillwater

DFL lawmakers stood up for the future

History was made on Feb. 2 when 34 strong DFL senators at the Minnesota Capitol delivered the critical commitment to safeguard our children's future.

They defeated heavy opposition seeking to put profit above the well-being of our children and future generations. Looking back, we will owe immense gratitude for the vision, strength and courage of our DFL citizen-politicians who responsibly committed to stand united for Minnesotans against this "Blackout Bill" disinformation.

The Minnesota 100-percent Clean Electricity bill, passed by the DFL on party-line Senate and House votes, represents the single most important action fighting the enormous costs and deadly effects of global warming in Minnesota history. Combined with enormous financial incentives Congress created in the bipartisan 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and the landmark climate-action 2022 Inflation Reduction Act passed by Democrats only, this new law rapidly helps Minnesotans approach the important global goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. It will reduce Minnesota's greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2040. Our region's DFL law-

makers, including Sen. Grant Hauschild, were critically important in the creation and passage of this watershed legislation. Please thank all our Minnesota DFL legislators for their wisdom and vision. Their courageous votes created the opportunity for transformation to our equitable Minnesota clean energy economy, which is vital to developing new jobs and industries, reducing energy costs, improving the health and welfare of all Minnesotans, while protecting our environment.

Our DFL leaders chose investing in our clean energy future, dramatically reducing the sources of pollution responsible for hundreds of thousands of premature deaths annually in the U.S. and \$175 billion in severe-weather related costs to Americans in 2022

Climate change represents the existential challenge of our lifetimes. We must meet this challenge to give our children and grandchildren a livable future. Much work remains to be done, but these new laws bring us nearly 50-percent of the change needed to meet our national commitment of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Thanks to our DFL Minnesota legislators, Minnesota is a national leader in safeguarding our children's

It is also historically inaccurate, since legal academics and historians have documented many hundreds of gun laws, many stricter than today, that were enacted in the early days of the republic. These were laws, of course, that pertained to firearms far less deadly than those in widespread circulation in the U.S. in 2023.

Neither legal nor historical precedence matters, however, to the ideologues placed on the nation's courts by the former president. They were selected precisely to turn back the clock.

That process is now well underway.

Michael Overend Two Harbors

Your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words. Letters are subject to editing, primarily for length and clarity.

T-minus 35 and counting; a simple life in the bitter cold

On the morning of Friday, into a lightweight. Feb. 3, after a cozy night under my comforters, the moment

my feet touched the floor, I had a hunch this was going to be one of those really tough days. Despite ample warning, Ι was overcome by a wave of dread having seen the temperature on the outside thermometer - 35 degrees below zero. This kind of cold used

to be old hat, but not anymore. own safety, that eventually I'd No doubt about it. I've turned have to attend to the car. It sure-

Much to my surprise, when I opened the latch on the wood

stove, I found a nice bed of bright-red coals. There was a chill in the air but with a little kindling, a few chunks of birch and a wide-open draft, within minutes, the house was warming up nicely. My morning routine had begun.

Once I'd had my first cup of coffee, I was able to decide what had to be done next. I knew, for my

ly would resist cranking over on a morning like this. I don't have a garage, nor the electricity needed for one of those plug-in oil pan heaters. But I do have a different tried and true method to start my car. To employ it safely and successfully, precision timing is a must.

To begin with, I'd have to let those few small pieces of firewood that I'd tossed into the stove earlier burn down a bit. I've learned to watch for that "sweet spot" between too hot to be safe and too cool to do the job. Experience has been my greatest teacher. The process requires patience. The best way to get to the next step is to pour oneself another cup of coffee and relax with something good to read. After a half hour I checked the stove again. The coals were perfect, ready to scoop into my old-fashioned turkey roaster - the ideal pan for this purpose.

One might think it was engineered specifically for this task. With its sturdy welded handles that magically resist transmitting heat, my gloved hands were well-protected from getting burned. In addition, this roaster is divided into two equal halves – a shallow lower half (great for a moderate amount of coals) and a deep oval lid that fits snugly against the bottom, perfect for carting the coals down the path to the driveway. That lid shields my precious cargo from wind that could cause flaring and ignite my jacket.

The next step also requires some expertise. Cars typically have a lot of plastic that protects the underside of the engine. Ideally, my roaster with its humped lid reduces the worry of lighting my car on fire — as long as I've carefully positioned it directly under the only exposed metal, the bottom of the oil pan. Once the coals are in place, I throw two large blankets used just for this purpose over the hood,

See T-MINUS..pg. 5



Time to make BWCAW protection permanent

All Americans owe thanks to the Biden administration for its recent action to protect the heart of the Superior National Forest, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, from the massive harm that would result from sulfide-ore copper mining. On Jan. 26, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland issued a public land order under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) 225,504 withdrawing acres of federal land and minerals in the Superior National Forest from the federal mineral leasing program for 20 years-the maximum period allowed under FLPMA. These lands and minerals-now off-limits to sulfide-ore copper mining-are located directly upstream of the Boundary Waters.

The Boundary Waters ecosystem has been identified as one of the most important landscapes in North America to help ward off the worst of the climate and extinction crisis. This land is vital not only as a carbon sink, but also because it contains linked wildlife habitat and migration corridors of incalculable value. Protecting the Boundary Waters headwaters, as Secretary Haaland's order has done, is a step toward fulfilling the promise of the recent Montreal agreement to preserve thirty percent of Earth's land and water by 2030 ("30x30") in an effort to head off mass extinctions.

Secretary Haaland's order rests on diligent scientific work by professional land managers at the U.S. Forest Service. The Forest Service was required to prepare an Environmental Assessment

(EA) to analyze the impact of the 20-year mining ban that it had proposed to the Department of the Interior. The final EA, released with Secretary Haaland's order, considers the environmental risks of copper mining. The EA analyzes the impact of copper mining on land, water, and wildlife; the potential harm to Native American communities, treaty rights, and resources; and climate change implications resulting from the destruction of forest land and the vast consumption of energy by mining operations.

The EA reflects intense awareness of the value of the public assets at risk; it states "the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is a complex and interconnected ecosystem and offers recreational opportunities and other uses such that it is considered an irreplaceable national treasure." The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is of the same mind; in its 2017 water quality assessment of the Rainy River Headwaters, which includes much of the Boundary Waters headwaters, the MPCA describes the waters as "immaculate" and states "the majority of the waterbodies . . . had exceptional biological, chemical, and physical characteristics that are worthy of additional protection."

Those who argue that metals in the Boundary Waters watershed are needed for the transition to a "green" economy fail to balance the extremely limited mineral resource that could be extracted there against the value of what would be lost. The amount of nickel and cobalt is a pittance in terms of U.S. demand. And any such metals would be irrelevant because they would be shipped to China for smelting and processing and sold on the world market.

> The only viable

Letters from Readers solution for transition to

a green economy is to continue to rely on our longtime and secure allies-Canada, Australia, Norway, and others-for these metals.

As good as Secretary Haaland's order is, it is nonetheless limited by law to a 20-year term. The Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress could add hundreds of thousands of acres of healthy forests, wetlands, and waterways toward the goal of 30x30 by passing legislation to permanently protect the Boundary Waters watershed from copper mining. The Minnesota Legislature and the Congress should act.

Becky Rom Ely

Don't blame guns for suicides

The letter in your paper on gun control, signed by Ely doctors is misinformation! Most people who commit suicide ARE ON drugs!!! And people who want to intentionally kill themselves by suicide WILL find an avenue to complete that! Like women usually use drugs, not listed as a significant cause! Also, some gun laws are already in effect, like background check by Feds when you purchase a gun from a licensed gun dealer. Red flag laws are denying a constitutional right to a gun owner BE-FORE he/she is actually convicted of a crime. Very likely unconstitutional. The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals recently ruled unanimously that citizens convicted of domestic violence do NOT lose their right to possess guns! It is unconstitutional. Anti-gun people need to be much more learned in guns and constitutional rights!!

David Akerson Lake Vermilion Is TAAS able be a good partner?

> The feasibility study commissioned by Greenwood Township utilizing the McGrath Consulting Group to give a serious look at the possibility of bringing advanced life support, paramedic care (ALS) ambulances to the region is just that, a feasibility study.

Certain members of the Tower Area Ambulance Service (TAAS) have now taken the opportunity to discredit the McGrath study, which is unfortunate. The purpose of the study was for the area to achieve paramedic pre-hospital care, commonly referred to as ALS.

Can one assume this is in retaliation to Greenwoods' decision not to participate in TAAS' ambulance replacement fund at this time? The McGrath study and the TAAS replacement fund are clearly two distinct and separate issues. However, the study has the potential ability to provide a dramatic improvement in the survival rate of our growing population, many of them seniors, the other simply supports the status quo. It's a matter of priorities. It's also a matter of making use of what's available in modern ambulance services, namely Advanced Life Support ambulances, including paramedics. That time has arrived, like it or not. And for certain folks to parrot that Greenwood won't pay its share is a convenient distraction for those who want to preserve the outdated status quo.

The fact is that members of TAAS chose to violate its signed ambulance replacement fund contract without any known prior consultation with Greenwood's previous representative, causing Greenwood to step back

replacement fund. Those folks have now begun using that step back as a tool to carry forward their ridiculous claim that Greenwood doesn't support the ambulance service. This is a complete distortion of the facts. Greenwood supports the service as it always has through its yearly contribution in taxes paid to the county. It is the same contribution made by all. Greenwood folks, whether they be full time residents, seasonal residents, or vacationing visitors, obviously pay a very significant amount when they use the ambulance service, whether it be through private insurance, Medicare, or out of pocket. With Greenwood's larger population, this amounts to a lot of funding for the TAAS. Participation in the vehicle replacement fund has always been a voluntary commitment and it was never established to make up funding shortfalls in TAAS ambulance service operations.

from participating in the

Controversy has been created by members of TAAS concerning Greenwood's reaction to the self-imposed ambulance replacement fund changes and TAAS' negative views on moving forward toward ALS. This brings into question the ability of TAAS to be a good partner in furthering any emergency services improvement programs such as a joint powers commission. It's a matter of vastly differing priorities.

As a point of information, Tower Ambulance Commission (TAC) holds quarterly meetings that are not welcoming to the public, no public comment is allowed.

Some members of the TAC have been utilizing "ad hoc" meetings for planning. These meetings are not open to the public. The Tower ambulance director is not allowed to attend. There is no public notice or minutes of these meetings. The meetings involve the future use of very significant public funds. Are these meetings legal? Are the secret ad hoc meetings preventing a complete discussion and airing of good ideas for a sustained, modern ambulance service? To prevent being involved with any further potential conflicts on the subject Greenwood's board recently passed a motion to no longer allow participation by Greenwood board members or appointees in any further ad hoc meetings or any meetings that do not clearly follow open meeting laws.

TAAS is now demanding that Greenwood simply hand over approximately \$45,900.00 for the replacement fund in 2023. Greenwood is supposed to give TAAS \$45,900.00 on TAAS' terms that were modified without Greenparticipation, wood's some contract language was just eliminated without discussion.

The fact is, if TAAS had continued on with the continuation of the 2020 agreement. A contract that Tower apparently did not see as binding and on multiple issues was violated. If Tower had not attempted to force their will onto the residents of Greenwood Township in the fashion they've chosen to, this controversy would not exist.

We truly need to start being more concerned with focusing on the betterment of the services that we could be providing which may include paramedic care for the patient, not just serving one single organization.

> **Rick Stoehr** Greenwood Township Supervisor

BLANDIN...Continued from page 3

"We're committed to the regional capacity building for a leadership systems change and

community as well as adalism in rural Minnesota,"

rural-based, rural-serving ditional capacity building foundations in the counopportunities for region- try, Blandin Foundation serves rural Minnesota, focusing resources in north-central Minnesota. The foundation's grants, opportunities that connect rural leaders, and policy

out to check on my coals.

Sure enough, they needed

to be replenished. Once

done, waiting resumed. I

pushed "play" and contin-

ued my listening session.

The second half of the

work build up financial and human capital, so rural Minnesota places can welcome diversity, address injustice, and embrace change to create a sustainable and equitable future.



engaging rural students where they're at, and addressing the needs of the workforce that has the needs for an on ramp into Palmer said.

Blandin Foundation is a private foundation based in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. One of a handful of lished weekly on Fridays, 51 weeks per year, by The Timberjay Inc., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Busi-

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T-MINUS...Continued from page 4

making sure they touch the ground. They serve as my improvised portable garage. Time now to return to the house where I can warm my stinging fingers and wait some more.

Happily, I found enough coffee in the thermos for one more cup. I turned on the radio and chose to skip the news. I figured I had enough weighing on my mind without having to listen to last night's tragic mayhem. I wasn't in the mood for music either. Then, I recalled a neighbor's excitement over "some really great podcasts". With my still-limited exposure to the wonders of my smart phone, I hadn't really understood at the time just what he was talking about. But oddly, on this very cold morning, my curiosity took over.

I turned on my phone and clicked on Spotify where I'd once see "Podcasts". There, dozens were listed. Randomly, I picked one. "Reinvent Yourself with Dr. Tara." It sounded kind of hokey, but I tapped "Play" anyway, and began to listen.

Dr. Tara Swart Bieber

received her education at England's Oxford University and now is a neuroscientist on the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her research has focused on the evolutionary development of the human brain, its neurochemistry and neuroplasticity, a term to describe the brain's ability to adjust and adapt to change. The discussion was full of fascinating information about complex interactions among various hormones -oxytocin, testosterone, and cortisol just to name a few - neurochemicals that influence how the brain receives and processes internal and external stimuli. Dr. Tara detailed their impact on our moods, coping abilities and other important cognitive and emotional functions. From her research, she has developed selfcare strategies along with recommendations for diet, exercise, and stress reduction techniques designed to better balance our neurochemistry and improve our overall well-being. After 45 minutes, I suddenly realized it was time to hit the pause button and run

program was as interesting as the first. It continued by examining the science and power of "intention," its way to improve our focus, as well as our ability to achieve greater health and happiness. By the end of the program, I was convinced. That 90 minutes had sure seemed to fly by. It was past time to try and

start the car. Instantly I felt a wave of anxiety - anticipation of failure, grinding the battery dead, and the stress over what I would do next. Being without my car presented risks, and fear, greater than I wanted to face. Once behind the wheel, I crossed my fingers and turned the key. Lo and behold, my old Corolla fired right up! I let out a hardy "Hallelujah!" in sharp contrast to earlier that morning's "Ugh."

It's funny how many people just don't get why I've chosen my simple life in the woods – one that resembles something more like the 1800s than the 21st century. But my lifestyle, as this story reveals, straddles two worlds. Yes, there are challenges that require more effort, but as is also true, I can access current scientific and technological advancements that without a doubt enhance my quality of life. On that morning, with those bitter cold temps, I moved from dread to delight. Filled with gratitude. And I can say is "Thank you, Dr. Tara!" Now on to Episode



II.

Week of Feb. 13

Monday

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 13

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 Feb. 21.

Greenwood Fire Dept.-Meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Greenwood Town Board-6:30 p.m. on Feb. 14

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 Honor Roll

TOWER- The following students have been named to the second quarter honor roll at Vermilion Country School.

A Honor Roll

Oliver Beise Annakeiah Chavez Ashton Cook Alyssa Costello Bentley Crego Haedyn Miller Elspeth O'Brien Lochlainn O'Brien **Bailey Pratt** Jack Ranua Caleb Ramponi

B Honor Roll

Brody Anderson Isaac Archambeau Kai Contreras-Pieratos Samuel Favet Ethan Howard Logan Kainz Adrianna LaPrairie Remington McDonough Brandon Strange Jase Swan Landon Wellander Abbi Zapata

Memorial celebration planned for Carol Alstrom on March 25



"The idea for a celebration came to fruition because Susan Alstrom knew it was important

to honor her sister's wish to have a party, not a funeral," said former Tower-Soudan student Sarah Christmas.

A group of former students discussed the idea of a permanent memorial, and they settled on the idea of a love lock post, which they had seen in other areas. The 10-foot tall love lock post with a granite "under foot"



memorial marker will be placed on the grounds of the former Tower-Soudan High School. Friends and family of Carol Alstrom, along with community members, will be invited to place a padlock on the post.

"I knew that suggesting such an idea would require community effort," said Sarah. "Most of all, this memorial project would require funding from former stu-

dents (like myself) and their families to make it happen."

The project has gotten the goahead from the city and school district. Together, there have been calls countless and emails to Hancock Fabrication Company, Lamppa Manufacturing, and Hibbing Monument Company

to support this special project.

Since Susan Alstrom lives almost five hours away by car, and Sarah lives out of state, former students Angela Koski and Julie Suihkonen are acting as local community contacts.

The memorial will be unveiled at 1 p.m. at the Tower-Soudan School, with a celebration of life in the school gym from 2 - 4 p.m.

To support the Love Lock Memorial Project, a GoFundMe has been set up for contributions at https://gofund.me/7c475725.

Check donations can also be made to:

CB&S Bank

c/o the Celebrate Carol Alstrom Memorial Fund P.O. Box 910 Russellville, Alabama 35653

It's important to note that organizers hope to not only reach their fundraising goal, but to surpass it! With 100-percent of the funds going to the memorial, and any additional funds will be donated to Tower-Soudan Elementary School on behalf of Ms. Carol Alstrom, who always gave her support.

For more information visit: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/celebratingcoacha/

FUN ON THE ICE

Finlander bocce really did start on Lake Vermilion

GREENWOOD TWP- The Timberjay got a chance to talk with Rod and Judy Politano, who may honestly have "invented" the bocce ball on ice game known affectionately in this area as Finlander Bocce Ball.

Somewhere around 1978, they said, the Penguins Snowmobile Club held a winter get-together at the Politano's home on Lake Vermilion. The family had already made a large skating rink

area out on the ice in front of their home.

"Rod came up with the idea of playing bocce ball out on the ice. He cut disks out of trees and attached handles," said Judy. Rod said it took a few tries to get the wooden disks the right size and weight to glide on the ice.

The game was played using the same rules as bocce ball.

"All ages and skills levels could play," Rod said.



The game was so popular it got picked up and played at other winter celebrations, and then became the centerpiece of the chamber's Long John Days.

"It's been going on for over 44 years," they said.

As far as the name Finlander Bocce Ball, Rod, who is Italian, said Finlander was the name often given "if something is goofy."

FOOD SHELF FUNDRAISER

St. Martin's Souper Bowl booyah set for Feb. 12

TOWER- St. Martin Catholic Church's annual fundraiser for the Tower Area Food shelf, Souper Bowl Sunday, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 12. The church will be serving a booyah dinner from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. (or when the booyah runs out)

in the church social hall. Those attending will have the option to eat in or take out. The cost is a free-will offering, and all proceeds go to the food shelf.

This is the 19th year that St. Martin's has hosted this event. The event began as a youth project but has now evolved into a parish project; youth still participate but the adults of the parish have joined in to assist. The work begins on Friday with the cutting of the vegetables, then on Saturday we make the booyah and the desserts; and finally on Sunday

we serve the delicious meal. We hope that you will join us to lend support to the Tower Area Food Shelf.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Mardi Gras at St. Martin's on Friday, Feb. 17 TOWER- St. Martin's Cath-

olic Church is hosting a Mardi Gras celebration on Friday, Feb. 17. There will be fun for the whole family beginning at 5 p.m. and through 8:30 p.m. It's an open house style event - come when you want and stay as long as you want. Drawings will be held throughout the evening at 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, and 7:45 p.m. You must be present to win one of the door prizes. A prize will be given for the best costume. Kids each receive one free drawing ticket, for adults the cost is \$1 for each ticket. There will be a kid's activity area with games to play, a decorate your own cupcake station, and an art project. The pinata will be broken at 7:45 p.m. Bingo begins at 6 p.m. Cost for bingo is \$5 for 10 games; prizes include gift certificates/ gift cards to local businesses. A cribbage tournament will begin at 5:45 p.m. Cribbage will be played in teams of two, each player pays \$10 to enter, winning team takes home half of the pot. For this event we ask that you sign up with Maryann (218-753-4310) by Monday, Feb. 13. There will be a cash bar for adult beverages and lots of food. Some of the items you will find on the menu in include jambalaya, chili, a variety of meatballs and wings, Mardi Gras meringues, meat and cheese tray with crackers, and much more.

This year we have added bucket raffles, a silent auction and the 50/50 cash drawing. Winners will be announced at 8:15 p.m.



Vermilion Country School annual meeting set for Feb. 23

TOWER- The Vermilion Country School will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 5 p.m. at the charter school, located at 1 Enterprise Dr. in Tower.

The public is welcome to attend.

Hockey Day set for Saturday, Feb. 25

SOUDAN- Hockey Day in Soudan will be on Saturday, Feb. 25 with a youth hockey game starting at 1 p.m. More details to come.

St. Martin's **Catholic Church Ash** Wednesday service times

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower will have their Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 9 a.m.

St. Mary's Church in Cook will have their Ash Wednesday service at 5:30 p.m.



The cost is a free-will offering. We hope that you will join us for this feast before Lent.

Tower Winter Farmers Market set for Friday, Feb. 17

TOWER- The Tower Winter Market will be held on Friday, Feb. 17 from 4 - 6 p.m. at the Pike River Products building on Main Street. Winter market days are on the third Friday of the month.

"A New Journey" for St. James

TOWER- With the retirement of Pastor Doug Workman at St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower, the Session has supplied the pulpit with the following speakers for February. Services are Sunday at 10 a.m., with coffee an' following.

Feb. 12: Linda Kronholm Feb. 19: JoAnne Connell

Feb. 26: Rev. Richard Blood

Every Sunday, during the service, there is special music with Greg Kuchan on guitar and his wife, Denise Kuchan on electric drums.

Skating parties underway in Soudan

SOUDAN- Skating parties are held at the Soudan Skating Rink every Tuesday and Saturday, weather permitting. There is free food, games, and lots of fun for all ages. Loaner skates in almost every size are available in the warming shack.

Hours are Tuesdays from

You never know what you will find at the Tower Winter Market. Besides baked goods, jams, and other delicious treats, many local craftspeople are selling their wares. Last month, Shireen Lee, from Embarrass, brought her hand-knit hats and mittens for sale. The next winter market is set for Friday, Feb. 17 at the Pike Bay Products building on Main Street. photo by J. Summit

4 – 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 12 – 2 p.m.

If you are interested in helping sponsor this event, please contact Jim "Chimpy" Tuomin-en at Zup's in Tower, 218-753-2725.

CLC announces fall honors lists

BRAINERD - Austin Landgren, of Tower, has been named to the Fall 2022 Dean's List at Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples. The Dean's List includes 303 students who earned a grade-point average of 3.25 to 3.74. Central Lakes College is a comprehensive community and technical college in the Minnesota State System. The college serves about 5,500 students annually in liberal arts and career education programs.

Tower-Soudan-Embarrass Bookmobile Schedule

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Bookmobiles will be in the Tower- Soudan area on Wednesday, Feb. 22, March 15, April 5 & 26

Stops include: Britt (Sand Lake Storage): 9 - 9:30 a.m.; Bois Forte (Boys & Girls Club): 11 - 11:30 a.m.; Greenwood (Town Hall): 12 – 1 p.m.; Soudan (Post Office area): 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.; Tower (Civic Center): 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. ; and Embarrass (Hwy 135 & Hwy 21): 5 – 6 p.m.

More info online at alslib. info/services/bookmobile.

For more information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, contact the Arrowhead Library System, 218-741-3840, email at als@alslib.info, or website at alslib.info.

BUSINESS

Chamber of Commerce award nominations open

ELY- The Ely Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for four annual awards to recognize the extraordinary people and businesses of the Ely area. Award recipients will be recognized at this year's Celebrate Ely networking event on April 13.

Jackpine Bob Cary **Community Spirit Award**

This award aims to recognize an individual or group for their unselfish giving and promotion of Ely, who has positively impacted the Ely area and tourism. The award may or may not be given annually. Criteria for individuals, groups, or organizations include being an enthusiastic promoter of Ely, actively involved in projects and activities that significantly contribute to the quality of life and promotion of Ely.

Good Neighbor Business Award

This award is for any for-profit business which demonstrate their commitment to the Ely community through activities such as financial contributions to community organizations or fund-raisers, sponsorships of events, volunteer work by owners or business staff, involvement in community organizations or activities, and donations of services, facilities, or other resources. Membership in the Ely Chamber of Commerce is not required for this award, but the business should be actively involved through a time commitment or financial support of projects and activities that significantly contribute to the quality of life in the community.

Good Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award

We all know someone who is always stepping forward to assist others. This person's work may include assisting neighbors, serving as an active member of area clubs and organizations, or just lending a hand no matter the situation. Please help us identify and recognize a community member for this person's ongoing commitment to Ely, as demonstrated through his or her volunteer efforts for our Good Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award.

Excellence in Customer Service Award

Employees are the face of every business. Whether it is a service or retail business, employees make an impact on customer and guest experiences. The Chamber of Commerce wants to discover and honor an Ely employee who personifies excellence in customer service. This individual should be someone who will go the extra distance to help find merchandise, always find the answer to all your questions, or customize services to meet your needs. The chamber invites you to share your top customer service employee pick for our Excellence in Customer Service Award.

Anyone may nominate an individual or business for these awards. Please include a short statement of 150-500 words explaining why you feel they deserve recognition, including specific, recent achievements that describe the nominee's work and impact on our community. Send nominations to Ely Chamber of Commerce, 1600 E. Sheridan St, Ely, or to director@ely.org. Nominations are open through March 7,2023.

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 ElyTuesday-Group@gmail.com or call her at 218-216-9141.

2023 Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers: ► Feb. 14: Clean Energy Resource Teams

with Melissa Birch ► Feb. 21: Tales

from the Arctic with Ron Haakenson

≻ Feb. 28: The Death Positive Movement and Normalizing Death with Cheryl Boyes

► Mar. 7: The Northern Lakes Arts Association updates with Ian Lah

New management at Gardner Trust

ELY- Peter Schamber, formerly the manager of Ely's Historic State Theater, is now the new executive director of Ely's Gardner Humanities Trust.

We are excited to welcome Peter to this organization and look forward to Peter's knowledge on operational procedures," current Interim director Beth Ohlhauser said in a Jan. 25 statement.

Schamber brings his deep understanding of the arts, marketing and community involvement to the Gardner Humanities Trust. "Having been the theater manager at Ely's Historic State Theater for three years," Schamber commented, "I have had the opportunity and pleasure to work with a variety of organizations and individuals in Ely's art community. Ely has such a rich and vibrant community of local artists and talent, which I'm excited to continue to participate in as the Executive Director of the Gardner Trust. There is no service more valuable than helping to fund the projects of these talented individuals, organizations, and the Ely Public Library, and I'm proud to lend my skills to furthering this service."

Ohlhauser stated that the trust has now given out over \$850,000 in grants to Ely community youth, adult artists, art organizations, college scholarships, the Ely Public Library, to name some of its many beneficiaries.

Ely hardware ribbon cutting



The Poskak family had a ribbon cutting on Feb. 1 for KJ's True Value Hardware. From left-to-right, Jay Poshak, Kale Bregier-Beno, Kamryn Bregier-Beno, Jackie Bregier-Poshak, Mayor Heidi Omerza, city councilors Angela Campbell, Adam Bisbee, Paul Kess, and economic development consultant John Fedo. Photo by H. Langowski

RECREATION



Ely Pickleball

The Ely Pickleball Club plays three days a week all winter at the Vermilion campus of Minnesota College North. The club held a one day fundraiser tournament over the holiday break which generated over \$1,200. The funds will be split between \$500 to support the Ely sixth grade Wolf Ridge field trip with the rest going to the club's scholarship fund for students attending college at the Vermilion campus. Submitted photo



hearts floated down from the sky

reminding of love

lbraries 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: 218-82	7-3345

Support groups

AA - Alcoholics

The quidditch player murders musician at the library

ELY- The Ely Public Library hosted a Harry Potter Hogwarts Ball murder mystery party on Saturday afternoon. Current and former students of Hogwarts attended, play-acted by 32 library patrons of all ages. The murder victim also attended the ball as a ghost. She was most unhelpful in solving her own murder. After all the clues about muggles and death eaters were uncovered, and all the red herrings about blackmail schemes and missing violins were made public, it was revealed that it was the quidditch player whodunnit.

participants were dubious over allowing a Timberplay. Ironically, the Ely editor of the *Timberjay* was the only one who identified the murderer.



At the start of the murder mystery party, some Suspects at the murder mystery party, from left-to-right: Professor Mordicus Egg (James Scarbrough), Ministry of Magic department head Jess Chameleon (Rebecca jay journalist with expert investigation skills to Santos), blackmailer Anastasia Lyre (Kristen Williams), death eater Gerard Avery (Randy Holland), Hogwarts student Eligah Beetle (Gabe Mann) and murderous professional quidditch player Jordyn Dine (Jessie Dunn). Photo by C. Clark

Ely Folk School

ELY- The Ely Folk School will offer a onetime class in snow sculpture on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 2-5 p.m. in the pocket park next to the school's 209 E. Sheridan location. It will also offer an animal track identification class on the same day from 4-6 p.m. There will also be a "Valentine's Date Night Pottery event, from 4-6 p.m. Saturday with wine, charcuterie and playing with clay. A non-alcoholic option is available. More details are at elyfolkschool.org.

The snowshoe lacing workshop is Feb. 17-19, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

The next Makers' Market and Mixer is on Feb. 18, from 2-4 for the market and 4-5 p.m. for the mixer.

Makers Mornings at the Ely Folk School are held every Thursday morning from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for makers to meet, talk, craft, and have coffee. Makers' mornings are free community events.

Ely Public Library

ELY- The Friends of the Library Book Club will meet on Monday, Feb.13 at 3 p.m. The title for discussion will be "The Maid" by Nita Prose.

The Friends of the Library Board will meet from 1-2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14.

Library Scientists will meet Friday, Feb. 17 from 1-2 p.m. The topic will be buoyancy for grades 1-3. Kids must preregister to assure participants have enough supplies.

Preschool Storytime is held every Friday from 10:30-11 a.m.

End of the Road **Film Festival**

ELY- Tickets for individual films and for the omnibus festival pass for the End of the Road Film Festival are now on sale online at elyfilmfest.com. The film festival is Feb. 9-12, which will overlap with Ely Winter Festival.

The \$75 pass for the entire festival is good for admission to all the films though purchasers of the whole-festival pass must still make seat reservations online for the films they wish to attend. Tickets for individual films are \$10. The festival pass and tickets to individual films can also be purchased at Ely's Historic State Theater.

NLAA/Reflections Dance Company

ELY- Dance classes begin on Feb. 13 at the Ely Rec Center and on Feb. 14 at the Winton Community Center. NLAA members get a \$5 discount. Sign-ups and schedule are linked on the NLAA website at northernlakesarts. org.

Boundary Waters Connect

Boundary Waters Connect organization will close registration for its Long-Form reading and discussion group after Feb. 15. Register at boundarywatersconnect. com.

The group will explore the meaning of community. Meetings are currently scheduled for the second and fourth

Wednesdays of every month (except early May) from 5:30-8:30 p.m. from Feb. 22-May 24. The early May meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9.

Written material of 30-90 pages or up to two hours of podcasts will be assigned prior to each meeting. Each participant will sign up to contribute something simple/casual for one session – thus each meeting will include dinner. Meetings will be at 16 N. First Avenue East in Ely. The registration fee is \$25. A printed, bound compilation of readings is an optional \$50. Scholarships are available on a need basis - contact Lacey Squier at lacey@neminnesotansforwilderness. org. for scholarships details.

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 pretest 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.

IF YOU BUILD IT ...





by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- The sound coming from Bruce Black's construction class at North Woods School isn't just a cacophony of hammering, drilling, and sawing. It's the sound of a long-held dream coming true for Cook Youth Baseball.

"For years I've been here with the kids and looking at the tee-ball field and they never had dugouts," said CYB secretary/treasurer Jennifer Herdman. "They're always getting wet or the sun's beating down on them. For years I've wanted to get those dugouts done."

The organization had approached the city of Cook about providing home and visitor dugouts for the field, but they were told there wasn't money in the budget to be able to afford them. And CYB didn't have a budget that would cover the materials and the labor cost of a professional carpenter to build them.

But toward the beginning of the school year, CYB vice president Tony Pascuzzi hit on the idea of asking Black to take on the project for his construction class, and the fit was perfect for Black's educational objectives.

"It is all of the framing you'd ever have to do in a house, short of cutting a window hole or a door opening and framing a floor, putting in floor joists," Black said.

With Black on board, Herdman contacted Eric Burckhardt at Cook Building Center about the materials. Burckhardt said that CYB could have the materials at his cost, and with that gesture and Black's students providing the labor, the dream was on the way to becoming reality.

Black's elective class consists of 19 juniors and seniors who meet the last period of the school day. It's a tight fit but doing one dugout at a time fits just right for the available space in the shop, and the first finished product was ready to roll out of the shop this week.

"I'm just glad we had the floor space to fit it in here," Black said. "And I'm glad we had an overhead door, or we couldn't have gotten it done."

A partial list of some of the framing skills students learned and have put into practice so far includes:

► Figuring out the roof angle and pitch.

► How to cut the end walls at the roof pitch.

► How to sheet the walls.

► How to set a load-carrying beam with four-foot openings on either end

How to figure out rafter sizes and the cuts needed to make 14 identical rafters, and how to brace the rafters to prevent torque and twist when the dugout is transported.

How to do drip edge, tar paper, shingling, and fascia.

► How to design and

build an appropriately. sized bench.

For the last item, a bench seat that spans the length of the dugout, Black said that they went down to one of the elementary classrooms and got a student the right age and size for tee-ball to use as a model for developing the design and testing it out.

"I think the kids did a really good job," Black said. "At times they run out of gas, but there was always something new to do. Every kid did something. A group of kids would cut rafter lengths, another group of kids would do framing. With two of them to do, the kids can flip and do something different."

Winter in Minnesota is no time to be installing a new dugout at the field, so CYB needed a place to store the dugout until late spring. The organization got another break when Brandon and Tiffany Mc-Cormick volunteered garage space at their North



Top left: Bruce Black's construction class poses with the tee-ball dugout they built. submitted

Top right: Construction classmates Loren LaFave, front, and Braden King cut lumber for the dugout. photos by D. Colburn

Bottom right: Instructor Bruce Black checks on the progress of his students.

Office business center on Hwy. 53.

"That was a huge break," Herdman said.

The next challenge for CYB to tackle will be registration for summer baseball, including teeball. Numbers have been declining in recent years, but Herdman is optimistic a concerted effort will get a good turnout. And for the tee-ball youngsters, they'll have new digs to keep them protected from the elements while they're waiting for their turns at bat.

"It's going to be so good that they have some protection over them," Herdman said. "I can't tell you how many times they've had to dodge into the community center."

For more information about CYB, check their page on Facebook or email cookyouthbaseball@gmail.com.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY



GRIZZLIES SCHOLARS



Clockwise, from upper left, River Cheney is excited about a pitcher she made; Riley Las works on a clay scupture; Miss Minnesota 2022 Rachel Evangelisto.

Empty Bowl fundraiser to mark tenth year at school on Feb. 23

FIELD TWP- It's almost time for the tenth anniversary edition of the Empty Bowl event at North Woods School, sponsored by the Art Club and scheduled for 4:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23 in the school commons, preceding the boys varsity basketball game against Rock Ridge.

Students have been hard at work shaping and glazing one-of-a-kind clay bowls and vases in preparation for the annual event, which raises money for the food shelves in Cook and Orr.

Bowls and vases purchased for \$10 come with a delicious soup, dessert, and beverage meal, but you won't have to eat out of your beautiful new bowl as dinner bowls are provided.

Reigning Mrs. Minnesota and North Woods art teacher Rachel Betterley is reprising what has become a signature feature of the North Woods event, the appearance of Miss Minnesota 2022 Rachel Evangelisto, the first-ever Indigenous contestant to wear the crown.

Don't forget to partake in the \$1 raffle basket drawing and the face painting corner put on by the Art Club.

Empty Bowls is a grassroots movement by artists around the world to raise money for food-related charities and has raised millions of dollars to help end hunger.

The National Honor Society at North Woods School had induction ceremonies for new members last week. The inductees are, from left, Emily Trip, Lydia Trip, Amber Sopoci, Aidan Hartway, Ella Cornelius, and Sierra Schuster. Not pictured are Addison and Alex Burckhardt. submitted

COMMUNITY NEWS

Haley earns honors at Nebraska-Lincoln

COOK- Claire Louise Haley of Cook has been named to the College of Arts and Sciences Deans' List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the fall semester of the 2022-23 academic year.

To be eligible, Haley, a freshman majoring in psychology, had to maintain a GPA of 3.7 or better and be enrolled in a minimum number of credits.

VHHP kicks off Hearts campaign

COOK- This week marks the start of Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners Third Annual Hearts for Hospice Campaign. VHHP is partnering with area businesses once again for the campaign. Make a donation for a heart in memory of a loved one that will be displayed for

the month of February. Donation cans will be

out as well for free will donations. Look for the Hearts for Hospice flyer and donation cans when you shop locally.

A couple of fundraising events are planned in partnership with the North Woods girls and boys basketball teams..The first fundraiser will be during the girls home game on Monday, Feb. 13 against Mesabi East, followed on Thursday, Feb. 23 by the boys gme fundraiser when they host they host Rock Ridge.

Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners is a local nonprofit which supports hospice and hospice eligible patients and their families with financial needs that insurances do not cover. For more information visit our website at www.vhhp. org.

Book club to meet Tuesday in Cook

COOK- The Cook Area Book Club will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. at the Cook Community Center on 510 Gopher Dr. The book for discussion this month is titled "Nowhere Girl, A Memoir of a Fugitive Childhood" by Cheryl Diamond.

"Nowhere Girl" is a memoir about Cheryl's childhood as a fugitive running from the law, as she was born into a family of outlaws. By the age of nine Cheryl had lived in more than a dozen countries, under six different assumed identities. She knew how to forge a document, and how to survive an interrogation.

The book for discussion for the month of March will be "Girls of Flight City" by Lorraine Heath.

HONORS



Will Steger, of Ely, is a prominent Arctic explorer, activist, and educator.

Steger named winner of Leif Erickson Award

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER Managing Editor

ELY- Longtime Ely area resident and polar explorer Will Steger has been awarded the 2021 Leif Erickson Award for his lifetime of exploration in the Arctic and the Antarctic as well as for his tireless efforts to promote preservation of the polar regions.

The award winners for both 2021 and 2022 were announced recently in Husavik, Iceland, home of the Exploration Museum, which sponsors the annual award. The announcement of the 2021

winner was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Born in Richfield, Minn. in 1944, Steger has led some of the most significant dogsled expeditions in history, including the first confirmed dogsled journey to the North Pole in 1986. He also led the longest unsupported dogsled expedition, conducted a southnorth traverse of Greenland, and led the historic 5,586-kilometer International Trans-Antarctic Expedition - the first dogsled traverse of Antarctica from 1989 to 1990. In 1995, Steger led the first and only dogsled traverse of

the Arctic Ocean, from Russia to Ellesmere Island in Canada. Since 1991, Steger has invested much of his time and energy to highlight the dangers that climate change poses to the polar regions.

TheLeifEricksonAwardsare recognized annually in Iceland in three categories-the Leif Erikson Award to an explorer for a lifetime achievement in exploration, the Young Explorer Award to an explorer under the age of 35 for achievements in exploration, and the Exploration History Award, awarded to a person or an organization that has

worked to promote and preserve exploration history, or to educate about exploration, science and environmental issues.

The awards are named for the Icelandic explorer Leif Erikson who is considered the first European to land in North America and who, according to the Sagas of Icelanders, established the first Norse settlement at Vinland, tentatively identified with the Norse L'Anse aux Meadows on the northern tip of Newfoundland in modern-day Canada.

TASING...Continued from page 1 -

involved in the incident that day, the boat had driven on the wrong side of a navigational buoy and had become stuck. Ebel quickly went out in his 26-foot service boat to help.

When Ebel arrived at the scene, he worked to position his boat so he could secure lines to pull the houseboat off the rocks.

"It was very windy, so much that it was real tough to keep my boat up near the houseboat while it was grounded," Ebel said. "I couldn't physically get off my boat and hop around there."

He said he noticed two park rangers in a boat near a maintenance area at the visitor center "where law enforcement would park their boats.'

'They got close enough to watch what I was doing, so they know I'm pulling it off the rocks," Ebel said. "At this time, I'm in the middle of taking care of my business."

Pulling houseboats out of sticky situations is something Ebel is accustomed to after 22 years of working the lake, and once the boat was freed he informed the couple on board of his plan to get the boat to safe harbor. With Ebel in the lead, they would motor out into the channel and travel through the nearby narrows to the calmer waters of Sullivan Bay, where the houseboat could be parked and thoroughly checked for possible damage.

"They were an older couple, and they were very

said. "I radioed my boat and said what's going on guys. They were struggling to turn around and I asked them what they were doing. And they said well, law enforcement says they need to board the boat and that they wanted us to turn around and go all the way out into the middle of the lake. My response to that was that's a bunch of BS. You're gonna have to turn the boat around. We'll get it to Sullivan Bay, we'll park the boat, and they can do whatever they want. The guest again over the radio said okay, that sounds like a decision. You've got to remember they were scared. I'm concerned about my guests' safety, about the seaworthiness of my boat, and now they're telling them to turn around when I wasn't done taking care of my equipment."

Ebel said he turned around and idled his way back to the rangers in the middle of the lake.

"The houseboat was clearly now heading back toward Sullivan Bay and the park rangers just waited out there," Ebel said. "If their big concern was to get on that boat that they wanted to board, why were they worried about me? Why didn't they go back to the houseboat? I'm assuming they heard me over the radio through their scanner."

The accounts of what transpired when Ebel approached the rangers' boat differ in multiple respects.

tone of Ebel's yelling was loud, forceful and aggravated. Ebel moved his body/ arms in quick rigid movements pointing his finger."

Ebel's and Pederson's versions concur at least in part on what happened as Ebel continued idling away.

"They kind of pull up and the start basically saying pull the boat over, shut the engines down. I just said no, I'm going to take care of my boat."

Ebel provided the Timberjay with a 20-second cell phone video he took containing his comments to the rangers as they drove alongside him ordering him to stop. His tone appeared to be one of frustration and urgency.

"I will not shut the motor down because I'm helping one of my guests park a boat," he told the rangers. "Once we park the boat out of the wind then we can deal with this. I don't care who you are. I don't even care. You can do what you want, whatever, but I'm not stopping until I get my guests taken care of. This is ridiculous."

Ebel said that the video cut off when he received a call from his wife.

Pederson's statement also described Ebel's noncompliance with the orders.

"I told Ebel multiple times to stop his vessel. Multiple times Ebel said no. Ebel never stopped his vessel. I had to jump from my vessel to his and shut off his motors while both vessels were moving."

Ebel said he had been

me his hands to be handcuffed."

Ebel gave his recollection of what happened. "My boat has a large cab on it, so he had to come through the door," Ebel said. "I put my arm out to deflect him coming in, like he lunged at me from the other boat. After that, I don't know if I got slammed down on my seat, but it was a matter of seconds that I was on the ground. I got shot with the first cartridge from the Taser in my backside below my butt. When I went down I had spilled out the door against the gunnel of the boat."

Ebel said he took the brunt of the fall on his face, which stunned him momentarily. He recalls feeling a knee digging into his leg "real hard." His phone, which had fallen into the splash wall in front of the gunnel, started ringing, he said, and he reached for it.

"As soon as I reached to grab my phone, I got met with whoever was leaning on me and cuffing me, 'He's resisting arrest, hit him again.' And then I got shot again with the second cartridge of the Taser. I was done after that. Your body becomes completely useless."

Ebel said the strike to the midsection Pederson reported was something that he wasn't aware of.

"The tackle came out of surprise," he said. "My natural reaction was probably to put my arm up. I'm positive I didn't wind up and swing."

I'd be staying the weekend. I just sat on the picnic table.'

Ebel was actually taken to the jail in Bemidji in a park ranger truck with a holding cell in the back to be booked, with a stop at the hospital to be checked out. Ebel's wife drove to Bemidji to take him home.

"I said I needed to get done as quick as possible to get booked into jail and it's Saturday night and I need to go home because I've got a business to run," Ebel said.

Meanwhile, attempts to rescue the houseboat and guests were successful, Ebel said.

"They were able to get to the houseboat and they brought it into the into the base and shored it up," he said. "We didn't have any problems. They were thinking on their feet there because I was not able to have any contact."

For the sole offense Ebel plead guilty to, failure to obey a lawful order of a government employee or agent, he was fined \$200. He had to pay an additional \$150 of processing fees for all five citations, which included the dismissed charges of disorderly conduct, interfering with a government employee, improper display of boat registration, and assaulting or resisting an officer.

In spite of the plea, Ebel still believes that what he did was in the best interests of his customers' safety and disagrees with the actions of the rangers.

"Those are my customers," he said. I hold the liability for my customers and for the seaworthiness of my equipment. I can't stress enough that this boat needed to be in safe harbor, and they weren't willing to facilitate that. I wasn't denying them access to the boat. I told them we needed to do this first and I was taking care of it. For them to say that I was telling them that they can't go on the boat. I can't even believe it." Ebel also said that his commercial operator's authorization for the park was restricted about two weeks following the incident. "That allows me to function in the park with my service boat, doing

services, fixing equipment, pulling stuff of rocks, and whatnot, and this got suspended in the middle of all of this," he said. "We asked and they gave us a two-week extension that got us to maybe the end of July, and then I had to hire another COA operator to take on my workload. The conditions were that I can't do regular maintenance and I couldn't haul regular supplies or goods. I could do emergency only for rock pulls or something that required pulling of a houseboat. I had to call into I think it was a national dispatch in Ohio and tell them what I was doing and they would relay it to Voyageurs. I was extremely limited to what I could do on the lake because of the suspension."

Ebel said he's working on this year's application

"They tell me that I'm going to get it back, however it will be on probation for one year," he said.

Ebel noted that his incident occurred at a time when park-oriented businesses were raising concerns about increased law enforcement in the park and its effect on their guests. He referenced the four public meetings held by park officials to receive input about the issue.

"I was shocked to find out that there were so many other conflicts going on with law enforcement over probably just petty things or random boat checks," he said. "I guess I can understand the concerns of the communities after my incident. I don't understand. I never saw it going that way. I've played it over a million times, and I could never see it going that way."

scared, but they followed me," he said. "I tried to make them comfortable."

Just before they entered the narrows, Ebel said, the park rangers' boat approached him from an angle and he said he could tell they wanted to talk. As the houseboat kept proceeding, Ebel talked with the rangers.

"They basically said thanks for pulling the boat off," he said. "I might have said I've had three of them today, then I just kind of proceeded to go on. They motored back up to me and asked if my guests' trip was over, and I said no, they're due in tomorrow. I said I had plans of getting them to Sullivan Bay, and that's all I basically said to them. And I kept proceeding and doing what I was doing."

Ebel said it appeared the rangers were leaving the scene as he circled around to retrieve a 14-foot boat that had come untied from the houseboat, and once that was secured he moved back into the lead to guide the houseboat through the narrows. But after entering the mouth of the narrows a few hundred feet, he turned around and saw that the rangers hadn't left.

"I look back and realized that the park rangers must have pulled up next to the houseboat and must have told them to go back out into the open in the middle of the lake," Ebel

"I've met up with a ranger out on the lake and I had said to him, 'What's the deal, guys? I gotta get this boat parked. I want to get this boat into Sullivan Bay, what's the deal?' And I got met with one park ranger standing up, pointing his finger at me and yelling three sentences: 'This is none of your business. Your job is done here. Now leave.' After he yelled at me that it wasn't my business I turned and told him, I said, 'This is my f**king business.I'm going to tell you what we're going to do. We're going to park the houseboat in Sullivan Bay, get them tied up out of the wind, and then you can do whatever you want. You can board the houseboat.' So, at that time, I just started driving away, idling."

Pedersen's statement paints a different picture.

"We had instructed a houseboat to follow us into the main part of the channel because of the wind," he wrote. "The houseboat operator started following us toward the center of the channel, then stopped. I observed who I recognized and later confirmed as Justin Ebel the houseboat company owner approach our location. Ebel began to yell and swear at us and tell us we cannot board his houseboat. Ebel yelled something close to, 'we are going to have a real problem if you talk to them.' The communicating with his wife by phone and that she had tried to reach Park Superintendent Bob DeGross to ask him to intervene. When she was unsuccessful, Ebel said she contacted a long-term ranger they knew well, Kevin Grossheim.

"Somebody that's been a veteran here for 20 years or better, the guy that we work with," Ebel said. "These other guys, I don't know them from the paint on the wall."

Boarding and confrontation

In another probable cause statement, Pederson described boarding the boat and the ensuing confrontation with Ebel in the cabin of his service boat.

"I told Ebel he was being seized and to stop,' Pederson wrote. "I jumped onto his vessel and shut off the engines. I grabbed Ebel's arm to control him, and he freed his arm. Body camera footage appears to show he struck me near my midsection. I gave Ebel commands to get out and to get down. I applied a pressure point to attempt to get pain compliance. Ebel continued to wrestle me. I wrestled Ebel to the ground and ordered Ebel to give me his hands. He did not give me his hands and continued to fight me until Ranger [Ryan] Houghton deployed his Taser. After being Tased, Ebel gave

Ebel also said he didn't remember hearing a warning before being shot with the Taser.

"I don't know," he said. "It was windy, we were in a boat, it happened very quickly. But no, I don't recall hearing anything."

Ebel said the rangers yelled at him to get up.

"I couldn't physically get up," he said. "I had to tell them you need to drag me back to an open spot on the boat, so they dragged me by my feet back to the open spot. And I can't get up. At this point I'm pissed. I'm using plenty of curse words at them because I don't care. So then they sat me up on the bench."

Still concerned about the houseboat that was motoring toward Sullivan Bay, Ebel said he convinced the rangers to let him call back to his base by radio, and he told his wife that he'd been arrested and that she needed to dispatch another employee to go assist the houseboat.

The rangers drove the boats back to the Ash River Visitor Center, where they were met by Ebel's wife and Ranger Kevin, who removed the Taser prongs, Ebel said.

"That where I sat and waited and waited for them to decide where they were going to take me," Ebel said. "I was told that I was probably going to a federal prison in Minneapolis and

Editor's Note: The U.S. Park Service has still failed to comply with a Freedom of Information Act request for the probable cause statements from this incident. The *Timberjay was recently* able to obtain the documents from another governmental entity, the Central Violations Bureau.



COUNCIL...Continued from page 1

council argued in favor of the withdrawal, noting the importance of protecting the unique ecosystem of the Boundary Waters. Bob Graves, a retired 3M engineer cited his decades-long experience in engineering failure and accident analysis. After examining the documents on the proposed mining project, Graves concluded "there is not sufficient safety [in the proposed tailings design] to address the risk presented by the tailings" to the watershed.

Gerald Tyler was the lone speaker in favor of the city council's proposed letter protesting the lease ban, citing the need for more jobs to stop the attrition of businesses and residents. He cited the history of state and federal waffling on the mining issue, arguing that the decisions were based primarily on politics rather than science.

The debate on the issue came only after the council batted down an attempt by council member Jerome Debeltz to limit all public comments at requested appearances to five minutes instead of 15.

Mayor Heidi Omerza

Given his former posi-

tions of top leadership,

including as both Senate

Majority and Minority

Leader, Bakk is likely to

still wield considerable

influence at the Capitol,

which could make him

among the tobacco indus-

try's heaviest hitters as a

are happy to acknowledge

Altria representatives

lobbyist.

BAKK...Continued from page 1



A city council letter of protest to the Biden administration packed the city council chambers in Ely on Tuesday.

ruled that the people who applied to appear before the council were told that the maximum speaking time would be 15 minutes,"[We can take a council action to limit it to five in the future but I'm not sure that would be quite fair to do so now."

Debeltz also took issue with hearing comments from people who don't live in Ely.

"Every time something like this happens, they call all the people from out of town, and they bring them in so they can speak in front of the Council. This actually affects the Ely people more than the people that aren't going to live here."

Debeltz's comments drew criticism from some

Bakk's potential effective-

ness."As a former leader in

the Minnesota State Senate,

Tom Bakk has extensive

legislative experience and

we're pleased to have him

join us," said the company

in a statement. "Tom will

lobby for Altria on leg-

islative issues related to

the company, such as a

potential excise tax increase

or other restrictions on

of the non-residents who attended. Madeline Fahnline, who helped organize the show of force for the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters, said those she had urged to attend all list the Ely zip code as their residence. "I used a tag to (restrict) email to (the) 55731 (zip code)." Starting several days before the meeting, Fahnline and colleagues emailed and texted to Ely area residents to inform them that the mineral leases were on the city's agenda. No one came forward as the organizer of mining supporters who were also present.

Three of the 12 members of the public who spoke at the meeting

while reviewing Altria's

list of lobbyists."I'm a reg-

istered lobbyist myself so

protested that since they spend money within city limits, they had the right to speak and make their views known.

The packed council chambers were noisy at times even between speakers and Mayor Omerza had to call for quiet on three separate occasions.

Despite the debate, the outcome was never in doubt. The council voted 5-1, with Adam Bisbee as the lone dissenter, to forward a letter of protest to the Biden administration.

Open meeting law allegation

At least one member of the public turned accusatory toward the council

the protest letter. Frederica Musgrave alleged that the city council was conducting business without public disclosure of what it was doing, complaining that she had found out about the council agenda by accident. At least two other testifiers agreed with her.

Musgrave cited a local news article regarding the action by the Ely Economic Development Authority to send its own letter in protest of the mining lease ban, complaining that no one knew the EEDA was contemplating this before its Jan. 31 meeting.

"I had no idea about that meeting. I checked the website, there's no agenda. There's no minutes. There's no record of anything."

The Timberjay verified after the city council meeting that the EEDA and city council meetings referred to by Musgrave were "regular meetings" as defined in Minnesota's open meeting law. As such, the meetings don't require additional posting, since regular meeting dates are already posted at designated city posting locations.

In questioning city offi-

and other public health groups under the banner of Minnesotans for a Smoke Free Generation to prohibit the sale of menthol and other flavored cigarettes and e-cigarettes. Advocates of the legislation say that flavored cigarettes have become the primary gateway for young people to take up smoking and they're hoping that a prohibition will help continue the trend toward lower rates of smoking among young people. And it's well documented how menthol-flavored cigarettes were used

cialsaftertheFeb.7 meeting, Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski stated, "We are not required to publish an agenda prior to a meeting." The Timberjay also verified this statement. Minnesota's open meeting law only requires that a printed agenda and supporting materials be available to the public in the meeting room at the time of a regular government meeting.

In other business, the city council:

Revoked the license for the apartments at 105 W. Conan, owned by Rae Bentz. The city's building inspectors and fire marshal cited safety concerns over wiring, heating units, hoarding creating a fire hazard, ceiling and floor damage, leaking plumbing, and structural concerns.

► Did not approve another first reading of its second attempt at a cannabinoid business license ordinance. The council tabled the issue, stating that it has until March 7 before the current moratorium expires. The council does have the option to extend the moratorium for up to a year, which would be until December 2023.

for years to hook smokers in the African-American community.

Other items on the public health agenda, according to McKone, include a proposal to dedicate a portion of the potential Juul legal settlement to smoking education and cessation programming as well as a change to the law that would allow health care providers who offer nicotine addiction counseling to obtain state reimbursements, as they already do for counseling for other types of substance abuse.



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DRY NEEDLING

lobbying for the tobacco industry.'

during the discussion of

no comment on Bakk's new role at the Capitol, prominent local DFL party official Leah Rogne, of Greaney, wasn't as reticent. "I think it's shameful that Tom Bakk would do this. And please quote me on that.

Public health advocates and the tobacco industry are expected to face off over a number of issues this session, most prominently a push by the Lung Association

SuperiorF

by the tobacco industry

While McKone had

Pat McKone, who has headed the Duluth office learned of Bakk's role

of the American Lung Association for many years, wasn't willing to characterize Bakk's new role at the Capitol. But she recently

tobacco and nicotine prod-I always look to see who's

The Natural Choice

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	-
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Zuuz Edibles	2/\$32
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over 15 flavors	4/\$19.95
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Torch 5000 puff Vape	2/\$38
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TOWER AMBULANCE

City seeks compromise with Greenwood over contract

by JODI SUMMIT Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER-City officials here have offered new indemnification language for townships that donate to the city's ambulance replacement fund, but a representative of Greenwood Township suggested the township was uninterested in a compromise.

Greenwood and the city have been locked in a dispute over indemnification language that the township has insisted be included in a funding contract for the ambulance replacement fund. The township refused to provide funding to the replacement account in 2022 over the dispute. Greenwood has demanded that a provision in the agreement protect the township and its employees from liability for any mistakes they make while responding to 911 medical calls. The city had balked at assuming liability for mistakes on a medical call made by individuals that it did not employ or train.

Tower ambulance staff, EMTs and EMRs, are employed by the city and are covered under the city's liability and insurance policies. Other First Responders, like those employed by Greenwood Township, respond to ambulance calls and are a first line of treatment on a scene until the Tower Ambulance

staff arrives.

In a bid to bridge the divide, the city offered new language during the Tower Ambulance Commission meeting here on Monday.

"This language makes it a mutual indemnification," said Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Michael Schultz.

Schultz said he consulted with the League of Minnesota Cities in crafting the language. Since the city uses the same legal firm as Greenwood, the city attorney was not willing to give input on the changes at this time, Schultz said.

'The city's position is that if two parties respond, whoever makes the mistake should be responsible," he said. "The League said, in general, whoever employs that person would be responsible." Schultz said this is a general legal concept that falls under the category of general tort responsibility.

Other representatives on the ambulance commission agreed with Tower's take on the issue. All the participating townships as well as Bois Forte have already signed the 2022 agreement, without the indemnity clause that Greenwood desires.

"We are only here to replace equipment," said Jeff Damm, who represents Bois Forte.

"Tower can't bear the burden

of everything," said Breitung representative Chuck Tekautz. "If someone from Breitung is on the call and makes a bad call, Breitung should be responsible."

But John Bassing, representing Greenwood at the meeting, said the township would not agree to the city's proposal. "There is no negotiation on this from the Greenwood side," said Bassing. "That is just how it is." Bassing said the mere fact that Greenwood is "gifting" money to Tower, means they could be drawn into a lawsuit claiming injury by the ambulance service.

What happens if a [Greenwood] EMR acts irresponsibly and causes damage," asked Tekautz. "Would Greenwood be liable? Then Tower should employ everyone that is on a call."

Tekautz said the group needs to focus on its goals of supporting the service.

"If we keep on nipping the dog here, we aren't going to have an ambulance," he said.

Bassing insisted the clause added in 2021 was all that was needed.

"It was a fine clause last time," he said.

Bassing did agree to bring the new language to the town board, which meets Feb. 14.

TAAS will schedule a meeting in March, date to be announced, to continue work on

this issue.

The new language proposed by Tower reads "Further, the Band and/or the Townships agrees to defend and indemnify the City against any claims brought or actions filed against the City or any officer, employee, or volunteer of the City for injury to, death of, or damage to the property of any third person or persons, arising from the Band and/or the Townships staff performance or non-performance under this Agreement."

Other business

In other business the commission:

► Heard from Schultz that Tower's payment of about \$8,000 due to the ambulance subsidy account from the second half of 2022 was being held until cash flow for the ambulance improves. Right now, he said, the service does not have enough cash on hand to both meet payroll and make that payment. "We have cut the check. We are just holding it." he said.

► Heard the service had 31 runs in January and no transfer runs

► Heard the new ambulance will be ready for delivery in 12-15 months, a little earlier than the initial estimate.

► Heard that former Tower representative Kevin Norby will

still be active on the ad hoc committee that is discussing future options for the ambulance service. "Dena [Suihkonen] and I have had communication issues sometimes," Norby said. "So better I step back a bit." Norby went on to say that "Dena is a huge asset for the service."

> Discussed, but made no decision, on whether to change the structure of the commission so there is a president or chair to lead meetings. Assistant ambulance Director Karin Schultz will be taking minutes as part of her regular duties.

> Approved moving the ambulance subsidy monies to a nine-month CD at Frandsen Bank that will pay 3.5-percent interest, contingent of making sure there will be no penalties on the principal amount if the money needs to be withdrawn early, in the case the ambulance is ready for delivery earlier than expected. This change would add between \$6,000 and \$7,000 to the subsidy account, Schultz said.

► Ambulance director Dena Suihkonen was not at the meeting, because she was teaching a required EMT class and there was no alternate instructor available.

Jeremy Morris sentenced to ten years in federal prison

LAW ENFORCEMENT

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

ORR- Jeremy Morris, a former resident here, was sentenced Jan. 31 in a South Dakota federal courtroom to ten years in prison for possession of over ten pounds of methamphetamines with intent to distribute it.

Morris was stopped by law enforcement near

Sturgis, S.D. on July 11, Aug. 10 in Duluth. 2022, and found to be in possession of 4.985 kilograms of meth in his vehicle, along with a firearm. According to court documents, Morris admitted to the officers that he intended to distribute the meth.

Apparently free on bond after the stop, Morris was taken into custody by deputy federal marshals on

At a formal detention hearing on Aug. 15 in a U.S. District Court in Minnesota, a pretrial report noted Morris's past criminal history, stating that he was on "pretrial release for a first-degree sale of methamphetamine and possession of a firearm in St. Louis County," that he had been convicted in June 2022 of aiding a burglary offender to avoid arrest, and that he had multiple failures to appear in court and had two probation revocations. Magistrate Judge Becky Thorson found "clear and convincing evidence that Mr. Morris presents a risk of danger to the community and ... that he presents risk of non-appearance" in ruling Morris be detained

without bond and transferred to South Dakota. Morris was held in the Sherburne County Jail until federal marshals could transport him to South Dakota, according to court documents.

Morris initially entered a plea of not guilty in South Dakota on Sept. 19 but changed it to guilty on Sept. 29 in a plea agreement

that provided for a possible reduction in the level of his offense per U.S. sentencing guidelines. That agreement was accepted by the court on Oct. 14.

In addition to the minimum ten-year prison sentence, Morris must serve five years of supervised release and pay \$100 to the Federal Criminal Victims Fund.



Clarification

The Timberjay's Jan. 27 story on fraud may have given a misleading impression by suggesting that an individual's credit card numbers were "probably" obtained by photographing the card while it was lying in the open in a local establishment. We have no evidence this was how

the numbers were obtained. It was suggested to highlight the risk that the prevalence of cameras on phones poses when any of us leave a credit card exposed in a public location.

Further, the Timberjay erroneously stated that charges to a sports betting website made with the credit card in question were reversed by the betting site. In fact, the funds have been restored as a "provisional credit" by the victim's bank while an investigation of the incident is ongoing. The Timberjay regrets the error and any possible confusion or inconvenience.

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VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL

Moving from environmental awareness to action

by JODI SUMMIT Tower-Soudan Editor VCS students show off their research projects at expo day on Feb. 1

TOWER- Can mushrooms be used to recycle plastic? Can plastic be used to make bricks sturdy enough for construction? How can you set up a worm composting system at your home? How can we reduce food waste? Can plant fibers reduce our need for plastics? How do we recycle medical waste safely? And what about nuclear waste?

These were just some of the questions that students at Vermilion Country School tried to answer during the school's Environmental Expo on Feb. 1.

VCS has a focus on environmental education, and during last week's expo day, students took knowledge gained from environmental education (EE) studies throughout the year to create projects that showed wavs to solve environmental problems created by waste.

The goals of the EE program are five-fold: building awareness, gaining knowledge, changing attitudes, and learning skills, which all lead to the final goal of having students take action.

Each year the school's environmental curriculum has a new focus, and for the first half of the school year, the focus was on recycling and waste reduction. Students set up recycling stations throughout the school building, took data on the types of recyclables being collected, visited the St. Louis County recycling facility to see how local recyclables are handled, and learned where different types of recycled items go, and what happens when certain types of waste, specifically plastics, are not recycled.

The students then worked in small groups to identify a concern and create an action plan that could help solve an issue relating to solid waste.

"Expo Day was a huge suc-

cess," said the school's new director, Sam O'Brien. "Students worked independently and presented real solutions to the challenges they see in their community. It was a really wonderful opportunity to see students work within their experiences and find real solutions.'

Parents and family members were invited to come view the projects, as well as interested community members.

'Students did a great job with their research," said Adrienne Whiteman, whose daughter is a senior at VCS. "They were very creative. I wish all the students' parents had come."

Projects were judged through a three-tier evaluation process. Teams of teachers, staff, and school volunteers met with each team and listened as the team did an oral presentation and then evaluated them on their project. Those attending the expo got a chance to give comments on each project, and the students were required to do self-evaluations.

'Each group chose their own project," said teacher Kar-in Schmidt. "They identified a problem and found some solutions. Now they are creating awareness.'

Schmidt said the older students, who had been doing these types of projects for several years, "really knocked it out of the park." But she also said the school's new students really performed above expectations and did a great job. She added that the students are learning how to honestly self-evaluate their work, a crucial step in the learning process. Students had to note what they had contributed to the project, how well they had worked as a team, if they had come to class prepared, helped find the materials needed to create the presentation, and did their fair share of the work.

One thing the staff noticed



this year, Schmidt said, was that there wasn't enough time for students to get a good look at all the other projects. Going forward, she said, they will be sure to schedule time for students to spend time learning about their classmates' research.

The school will host a second expo day later in the spring. Projects will focus on fresh water as a resource, keeping water clean, not wasting fresh water, and study parts of the world where clean water is scarce and how that impacts daily life and health.

During the pandemic, expo day was not open to families. But this year, attendance was above expectations, with a majority of students having a family member attend. The day was also a chance to show off other work by students, such as art projects.

"We had great support from our parents and the community," said teacher Ashley Miller.

"Our students learned a lot," said office manager Karla Lundstrom. "They all worked really hard, and they got to show off their knowledge to parents and community members."

Right: Jaymes Scholz and Kyla Reichensperger looked into ways to safely recycle medical waste.

Above: (from left) Ally Heglin, Destinay Burks, and Tae (Amelia) Hietala did a project on composting food waste using worms.

Below: Anna Chavez (left) and Haedyn Miller explored the idea of using mushrooms to break down plastic into safer compounds. photos by S. Ukkola













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GIRLS BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Timberwolves fall to Mt. Iron-Buhl



by CATIE CLARK Ely Editor

ELY- In a hard-fought contest against two of the best girls teams in the region, the Rangers came out on top

Left: Senior Grace LaTourell goes up for a jump shot while under heavy pressure from a Mt. Iron-Buhl defender.

photo by J. Greeney

here on Monday, 76-58.

The score obscures a remarkable game for the Timberwolves as they mounted an impressive rally against a formidable opponent.

A quick start by the Rangers left the Wolves in a deep hole early. Barely five minutes in, they found themselves down 19-6 and trailed 42-24 at the half.

But the Wolves refused to say die and slowly clawed their way back into the game as they adjusted their offenses on the fly.

The Rangers kept up the pressure, however, and proved too much for the Wolves playing on Ely's home hardwood.

Senior Madeline Perry once again led the team with 20 points, followed by junior

Hannah Penke with 14 and junior Sarah Visser with 10.

The Wolves were set to hit the road Thursday, to play Mesabi East. They'll be in Floodwood on Saturday to take on the Polar Bears. They'll be back home on Monday to take on the Chisholm Bluestreaks.



GIRLS BASKETBALL **Grizzlies take two in OT** Notch a third win, 58-36, over Hill City by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- Overtime is prime time for the North Woods girls basketball team, as they picked up extra period wins against Deer

Above: The Grizzlies' Brynn Chosa and Tatum Barto try to head off a Hill City pass.



BOYS BASKETBALL

Grizzlies split on the week

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- The North Wood Grizzlies were raining trifectas at home Monday against Blackduck, but it was a three-pointer they didn't take that sank them in a heartbreaking 94-91 loss.

The Drakes put a sturdy, tall five on the floor against the Grizzlies, effectively clogging up the middle and daring North Woods to beat them from the perimeter. Jared Chiabotti picked up the teams first trey for a 7-6 lead, and Jonah Burnett canned another the next trip down the floor for a 10-8 edge. That tight early battle characterized the entire first half as the teams battled fiercely to a 45-45 halftime tie.

Brenden Chiabotti got the Grizzlies out of the blocks quickly

See NW BOYS...pg. 2B

NORDIC SKIING

River and Cherry this week, sandwiched around a solid win against Hill City.

Playing on back-to-back nights last week, the North Woods girls chalked up a big 64-63 overtime road win against Deer River on Feb. 2 then returned to the home hardwoods for a 58-36 thrashing of Hill City.

Deer River came into the Thursday game intent on putting a halt to a five-game losing streak and made it tough on the Grizzlies early, forging to an 18-13 lead. But a ten-point run fueled by a trey and six total points by Hannah Kinsey put North Woods on top 23-18 with just under four minutes to go before halftime. Buckets by River Cheney and Talise Goodsky helped to push the lead to 30-22 at the break.

North Woods held the Warriors at bay for most of the second half,

Right: North Woods' River Cheney races down the court.

photos by D. Colburn

going up by 11 at one point on a Brynn Chosa triple, 44-33, but Deer River was back within five, 49-44, with 4:12 left. The Warriors completed the comeback with :32 remaining with a bucket to tie the score at 56 all, and each team hit a free throw down the stretch to end regulation knotted at 57-57.

Deer River was the first to draw blood in overtime, connecting on three charities for a 60-57 lead, Kiana LaRoque broke the ice for North Woods with a bucket and Goodsky followed up with a fast break score to put the Grizzlies in front 61-60. Free throws by Cheney and Kinsey extended the lead to 63-60 before the Warriors notched

See GRIZZLIES..pg. 2B

POSTHUMOUS RECOGNITION Gawboy inducted for swimming achievements

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER Managing Editor

REGIONAL- The late Robert "Bob" Gawboy was inducted last month into the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame for his remarkable achievements in the sport of swimming.

While swimming is not a sport in which Native Americans have typically excelled, Gawboy, born June 28, 1932 on the Vermilion Reservation, was an exception.

Gawboy, whose family moved to Ely when he was 14, got his start in competitive swimming at the Ely High School. He joined the swim team because it practiced at noon, rather than after school, which meant he could still catch the bus home, rather than walk ten miles.

In 1949, Gawboy helped lead Ely to a state swimming champion**Right: A young Robert** Gawboy emerges from a pool during the heyday of his swimming career.

ship, placing first in the 100-breaststroke. The following year, Gawboy broke a state record in the 200-freestyle and set national high school records in two individual medley events.

Gawboy, by then a

See GAWBOY...pg. 2B



Devine again tops the field

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER Managing Editor

DULUTH- Ely Nordic skiers were headed into the Section 7 meet on Wednesday after a string of recent strong performances, particularly by senior standout Zoe Devine.(Note that sectional results were not available until after the Timberjay's Wednesday presstime)

In their final meet ahead of sectionals, Devine again topped a girls field of 82 racers in the pursuit competition, a repeat of her first-place finish at the Ely Invite held Jan. 27.

Devine took second in the freestyle portion of the pursuit competition, 12 seconds behind her most persistent rival of late, Rowan Bixler of Duluth East. Devine, however, topped Bixler in the classic portion by nearly 45 seconds to claim first with an overall pursuit time of 29:29.0.

The girls team had help from strong performances from junior Claire Blauch, who finished 13th overall, junior Ava Skustad (15th) and senior Phoebe Helms, who finished 16th. The girls team, as they have most of the season, took second overall, behind only Nordic powerhouse Duluth East.

Sophomore Eli Olson was the top Ely finisher on the boys

See SKIINGpg. 2B

THE TIMBERJAY

HOCKEY

Wolves take two raucous matches

by CATIE CLARK Ely Editor

ELY-Hockey is known for sometimes rowdy behavior on the ice, but during a Friday night matchup here against the St. Paul-Johnson Governors, it was parents causing most of the problems. Two St. Paul parents had to be removed from the Ely Arena for repeatedly shouting expletives and the game's announcer twice more told those in the audience to keep it civil.

It wasn't much better on the ice, even as the Timberwolves managed to skate through the occasional gauntlet of taunts to beat the Governors 6-3. While one incident during the third period threatened to turn to fisticuffs, players

on both teams landed in the penalty box. Ely Junior Drew Marolt, who was forced to cool down in the box, told the Timberjay reporter that he had been called something by the visiting team that can't be printed in a local newspaper.

The Governors might have done better to focus on the fundamentals, as the Timberwolves beat them a second time, 8-3, during a game played at the Babbitt Arena.

"The boys played hard against St. Paul," said Head Coach Jake Myers. "The team kept the game simple, got pucks to the net, and it paid off for them. Attitudes were positive the whole weekend series, and everyone worked together to have success which was awesome



Ely junior Drew Marolt steals the puck during the Feb. 3 game against the St. Paul Johnson Governors. photo by C. Clark

as a coach to see."

Ely dominated play throughout Friday night's game, doubling the Governors in shots on goal. Ely put up three in the first period, including a goal by senior Kole Macho with assists from junior Wes Sandy and senior Logan Lee. Sophomore Garrett Rohr added the second

goalwith an assist from Sandy, and Marolt picked up the third with another assist from Sandy.

Junior Deegan Richards capped the scoring with a hat trick, thanks to assists from junior Tommy Homer in the second period, and by junior Kadein Zupancich both times in the third period.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Ely drops two

ELY- The red-hot Timberwolves hit a chilly stretch this past week as they dropped two straight games to slip to 15-5 on the season.

Playing here on Tuesday, they struggled against Deer River, slipping 82-72. "They're a very skilled and physical team," said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. "We struggled with rebounding," he said, noting that the Warriors tallied 28 offensive rebounds to keep the Wolves off-balance.

Freshman guard Jack Davies led Ely offensively with 23 points, while senior guard Joey Bianco added 18 and sophomore Caid Chittum tallied 17. Senior Erron Anderson added eight rebounds.

Playing at the Target Center on Saturday, the Wolves fell to Two Harbors 75-62. "It was tied at 34 at the half but a bad stretch in the second half did us in," said McDonald. "We just couldn't rebound with their athleticism."

Bianco and Davies dominated the scoring for Ely with 23 points apiece, while Bianco added eight boards and seven assists.

The Wolves will host Mesabi East on Friday, with a 7:15 p.m. varsity start. They'll have a week's break before hosting Chisholm on Friday, Feb. 17.

NW BOYS..Continued from page 1B

with a rainbow three to start the second half, and picked up two more from Burnett and Louie Panichi to keep close at 57-56, but the Drakes soared as the Grizzlies turned cold, putting together a 14-2 run to go up by 14, 71-59. Ben Kruse started the Grizzlies' long climb back with a three, and then with three minutes left and the Drakes' lead whittled down to 82-80, Brenden Chiabotti got hot from long range. On three consecutive trips down the floor Chiabotti connected on treys, the second an acrobatic off-balance stunner. and the third the score that tied the game 86-86. North Woods regained the lead on a Jared Chiabotti steal and fast break, causing Blackduck to take a time out with 1:18 left.

When they came out of the huddle the Drakes scored a trey of their own, going back in front 91-89. Two North Woods three-pointers missed the mark, and the Drakes added a free throw following a Grizzlies' foul. With both teams scoring from the free throw line in the last 30 seconds, Blackduck led 94-91 when North Woods' Eli Smith rebounded a missed charity and the Grizzlies calling time out immediately with 5.9 seconds to set up for a three-pointer to send the game to overtime.

But on the inbounds pass from Panichi to Jared Chiabotti, a Blackduck defender reached in and knocked the ball off Chiabotti's leg, sending the ball out of bounds and the Grizzlies' hopes with it. The Drakes ran out the final seconds to escape with the win.

Threes kept the Grizzlies in the game, as five North Woods players hoisted up a combined 35 long balls and connected on 14 for 40 percent, one of their best efforts from beyond the arc for the season. Blackduck's attack inside was even more effective, with the Drakes shooting 65 percent on 30-of-46 shooting and a 52-32 edge in points scored in the paint.

Brenden Chiabotti led the North Woods offense with 24 points, including six treys. Burnett scored 22, Jared Chiabotti had 21, and Panichi added 12.

Greenway

The Grizzles fared better last Friday on a road trip to take on Greenway in a game where their performance is aptly described relentless. North Woods raced to a 21-8 lead, withstood a comeback attempt that got the Raiders within five, and closed out the first half with a 47-35 lead. The Grizzlies lead steadily grew in the second half, due in large part to lockdown defense that created easy scoring opportunities, and North Woods ran away with this one 87-60.

The Grizzlies forced 28 turnovers with 22 steals and scored 37 points off Raiders miscues. Offensively the Grizzlies shot 51 percent from two-point range and 44 percent overall.

Burnett was the leading scorer with 19, Brenden Chiabotti had 17, Jared Chiabotti hit for 14, and Smith broke into double-digits with 14.

GRIZZLIES..Continued from page 1B

a bucket to get within one, 63-62, with :28 remaining. The Grizzlies' Helen Koch was fouled on the next possession and cooly dropped in a pair of charities, the fifth North Woods starter to score in the extra period, making the score 65-62. The Warriors managed one more basket down low but ran out of time, preserving the 65-64 Grizzlies' victory.

'It was a great game for the fans, winning by one in overtime," North Woods Head Coach Liz Cheney said. "We had kind of a going in for us. We were shooting from the outside instead of driving in and going for the short shot."

Cheney was pleased her team didn't get rattled when they got pushed to overtime.

"Everyone's anxiety was a little bit high, but they maintained their composure and got the win anyway," she said.

Cheney led three Grizzlies players in double figures with 16, followed by Kinsey and Koch with 13 each.

Friday, the Grizzlies broke an early 12-12 tie with a pair of Koch buckets and a pair of Cheney charities to go up 18-12. Cheney knocked down two more shots from the floor as the Grizzlies lead expanded to 22-16, and the lead was seven at the break, 25-19. Hill City was within five at 37-32 with nine minutes remaining, but the Grizzlies put together a devastating display of offense and defense, closing out the game on a huge 19-4 run to win 58-36. North Woods

Koch, Brynn Chosa, and Sierra Schuster in the blitz. The Grizzlies were led

by Koch with 16, followed by Cheney with 14 and LaRoque with 12.

Tuesday's game at Cherry was a pairing of teams with quickness and full court presses, both of which played into the outcome of this one.

The Grizzlies and Tigers traded blows early, but North Woods took better advantage of turnovers to edge ahead 29-25. Koch and Tatum Barto each

waning minutes of the first half to give the Grizzlies a 12-point lead, 39-27, at the break.

In the second half it was the Tigers' turn to show what their speed and press could do. Turning the tables and rattling the Grizzlies into repeated turnovers and poor shooting, Cherry chopped a 14-point deficit to 49-41 before before reeling off an 10-0 spurt to take a 51-49 lead. Koch hit a pair of free throws with :29 left in regulation to put North Woods up 58-56,

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the court for a two-pointer before the buzzer to send it to overtime.

Two quick baskets by Koch and LaRoque to open the extra period and four free throws down the stretch, one by Kinsey and three by Koch, sealed the 66-63 win.

Koch again led the team in scoring with 20. LaRoque dropped in 12 and Kinsey added 11.

slow start. Baskets were not

Against Hill City on picked up three balls from score five points in the but Cherry raced down

SKIING..Continued from page 1B -

side, finishing 14th with a combined time of 30:00.7. Fellow sophomores Dylan Durkin and Silas Solum finished 18th and 19th overall in a field of 87 competitors with combined times of 30:26.9 and 30:46.6 respectively.

Those times left the boys team in third place among the ten teams in the competition.

Sectional results will be available Thursday at timberjay.com and in the Feb. 17 print edition of the Timberjay.

GAWBOY ... Continued from page 1B -

swimming sensation, went on to swim for Perdue, where he placed first in the 150-IM at the East-West collegiate competition. In 1952, at the NCAA Nationals, he took second in the 150-IM.

But Gawboy's most remarkable achievements came in the wake of surgery to repair a congenital arterial condition in his left leg, which forced him to stop swimming for a time. After surgery to repair the condition, Gawboy eventually returned to swimming in early 1955 while on a scholarship at the University of Minnesota. Just two months later, after a two-year hiatus from swimming, Gawboy shocked the sports world on April 1, 1955 at the AAU Indoor National Championship at Yale. That's where he swam the 220-breaststroke in 2:38.0, cracking what was then the world record.

Gawboy, who later reported that the pain in his

leg was excruciating during the race, was emotional after his win, and he erupted in whoops and hollers in celebration, antics that the press later referred to as "war whoops."

Despite his athletic prowess, Gawboy's life was relatively short. He died on July 15, 1987, at the age of 55, due to complications from multiple sclerosis. Prior to his death, Gawboy was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in Lawrence, Kan. as the sole swimmer

Information for this story came from the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame.

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A Line

Memories of the Early Days A fascinating look back at the early history Back By of the Lake Vermilion area Popular Demand! Written by Marshall Helmberger • Published by the Timberjay لنندو وود ا LAKE VERMILION Memories of the Early Days **A Regional Favorite** STOP IN TODAY OR CALL ... Just \$29 + Tax Over Don't miss your chance 100 Historical to own Lake Vermilion's most Photographs! definitive history! Pick up book(s) at Timberjay office in Tower or have book(s) mailed, for \$39.95 each. The Timberjay **BOOK ORDER FORM** P.O. Box 636, 414 Main St Quantity of Books -Tower, MN 55790 • 218-753-2950 Name _____ Address____ _State____ZIP Code_____ 'I'el.#_____ I City___ Credit Card Information VISA MC DISCOVER I

Billing address if different from above _____

Pick Up Mail

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

EMPLOYMENT

Ely Chamber of Commerce and NorthForce sponsoring job fairs for high school, college students, and adults

ELY - Elv & Northeast Range high school students are invited to a career fair Wednesday, March 8, starting at 8 a.m. at Ely High School. Businesses interested in having a table at the career fair should reserve their spot with the Ely Chamber of Commerce by March 1.

A second career fair will be held at Minnesota North College -Vermilion campus on Wednesday, March 29, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Registration for the career fair is through NorthForce at https://www. surveymonkey.com/r/Z7RGF8V. Preregistration is required. Businesses can also visit with Ali at the Vermilion campus event to learn about all the resources NorthForce offers.

A third event also on Wednes-

day, March 29, is scheduled for 6-8p.m. at the Grand Ely Lodge. Businesses that would like to have a table should contact the Ely Chamber of Commerce by March 23.

Businesses can contact the chamber office to register for the high school and Grand Ely Lodge events. They can also provide job openings for an area list. Chamber members will also have their job openings added to the Ely.org job board. The Ely Chamber of Commerce will hand out copies of the job list at all three events.

"We are focusing on three different demographics across the various job-career fairs; high school, college, and residents. NorthForce is a fantastic resource for area businesses, and we are happy to partner

with them for the Vermilion campus event. NorthForce offers a free job board at northforce.org. Their website is a great resource for individuals who relocate to Iron Range communities. The more area businesses that list jobs at NorthForce, the better draw it is for people to move here - potential new residents can see we are a strong, growing community with plenty of employment opportunities," said Eva Sebesta, executive director of the Ely Chamber of Commerce.

For questions, job listings, or registrations for either the high school or Grand Ely Lodge events, contact director@ely.org or call 218-365-6123.

Obituaries and Death Notices

Linda K. Williams

Linda Kay Wheeland Williams, 80, of Ely, passed away on Monday, Jan. 30, 2023, at Boundary Waters Care Center after a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held at Ely United Methodist Church on Saturday, Feb. 4. Family arrangements were entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her sister, Marcia Buresch of Nebraska; son, Doug (Rhonda) Williams of Georgia; daughter, Michelle Cole of Ely; son, Steve (Kristin) Williams of Burnsville; grandchildren, Jessica Cole, Travis Cole, Alicia Cole, Casey Swain, Tyler Williams,

Bryan (Tomi) Cole, Dylan (Mallory) Williams, Tanner Williams, Kylie Williams, Kendal Williams and Daisy Williams; and nine great-grandchildren.

Annette M. Dax

Annette Marie Dax, 74, of Orr, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023. There will be a private family interment in the spring. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Glen L. Chilcote

Glen L. Chilcote, of Angora, left this earth from the beauty and comfort of his own home on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023. A

full obituary will be posted before his celebration of life which is planned for 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 6 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook. Visitation will be one hour prior. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

BIRD

SEED

262-3049

HIBBING





CHECK OUT askjean.net for current TAX TIPS!

EMPLOYMENT

Data-Practices Coordinator

This is a newly created position in the St. Louis County Attorney's Office in Duluth.

The coordinator will work under the supervision of an Assistant County Attorney in handling responses to requests for access to data and performing other duties under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA) and related laws concerning government data.

Experience with the MGDPA, the federal Freedom of Information Act, or similar laws is preferred but not required.

The full wage range for this position is \$53,879 to \$81,390 per year. The actual starting wage will depend on the hired person's qualifications







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Hours: Mon-Thurs: 3 PM-Close; Fri, Sat, Sun: Noon-Close Dining Room: Sun-Thurs: Open daily to 9 PM, Fri & Sat: Noon to 10 PM Poor Gary's Pizza: Sun.-Wed. to 9 PM; Thurs. to 10 PM Fri. & Sat. to Midnight



3191 Hwy 77, Tower (Daisy Bay, Lake Vermilion) 753-6277 Bar/Restaurant 753-5707 Pizza Take Out Available

To apply, please send a cover letter and résumé to Office Administrator Wade Backstrom by e-mail to backstromw@stlouiscountymn.gov or mail to the St. Louis County Attorney's Office, St. Louis County Courthouse, 100 North Fifth Avenue West, Room 501, Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1298.

Application materials must be received no later than February 22, 2023.

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 10, 2023

EMPLOYMENT

POST 1757 HAPPY HOUR • 4-6 PM

Cook VFW

MON, WED, THURS, FRI, SAT, SUN - CLOSED TUESDAYS -

FRIDAY BURGER NIGHT • 4:30-7 PM





 PUMPS WELLS HYDRO-FRACKING

1-800-662-5700 Spring Park Rd. Mt. Iron, MN 55768

Seeking a positive team player to join our Finance Department at **Ely-Bloomenson Community** Hospital as a Full-Time Accounts Payable Representative!!

We offer a fun, positive, safe, and rewarding environment that supports you to be your best!

Work in an atmosphere where your well-being matters! EBCH provides employee assistance and wellness programs and offers FLEXIBLE scheduling arrangements to support our staff and ensure a proper work-life balance. EBCH is continuously looking for new ways to show our team the appreciation they deserve. For example, we recently implemented Bucketlist, a rewards and recognition system, and our staff can't say enough great things about it!

Our Full-Time Accounts Payable position requires the candidate will work in conjunction with our Finance Department and all areas of EBCH. This position is responsible for ensuring the payment of supplies and services, verifying the accuracy of invoices and vendors, and coordinating internal communication and invoice and payment notices through our Premier system. This position is responsible for printing checks and documenting all invoices and payments accurately in our system. This position involves working directly with vendors, employees, and our leadership team. Candidates should have experience in accounting or accounts payable and solid attention to detail.

This position has competitive wages and will be offered our brand-new benefits package. EBCH offers multiple health insurance options and health savings account with employer contribution. EBCH offers employer-paid life insurance, vision plan, and short and long-term disability policy for our full -time employees. EBCH offers several other benefits, such as dental, voluntary employee, and spousal life insurance options and a 403b retirement plan with an employer match. Our paid time off plans supports work-life balance by providing generous time off for vacation, sick days, and holidays! EBCH also offers professional growth and tuition reimbursement opportunities. Apply online today at www.ebch.org.



www.ebch.org Ely-Bloomenson "...committed to caring for and enhancing the health and well-Community Hospital being of the community we serve."

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



LIFE AT THE LAKE

It turns out, home is where the plants are

When I leave in the spring and fall, to wait out the ice and water conditions, I must look

like Granny Clampett, riding on her rocking chair, strapped down with all of her belongs on the top of the 1922-23 flatbed truck. I take everything that I consider essential for both me and the dogs, now three strong, in the boat, snowmobile, or the side-byside. Here's the deal though, I gotta draw the line somewhere.

Some things just have to stay on the island. And that something is my plants.

Now I have never been a green thumb. Oh, I've had an outdoor flowerbed or two at the

island, and a couple of hanging plants that require a slosh of water occasionally. Their life expectancy is the summer though and then they do me the favor of dying and thus require no further care. Just don't get attached to them and you're okay.

My mom, now she's the green thumb.

Houseplants and all. Well, that's where the trouble started. She started having difficulty taking care of her plants a

APRIL

WAMHOFF

few years ago. I'd take one or two out to the island occasionally to lighten the load for her. No promises on their survival, of course, and I called them the refugees.

And much to my surprise, they started doing well and some of them even graced me with a flower blossom or two. Huh, who woulda thunk? A teeny bit of a green thumb, maybe? By the end of the summer I had quite a few house plants gracing my deck, and I started looking at some of what I considered to be limited life outdoor plants in a new light. They are expensive to replace every year and maybe they didn't need to die off in the winter.

Then came time for ice over and time to leave for a bit. What

WILDLIFE IN WINTER

to do now? I surely wasn't going to boat them out to the mainland and bring them back. And how? On the snowmobile? The first year I ordered an automatic waterer that watered 15 plants from a five-gallon bucket and left them in front of the window. I even brought in a few of the outdoor plants. No harm in trying to save them, right? And they did okay, even well. The Christmas cactus bloomed for the first time in years. Well, I'll be....

So, who am I to argue with that kind of success? The refugees keep coming as my mom has trouble keeping up. Last fall, I bought two more waterers and even took some cuttings from outside plants I couldn't bring in.

They've taken over three large windows in the cabin, and I have grow lights where I don't think they get quite enough light. They are truly lovely, and they bring a little hope of springtime and renewal to a sometimes-bleak landscape.

They will stay on the island, though, and wait out the lake conditions without me. Thing is, they do well without me. Really well. So, the green thumb thing? Not so much. I think they like it when I'm gone. And I guess that's good. I'd hate to have to strap them to the top of the snowmobile.

Why the hares are happy

This year's early deep snow has made an otherwise mild winter tougher than it might otherwise have been for deer and some other wildlife. But the dense 18-20-inch blanket, and more that fell on top, has been a boon for one of our North Country denizens, the snowshoe hare.

As their name suggests, the snow-

shoe hare is adapted for deep snow, and the more the merrier.

Deep snow provides snowshoe hares with one advantage after another. Thanks to their exceptionally large back feet,



these well-adapted hares can easily scamper away atop the snow even as many of their predators, like wolves, coyotes, and bobcats (Canada lynx being the only exception), are left wallowing.



was initially wet and sticky created other advantages as well. The snow bent over massive amounts of brush and small trees through the region's forests, leaving hares with countless hiding spots. In many areas, the snow forms an almost impenetrable roof atop areas of bent-over brush. That provides bunnies with nice thermal cover at night as well as protection from their primary aerial predators, like goshawks and great-horned owls.

All that bent over vegetation is also providing our hare population with some excellent nutrition this heavy snow in December, provides a ready meal for a snowshoe hare, who left a small pile of his calling cards behind.

Left: The top of a

young white pine,

brought down by

Right: A snowshoe hare stands at alert.

photos by M. Helmberger

tend to be the most nutritious, but they're often inaccessible to herbivores down on the ground.

Not so this winter as massive numbers of young trees were bent over double, leaving their nutritious vegetation within easy reach of hares and other herbivores. And the deep, dense snow provides bunnies a nice lift, helping them reach those branches that may not have made it all the way down to the ground. For the snowshoe hares this winter, food is literally falling from the sky. It's a good time, in other words, to be a





Whether you're looking to attract more butterflies to your backyard or more whitetail deer to your back forty, a workshop series provided by the University of Minnesota Extension Service just might be the answer

"There will be different sessions on everything from creating whitetail habitat to

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Learn to attract more wildlife

attracting other mammals and birds, even pollinators," said Troy Salzer, an extension

educator based in Virginia. The series is being offered as an online webinar series that will be run over five consecutive Mondays, starting March 20-April 17. The webinars run from 7-8:30 p.m. and each session will focus on a different aspect of wildlife habitat management. Topics include different species groups and selecting the appropriate site, as well as the planning, establishment, and management of habitat

for those groups.

Salzer said he's regularly amazed at the number of calls he gets from landowners in the area who are interested in learning more about how to improve wildlife habitat.

"I'm really excited about this," said Salzer, who will be teaching two of the sessions himself.

Perhaps the best part of the workshop series is the price. It's free for residents of St. Louis County, a perk of the county's ongoing funding of extension service activities.

Registration for the series is online at: z.umn.edu/ WildlifeHabitatSeries2023.

Participants that live in or own land in St. Louis, Carlton, Cook, Pine or Isanti county, will want to contact Mercedes Moffett, moffe029@umn. edu or 218-384-3511 before registering so she can give you the code for free registration. Without the code, the cost of the series is \$100.

If you can't make any of the sessions, the webinars will be available on St. Louis County Extension's YouTube channel, found at University of MN Ag Extension - St. Louis County.

I AKE COUNTRY FORECAST

Want more wildlife on your property? An

you can do to improve wildlife habitat.

upcoming series of classes will show what

L	LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST from NOAA weather																							
Friday					•	ay		Sunday					Monday					Tuesday						
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02/01	7	-15	0.00	"	02/01	5	-26	0.00		02/01	4	-17	0.00		02/01	9	-15	0.00		02/01	6	-21	0.00	
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Fishing reports

Ely area

Stream trout anglers continue to report good success with rainbows and brook trout in shallow water near downed trees, main lake points and weed beds. Small jigging spoons and small tungsten jigs tipped with a dead minnow or waxies are working well.

Walleye have become very active this last week. Anglers have been catching good numbers and good size walleyes in the early morning and during the evening hours in 15-20 feet of water. Medium to small rainbows under a bobber has been the most effective technique to catch fish.

Lake trout fishing continues to be a boom or bust affair for many anglers, but increasingly anglers are finding the biters, typically in 40-60 feet of water, over deep mud. Smaller baits like jigging spoons and smaller bucktails have been more effective as of late.

Courtesy of Arrowhead Outdoors. See more at **ArrowheadOutdoorsEly** MN.com



EMPLOYMENT



Waschke Family Chevrolet is currently seeking an Auto Body Technician and an Automotive Waschke Detailer. Stop in and apply in per-son at 126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, or MILY DRIVEN inquire by phone at 218-666-5901, 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 218-666-5901, or send resume to Dgrecinger@waschke.com. tfn

Behavioral Health Outpatient Therapist

Closes: 03/01/2023 Position Purpose: Responsible for providing outpatient mental health therapy services within the Behavioral Health unit, to support status as a National Health Service Corp (NHSC) approved site. Perform diagnostic assessments, develop treatment plans, and conduct psychotherapy for children, adolescents and adults in a manner that is both culturally sensitive and appropriate utilizing the proper psychotherapeutic techniques.

Excellent Benefits: Medical & Dental- Free • Annual leave • Sick leave • 401k match • 15 paid holidays • Flex plan • Basic Life Insurance • LTD • Voluntary benefits available by payroll deductions

Website Address: https://boisforte.com/jobs/

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 10, 17 & 24, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

Date: January 12, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

Default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 31, 2007 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$103.500.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Christopher Lopuski, a single person

MORTGAGEE: American Bank of the North n/k/a Park State Bank DATE AND PLACE OF

FILING: Recorded on June 8, 2007, as Document No. 01053424, in the office of the Recorder, St. Louis County, Minnesota

ASSIGNMENT(S) OF MORTGAGE: None

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

That part of the Northwest Quarter of Southeast Quarter, Section Twentyone, Township Sixty-four, Range Twenty, described as follows: Beginning at the center of said Section 21; thence East along the East-West Quarter line 535 feet; thence South parallel with the North-South Quarter line of said Section, 535 feet: thence West parallel with the East-West Quarter line 535 feet to the North-South Quarter line of said Section 21; thence North to the point of beginning.

under Minnesota Statutes, Section 582.032.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under sec-tion 580.30, or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on March 15, 2024.

M O R T G A G O R (S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGORS, THE MORTGAGORS' PERSONAL R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S OR ASSIGNS MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

We're looking for YOU!

Pebble Spa is continually growing and we are looking for talented massage therapists and cosmetologists.

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Seasonal Retail Staff: Summer 2023 Full and Part-time positions available April-October. Flexible work schedule. Apply in-person, online application at www.piragis.com or send a resume to jay@piragis.com

Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Specialist Closes: 03/01/2023

Position Purpose: The Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Specialist will provide adult mental health rehabilitative services (ARMHS) services to support clients with a serious mental illness diagnosis in the form of instruction, support, and skill coaching either in the client's home or in the community. Services provided will strongly emphasize personal goal setting and developing strategies to achieve them, skill building, client advocacy, and connectling clients with community resources. The Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Specialist will enable the client to develop and enhance psychiatric stability, social competencies, per-sonal and emotional adjustment, independent living, and community skills when these abili-ties are impaired by the symptoms of mental Ilness.

Excellent Benefits:

Medical & Dental- Free • Annual leave • Sick leave • 401k match • 15 paid holidays • Flex plan

 Basic Life Insurance
 LTD
 Voluntary benefits available by payroll deductions

Website Address: https://boisforte.com/jobs/

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 10, 17 & 24, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Vacancy St. Louis County Cooperative **Extension Committee**

The St. Louis County Board of Commissioners will be making three (3) appointments to the St. Louis County Cooperative Extension Committee for terms expiring December 31, 2025. Persons interested in serving on this committee should submit an application

no later than February 24, 2023 to: Phil Chapman, Clerk of County Board, 100 North

To apply online, go to <u>www.stlouiscountymn.</u> <u>gov/clerk</u> click on the "Application for Citizen Advisory Committee". Paper applications are

also available in the County Auditor's Office

in the Duluth Courthouse and the Virginia

Government Services Center or by emailing

St. Louis County Cooperative Extension

Committee: Approximately eight commit-

QUALIFICATIONS: Resident of St. Louis

County with an interest in recommending,

supporting and advocating for Extension edu-

cational programs brought to local people

through the St. Louis County Extension Offices

as an outreach of University of Minnesota

Extension. Knowledge of your community

FUNCTIONS: Provide leadership to strength-

en and inform program and ensure that it

meets community needs. Assist in market-

ing and promoting the Extension educational

citizen input in the planning, implementing and obtaining support for the Extension programs

and budget. To represent the County in staff hiring, evaluation and development of finan-

cial resources for Extension programs.

To provide

program in St. Louis County.

at various locations in St. Louis County.

hapmanp@stlouiscountymn.gov or calling

Avenue West, Room 214, Duluth, MN,



OPEN POSITIONS

Care Center FT & PT Nursing Assistant (Wage starting at \$17.79/hr., \$1,500 sign-on bonus) PT Registered Nurse (Wage starting at \$36.22/hr. \$4,000 sign-on bonus)

Hospital/ER

PT Registered Nurse (Wage starting at \$36.22/hr, \$4,000 sign-on bonus) PT Unit Clerk/HUC (Wage starting at \$17.79/hr. EMT and/or NA cert. required)

Environmental Services (Environmental Tech I) Housekeeping and Laundry Aide (Wage starting at \$15.03/hr, \$1,500 sign-on bonus) Casual Laundry Aide (Wage starting at

\$15.03/hr)

Laboratory FT Medical Lab Tech (Wage starting at

The Cook Hospital is an equal opportunity provider and employer

\$24.08/hr., \$4,000 sign-on bonus)

Radiology FT Radiologic Technologist (Wage starting at \$27.77/hr., \$4,000 sign-on bonus) Casual Ultrasound Tech

(Independent Contractor, weekend only)

Casual Radiologic Tech (Independent Contractor)

Dietary PT Dietary Aide/Cook

(Wage starting at \$14.53/hr.)

TO APPLY:

More Info? Contact Human Resources 218-666-6220 humanresources@cookhospital.org

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

Nurse Practitioner

Closes: 03/08/2023 Position Purpose: The Nurse Practitioner provides diagnostic, preventative, and therapeutic health services to patients and family members at the Bois Forte and Vermilion Clinics; with the ability to function as an independent practitioner. The Bois Forte Health & Human Services and IHS goal is to raise Indian Health status to the highest possible level.



Excellent Benefits:

Medical & Dental- Free • Annual leave • Sick leave • 401k match • 15 paid holidays • Flex

Website Address: https://boisforte.com/jobs/

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 10, 17, 24, and March 3, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICES

Embarrass Region Fair Association Notice of Annual Meeting

The Embarrass Region Fair Association will host its annual meeting on Thursday, February 16, from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Timber Hall, 4855 Highway 21, Embarrass 55732.

The agenda includes a State of the Association presentation, discussion of a revised governance format, and nominations for the 2023-24 ERFA Board of Directors. As part of the nominating process, we are seeking community-oriented individuals with a variety of skill sets who are interested in serving on the Board. One of the most important qualifications is a commitment to see that Timber Hall and the Embarrass Region Fair Association continue to thrive and improve now and in the years to come. Directors serve a two-year term; they oversee and provide guidance and leadership for the Embarrass Region Fair Association.

In addition, many volunteers are needed in non-leadership roles.

All members of the Region are invited to participate and provide input for the ongoing administration of the Timber Hall, its property, and the annu-al Fair. Communities included are: Aurora, Babbitt, Biwabik, Breitung, Britt, Eagles Nest, Ely, Embarrass, Greenwood, Hoyt Lakes, Kugler, Morse, Fall Lake, Palo, Pike, Sandy, Soudan, Tower, Vermilion Lake, Waasa, White, Winton, and Wuori.

All members of our region are encouraged to attend.

Published in the Timberiav Feb 10 2023

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6

7

4

by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mort-gagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemp-tion by said mortgagors, their personal representatives or assigns is twelve months from the date of sale, unless reduced to five (5) weeks

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: St. Louis County, Minnesota

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE AS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE: \$62,293.11

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes including the requisites of Minn. Stat. § 580.02;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mort-gage, the above described property in St. Louis County will be sold by the Sheriff of St. Louis County at public auction as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. PLACE OF SALE: St. Louis County Sheriff's Office, 100 North Fifth Avenue West, 103, Duluth, MN Room 55802.

to pay the debt then secured



OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

55802

218-726-2385.

31, 2025.

resource and needs.

PARK STATE BANK Robert R. Kanuit, #0252530 Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A 302 West Superior Street, Suite 700 Duluth, Minnesota 55802-(218) 722-0861

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE FORECLOSURE DATA

Street Address, city and zip code of mortgaged prem-ises: 11368 Nett Lake Road, Orr, Minnesota 55771

(2) Transaction agent (if applicable); residential mortgage servicer: and lender or broker: Park State Bank f/k/a American Bank of the North

(3) Tax parcel identification number(s): 425-0030-02515

(4) Transaction Agent's mortgage ID number (MERS number): Not applicable

(5) Name of mortgage originator: American Bank of the North n/k/a Park State Bank

Published in the Timberjay Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2023

DESIRED AREAS OF RESIDENCE: Citizen members will be appointed by the County Board and generally geographically balanced across the county.

NANCY NILSEN, COUNTY AUDITOR TREASURER By: Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 3 and 10, 2023

timberjay.com

tee meetings are held annually on the third Thursday of the month from 9:00-11:00 a.m. 6 3 TERM: Three (3) years, expiring December

1

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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 A Challenging ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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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 fami-lies 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.

PET CREMATION

VISIT VermilionPetCremation. com or call 218-780-8069 for pet cremation details and rates

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.

TOPS- Meetings every Monday at 4:45 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia.

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP-Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon Family Group is a community-based mutual 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. VIRGINIA 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

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

GRAIN FANNING MILL WANTED. Also, empty Altoid tins. 218-780-8870. 3/3p

DAY CAMP

DAY CAMP AT THE FARM registration is open! See www. cookscountryconnection.com for details! 2/24

NOMELUHE 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.





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91 "M*A*S*H" co-star 92 Request for a poker hand 93 Olympics participants 95 NBC show since '75 96 Writer's tool 97 Trailer park campers, for short 98 "Finally!" 99 Like pie crusts with pressed-in . ridges 100 Greasier 101 Dry red wine 102 Simple 106 Kagan of the court 107 Some DVR systems 108 Sets up,

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ADMISSION

FEDERAL

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 meet-ing is for families and friends of alcoholics

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 othe 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, tollfree 1-888-647-RAAN(7226).

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

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



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THE TIMBERJAY



All meetings are open to the public.

MARCH MEETING DATE CHANGE

The Bearville Town Board of Supervisors' March meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the Bearville Town Hall.

Kathy Cressy, Bearville Town Clerk 218-376-4495 earvilletownship@gmail.com

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 10 & 17, 2023

State of Minnesota County of St. Louis District Court Probate Division 6th Judicial District Court File No: 69VI-PR-23-15

ister the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the Estate

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors

UU

Smokeless Wood Furnaces

and Fantastic Sauna Stoves!

Estate of Caroline Renee Skalski, aka Caroline R. Skalski and aka Renee Skalski, Decedent

ORDER NOTICE AND OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is ordered and notice is given that on March 6, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court at 300 5th Avenue South, Virginia, Minnesota for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Lisa Ann Jackson, whose address is PO Box 578, 17 Burton St., Buhl, MN 55713 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an Unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition should be filed with the Court prior or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to admin-

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having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: Feb. 3, 2023

BY THE COURT Andrew R. Peterson District Court Judge Amy Turnquist, Court Administrator Chelsea Opdahl, Deputy

Attorney for Petitioner Angela Erickson Sipila Sipila Law Office LLC 412 1st St S Virginia, MN 55792 Attorney License No.: 024501x Telephone: 218-741-5000 Fax: 218-741-5000 Email: ange@sipilaw.com

> Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 10 & 17, 2023

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